

January 16, 1992 LB 671

another person besides your doctor. They may want to carry it out themselves in the form of a living will rather than to appoint their spouse or a loved one to exercise that power. There may be people who will want to use this tool to get to the same end as the durable power of attorney. Senator Crosby, if you're concerned about...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...the implication of this, then there's no difference between a durable power of attorney and a living will. And if you're going to vote against them on that basis, you better vote against both of them because both of them say, we will take control and order our death. Whether we use a doctor or a third person, we are controlling that decision ourselves and in that sense there is no distinction here and if that's the case, a logical consistency would mean if that's the decision to vote against both. I think both are valuable. I intend to support and work for a usable and forceable sensitively drawn living will and durable power of attorney. I urge you to do the same. It is what 80 percent, according to the Omaha World-Herald poll of Nebraska citizens want in this state. They want these kind of tools. Both of them have value. I hope we choose to draft and pass sensible, workable methods in both. My bill needs a little work. I think John's bill can use a review.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: We have two more stages of debate. I will be willing to listen to those discussions, but right now we need a signal and the people of this state need a signal as to whether or not we are going to use the living will as one available tool to order and control an individual's medical treatment at that most vulnerable time at the end of life. I urge your vote and I'd ask for a call of the house.

SPEAKER BAACK: A call of the house has been requested. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: The house is under call. All members please report to the Chamber and record your presence. The house is under call. The house is under call. All members please report