

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Special Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB71

Chairperson: Senator Justin Wayne

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: August 2, 2024

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

LB71 aims to legalize the use of marijuana in Nebraska. This legislation seeks to generate tax revenue to provide property tax relief, fund education, and support business and community development initiatives. LB71 also addresses the injustices of the war on drugs, which disproportionately affected marginalized communities and contributed to overcrowded state prisons. This overcrowding has cost Nebraska taxpayers millions of dollars without yielding positive outcomes. Additionally, LB71 provides judges the option to seek alternatives to incarceration, offer early parole discharge, and grant second chances for incarcerated individuals.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Terrell McKinney