

## **One Hundred Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2022**

### **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

#### **LB780**

---

**Chairperson: Senator Ben Hansen**

**Committee: Business and Labor**

**Date of Hearing: January 24, 2022**

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

LB780 would make changes in two programs administered by the Nebraska Department of Labor: child labor and Nebraska's short-time compensation program.

First, LB780 would eliminate a requirement that employers publicly display the names of all minors under the age of sixteen working at their place of business. Instead, employers will only maintain this information on file where the minor is employed.

Secondly, LB780 would expand the ability for schools to approve labor certificates for children under the age of sixteen. Under current law, only the superintendent of the public school the child resides in can approve employment of the minor. LB 780 would allow the principal of the school the child attends to approve the certificate.

Finally, LB780 would amend Nebraska's short-time compensation (STC) program. Under current law, to be eligible for STC, contributory employers must be eligible for experience rating under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-649.03, have a positive experience account, and be current on all reports and obligations to NDOL. The pandemic highlighted the need for flexibility within these requirements. Through Executive Order 20-19, several new employers not eligible for experience rating participated in the STC program. LB780 would provide a good cause exception that gives the Commissioner authority to approve a STC plan for employers that do not meet the requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-675. LB780 additionally provides a good cause exception allowing employers to resubmit a denied plan within 45 days of its original denial. Employers who were initially denied STC would get a second chance to apply for the program, if they can establish good cause for resubmitting.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tim Gragert**