



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 617**

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

Introducer(s): (Pedersen)
Title: Change provisions relating to children's behavioral health

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
Louise Jacobs
Mary Fraser Meints

Tom McBride
Kathy Moore
Beth Baxter

Representing:
Introducer
Self
Uta Halee Girls Village and Nebraska
Association of Homes and Services for Children
Children and Family Coalition of Nebraska
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health
Organizations

Opponents:
David Cygan
Lee Tyson

Representing:
Health and Human Services System
Health and Human Services System

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 617 amends the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act. The bill creates (1) a coordinator of adult behavioral health services and (2) a coordinator of children's behavioral health services within the Division of Behavioral Health Services (division).

The bill requires the division to submit a children's behavioral health implementation plan to the Governor and the Legislature by September 1, 2007. The division is required to

communicate regularly with the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature (committee) and the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission of the Legislature (commission) during preparation of the plan. The commission is required to review the plan and provide written recommendations to the division by November 1, 2007. The division is required to respond to those recommendations in writing to the committee and the commission by December 1, 2007.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Joel Johnson, Chairperson