

One Hundred Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2026

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB996

Chairperson: Senator Carolyn Bosn

Committee: Judiciary

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

The intent of this bill is to prohibit the routine use of shackling on juveniles and to ensure that mechanical restraints are used only in rare, clearly defined circumstances where a youth presents a substantial and immediate risk of physical harm and no less restrictive alternative is sufficient. The bill defines shackling in statute to provide clarity and consistency for agencies, staff, and contractors responsible for the care and transportation of juveniles. Any permitted use of restraints must be limited to the shortest duration necessary to address the safety risk. The bill extends existing restraint policies to private transportation contractors and requires that any exception be narrowly limited, documented, and subject to review.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Victor Rountree