

**ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2010**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB864**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday January 29, 2010  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** Pirsch  
**One Liner:** Provide duties for the Community Corrections Council

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

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Ashford, Christensen, Coash, Council, Lathrop, Lautenbaugh,  
McGill, Rogert

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Proponents:**

Sen. Pete Pirsch  
Linda Krutz

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Community Corrections Council

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Deb Minardi

**Representing:**

Probation Administration

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 864 would amend sections 47-619 and 47-624 of the Nebraska Statutes to provide an additional duty to the Community Corrections Council, with the new duties being that the Community Corrections Council shall collaborate with the Probation Administration, The Department of Parole, and The Department of Corrections to develop a plan for the implementation and funding of additional Reporting Centers in judicial districts which currently lack such a center.

Reporting Centers are community based facilities which provide substance abuse treatment, behavioral health services, vocational training, life skills training and other rehabilitation oriented programming on-site services to offenders who would otherwise be prison-bound. Reporting Centers serve probationers, parolees, specialized substance abuse supervision participants (SSAS), and drug and specialty court participants. (Reporting Centers are closely tied to the Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS) program operated by the Office of Probation Administration to target high risk felony drug offenders for intensive community supervision and substance abuse treatment.)

Reporting Center funding is divided among County funds (facilities), State funds (Salaries of probation/parole officers and personnel, plus a portion of services offered), and Offender Fees (portion of services offered).

Currently there are five Reporting Centers located in six judicial districts. These centers are currently located in Douglas County, Lancaster County, and Dakota County, with Sarpy /Otoe Counties, and Buffalo/Dawson Counties sharing facilities.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 1679 would make the following changes to LB 864:

Section 1 Amends section 47-619 of the Nebraska Statutes to include the reference to section 3 of this act into this section of statute.

Section 2 Amends section 47-624, which provides the duties of the Community Correctional Council (Council) to include the following new duties:

- Collaborate with the Office of Probation, the Office of Parole, and the Department of Corrections in developing a plan for the implementation of additional reporting centers as provided in section 3 of this act;
- Provide that the Council shall educate criminal justice stakeholders and the general public about the availability and use of community correctional facilities and programs, in addition to educating the Courts and the Board of Parole;
- Research and evaluate existing community corrections facilities and programs, within the limits of available funding;
- Develop standardized definitions of outcome measures for community corrections facilities and programs, to include recidivism, employment, and substance abuse;
- Provide an annual report to the Legislature and the Governor on the development and performance of community corrections facilities and programs.

Section 3 Provides that the Council shall collaborate with the Office of Probation, the Office of Parole, and the Department of Corrections in developing a plan for the implementation and funding of additional reporting centers.

- Plan shall include recommended locations for at least one reporting center in each judicial district that currently lacks such a center and shall prioritize the additional reporting centers based upon need.
- Plan shall also identify and prioritize need for expansion of reporting centers in judicial districts which currently have a reporting center but have an unmet need for additional reporting center services.
- The Council shall submit the reporting center expansion plan to the Chairperson of the Sentencing and recidivism Committee of the Legislature by December 1, 2010.
- The plan shall be implemented as state funding allows until each judicial district has at least one reporting center.

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Brad Ashford, Chairperson