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FLOOR DEBATE

April 30, 2003      LB 411

other reductions, it was very difficult for us, but I want you to know that your Health Committee, in trying to assist to do our part, made those tough decisions also to make some cuts where we probably didn't want to but we felt were necessary. So I would yield my time to Senator Jensen, if he did want it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, about two and a half minutes.

SENATOR JENSEN: No, I would just comment just on a couple things. Certainly the presumed eligibility for the women, we...or we really thought that was a necessary thing to take a look at. If someone on presumed eligibility goes to a presumed eligibility provider, they are cared for immediately. We had a little concern that perhaps a woman who went in, wanting to know if she was pregnant, there might be a period of time there before she's approved. That approval has to be done within 45 days. Typically, it's done within 30 days. The department wants to approve anyone that certainly fits within their guidelines. Eighty percent of those that apply are approved. But if someone was pregnant, we didn't want to delay that. We wanted them to receive immediate services, and that's the reason that the committee put the women back in, left the children, which typically is not an emergency situation, and the eligibility will be determined before the action was taken. With that, thank you, Senator Byars, for the time. Just ask for the approval of the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen and Senator Byars. Senator Jensen, there are no further lights on. Did you wish to close on the...he waives the option to close. Question for the body is adoption of AM1082, offered by the Health and Human Services Committee to LB 411. All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on the adoption of AM1082, offered by the Health and Human Services Committee. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The committee amendments are adopted. Back to LB 411. Mr. Clerk.