

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB831

Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: January 19, 2012

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

This bill would adopt the Genetic Counselors Licensing Act. With this legislation, Nebraska would provide a mechanism for licensure of individuals who have satisfied the training and certification requirements of the National Board of Genetic Counseling. Licensure would be housed under the Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health, Licensure; the Board of Medicine and Surgery would be charged with oversight of the licensing process. The legislation seeks to protect Nebraska's residents by insuring that individuals performing this form of health counseling are appropriately trained. The bill will not preclude other licensed health care providers from offering genetic counseling and genetic services within their own scopes of practice, but will prevent untrained or insufficiently trained individuals from claiming to be "genetic counselors."

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Gwen Howard