

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - Second Session - 2018

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB801

Chairperson: Senator Mike Groene

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 12, 2018

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

LB801 would create a pilot project named Panhandle Beginnings, which would be established as a collaborative educational and therapeutic facility in Western Nebraska. The facility would serve as a setting for day treatment, day school, and intensive outpatient services for school-aged children through 21 years of age. Duration of stay would be anywhere from 21-90 days in a therapeutic setting.

Enrollees would generally need to meet the following requirements to be admitted into the program:

1. Therapeutic diagnosis and/or previous interventions in a less restrictive environment have proven inadequate
2. Medically stable and does not require 24-hour care
3. Parents or legal guardians' consent
4. Verified as a student with disability under the federal Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act

An advisory board would be created consisting of the following:

1. Two representatives from ESU 13
2. Two representatives from Region I Behavioral Health Authority
3. Two representatives from any of the school districts in the Panhandle
4. One private industry professional

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John Stinner