



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 669

Chairperson: Brad Ashford
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: March 15, 2007

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

(1) Provide for the development and establishment of community-based behavioral health jail diversion programs in Nebraska for adult offenders who have behavioral health disorders in each of Nebraska's six behavioral health regions and encourage the use of behavioral health jail diversion programs by sentencing courts as alternatives to incarceration or reincarceration in order to reduce jail and prison overcrowding and enhance offender supervision in the community; and

(2) Serve the interests of society by promoting the recovery of offenders who have behavioral health disorders and deterring such offenders from engaging in further criminal activity by utilizing community-based facilities and programs available to shift the offenders' reliance from expensive emergency services to more appropriate, less expensive community-based services, increasing the offenders' contribution to society through employment and volunteerism and reducing reliance upon incarceration as a means of managing nonviolent offenders.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Carol Hudkins