

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2018
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB906

Hearing Date: Friday January 26, 2018
Committee On: Judiciary
Introducer: Williams
One Liner: Change provisions relating to Schedule I controlled substances

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Baker, Ebke, Halloran, Hansen, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Chambers
Present Not Voting:		

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Matt Williams
Marcia Mueiting

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Pharmacists Association

Opponents:

Gregory Lauby

Representing:

self

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

This bill would provide an exception to the scheduling of drugs in Nebraska's Uniform Controlled Substances Act for any drug "specifically contained on the list of exempted products of the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States Department of Justice as the list existed on November 9, 2017."

The bill also removes from Schedule I language relating to the exception of dronabinol from the definition of tetrahydrocannabinols. The current exception provides only for dronabinol suspended "in sesame oil and encapsulated in a soft gelatin capsule," a narrow exception applying only to a drug marketed under the trade name "Marinol." This bill would remove that language, leaving a broader exclusion for dronabinol in other preparations. This exception would now include Syndros, a drug approved by the FDA in July 2016 which contains dronabinol in a liquid for oral administration. Drugs containing dronabinol in an oral solution approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) would be rescheduled under Schedule II. Marinol, the already scheduled capsule-version of the drug, is currently listed under Schedule III.

The bill would newly schedule the following drugs:

- (Schedule II) Thiafentanil; an opioid drug currently used for temporarily immobilizing medium and large animals,
- (Schedule II) Ecgonine and chemically related substances; a precursor and metabolite of cocaine that is naturally occurring in the coca plant, and
- (Schedule V) Brivaracetam; an anti-epileptic drug approved by the FDA in 2016.

The bill also resolves a spelling error in the name of a drug previously listed as Schedule I, "5-(2-Aminopropyl)benzofuran."

Laura Ebke, Chairperson