

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 20, 1997 LB 853

committee amendment. Senator Robinson, did you wish to speak to the committee amendment? On the bill?

SENATOR ROBINSON: On the bill.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you. There are no other lights on. Did you wish to say anything in closing with respect to the committee amendment? Closing is waived. The issue before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 853. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR COORDSEN: The amendments are adopted. The Clerk informs me that Senator Dwite Pedersen is going to open on the bill as amended. Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I guess because of my history of starting my life out in the funeral business that I told Senator Will's office that I'd be more than glad to introduce this bill. This does nothing more than increases the maximum amount that worker's comp can pay for a funeral. It raises from 2,000 to 6,000 now with the amendment. It has been many years since it has been changed, and the average funeral now is going in the neighborhood of \$6,000. I talked to a good friend of mine last night who is a funeral director and says they're right on with the 6,000 price. That's all it does. If there's any questions, I would try and answer some as far as the prices of funerals in that area, and I encourage you advance the bill.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. You've heard the opening. Senator Robinson, to speak to the bill, please.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body. Senator Pedersen, question.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Would you respond to a question?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Okay.