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majority of concerns get handled pretty well. That would take care of most of the problem. If there was a difficulty, maybe there would be some negotiation or further discussion or what have you. If there was an impasse and the problem is serious or even if there isn't an impasse and the problem is serious, the volunteer would kick it up to the state ombudsman, the professional staff and there they already have that authority and power and then they would intervene and try and work something out with the nursing home. And that program is in place now.

SENATOR ROBINSON: In Lincoln. In Lincoln, is that where it is in place?

SENATOR WESELY: The volunteer program is in Lincoln. The state ombudsman, the two full-time staff are already, have been there for a number of years and are out there but they just can't handle all the issues.

SENATOR ROBINSON: How often does the...I know the Department of Health goes out and checks out the rest homes, how often does this happen?

SENATOR WESELY: I'm not sure if it is annual, but I think it is. So the Health Department is out on an annual basis seeing that sanitation and other, you know, dangerous concerns are being addressed. The ombudsman idea is to make life as comfortable and pleasant as possible for the residents and to work out problems in an amicable fashion if possible.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Do they get complaints from children of the residents and so forth? Does this happen?

SENATOR WESELY: As a matter of fact, that is part of the process, yes. They could be part of it.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Madam President and members, very seldom do you get a chance to get so much for so little. We talked about this bill at length in committee. We had quality people come for the program and again it goes back to more or less of a local attitude. Who knows more about the people than the people