

Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 469

Chairperson: Joel Johnson

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: February 23, 2007

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

By its own terms: "The purpose of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act is to provide for the use of dedicated revenue for health-care-related expenditures."

LB 469 seeks to implement that worthy purpose by including "school-based health clinics" among eligible recipients of such funds.

Regrettably, school-based clinics became entangled – and fell victim – in political wrangling over abortion and embryonic stem cell research, with which the clinics have nothing to do. In fact, a school operated by nuns maintained such a clinic and supported funding.

School-based health clinics are capable of filling a critical societal need, more so in some areas of the state than in others.

No evidence has been presented that any clinic is, or has been, a "front" for sinister, nefarious or "immoral" activities.

Principal Introducer:	
-	Senator Ernie Chambers