

fact. What the committee did here was to add one other factor which was omitted which is mumps. The second aspect of the bill is it requires that a child prior to entering school will have a physical and there shall be a record of that physical. At the second time a child receives a physical is when he enters into what we generally refer to as the middle school or junior high at grade seven. Others who have supported this bill are the Children and Youth Committee of the American Legion, the Easter Seal Committee of the State of Nebraska along with the Nebraska Association of Retarded Citizens and other interested people. Now I know that to some of you requiring a physical appears to be a mandate that is prohibitive but let me remind you that the records show across this country that many cases when a child is not properly examined that there are certain kinds of internal problems that are never detected. You can find any number of cases of kidney problems, of heart disease, of heart problems and other very vital organ problems. So that is the intent of this bill is to detect those kinds of physical defects at the earliest age and hopefully bring about a correction and I can cite cases where this has happened. One case that I know very specifically was where a school does demand a physical prior to entrance to that school system. Because of that physical of this young man, his physician detected a serious heart problem. The child was taken to Mayo's, surgery was performed. Today this young man who is about fifth grade is very healthy and academically inclined. This is one example and you can say that is only one isolated case but the truth is that this happens on numerous occasions. Another aspect of this bill is the Department of Public Health would provide the rules under which these kinds of physicals would be given. In other words, it is not just a once over physical that oftentimes occurs where they check, look in your mouth, your tonsils, your adenoids, your ears, check your eyes very quickly and generally see whether your heart is beating. This physical would be more comprehensive than that and the type of physical would be prescribed. The cost of the physical to the best knowledge I have would be in the neighborhood of ten to fifteen dollars. Now you can say this may be a burden upon the parents. Well, if that is true, you know as well as I do that those parents who may find it burdensome, that there are agencies who provide these kinds of health services for that purpose. So there really is not that burden. And I would advise you also that ten or fifteen dollars may be the cheapest dollar spent on the part of parents if they do indeed find that their young boy or girl has a serious physical defect which can be corrected. One last item I will