

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB29

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 06, 2019
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Kolterman
One Liner: Provide and eliminate telehealth provisions

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Arch, Cavanaugh, Hansen, B., Howard, Murman, Walz, Williams

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Mark Kolterman
Jason Ensrud
Rebecca Ohlinger
Tara Whitmire
Mandi Constantine
Lynn Borstelmann
Edison McDonald
Joni Cover
David Slattery
Jessica Roberts
Niki Eisenmann

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska State Athletic Trainers Association
Children's Hospital and Medical Center
Nebraska Nurse Practitioners
CHI Health and Nebraska Hospital Association
Nebraska Hospital Association
The Arc of Nebraska
Nebraska Pharmacists Association
Nebraska Hospital Association
Board of Athletic Training
Nebraska Nurses Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 29 amends the Uniform Credentialing Act (UCA) to allow patient-provider relationships to be established through telehealth for credential holders under the UCA except those practices specifically excluded. (Sec. 2(1), page 3, lines 19-21.)

Section 2(2) of LB 29 provides that a credential holder who is authorized to prescribe drugs under state and federal law, may prescribe for a patient while providing services through telehealth. (Page 3, lines 22-25.)

Section 3 allows, but does not require, the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations that are consistent with the telehealth provisions in LB 29. (Page 3, lines 26-27.)

The provisions of telehealth under LB 29 would not apply to certain credential holders under the Uniform Credentialing Act. Specifically, it would not apply to a credential holder under the following acts:

- Athletic Training Practice Act
- The Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art Practice Act
- The Dialysis Patient Care Technician Registration Act
- The Environmental Health Specialists Practice Act
- The Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act
- The Massage Therapy Practice Act
- The Medical Radiography Practice Act
- The Nursing Home Administrator Practice Act
- The Surgical First Assistant Practice Act
- The Water Well Standards and Contractor's Practice Act

Explanation of amendments:

AM 86 amends Section 2(4) to strike the Athletic Training Practice Act from the exemptions under that section, thereby including credential holders under the Athletic Training Practice Act and allowing them to practice through telehealth. The Athletic Trainers requested this change.

Conversely, AM 86 amends Section 2(4) to add the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act as an exempted act so that credential holders under that practice act would not be allowed to practice through telehealth. This change was requested by the veterinarians.

Sara Howard, Chairperson