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PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, Mr. President, colleagues, the amendments that you have handed out to you are the amendments in the form that were taken up with the bill drafters. Now, basically, what we are going to do here for a few minutes, Senator Johnson, Lowell Johnson is going to explain the history of the bill and how this came about and the compromise that was involved and curtailed in arriving at where we are at now, so, hopefully, we can kill five minutes so we get the formal amendments down from the bill drafters. I would, at this time, urge the adoption of the committee amendments. Senator Johnson was going to talk for a little bit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson, we'll let you explain the bill. Can you put this in the form of addressing the committee amendments to the committee amendments, Senator Johnson?

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Yes.

PRESIDENT: I recognize you for that.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, funeral directors of Nebraska and the cemeterians of this state have been working on a...

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Go ahead, Senator.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you. Funeral directors of Nebraska and the cemeterians of this state have been working on appropriate legislation pertaining to the pre-need financing and sale of funeral services and merchandise for over three years. The funeral directors have engaged in a continuing effort, through numerous special meetings and regular district meetings, to keep the funeral directors informed of the progress of pending legislation and to receive their input towards its construction and applications. During the writing of the Federal Trade Commission's Funeral Trade Practices Rule of September, 1982, and during the hearings held on that rule, one of the most often cited and mandated services by funeral service providers was the lack of offering of the opportunity to prearrange such services. Most surveys,