

**ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2026**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB1146**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday February 02, 2026  
**Committee On:** Education  
**Introducer:** Conrad  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to reports by a school district relating to absences of a child from school

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

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	7	Senators Murman, Conrad, Hughes, Hunt, Juarez, Meyer, G., Sanders
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>		
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>	1	Senator Lonowski

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Danielle Conrad  
Anahi Salazar  
Jamel JW Connor  
Vanessa Chavez Jurado  
Spike Eickholt

**Representing:**

Opening Presenter  
Voices for Children in Nebraska  
ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union)  
Stand for Schools  
Education Rights Council

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 1146 amends section 79-209 to revise when a school district may report a child's absences to the county attorney, requiring that a school shall document unsuccessful efforts to address attendance barriers before making a referral and clarifies that referral may occur only after a child has accrued twenty or more days of unexcused absences during a school year. The section enumerates specific exceptions to what constitutes an unexcused absence for purposes of referral to the county attorney including: 1) absences excused by a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker; 2) absences by pregnant or parenting students; and 3) absences by students with an individualized family service plan, an individualized education program under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, accommodations or services under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, special education as defined in section 79-1125, or eligibility for services under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, when such absences are related to the student's plan, services, special education, or program.



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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM2334 amends section 79-209 to provide that for the purposes of such report, an absence excused by a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker due to illness qualifies as an excused absence only if a note from a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, or licensed mental health practitioner verifying the illness is provided.

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Dave Murman, Chairperson

