

SENATOR WESELY: I don't know if that is possible but I will try. This started out as rather a simple amendment. It still is that. It does get into a rather complicated business, however, and that is the whole funeral home industry. What we are trying to do here is maintain some competition among funeral homes but allow a funeral home or cemetery, or vice versa in that situation, to own the whole procedural, process entity so that you can have a situation where somebody can save some money, basically, is what it comes down to. You have preneed solicitation still for cemetery plots. You can make your own choice as to that before your death. You have a situation where upon the death of somebody you then select the funeral home at your own convenience, at your own choice. It is just a situation where under the corporate structure you can have all these entities under one corporate structure and attempt to save some money and I think that is what we are looking at. I appreciated the remarks of Senator Chambers. I thought he was very accurate in assessing some of the problems with the funeral home industry and I think this bill doesn't particularly deal with those. I think it helps the matter somewhat. But I think that part of the problem with the funeral home industry is that it has been fragmented and they haven't been allowed to be innovative and try some different approaches so that people can save some money and be served better and I think that this allows some of that sort of innovation and I think that is a positive step so I ask for your support of the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR LEWIS: That you would pay attention so that we could read the amendment to you, it has been so long. Read the amendment, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the amendment reads as follows: Read. (See page 850, Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR LEWIS: You've heard the amendment. All those in favor vote aye. Those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Lewis voting aye.

SENATOR LEWIS: The Clerk will record. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: A Call of the House.

SENATOR LEWIS: A request that the House go under Call. All those in favor vote aye. Those opposed vote nay. Record the vote.