

One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB54

Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: January 25, 2013

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

This bill is intended to assure that patients have accurate information about the credentials of health care providers who are providing medical care to them. The bill amends the current section of the Uniform Credentialing Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §38-105, governing identification of credential holders as it applies to those health care providers who have direct patient-care interactions when in health care facilities and health care practitioner facilities. The bill would require advertisements to refrain from providing deceptive information about credentials and to require those providers directly interacting with patients to wear name tags that clearly identify their credentials.

First, LB 54 requires advertisements to identify credentials that are authorized by the practice act applicable to the provider and to refrain from including in such advertisement any deceptive or misleading information, or information which misstates, falsely describes, or falsely represents the provider's skills, training, expertise, education, board certification or credentials.

Second, LB 54 further requires health care providers to wear name tags to clearly identify the type of credentials held by the provider while interacting directly with patients when in a health care facility or in a health care practitioner facility as defined in section 71-413 and 71-414. Wearing credentials will not be required if precluded by adopted sterilization or isolation protocols.

LB 54 further requires students or residents in medical training to identify themselves as a student or resident as authorized by their respective practice acts; does not change the applicability of §38-105 to health professions which do not provide direct patient care interactions; and makes violations of §38-105, as amended, unprofessional conduct under the Uniform Credentialing Act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John Wightman