



**Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006**  
**Committee Statement**  
**LB 1179**

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**Hearing Date:** February 9, 2006  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services

**Introducer(s):** (Jensen)  
**Title:** Eliminate the State Behavioral Health Council

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

- Advanced to General File
  - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
  - Indefinitely Postponed
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**Vote Results:**

7	Yes	Senator Jensen, Byars, Cunningham, Erdman, Johnson, Stuthman and Howard
	No	
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

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**Proponents:**  
Senator Jensen  
Eric Evans  
Sherrie Geier  
Melia Cooke

**Representing:**  
Introducer  
Nebraska Advocacy Services, Inc.  
Self  
Self

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:** LB 1179 eliminates the State Behavioral Health Council (council), originally established in LB 1083 (2004). The bill would retain the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services, the State Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse Services, and the State Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling and Addiction Services, and would make them responsible to the Division of Behavioral Health Services instead of the council.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:** The committee amendment (AM 2242) incorporates references to the organized peer support services and the inclusion and involvement of consumers and their families is provisions relating to the State Advisory Committee on Mental

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Health Services, the state Office of Consumer Affairs within the Division of Behavioral Health Services, and the state Behavioral Health Reform Plan, consistent with stated purposes and intent of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act in sections 71-801 et. seq.

The amendment mandates the division to coordinate efforts of the State Advisory Committees on Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Services, and Problem Gambling and Addiction Services.

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**Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson**