



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1244

Chairperson: Jim Jensen
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 1, 2006

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

LB 1244 expands the scope of activities for the existing Health and Human Services' Birth Defects Prevention Program, administered by the University of Nebraska's Munroe Meyer Institute. The intent of this bill is to focus on one of the most costly and preventable categories of birth defects, alcohol related birth defects. It is estimated that through increased public education and awareness regarding the prevalence and prevention of birth defects, and the targeted promotion of folic acid consumption by women of child bearing age, that Nebraska could reduce the incidence of alcohol related birth defects by 50%, saving up to \$600,000 in lifetime medical costs per affected child.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Gwen Howard