

# **One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB19**

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**Chairperson: Senator Merv Riepe**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Date of Hearing: January 18, 2017**

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

LB19 is the codification of a 407 report finding dealing with referrals to and from licensed acupuncturists. Currently, under state statute, an individual seeking services from a licensed acupuncturist must first, within a 90-day period prior, obtain a referral from a medical doctor and present that referral to the acupuncturist.

Upon review, it was determined that there was no public safety interest served by maintaining this requirement and the board of health and the state Chief Medical Officer recommended the 90-day requirement be removed from statute and replace with standardized referral language.

Under LB19, the licensed acupuncturist would now be required to refer a patient to an appropriate practitioner if the patient presents upon examination symptoms outside of or beyond the acupuncturist's scope or area of training.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Mark Kolterman