

One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB908

Chairperson: Senator Brad Ashford

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: January 29, 2014

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

LB908 has three components and clarifies language in statute.

The first component of this bill clarifies that a biological father can file a valid objection to an adoption any time during the pregnancy or as late as five business days after the birth. This is needed clarification resulting from recent Supreme Court case *Jeremiah J. v. Dakota D.*, 285 Neb. 211, 224, 826 N.W.2d 242, (2013).

The second component of this bill is that it defines the term "abandonment" to give clarity to the court.

The third component of the bill establishes permanent guardianship proceedings under the juvenile court for children adjudicated under section 3a of 43-247. The bill provides rights and responsibilities for guardians, requires the consent of children over a certain age, and allows for guardianships and assistance to be extended beyond to 21, if the child and family are eligible for continuing subsidies.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Colby Coash

