

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1168

Chairperson: Senator Justin Wayne

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: January 31, 2024

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

LB 1168, the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act, updates, clarifies, and modernizes Nebraska law regarding health care decisions for individuals who cannot make the decisions for themselves. The Act enables individuals to appoint agents to make health-care decisions for them, provide their health-care professionals and surrogates with instructions about their values and priorities regarding health care, and indicate particular medical treatment they do or do not wish to receive. When individuals have not appointed an agent, the Act also authorizes certain people to make health-care decisions for those individuals, thus avoiding the need to appoint a guardian or otherwise involve a court in most situations. In addition, the Act sets forth the duties and powers of surrogates and health-care professionals, and provides protection in the form of immunity to both under specified circumstances.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Wendy DeBoer