COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB 574

Hearing Date: No hearing held due to resignation of primary introducer
Committee On: Judiciary
Introducer: Kintner
One Liner: Change provisions relating to intimidation by telephone call and provide for intimidation by electronic message

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Ebke, Baker, Halloran, Hansen, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing-Brooks
Nay:
Absent: 1 Senator Chambers
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:
Proponents: Representing:
Opponents: Representing:
Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:
LB 574 would change provisions relating to the criminal offense of “intimidation by telephone call”.
It amends Nebraska Criminal Code to expand the criminal offense of “intimidation by telephone call” to also include intimidation by an “electronic message”.
Disallows the use of lewd, indecent, or obscene language or threats as evidence presuming intent to intimidate.
The bill would not change the penalty; intimidation by telephone call or electronic message would be punishable as a Class III misdemeanor.
LB 574 also provides definitions for “electronic communications device” as: “Any device which, in its ordinary and intended use, transmits by electronic means writings, sounds, visual images, or data of any nature to another electronic communication device”; and “electronic message” as: “a text message, electronic mail message, or any other communication which, in its ordinary and intended use, is received by an electronic communication device”.

Explanation of amendments:

Laura Ebke, Chairperson