

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2023

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB219

Chairperson: Senator Ben Hansen

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: February 09, 2023

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

Legislative Bill 219 directs the Department of Health and Human Services, Medicaid and Long-Term Care Division to rebase inpatient interim per diem rates for critical access hospitals. The department shall rebase the rates using the most recent audited Medicare cost report.

Critical Access Hospitals get paid a per diem rate shortly after providing patient care, which in Nebraska currently covers about 50-60% of the costs of this care. The Critical Access Hospital then waits 18-24 months to receive the full payment from Medicaid. LB 219 would rebase the initial per diem rate to ensure Nebraska's Critical Access Hospitals receive more of the costs of providing this care at the time the service is provided.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Teresa Ibach