



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 371**

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**Chairperson:** John Synowiecki  
**Committee:** Nebraska Retirement Systems  
**Date of Hearing:** February 5, 2007

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

Nebraska lacks a comprehensive, statewide retirement plan for law enforcement personnel. Currently state statutes create different retirement systems with from defined contribution, cash balance, and defined benefit retirement plans in operation. Unfortunately, second class cities and villages are not included in any of these existing programs. This range of retirement benefits provides an incentive for trained law enforcement officers to accept employment with another political subdivision that has a comparably better retirement program under state law.

LB 371 creates the Nebraska Peace Officer Retirement Plan, a statewide defined benefit plan for all law enforcement personnel in Nebraska not currently enrolled in a defined benefit retirement plan. The language and provisions contained in LB 371 are primarily patterned on the existing Nebraska State Patrol retirement plan.

This bill allows each peace officer in Nebraska to enroll in the plan except for those who are in a plan and choose to remain in that plan or those who were hired by cities of the first class prior to January 1, 1984 . It also allows for the transfer of funds held in another retirement account into the Nebraska Peace Officers Retirement System.

This plan also would authorize a deferred retirement option plan (“DROP”). A DROP plan permits optional additional contributions made by members DROP plan which are treated like a defined contribution program. A member enrolled in DROP directs their own funds; and that fees can be charged against account.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Philip Erdman**