

**From:** [Scott Reeves](#)  
**To:** [Board, Funeral, RLD](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Changes  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 17, 2025 5:49:58 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

In regard to the proposed changes to our Thanatopractice Law, I would like to state my position of two of those in particular.

With regard to the preparation room requirements, I do not see the reasoning to not require an embalming machine. I can see that each embalmer has his or her preferences as to instrumentation, so perhaps some leeway in required instruments is understandable. However, I do not understand how it would be possible to not be required to have running hot and cold water. It would seem to me that even those who might prefer no water added to the embalming fluid, would still need running hot and cold water for bathing, shampooing and shaving. Hydro aspirators also require running water. Likewise, for our own safety, one needs water for an eye wash station and a drench shower. I believe the stated minimum requirements for a preparation room need to have adjustment.

My second issue with the proposal has to do with supervision. I do not believe it is in the interest of the public we serve for the Funeral Director In Charge to be somewhere in the state of New Mexico. I believe the person in charge needs to be readily available to the clients being served. Likewise, the employees need direct supervision in order to maintain the standard of care. As the saying goes - "When the cat's away, the mice will play." If we are to remain a service focused profession, then I believe that personal representation and supervision are essential.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that these issues be addressed and modified.

Sincerely,

Scott P. Reeves, NMFSP#456

Wheeler Mortuary of Portales, Inc.