

**One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB1150**

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**Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Date of Hearing: February 02, 2012**

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

The federal Fostering Connections Act of 2008 gives states the option to extend Title IV-E eligibility for foster youth up to age 21. LB 1150 provides that wards of the State of Nebraska can voluntarily stay in foster care until age 21. Research indicates that youth who continue to receive services until age 21 have improved chances of success when they transition from foster care.

LB 1150 would allow eligible youth to enter into a "voluntary foster care agreement" with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for extended services which include: Medicaid, placement in a foster home, institution, or independent living or continued guardianship/ adoption assistance payments, assistance for post-secondary education, and case management to help access other supports.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Amanda McGill**