



Hundredth Legislature - First Special Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 3

Chairperson: Brad Ashford
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: November 17, 2008

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

LB 3 creates a two-tier Safe Haven System for the State of Nebraska. The first tier is called the Nebraska Infant Safe Haven Act and may be used for any infant under one year of age.

The second tier is called the Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act. It allows for parents and guardians of any Nebraska resident child to immediately access services for children over the age of one year and younger than the age of sixteen years. The Department of Health and Human Services and each Behavioral Health region is responsible for creating Regional Safe Haven Intervention Teams including but not limited to four members who will be responsible for assisting the parent and child with immediate access to services. The Department shall also create a Statewide Safe Haven Intervention Team in the event that the Regional Team would not be available.

Both tiers create a process that requires a specific procedure to ensure that both parents are intending to terminate parental rights.

The second tier, Nebraska Children's Safe Haven Act, is meant to be a place holder and is set to expire at the conclusion of the regular Legislative Session on June 04, 2009 to allow for a solution to more appropriately address the situation.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Annette Dubas