



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 157

Chairperson: Rich Pahls
Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance
Date of Hearing: February 03, 2009

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

This legislation seeks to amend sections 44-6408 and 81-8,239.07 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to exempt state vehicles from carrying uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage. Nebraska law provides workers' compensation protections for all employees who are involved in an automobile accident while in a state vehicle. The intent of this bill is to remove inequities that stem from the increased compensation a state employee receives should the driver of the other automobile be uninsured or underinsured. In no way does this bill alter the legal requirement of the state to provide all entitled medical and work-related benefits for state employees through workers' compensation.

The provision of coverage for state employees in a state vehicle to protect against uninsured or underinsured drivers is unnecessary coverage that the state should no longer be required to pay in its automobile insurance premiums.

LB 157 also intends to amend Nebraska law, authorizing the Risk Manager, as outlined in the referenced state statutes, to purchase insurance coverage that results in greater protection for state employees and state property should the Risk Manager deem such a purchase appropriate. Current statute does not give such flexibility to the Risk Manager to purchase the most appropriate insurance coverage.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Beau McCoy