

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB 519

HEARING DATE: February 3, 1999

COMMITTEE ON: Health and Human Services

TITLE: (Lynch, Landis) Adopt the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Act

ROLL CALL VOTE – FINAL COMMITTEE ACTION

Advanced to General File

X Advanced to General File with Amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5 Yes Senators Jensen, Byars, Dierks, Price, Suttle

No

1 Present, not voting Senator Tyson

1 Absent Senator Thompson

PROPOSERS

Senator Dan Lynch

Eric Evans

Gary Sherman

Linda Burkey

Sharon Auld

Genenne Didier

OPPOSERS

None

REPRESENTING

Principal Introducer

NE Advocacy Services, Inc.

NE Department of Education

Self

Self

Self

REPRESENTING

NEUTRAL

None

REPRESENTING

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE AND/OR CHANGES:

LB 519 adopts the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Act (the act), and defines the following terms: activity and vocational services (page 2, lines 6-16); associated neurobehavioral services (page 2, lines 17-22); behavior management services (page 2, lines 23-28; page 3, lines 1-6); community-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation (page 3, lines 7-12); independent living services (page 3, lines 16-21); individuals with disabilities whose primary disability results from brain and head injuries (page 3, lines

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22-28; page 4, lines 1-8); neurobehavioral rehabilitation case counselors (page 4, lines 9-16); and psychosocial rehabilitation services (page 4, lines 17-23).

It requires the Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services (the division), to establish the Community-Based Comprehensive Neurobehavioral Pilot Project Program (the program). The Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Advisory Board will assist the division in establishing three pilot programs, one in each congressional district. The bill establishes criteria for pilot projects created under the program. The pilot projects are to begin providing services by January 1, 2000, and will continue for three years. An evaluation of the projects is due to the State Board of Education by January 15, 2003. Provides intent of the Legislature to appropriate not less than \$100,000 for the program, in order to leverage available federal matching funds.

LB 519 creates the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Advisory Board (the board), composed of 9 to 15 members appointed by the State Board of Education.

The bill requires the division to develop and implement public awareness and information program addressing (1) the prevention of brain and head injuries, (2) the availability of services and funding for the treatment of individuals with disabilities whose primary disability results from brain or head injuries, and (3) social understanding and acceptance of individuals with disabilities whose primary disability results from brain or head injuries.

The division may contract with one or more not-for-profit corporations who have been in existence for at least five years and which provide some advocacy for individuals with disabilities whose primary disability results from brain or head injuries to carry out the act.

The act terminates on July 1, 2003.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS, IF ANY:

The committee amendment replaces the bill, and adopts the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Action Plan Act (the act).

The amendment provides legislative intent (page 1, lines 6-14), and defines the following terms: activity and vocational structure (page 1, lines 17-24; page 2, lines 1-3); associated neurobehavioral services (page 2, lines 4-9); behavior management services (page 2, lines 10-21); community-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation (page 2, lines 22-27); independent living services (page 3, lines 2-7); individuals with disabilities whose primary disability results from brain or head injuries (page 3, lines 8-22); neurobehavioral rehabilitation case counselors (page 3, lines 23-27; page 4, lines 1-3); and psychosocial rehabilitation services (page 4, lines 4-10).

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The amendment creates the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Advisory Board (the board), composed of 9-15 members appointed by the Commissioner of Education, to provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Education in applying for federal grants, the completion of a statewide needs and resource assessment, and the development of an action plan and reports as required by the act.

The amendment provides criteria for the statewide needs and resource assessment and the statewide action plan. A report of the statewide needs and resource assessment and action plan must be submitted to the Legislature, the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services by December 31, 1999.

The Department of Education is given power and authority to contract for the completion of the needs and resource assessment, development of the statewide action plan, and necessary technical and administrative assistance to complete both. The amount of funds expended is limited to the total amount of federal grant and state matching funds received under the act. It is the intent of the Legislature to make a one-time appropriation of \$37,500 in General Funds in FY1999-00 to leverage matching federal funds to carry out the act.

The act terminates on July 31, 2000.

The amendment has an emergency clause.

Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson