



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 54**

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

Introducer(s): (Howard)
Title: Provide qualifications for certain child protection and safety workers

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

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

Vote Results:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|
| 5 | Yes | Senators Johnson, Erdman, Gay, Pankonin, Stuthman |
| 2 | No | Senators Hansen, Howard |
| | Present, not voting | |
| | Absent | |
-

Proponents:

Senator Howard
Terry Werner

Melisa Borchardt
Sarah Helvey

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of
Social Workers
Self
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public
Interest

Opponents:

Todd Reckling

Representing:

Health and Human Services System

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 54 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to hire only child protection and safety workers, social workers, and trainees who are certified social workers and meet the educational requirements of section 71-1,319(2). The requirement only applies to employees hired on and after the effective date of the bill.

Section 71-1,319(2) provides as follows: “A person shall be qualified to be a certified social worker if he or she provides evidence to the board [Board of Mental Health Practice] that he or she has a baccalaureate or master's degree in social work from an approved educational

program and completes an application form which includes the applicant's social security number.”

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Joel Johnson, Chairperson