

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB465

Hearing Date: Thursday February 03, 2011
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Campbell
One Liner: Eliminate provisions relating to eligibility of non-United-States citizens for public assistance

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Gloor, Krist, Wallman, Bloomfield, Campbell
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	2	Senators Cook, Howard

Proponents:

Michelle Chaffee

Todd C. Reckling

Vivianne M. Chaumont

Representing:

Legal Counsel to the Health and Human Services
Committee representing Senator Kathy Campbell
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Opponents:

James Goddard

Representing:

Nebraska Appleseed

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 465 is intended to eliminate state-only programs for non-United States citizens who are here legally but do not qualify for assistance under federal guidelines or with federal dollars.

Currently the Department of Health and Human Services pays for certain benefits for Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs). These benefits include:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP (formerly known as food stamps)
- Cash payments for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Medicaid
- Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (AABD)

Federal law requires LPRs to be in the U.S. for at least 5 years before receiving federal public benefits. As a result, Nebraska has been using state general funds to provide these public benefits during the five years before individuals become eligible for federal benefits. LB 465 will eliminate this practice.

Approval of this bill will enable the Department to save \$3.9 million annually.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson