



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 274

Chairperson: Brad Ashford
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: February 19, 2009

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

Legislative Bill 274 provides for more flexibility to the Department of Correctional Services in the placement of inmates at the Work Ethic Camp (WEC) in McCook. This proposal furthers the original intent of the WEC, to reduce prison overcrowding, and allows both probationers and inmates to avail themselves of the short-term treatment programming available at that facility.

Under the provisions of this bill, the Director of Correctional Services is given the authority to assign a felony offender to the WEC if he or she believes it is in the best interests of that offender and of society. Offenders convicted of a capital offense or of a crime under sections 28-319 to 28-321 are not eligible for such placement.

Currently, only the courts or the Nebraska Board of Parole determines placement at the WEC. Such placements are to continue under this bill.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Mark Christensen