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opposition to the bill this time. The purpose of LB 99 is to provide mandated insurance coverage for people who do have diabetes and these...these provisions would cover equipment and medical supplies, as well as self-management training and patient management to be provided through nutrition education. And that really has been the sticking point on the bill all along, was the education component of this bill, because the insurance companies were fearful of what the ultimate costs could be. I believe that that was addressed in the amendment that I introduced to the committee this year and that is included in the committee amendments, which Dr. Landis will introduce to you a little bit later. I did handout a...several items of interest, I think. If you will notice that the top sheet indicates that 33 states have passed similar kinds of legislation. South Dakota has passed the legislation in both houses. It's awaiting signature, the last that we knew, and you'll see a 35th spot there reserved for Nebraska. We're hoping that Nebraska will be the 35th state this year. The second page of the handout indicates to you the prevalence of diabetes in Nebraska, and it is very, very interesting to note that the prevalence, of course, at the zero to 19 years of age is fairly low for most groups, although if you look at the Native American population you'll see that their prevalence is already almost three times higher than for the white population. But as you move up the age group you will see that for white, non-Hispanic males, 65 and older, that 99.5 out of 1,000 will probably contract diabetes. Females have a high...slightly higher at 117. If you move down that chart, it gets higher for African-Americans, almost...well, almost twice as high in the case of females. And if you move on down to Native American population you'll see an extremely high prevalence among Native American groups and Hispanic Americans also. We had a...or the Health Committee conducted a hearing up at Macy this summer and one of the items on the agenda was on diabetes, and we had very strong testimony from the people who came to the committee at that hearing about the incidence and about the effect and impact on their...on their society. Also, Table 2 just shows you the numbers, the actual numbers of population in Nebraska with diabetes, and you will notice again, as you go down that chart, it's a higher percentage of Native Americans than either white or African-Americans. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States and diabetes is a chronic disease.