

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Nichol. (read Nichol amendment).

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this amendment was brought to me by the Christian Science faith and is similar to other amendments that we have had through the years on various bills. What this amendment says is simply that if a person dies under the supervision of a Christian Science practitioner and does not have the advantage of being attended by a medical doctor, this does not mean that it is an unusual death and an autopsy will not be performed purely because he or she was attended by a Christian Science practitioner. I move for the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, over the years I have really cooperated 100% on Christian Science amendments. I really have, in fact I have offered them on several occasions. There is a certain Catch 22 with regard to this amendment, however, and maybe it could be redone or maybe it could be designed better but it goes something like this. The whole purpose of the system is to examine deaths and find out if there is any reason, to find out whether they were actually just a person under the care of a Christian Science...whatever it is, and then they died, normally, whatever. The purpose to find that out, but the catch in this is it doesn't just say Christian Scientist by the way, it says any recognized faith, so the catch here is they say well, granny was under the care of and therefore you can't check why she died. You look and you look over and granny has got her head beat in, you know, you say but...but...that is what we are trying to find out whether she died of natural causes, you know, she had a disease and so she chose to utilize a particular religious practice but in this case you can't even check that out. You get foreclosed at the pass as I understand it. So even though I can fully cooperate with the Christian Science amendments on other legislation, I'm not sure but what the way this is drafted and the implications of it are not what you want. I think that you shouldn't adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Not to many nights ago on television there was a movie called Faustus and it dealt with a doctor who had sold his soul to the devil in exchange for the right to do everything that he wanted to do for a certain number of years. Then when pay day came and the piper wanted to collect the