



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 558**

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**Chairperson:** Floyd P. Vrtiska  
**Committee:** Business and Labor  
**Date of Hearing:** February 24, 2003

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

LB 558 makes several changes to Nebraska's workers' compensation statutes which limit the ability of employees to seek compensation from more than one state for a work related injury and effectively limit employees to "one bite of the apple" when litigating worker's compensation claims. Employees are still allowed to choose where they wish to file a claim, but employers will no longer be required to defend against a claim in multiple jurisdictions over the same incident.

Specifically, employees are prohibited from receiving benefits in Nebraska' if they have filed for and received benefits in another state for the same injury. The bill also prevents employees from filing a workers compensation claim in Nebraska if their claim has been dismissed after a trial on the merits in another state. Third, the bill would place a stay on any application for benefits in Nebraska if an employee has a lawsuit pending in another state for workers' compensation benefits for the same injury until the out of state claim for benefits is resolved. Lastly, LB 558 codifies existing case law in Nebraska by providing that any benefits paid to an employee pursuant to another state's workers' compensation laws will be credited against payments required to be made pursuant to Nebraska's workers' compensation laws.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Chris Beutler**