

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2020
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB977

Hearing Date: Friday January 31, 2020
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: Change provisions relating to the case management lead agency model pilot project

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 Kate Bolz
Juliet Summers
Tim Hruza

Representing:

Introducer
Voices for Children
Children and Families Coalition of Nebraska

Opponents:

Steven Greene

Representing:

Department of Health and Human Services

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 977 relates to the state's contract with a lead agency for the provision of child welfare case management in the Eastern Service Area.

Currently, Neb. Rev. Stat. 68-1212 lists the requirements a lead agency must meet, including the completion of a readiness assessment, to provide case management for child welfare services in the Eastern Service Area.

LB 977 changes Neb. Rev. Stat. 68-1212(3)(b) to require a lead agency to demonstrate full readiness by the completion of a readiness assessment. (P. 3, line11.) It also adds a new subsection (4) which requires the lead agency to meet all the requirements of subsection (3), including the readiness assessment, before the lead agency can begin providing case management services. (P. 3, lines 29-30.)

LB 977 also adds a new subsection (5) which requires the Director of Children and Family Services to notify the HHS Committee when the readiness assessment is complete and "provide assurance that the lead agency has demonstrated full readiness" before the lead agency begins providing services. (P. 3, line 31 and p. 4, lines 1-6.)

Explanation of amendments:

AM 2603 makes one minor change on page 3 line 15 of the green copy to strike the word "staff" since the provision is

meant to apply to the Board of Directors itself.

AM 2603 also amends subsection (4) on page 3 of the green copy to clarify that nothing in this section would prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services from phasing in the transition of case management services to a lead agency over a period of time.

Sara Howard, Chairperson