



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 358

Chairperson: Deb Fischer
Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications
Date of Hearing: February 5, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 358 was introduced at the request of the Department of Motor Vehicles. Federal legislation has been passed which was effective Jan 1, 2007 .

The federal act is the "Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005" which is Subpart C of Public Law 109-59, part of SAFETEA-LU. It is found in the federal code at 49 USC section 14504a. It is a reenactment of prior federal legislation which FMCSA sat on. This act contained the 1/1/07 effective date and repealed SSRS and state programs for private and exempt carriers. In Nebraska our private and exempt carrier program is referred to as "Bingo Stamp". An extension to 1/1/2008 was introduced and may still be alive but no sign it will pass. The Act establishes the Unified Carrier Registration System. This requires all covered carriers etc. to pay filing fees to show proof of financial responsibility to the feds.

The system is to include the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and Agreement. (PL 109-59 Section 4305) which amends 49 USC 14504a.

In the act, the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement or UCR agreement means "the interstate agreement developed under the unified carrier registration plan governing the collection and distribution of registration fees and financial responsibility information provided and fees paid by motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, freight forwarders, and leasing companies pursuant to this section. "

Unified Carrier Registration Plan or UCR plan means the "organization of State, Federal, and industry representatives responsible for developing, implementing, and administering the UCR agreement."

The UCR plan establishes the Board and they are supposed to issue rules and regulations governing the UCR agreement. No rules published to date, proposed or otherwise but the Board was established in the spring of 2006 in June and they have been working. The Board is required to set filing fees annually to be collected by the states - this is a different fee that what the feds are collecting under the USCS. Fees paid under the Plan and Agreement are paid to the states, sent to a clearing house, and redistributed to the states so that

each participating state will have the same level of funding as collected in 2004 for SSRS in 2004 if the state participated in SSRS.

Principal Introducer:

_____ **Senator Carol Hudkins**