



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 8

Chairperson: Brad Ashford
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: January 17, 2007

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

LB 8 was introduced to increase the penalties on the accumulation of junk in order to give the citizens, public officials and Courts greater flexibility in their efforts to clean up their communities.

Currently, the accumulation of junk carries with it a Class IV Misdemeanor which is a maximum of a \$100 fine with no minimum penalty. The bill would change the penalty to a Class III Misdemeanor which is a maximum of a \$500 fine with a minimum penalty of a \$100 fine. Neither a Class IV nor Class III Misdemeanor include a possibility of imprisonment.

It is rarely necessary to charge an individual with this crime. However, there have been circumstances when, despite the best efforts of citizens and public employees to work with people to remove unsightly and dangerous junk from their property, all efforts have failed. Increasing the fine would provide a greater incentive for individuals to either voluntarily clean up their property or pay something other than a nominal charge.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Don Preister