

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB511

Hearing Date: Thursday February 14, 2019
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Brewer
One Liner: Authorize adjustments to state employee work schedules to participate in approved youth mentoring programs

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

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Brewer, Hansen, M., Hilgers, Hunt, Kolowski, La Grone, Lowe
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Blood

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Tom Brewer
Tom Osborne
Deborah Neary
Whitney Baker
Dr. Richard Hasty
Marianna Foral
Phillip Foster

Representing:

Introducer
TeamMates
Mentor Nebraska
Mentor Nebraska
TeamMates of Plattsmouth Chapter
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 511 would authorize (but not mandate) agency heads and their designated management personnel to allow state employees to spend up to one hour per work week participating in an approved mentorship program. The bill defines state employees subject to this policy to include "any employee of the state." The Director of Personnel would be tasked with developing criteria for approval of such programs based on "nationally recognized standards." The bill recites a number of required elements to be included in such criteria.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment, AM 672, revises the bill by removing new duties for the Director of Personnel relating to the development of a process and criteria for approving youth mentoring programs. As amended, the bill would instead instruct the Director to rely on existing, publicly available lists of such programs, so long as they maintain certain prerequisites for participation, including performance of criminal background checks on prospective adult mentors. Finally, the amendment makes the grant of related regulatory authority permissive instead of mandatory.

AM 672 also incorporates the provisions of LB 381 (B. Hansen) with AM 207 into LB 511. LB 381 was previously

advanced by the committee with AM 207 and provides for a transition from receipt-based expense reimbursement for state personnel to a per diem expense model.

Tom Brewer, Chairperson