

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a motion on the desk. Senator Simon moves to return LB 789 to Select File for a specific amendment.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President, members of the body, first I want to apologize to Senator Chambers for having to use his bill to do this because I do feel very strongly about it and I won't take very much time and I certainly don't want to jeopardize this bill but I do want to talk specifically on an issue for just a moment or two and then I will withdraw the motion. I have handed out a copy of a letter that was sent to myself and Governor Thorne and a couple of other individuals regarding some problems with a nursing home in Hastings and this particular bill is the only vehicle that I have to discuss it. This will be the last time that you will hear me talking about the problem of the nursing home industry before the Legislature this session. Many of you will applaud that, however, somebody I think has to be the conscience of the Legislature. You know it is just amazing to me that after listening to all the problems that have taken place that the Public Health and Welfare Committee could still go on record as not even wanting to do a study on it at any cost. This is just totally inconceivable to me. Senator Wesely, my legacy is that when I leave this body I hope that perhaps you will take the unpopular position on this issue but I want to read just a couple comments and you listen and see if this sounds like the type of thing that this Legislature should go on record condoning. "They leave the entire facility in the charge of an LPN who is not even on call which is required by state law." Now these are, granted these are allegations but these are allegations that are made by individuals that worked at the facility. "Personal coverage at the Good Samaritan Village is never adequate and does not meet the requirements set by the Bureau of Standards. The work sheets do not give an accurate or true accounting of the personal coverage. The work sheets have been known to carry the names of personnel who have been terminated, who have been terminated, as long as three months. Those who call in sick are continued as though they had been there on duty." Here is a lady who had her light on for the whole evening because she had to use the facilities. They did not bother to get a hold of her. Finally in the morning they came to her at that time she had already had to relieve herself. The aide did not even bother to clean up the mess, merely covered it with a blanket. These are the type of things that I have seen in the last three years I have been down here. They are not pleasant. It is very easy to continue to go about business as usual. It is times like this that I really don't feel too many regrets in leaving the Legislature when I see the lack of interest and