

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB724

Chairperson: Senator Deb Fischer

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: January 24, 2012

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

LB 724 adopts new federal CDL regulations prohibiting texting by CDL holders operating commercial motor vehicles. The state is required to impose sanctions for such a violation and it is a compliance requirement to retaining federal highway funding. Compliance is required by the states no later than October 27, 2013.

The bill also includes an exemption from medical fitness certification requirements that was mistakenly omitted in previous legislation. In 2011, the Legislature adopted LB 178 to comply with new federal regulations requiring CDL holders to certify their medical fitness for operations of commercial motor vehicles. As part of that bill, Neb.Rev.Stat. § 60-4,146 was amended but an exemption applicable to drivers who held a CDL prior to July 30, 1996 was not included. LB 724 adds the exemption to the Nebraska statutes.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Deb Fischer