



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 53**

Hearing Date: January 17, 2007
Committee On: Health and Human Services

Introducer(s): (Howard)
Title: Prohibit smoking in certain foster care homes

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

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

Proponents:
Senator Howard
Carly Runestad
Terry Werner

Mark Welsch

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Hospital Association
National Association of Social Workers Nebraska Chapter
Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution of Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 53 prohibits smoking in the home of a foster parent licensed under section 71-1902 that has a foster child younger than thirteen years of age, or a foster child thirteen years of age or older who has asthma or another chronic respiratory condition.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment (AM 525) replaces the bill as introduced and substitutes different subject matter. The amendment changes provisions relating to the provider tax for intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR). Earlier this year, Congress reduced the maximum provider tax that states could impose on ICF/MRs to 5.5%. State law in section 68-1803 imposes a 6% provider tax. AM 525 changes the provider tax rate in state law to 5.5% to conform with federal law.

Senator Joel Johnson, Chairperson