

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB904

Hearing Date: Friday January 20, 2012
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Gloor
One Liner: Change Vital Statistics Act reporting requirements for annulments and dissolutions of marriage

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 Mike Gloor
Janet Wiechelman
Valorie Bendixen
Sue Kirkland
Beth Bazyn Ferrell
Elizabeth Neeley

Representing:

District #35
Clerk of District Court Association
Clerk of the District Court - Hall County
Clerk of the District Court - Lancaster County
Nebraska Association of County Officials
Nebraska State Bar Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Dr. Joann Schaefer

Representing:

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of
Public Health

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 904 changes requirements regarding the gathering of information for provision to Vital Records by the clerk of the district court in annulments and dissolution of marriage. The bill eliminates language stating that submission of the requested information is a prerequisite for granting a final decree for divorce or annulment. If the information is not provided to the clerk by the plaintiff, or their legal representative, it allows for the designation of "unknown" will be accepted by Vital Records. LB 904 eliminates the \$25 fine against the district court clerks for "neglect or refusal" to forward information to Vital Records.

Finally the bill authorizes and mandates the department as soon as possible after completion of an amendment to an annulment or dissolution of marriage certificate by the department to forward a noncertified copy of the annulment or dissolution of marriage certificate reflecting the amendment to the clerk of the court and the clerk of the court to attach the amendment with the court copy of the annulment or dissolution of marriage certificate on file in office to reflect the amendment.

Explanation of amendments:

The amendment strikes Section 1 and becomes the bill.

The amendment maintains the intention of LB 904 to eliminate language that required the clerk to submit information to Vital Records as a prerequisite for granting a final decree for divorce or annulment. Additionally, the bill allows the clerk of the district court to designate "unknown" if the information is unavailable. Finally, the bill eliminates the \$25 fine against the district court clerks for failure to submit the information to Vital Records.

The amendment removes the requirement that the Division of Public health track and provide non-certified copies of dissolutions and annulment amendments back to the clerk in the county where the certificate was originally filed; a duty that the division is not currently undertaking.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson