



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001
Committee Statement
LB 193

Hearing Date: January 22, 2001
Committee On: Business and Labor

Introducers: (Business and Labor Committee)
Title: Adopt the Nebraska Workforce investment Act and repeal the Nebraska Job Training Act

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

| | | |
|---|---------------------|--|
| 6 | Yes | Connealy, Vrtiska, Dierks, Hartnett, Preister, Schimek |
| 0 | No | |
| 1 | Present, not voting | Chambers |
| | Absent | |

Proponents:

Laurie Lage
 Don Heimes
 Jim Linderholm
 Al Wenstrand
 Chris Peterson
 Scot Adams
 Fernando Lecuma
 Roger Galawatz
 Ron Sedlacek
 John Bourne
 Dawn Dozler
 Dennis Baack
 Richard Campbell

Representing:

Business & Labor Committee Statement
 NE Workforce Investment Board
 Greater Lincoln Workforce Investment Board
 Department of Economic Development
 Department of Health and Human Services
 Children & Family Coalition of Nebraska
 Department of Labor
 Chief Elected Officials Board
 Nebraska Chamber of Commerce
 Omaha Federation of Labor
 Department of Labor
 Nebraska Community Colleges Association
 Department of Education

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 193 would adopt the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act and terminate the Nebraska Job Training Act as required by the federally enacted Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Last session, this measure was the committee-sponsored LB 1257, which failed to advance out of committee. The purpose of the bill is to enact state legislation, consistent with the provisions of the federal act, that will implement state and local workforce development activities. The federal bill required states to complete implementation of its provisions by July 1, 2000. Therefore, although LB 1257 did not pass, the state Workforce Investment Board and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) are operating now under the Governor's Executive Order No. 00-02.

This comprehensive job training reform measure entails significant changes to the way the state offers its workforce development programs. The federal act requires states to streamline their workforce development programs into single entities called one-stop centers. This is how it works: by going to a one-stop center, a person will have a variety of needs serviced in one place, by one person, instead of having to unsystematically seek the help they need. The one-stop centers, where training, education, and employment programs will be unified, are the cornerstones of the new workforce development system.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment would make several technical and "clean-up" changes, including: (1) deleting the section that would have created the Workforce Development Fund; (2) a clarification that the entities listed in the bill are already providing services at the one-stop centers; (3) a clarification that one of the minimum level of programs available at one-stop career centers is adult, *youth* and dislocated workers employment and training programs; (4) a clarification that the services *offered* are the services for which a person applies for at the one-stop career centers; (5) a clarification of the advisory capacity of the State Board; (6) application of the reporting requirements of the federal Carl C. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act to the state board's annual report, instead of requiring a separate report; (7) add agencies to whom the annual report should be submitted; (8) a clarification of the enactment language; and (9) deletion of the requirement that there be a majority of business members within the majority of local and state board members present at a meeting in order to transact business.

Senator Matt Connealy, Chairperson