

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2024**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB928**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 14, 2024  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** Fredrickson  
**One Liner:** Provide for the appointment of a mental health director for the Department of Correctional Services

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

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	6	Senators Blood, Bosn, DeBoer, DeKay, McKinney, Wayne
<b>Nay:</b>	2	Senators Holdcroft, Ibach
<b>Absent:</b>		
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator John Fredrickson  
Annette Dubas

Tia S. Manning  
Jasmine Harris  
Jason Witmer  
Madeline Walker

**Representing:**

Opening Presenter  
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organization  
Women's Fund of Omaha  
RISE  
American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska  
Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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

LB928 amends the Nebraska Correctional Health Care Services Act to require the Department of Correctional Services ("DCS") to appoint a full-time mental health director. The mental health director must have relevant experience and be licensed as either a physician or mental health practitioner in Nebraska. LB928 also creates duties for the mental health director and allows DCS to designate additional duties.

**Section-by-Section:**

Section 1: Amends Section 83-4,153 to incorporate sections 3 and 4 of this bill into the Nebraska Correctional Health

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Care Services Act.

Section 2: Amends Section 83-4,157 to require the medical director of DCS to work in collaboration with the mental health director to coordinate mental health services.

Section 3: Creates a new section of law that requires DCS to appoint a full-time mental health director. The appointed director must have relevant mental health experience and either be a licensed physician or mental health practitioner.

Section 4: Creates a new section of law that requires the Director of Correctional Services to designate duties for the mental health director and lists certain duties that must be designated.

Section 5: Repeals original sections.

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Justin Wayne, Chairperson

