

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB91

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 21, 2009
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Howard
One Liner: Provide for a subsidized adoption of a child who was under a subsidized guardianship prior thereto

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Campbell, Gay, Gloor, Howard, Pankonin, Stuthman, Wallman
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Sen. Gwen Howard
Todd Landry

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 91 relates to payments by the Department of Health and Human Services (department or DHHS) on behalf of certain children. Current law permits payments by the department on behalf of DHHS wards with special needs after the legal completion of their adoption (subsidized adoption).

The bill expands current subsidized adoption provisions and permits the Department of Health and Human Services to make payments on behalf of children who are adopted and who, immediately preceding the adoption, were the subject of a state-subsidized guardianship. The purpose of the bill is to provide a state-funded adoption subsidy to guardians who currently receive a state-funded guardianship subsidy and want to adopt the child.

Such payments may include "maintenance costs, medical and surgical expenses, and other costs incidental to the care of the child." Payments for maintenance and medical care must terminate on or before the child's twentieth birthday.

Tim Gay, Chairperson