

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1142

Hearing Date: Thursday February 16, 2012
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Adopt the Health Care Transparency Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Bloomfield, Campbell, Cook, Gloor, Howard, Krist, Lambert
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:
Senator Jeremy Nordquist
Kevin Conway
Mark Intermill

Representing:
District #7
Nebraska Hospital Association
AARP

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:
Jan McKenzie

Representing:
Nebraska Insurance Federation

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The bill creates an advisory committee to make recommendations regarding the creation and implementation of a Nebraska Health Care Data Base, which shall be used to:

- Provide information to consumers and purchasers of health care;
- Determine the capacity and distribution of existing health care resources;
- Identify health care needs and inform health care policy;
- Evaluate the effectiveness of intervention programs on improving patient outcomes;
- Review costs among various treatment settings, providers, and approaches; and,
- Improve the quality and affordability of patient health care and health care coverage.

The advisory committee, to be appointed by the Director of Insurance, shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- A member of academia with experience in health care data and cost efficiency research;
 - A representative of small employers;
 - A representative of large employers;
 - A health care consumer advocate;
 - A representative of health insurers;
 - A representative of organizations that facilitate health information exchange to improve health care for all Nebraskans;
- and
- Ex Officio Members or their designees: Director of Insurance, Director of the Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care, and the Director of Public Health.
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The advisory committee shall make recommendations to the Director of Insurance that:

- Include specific strategies to measure and collect data related to health care safety and quality, utilization, health outcomes, and cost;
- Facilitate value-based, cost-effective purchasing of health care services by public and private purchasers and consumers;
- Result in the ability to compare health plans, health insurers, health facilities, and providers regarding the provision of safe, cost-effective, high-quality health care services;
- Use and build upon existing data collection standards, requirements, and methods, as well as existing publicly available data to minimize the administrative burden on data sources;
- Include issues regarding compliance with HIPAA and data security.

The Director of Insurance shall report the recommendations of the advisory committee to the Governor and the Legislature on or before December 1, 2012.

Explanation of amendments:

The Committee Amendment to LB 1142:

- Adds to the Advisory Committee members appointed by the Director of Insurance:
 - > At least one representative of hospitals;
 - > At least one representative of physicians;
 - > At least one other representative of health care providers; and
 - > At least one representative of local public health departments;

- Provides that the Advisory Committee members shall serve without compensation and will not be reimbursed for expenses.

- Adds to the recommendations:
 - > Whether the advisory committee should continue to exist after the December 1 report to the Governor and the Legislature.

- There is an e-clause on the bill.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson