

One Hundred Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2026

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB817

Chairperson: Senator Carolyn Bosn

Committee: Judiciary

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

LB817 establishes weight-based criminal penalties specifically for fentanyl trafficking and distribution offenses, creating a three-tier felony structure at 10, 28, and 140 grams that mirrors existing penalties for cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine. The legislation comprehensively defines fentanyl to include all isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and fentanyl related substances, ensuring the statute addresses both current variants and emerging analogs. By adding fentanyl offenses to existing firearm possession and overdose death penalty enhancements, LB817 provides prosecutors with clear statutory tools to target fentanyl distribution networks while maintaining consistency with Nebraska's controlled substance penalty framework.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Tanya Storer