

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2022**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB704**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday January 21, 2022  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Williams  
**One Liner:** Change education requirements for licensure under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act and eliminate certain provisions regarding caskets

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 7 Senators Arch, Cavanaugh, M., Day, Hansen, B., Murman, Walz, Williams  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Matt Williams  
William Lauber  
Steven Brunken  
Michael Butler

**Representing:**

District 36  
Nebraska Funeral Association  
Self  
Livingston Butler Volland Funeral Home and non-members of our State Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 704 would amend the amount of hours required for funeral directors and embalmers, and a funeral director and embalmer apprentice, to receive a license. It would also repeal Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 71-609.

The funeral director and embalmer would be required to have earned 40 hours of college credit, as opposed to the current 60 hours. The bill would also change the hours required from six accounting hours, to twelve business hours; and from eight hours of chemistry to four hours of chemistry.

The bill would also change apprentice license requirements. It would require the applicant have completed 20 of the 40 required hours, as opposed to the current 39 of 60 hours.

Section 71-609 is a public health statute requiring retail dealers of caskets keep a record of sales including the name and address of the purchaser, and name, date, and place of death of the deceased. The retailer must submit this record to the Department of Health and Human Services on the first of the month. LB 704 would repeal this statute.

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John Arch, Chairperson