ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB738

Hearing Date: Monday January 30, 2012 **Committee On:** Business and Labor

Introducer: Gloor

One Liner: Change burial expense benefits under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Wallman, Smith, Lathrop, Harr, Cook, Carlson, Ashford

Nay: Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Mike Gloor Introducer
Daniel Naranjo self
Albert DeLeon self

Robert Hallstrom Nebraskans for Workers' Compensation Equity and

Fairness (NWCEF)

Janet Lind self Gene Cary self

Steve Howard Nebraska State AFL-CIO

Rod Rehm Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Korby Gilbertson Property Casualty Insurers Association of America

Ron Sedlacek Nebraska Chamber of Commerce

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

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

The current compensation for burial expenses for a work related fatality through workers compensation insurance is \$6,000, paid to dependents. This bill proposes to raise that to \$10,000. This amount was last raised in 1997.

In 2010, 19 deaths occurred on the job in Nebraska. In 2009, there were 16. In 2008, there were 16. The National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. estimates an overall impact of 0.0% on system costs.

Steve Lathrop, Chairperson