



One Hundred First Legislature - Second Session - 2010
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 919

Chairperson: Amanda McGill
Committee: Urban Affairs
Date of Hearing: January 26, 2010

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

LB 919 provides a process so that a city, which holds a county seat and is classified as a city of the first class, can remain a city of the first class even if its population falls below 4,500 as ascertained by the 2001 census.

Under current law, a city of the first class is a city with a population between 4,500 and 100,000. The statutory authority and responsibility of a city of the first class is somewhat different than that of other classes of municipalities. When the population of a city of the first class falls below 4,500, the city becomes a city of the second class and has one year to modify its ordinances or comply with state law. LB 919 would allow first class cities which hold a county seat to continue to be governed by the first class city statutes and the powers enumerated to it as a county seat.

LB 919 is similar to existing statute, Section 17-310, that provides that the mayor and city council of a city of the second class can decide by ordinance to remain a city of the second class even though its population falls below 800, which is the population line between cities of the second class and villages. They are able to do so whether or not they hold additional powers and immunities as a county seat.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Ken Schilz