

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB619**

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**Hearing Date:** Tuesday March 05, 2019  
**Committee On:** Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
**Introducer:** Kolowski  
**One Liner:** Require coverage under insurance policies for mental health services delivered in schools

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

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Gragert, Howard, Kolterman, La Grone, Lindstrom,  
McCollister, Quick, Williams

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Rick Kolowski  
Dr Caroline Winchester  
Jason Hayes

Colby Coash

Katie McLeese Stephenson  
Jason Buckingham  
Debra Anderson

Joe Kohout  
Eric Dunning  
Brian Halstead  
Noah Tabor

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Chadron Public Schools  
NE State Education Association, NE Council of School  
Administrators  
NE Association School Boards, NE Council School  
Administrators, NE Rural Community School  
Association  
NE Association of Behavioral Health Organizations  
Ralston Public Schools  
NE Child & Health Education Association, Project  
Harmony  
NE Association of Regional Administrators  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska  
NE Department of Education  
Medica

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

This bill would enact a new section to provide that (1) individual or group sickness and accident policies, certificates, or subscriber contracts, (2) hospital, medical, or surgical expense-incurred policies, or (3) self-funded employee benefit plans to the extent not preempted by federal law that provide coverage for behavioral health treatment shall provide coverage for behavioral health services delivered in a school or other educational setting.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

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The committee amendments would become the bill. They would provide the following:

First, the amendments would provide definitions for "health insurance policy" and "school."

Second, the amendments would provide that an insurer offering a health insurance policy shall not deny coverage or payment for a mental health service solely because the service is delivered in a school.

Third, the amendments would provide that nothing in the bill shall require an insurer offering a health insurance policy to pay for mental health services that are otherwise excluded from the policy or prevent application of any other provision of the policy.

Fourth, the amendments would provide that the bill would apply to health insurance policies issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2020, and to claims for reimbursement based on such policies for costs incurred on or after January 1, 2020.

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Matt Williams, Chairperson