

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION -
2008**

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB884

Hearing Date: February 13, 2008

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer(s): (Gay)

Title: Change provisions relating to the Director of Personnel and employee health benefits

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Placed on General File with Amendments

Vote Results:

5 Yes	Senators Adams, Avery, Friend, Pahls, Rogert
2 No	Senators Aguilar, Karpisek
1 Absent	Senator Lautenbaugh
0 Present, not voting	

Proponents:

Senator Tim Gay
Carlos Castillo
Dr. Joann Schaefer
Thomas Hanthorn

Representing:

Introducer
Department of Administrative Services
Department of Health and Human Services
Self

Opponents:

Robert Corner
Mike Marvin

Representing:

NAPE/AFSCME
Nebraska Association of Public Employees

Neutral:

John Knapp

Representing:

Self

Summary of purpose and/or change:

LB 884 provides that the state will continue to contribute 79% of the total cost of the health care plan chosen by a state employee if the employee enrolls and participates in a wellness program offered by the state.

The bill also allows the Director of Personnel for the Department of Administrative Services to enter into agreements with public and private entities and provide facilities at state or private cost as required.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment adds three provisions to the bill.

First, the amendment specifies that the state's contribution for the employee's chosen health insurance plan will not be less than 69% of the total cost for the plan if the employee does not enroll and participate in a wellness program.

Secondly, any wellness program offered will contain alternatives to allow participation by persons with disabilities. If no alternative is allowed, the Department of Administrative Services will provide a waiver procedure.

Finally, the Wellness Program Design Advisory Group is created. The group will provide advice to the Department of Administrative Services regarding the design of a wellness program. The members, appointed by the Governor, will include: the chief medical officer; the Director of Administrative Services; an employee representative from a code agency; an employee representative from a noncode agency; and a representative from the private sector with experience in wellness or health benefits. The Advisory Group will be appointed by August 1, 2008 and will terminate on December 31, 2009.

Senator Ray Aguilar, Chairperson