



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 446

Chairperson: Patrick J. Bourne
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: January 27, 2005

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

LB 446 is intended to create a learning environment in which health care providers and facilities will feel safe reporting adverse events and near misses, so that they may learn from those occurrences in order to improve patient safety. To facilitate this learning environment, LB 446 gives providers and facilities the legal protection that will allow them to review health information and collaborate in the development and implementation of patient safety improvement strategies.

LB 446 encourages a culture of safety and quality by facilitating the development of a single voluntary patient safety organization, named the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety. The Board of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety will be comprised of no more than 15 representatives as described in Section 15.

Section 16 of the bill lists the events that are to be reported to the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety. Providers and facilities are required under this bill to report aggregate numbers on an annual basis for each of the occurrences listed in Section 16. In addition, providers and facilities are required to conduct an analysis for each of the occurrences and to provide a summary of their findings to the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety.

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety is responsible for disseminating educational material developed as a result of the patient safety information reported to it, and may disclose non-identifiable aggregate trend data. Health care providers and facilities will evaluate their own health care delivery processes to determine if changes need to be made with the goal of reducing the risk of error to their patients.

LB 446 encourages a culture of safety and quality by providing legal protection of information reported for the purposes of quality and patient safety, and makes no changes to the legal rights individual patients currently possess.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Jim Jensen