

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB601

Hearing Date: Thursday February 19, 2009
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Provide for a medicaid waiver for community-based mental health services

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 6 Senators Campbell, Gay, Gloor, Pankonin, Stuthman, Wallman
Nay:
Absent: 1 Senator Howard
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Nordquist
Brad Meurrens
Constance Zimmer
Stephen Spelic
Mary Angus
Rhonda Hawks
Patricia Jurjevich
Aimee Folker

Carole Boye

Opponents:

Vivianne Chaumont

Neutral:

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Advocacy Services
Nebraska National Alliance on Mental Illness
Alegent Health
Self
Behavioral Health Support Foundation
Nebraska Association of Regional Administrators
Continuum of Care Committee, National Association of Mental Illness
Community Alliance

Representing:

Department of Health and Human Services

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 601 amends the Medical Assistance Act. The bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services, on or before July 1, 2009, to submit an application to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, "amending the medicaid state plan or seeking a waiver thereto to provide for utilization of money to allow for medicaid payments for treatment of the following community-based mental health services: Secure residential, intensive community support, dual diagnosis, intensive residential rehabilitation, emergency community support, and peer support."

The bill contains an emergency clause.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment (AM 855) replaces the bill as introduced. The amendment requires the department, not later than July 1, 2009, to submit a state plan amendment or waiver the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide Medicaid coverage for community-based secure residential and subacute behavioral health services for all eligible recipients, regardless of whether the recipient has been ordered by a mental health board under the

Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act to receive such services.

Tim Gay, Chairperson