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function properly, that it has been a thorn in the side of those trying to keep health care costs down because they consistently overturn the more expensive projects. On occasion they will uphold the Health Department on the minor projects that don't really amount to a whole lot, but on the major ones that are going to keep costs down, the appeal board goes with the providers. When Senator Cullan said, well, Senator Wesely is wrong, it's not provider dominated, why there are more consumers than providers on there, well, what I am talking about is the way they vote indicates quite clearly the providers get their way much more than the Health Department and the consumers get their side of it upheld. So whether or not there is more consumers than providers isn't so important as what they actually do and how they actually vote and the way they vote is essentially in favor of the providers almost down the line. So as far as I am concerned this is pretty much a rubber stamp for the providers when they really want a project and it causes trouble because the Health Department puts out effort to try and look at a project and determines it is not necessary and then to have it turned around without any sort of reasoning, again this appeal panel meets privately, doesn't put out any reasoning for their decisions and doesn't issue a vote, overturns the Department and that is it, you know. That is not a very satisfactory situation at the present time and should be changed. I think it would help the process and as far as the appeal that we always want to allow people that the appeal is still present to go to the courts and would be a much better system to follow than what we have now. And as far as Senator Cullan talking about trying to get citizen input, well the citizen input was there with the HSAs and Senator Cullan and Governor Thone decided to do away with the citizen input. So when we start talking about citizen input it has been Senator Cullan and Governor Thone that have taken away the majority of that citizen input and they are trying to put up these appeal boards and this review committee as a citizen input. Well, they know that this sort of citizen input is going to be again dominated by the providers and not the consumer interest and that is the kind of citizen input they want, the kind that they can control, and that is the way they are trying to set up this whole system on the Health Department side. Well, the HSAs where the citizen input was I had problems with because they did delay unnecessarily I think some projects locally. I was disappointed in some of their actions. I am not that fond of some of their decisions, but they did provide an input and it was legitimate input locally, and I think the White Paper and the effort in Omaha from that HSA was very instrumental in trying to bring awareness of the problem of health care costs, and for that effort they were

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