



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 738**

---

**Chairperson:** Joel Johnson  
**Committee:** Health and Human Services  
**Date of Hearing:** January 23, 2008

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

LB 738 is a response to recommendations made following the LR 401 interim study. The bill augments Nebraska's Brain Injury Registry (Sections 81-653 to 81-661) by requiring notification to persons with brain injury about available resources in Nebraska within thirty days after receiving a report of brain or head injury. LB 738 also increases the frequency with which hospitals and rehabilitation centers must report the incidence of brain injury to the Brain Injury Registry to within thirty days of admission or treatment.

Clinical studies have shown that victims of traumatic brain injury develop depression within three to six months of injury at twice the rate of victims of those experiencing trauma not related to the brain. Moreover, approximately forty percent of those with traumatic brain injury develop secondary conditions associated with stress disorders or concussion within three to six months of injury. Providing confidential and timely notice to traumatic brain injury victims of available treatment and management resources serves to reduce the adverse secondary effects, financial and otherwise, that often occur with brain injury for both the victims and their families.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Tony Fulton**