

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB842

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 15, 2012
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Harms
One Liner: Change the termination date relating to self-sufficiency activities under the Welfare Reform Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Bloomfield, Campbell, Cook, Gloor, Howard, Krist, Lambert
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:	Representing:
Senator John Harms	District #48
Ashley Fisher	Nebraska Appleseed
Patricia Saldana	Beatty Brasch, Center for People in Need
Becky Gould	Nebraska Appleseed
Jim Cunningham	Nebraska Catholic Conference
Pat Oltman	Self

Opponents:	Representing:
-------------------	----------------------

Neutral:	Representing:
-----------------	----------------------

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 842 extends the termination date in the Welfare Reform Act from September 30, 2012 to December 31, 2016. The subsection allows an applicant to meet the work activity requirement under the Welfare Reform Act by engaging in "vocational training that leads to an associate degree, a diploma, or a certificate for a minimum of twenty hours per week for up to thirty-six months."

Explanation of amendments:

The Committee Amendment adds a reporting requirement to the bill to evaluate the effectiveness of the program prior to the new termination date. The Department of Health and Human Services is required to annually collect data and report the:

- Total number of participants in the ADC program pursuing an associate degree under the program
 - Graduation rates of participants
 - Number of participants making satisfactory progress
 - Length of time participants spend fulfilling work requirements
 - Monthly earning, educational level attained and employment status of participants at six and 12 months after terminating participation
 - Summary of activities performed by the department to promote post secondary educational opportunities to participants in ADC
-

The department shall provide a report to the Governor and Legislature no later than December 1 each year regarding the data and information collected.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson