



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007**  
**Committee Statement**  
**LB 481**

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**Hearing Date:** February 15, 2007  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services

**Introducer(s):** (Johnson)

**Title:** Change requirements relating to criminal background checks for certain health care professionals

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

- Advanced to General File
  - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
  - Indefinitely Postponed
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**Vote Results:**

6	Yes	Senator(s): Johnson, Erdman, Hansen, Howard, Stuthman, Pankonin
	No	
	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Gay

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**Proponents:**

Senator Joel Johnson  
Cecile Marie Zielinski  
Allen Stoye  
Angie Alberico

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Creighton University  
Self  
Creighton University Medical Center and the  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 481 relates to applicants for an initial license to practice a profession which is authorized to prescribe controlled substances. Current law requires such applicants to submit to a criminal history background check (section 71-104.01). LB 481 provides that an applicant for a temporary educational permit will have 90 days from the issuance of the permit to comply with the background check requirement. At the end of that period, the permit will either be (1) suspended

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if the background check is not completed, or (2) revoked if the background check reveals that the applicant is unqualified for the permit.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

The committee amendment (AM 270) changes provisions relating to licensure for the practice of medicine and surgery. Current law provides that applicants for licensure to practice medicine and surgery and osteopathic medicine and surgery must successfully complete all parts of the licensing examination within seven years. AM 270 increases the period within which to successfully complete the required examinations to ten years. The amendment conforms to provisions found in LB 463, which has an operative date of December 1, 2008.

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**Senator Joel Johnson, Chairperson**