



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1257

Chairperson: Patrick J. Bourne
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: February 23, 2006

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

Legislative Bill 1257 represents 2006 recommendations of the Community Corrections Council. It would make various statutory changes recommended by the Council, primarily the creation of a Nebraska Prisoner Reentry Court.

The reentry court would be a new court within the judicial branch of government. It would work in a similar fashion to drug courts and other specialized courts, but would focus solely on supervision of prisoners released from incarceration. The court would establish a system of intensive judicial oversight for offender accountability and provide support services throughout the reentry process—from incarceration to reintegration into the community. Services would include such services as screening, clinical assessment, education, referral, case management, treatment services—substance abuse and mental health, health care, job seeking skills, independent living skills, and transportation services. The bill would also amend statutes regarding parole eligibility in accordance with the creation of the reentry court.

In addition, the bill would change the statutes governing the Council by adding three new members, providing authority to award grants and requiring validation of assessment tools.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Kermit A. Brashear