



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 511

Chairperson: Tim Gay
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 12, 2009

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

LB 511 would amend the present Nebraska Certificate of Need Act to exempt from the provisions of the Act Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded of 15 or fewer beds. The change is necessary because the present statute imposes a moratorium on the addition of any long-term care beds anywhere in Nebraska, except for ten beds per year or ten percent of a facility's licensed beds, whichever is fewer.

It is important to understand that the enactment by the Legislature of LB 511 will not necessarily lead to the establishment of small ICF-MR's in Nebraska. What the bill will do is allow the option to be on the table, should the state wish to pursue it, now or at some future time. Without the change to the Certificate of Need Act which is encompassed by LB 511, the establishment of even one ICF-MR would be illegal.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Norman Wallman