

we should rubber stamp it, that a compromise has been worked out by a few individuals representing two industries and we, the elected representatives of the people, should not touch that. I have letters in my hand here from Adam-Swanson Funeral Home in North Platte, Homes for Funerals in Norfolk, Apfel-Butler-Geddes in Grand Island, Roeder in Omaha, Scott in Bloomfield, Huffman's in Elgin and Clearwater, Dworak in Omaha, Wintz in Hartington, and it goes on, funeral directors in this state who oppose this bill in its current form. I think what I am doing is offering an amendment that will hopefully make this bill in a form where we can pass it, continue to afford consumer protection for the individuals. Now keep in mind, we are not totally slapping around the big funeral directors. You remember Senator Johnson's arguments the other day, concerns the other day about the interest provision. I have a concern about that. I have a concern about funeral directors getting in the business where all they want to do is turn over money so they can invest it and get the interest off of it. I have that concern. My amendment doesn't touch that. We are still allowing them to do it although I do have that concern. If this amendment is not adopted, maybe we should address that. With that, I think what we are doing here is basically the same thing you did yesterday, those of you who voted to kill any amendment to Proposition 300 said we need to preserve small enterprise, we need to support the small family farmer. What you are doing with this one is basically the same thing. You are helping to preserve the small family funeral director. With that, I urge your adoption.

PRESIDENT: The motion is the adoption of the Withem amendment to LB 643. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the Withem amendment that has been under discussion. Please record your vote. We are on Select File. Twenty-five votes required for adoption of amendment, please record your vote. The motion to adopt has been made. Please record your vote. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, I would like a call of the house please.

PRESIDENT: A call of the house has been requested. The question is, shall the house come under call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.