



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 616

Hearing Date: February 22, 2007
Committee On: Health and Human Services

Introducer(s): (Pedersen)
Title: Eliminate a provision relating to regional behavioral health authorities

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 Pedersen
Patty Stout
Sue Lloyd
Rachel Pinkerton
David B. Homan
Lise A. Zlomke
Bill Lloyd
Shanna Belschner
John Pinkerton

Representing:

Introducer
R.O.C. 3 Coalition
Mental Health Association
Self
R.O.C. 3 Coalition
Self
Mental Health Association and Self
Children and Family Coalition
Self

Opponents:

Corey Brockway
Larry Brown
Kathy Seacrest
C.J. Johnson
Glen Monter
Robyn Schultheiss
Sharyn Wohlers
Tamara R. Johnson, M.D.

Jerry McCallum

Representing:

Self
Region 2 Human Services
Region 2 Human Services
Region 5 Systems
Region 2 Human Services
Region 2 Human Services
Region 1 Behavioral Health
Region 2 Human Services and Heartland
Counseling
Region 4 Behavioral Health

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 616 amends the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act (act) to prohibit regional behavioral health authorities (regions) from directly providing behavioral health services under the act, except under very limited circumstances, as already outlined in current law. The act currently permits regions to provide the services they were already providing on the effective date of the act (“grandfathered” services). LB 616 would apply the current restrictions to all services, including grandfathered services.

Current restrictions on regions providing services were originally adopted to address the perceived or actual conflict of interest that existed because regions are both administrators of state funding for services and providers of those services.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Joel Johnson, Chairperson