

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB458

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 18, 2009
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Harms
One Liner: Provide for vocational training for public assistance recipients

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Campbell, Gay, Howard, Pankonin, Stuthman, Wallman, Gloor
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Harms
Todd Landry
Dennis Baack
Alfred Pettinger
Tiffany Seibert
Ursula Aldrich
Annemarie Fowler
Jennifer Carter

Representing:

Introducer
Department of Health and Human Services
Nebraska Community College Association
Lincoln Action Program
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Self
Opportunity at Work
Nebraska Appleseed

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 458 changes provisions of the Welfare Reform Act (act). The act requires the completion of a comprehensive assets assessment (section 68-1718), and the development of a self-sufficiency contract (sections 68-1719 to 68-1721).

Under the self-sufficiency contract, current law (section 68-1721) requires the principal wage earner and other nonexempt members of the applicant family to participate in one or more "approved activities," including, but not limited to, education, job skills training, work experience, job search, or employment.

LB 458 provides that "for purposes of creating the self-sufficiency contract and meeting the applicant's work activity requirement, an applicant shall be allowed to engage in vocational training that leads to an associate degree, a diploma, or a certificate for a minimum of twenty hours per week for up to thirty-six months." The above-quoted provision terminates on September 30, 2012.
