

One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB931

Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: January 30, 2014

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

LB 931 will adopt the Nebraska Mental Health First Aid Training Act. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will create a program to help the public identify and understand the signs of mental illness, a mental health crisis, or alcohol/substance abuse problem. Those trained in mental health first aid will have the ability to provide assistance to a person who is developing or experiencing a mental health or alcohol/substance abuse problem.

DHHS will also develop an interactive mental health first aid training course through the state's regional behavioral health authorities. Criteria will be established to measure the efficacy of the training programs. DHHS will offer services to agencies and organizations to implement the Nebraska Mental Health First Aid Training Act. The Department of Health and Human Services will receive \$100,000 annually to carry out the provisions of this act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Kate Bolz