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LB 94

Wesely a question. Senator Wesely, you mentioned that this would help save people money which I think ought to be done where funerals are concerned because to me they are a hustle. How would the money be saved?

SENATOR WESELY: First off by allowing a situation like we have in Lincoln with the home that we are talking about. By consolidating the services, they are just able to cut costs tremendously and I know that for a fact from talking to those people. It is just, in that instance, it is pretty clear that by combining the services they are able to do more for the people and at the same time reduce costs.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, I do support Senator Wesely's motion, and at first, I was considering offering substantial amendments to this bill but since it deals primarily with licensing and continuing in existence the Examiners Board, I wouldn't do that. Perhaps I will have to introduce a bill but there are euphemisms or nice words that are applied to the business or the industry of death and dead people. Funeral directors are often no more than hucksters or salespeople. They have products to sell. That is what they are interested in doing. They prey on the people who are very upset emotionally. They get them to agree not to take their insurance check unless a funeral director, as he or she is euphemistically called, has also signed it and this it to get their greedy clutches on the money of these people who are grieving. The National Association has suggested that when they advertise coffins they should show very cheap gaudy ones, cheap in appearance which would be inexpensive, and without absolutely saying it get across the idea that what kind of cheapskate are you. How are you going to lay away the cherished remains of somebody you care for in a cheap contraption like this, and among other things, the coffins were to be damaged. They were to have scrapes of paint, strips of paint off them. Then right near to these coffins are to be the deep rich toned boxes. That is all that they are. And then they get those sepulchral tones in their voice and they close their hands and you know how these undertakers look and their eyes kind of narrow and they try to get a softness in their face and have a different kind of music play when they try to get you to go deeper into your pocket to buy these very expensive boxes but all that a corpse is, all that a corpse is is an unliving substance. All that these so-called funeral directors are are salesmen and saleswomen. They are selling embalming which is not always up to the standard that