



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 267

Chairperson: Don Pederson
Committee: Appropriations
Date of Hearing: March 1, 2005

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

LB 267- Child Protective Services Caseload "Cap"

LB 267 seeks to lower caseworker caseloads to increase positive resolutions to child welfare cases. The bill requires the Director of the Health & Human Services Department to submit a budget request to the Legislature that includes enough child protection investigation caseworkers and child protection caseworkers so caseloads not to exceed Child Welfare League of America's standards by more than 2 cases. Currently the CWLA standard for child protection caseworkers is 17 families and for investigative caseworkers is 12.

LB 267 is part of a package of bills (LBs 264-267, 416, & 719) Senator Howard introduced to begin reform of Nebraska's child welfare system. The package seeks to better focus limited resources on prevention, ensuring greater accountability, including cost accountability and increased responsibility with the ultimate goal of providing permanent resolutions and better futures for children under State supervision.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Gwen Howard