

One Hundred Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2021

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB500

Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 17, 2021

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

LB 500 provides that when certain criminal offenses are committed using an electronic communication device that such violation is legally deemed to have been committed either at the place where the electronic communication was initiated or where such electronic communication was received. The criminal offenses addressed are associated with domestic violence and sexual assault such as terroristic threats, use of an electronic communication device to commit sexual assault, stalking, and harassment, as well as witness or jury tampering.

LB500 clarifies where legal venue is proper for these offenses when an electronic communication originates in one jurisdiction and is received in another jurisdiction. The same venue clarification for electronic communications proposed by LB500 has existed under Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-833, enticement by electronic communication device, since 2007. LB500 applies this venue standard to other crimes that may reasonably be committed using an electronic communication device. The definitions of “electronic communication” and “electronic communication device” are the same as in Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1310 and Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-833, respectively.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Suzanne Geist