

The nursing home requirements that would have to be waived are the door width which is Section 406 of the regulations. The present second floor Manor doors are forty inches and could be widened to no more than forty three but the maximum requirements are forty four inches in width and then there is also the corridor width that would have to be changed. The requirements there are eight foot wide and the maximum of the Manor second floor corridors is five foot eleven and then the elevator size, the elevator cabs to be at least five foot four and the Manor's elevator cabs are five foot four by seven foot six.

SENATOR DWORAK: The reason for these different dimensions and things, what is the reason for these wider doorways and wider hallways and more adequate elevator space? Do you feel the Fire Marshall's office is just harassing and... or do you think he has some real legitimate justification for these rules and regulations?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Well he has legitimate rules and regulations. I am sure of that but we must understand that these people here are not the intensive type care people. They are people that are convalescing from minor operations or maybe just ill with flu or something like that. They are not people that are in need of intensive care where they could not be moved in wheel chairs and so forth. The width of the elevators I am sure and the width of the doors is to move the entire bed out.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you. Senator Labeledz, I think we are embarking here on a dangerous precedent. As you indicated these rules and regulations by the Fire Marshall and other people are for one purpose and one purpose only and that is the safety, the well being of the people involved and I think if we start legislatively excluding different agencies, I think we are more or less admitting that these requirements are not proper, that they are not needed and if this in fact is the case, then they should be waived on every nursing home or any similar situation across the State of Nebraska. If they are legitimate, if they are of a nature where the welfare and well being and safety and health of these people are protected, why I think it would be a sad thing for this Legislature to make that kind of a decision based on just an exception basis rather than going through point by point analyzing and discussing and having some professional opinion and professional expertise on the rules and regulations and the reason therefore. I think this is a serious thing if they are superfluous and we don't need them, fine. Then we don't need them for