

and this is why I introduced it. The chairman of this committee is from my legislative district and he approached me with it and I thought it sounded like a good idea and so I introduced it. Every two years licensed embalmers and funeral directors shall complete sixteen hours of continuing education courses prior to the renewal of the license. There was no opposition to this bill at the committee hearing and this concept that I am proposing is not new. Several groups and professions now require mandatory education for all licenses. Iowa and Kansas have continuing education for their funeral directors. The funeral directors in Nebraska say that there are constant changes in the law and when I talk about law I don't mean state law altogether, I mean they also have federal regulations to abide by too. And then there are changes in customs and attitudes and changes in religious customs and of course this bill would provide for continuing education so that the funeral directors would be able to keep up with this. The course would be approved by the Licensing Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. This association has been working on this bill or a concept of this bill for the last two or three years and they believe that it is what they want and endorse this bill wholeheartedly. I move for the advancement of LB 225.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Goll.

SENATOR GOLL: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I would like to say that I have twelve funeral directors in District 16. All were contacted by letter requesting their input on this bill. I received nine responses from the twelve. In all nine responses they were affirmative. Their responses said that they think this is a good bill and is needed in Nebraska. Another response, "All in all, it is a good bill, a worthwhile education." This is for the members information. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Yes, would Senator Hefner yield to a question?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner, would you respond, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Certainly will.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Hefner, I'm not going to try and burn up the time to kill your bill....

SENATOR HEFNER: I appreciate that.