

Nebraska Unicameral
One Hundred Fourth Legislature-Second Session

Health and Human Services Committee

Summary of Legislation 2016

Committee Members

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Senator Sara Howard, Vice Chair
Senator Sue Crawford
Senator Roy Baker
Senator Merv Riepe
Senator Mark Kolterman
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2016 Index Bills Referenced to HHS Committee Status

STATUS of 2016 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee					As of 4/20/2016	
Hrg Date	LB/LR #	Introducer	Priority	One-liner	Status	IPP'd
3/3	674	Krist		Provide financial compensation for care for disabled persons by family as prescribed	IPP	SINE DIE
1/27	680	Riepe		Change requirements for pharmacy technicians	PASSED	
2/3	684	Bolz		Change provisions relating to exemption from an adoptive home study as prescribed	PASSED	
1/21	690	Morfeld		Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/10	696	Howard		Provide for a Medicaid state plan waiver to provide coverage for treatment of opioid abuse	IPP	SINE DIE
3/3	697	Howard		Provide for a Medicaid state plan amendment application relating to functional family therapy	IPP	SINE DIE
1/21	698	Mello	HHS Committee	Adopt the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act	PASSED	
1/28	701	Mello		Eliminate a termination date relating to a self-sufficiency contract	IPP (General File) AM into LB1081	SINE DIE
1/28	708	Bolz		Provide for a memory care endorsement under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	IPP (General File) AM into LB698	SINE DIE
1/22	721	Baker	Speaker	Adopt the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act	PASSED	

STATUS of 2016 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee					As of 4/20/2016	
Hrg Date	LB/LR #	Introducer	Priority	One-liner	Status	IPP'd
1/22	722	Baker	Baker	Adopt the Stroke System of Care Act	PASSED	
1/21	746	Campbell	Campbell	Adopt the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act, change provisions for guardians ad litem and services for children, and create the Normalcy Task Force	PASSED	
2/24	750	Lindstrom		Change Uniform Credentialing Act provisions relating to confidentiality and prohibit retaliation as prescribed	PASSED	
2/18	782	Schumacher		Provide for a Medicaid state plan amendment relating to coverage for family planning services	IPP	SINE DIE
1/20	786	Larson		Change requirements for completion of death certificates and cremation permits	PASSED	
1/20	791	Ebke		Change grounds for discipline under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Act	IPP	SINE DIE
2/17	802	Haar		Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force	IPP	SINE DIE
2/11	804	Hilkemann	Speaker	Adopt the Investigational Drug Use Act	IPP	SINE DIE
1/27	813	Kolterman		Permit certain persons to consent to donate plasma	PASSED	
2/17	816	Scheer		Change and eliminate provisions relating to state institution patients' records	PASSED	
2/3	818	Kolowski		Change provisions relating to immunity when submitting a complaint under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act	IPP	SINE DIE

STATUS of 2016 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee					As of 4/20/2016	
Hrg Date	LB/LR #	Introducer	Priority	One-liner	Status	IPP'd
3/2	842	Haar		Change admission and graduation provisions relating to barber schools and colleges	PASSED	
1/22	849	Crawford		Adopt the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act	IPP (General File) AM into LB698	SINE DIE
1/27	859	Campbell		Change cease and desist orders under the Uniform Credentialing Act	PASSED	
2/3	866	Bolz		Adopt the Transition to Adult Living Success Program Act	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/18	869	Crawford		Require that certain providers under the Medical Assistance Act be subject to a national criminal history record information check	IPP (General File) AM into LB698	SINE DIE
2/11	891	Brasch		Adopt the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act	PASSED	
2/4	895	Coash		Require a report regarding the Beatrice State Developmental Center and the Bridges program	PASSED	
1/20	898	Fox		Exempt persons solely engaged in natural hair braiding from credentialing requirements under the Uniform Credentialing Act	PASSED	
2/17	899	Baker		Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act	PASSED	
1/27	901	Kolterman	Speaker	Change dental assistant and licensed dental hygienist provisions	IPP	SINE DIE
3/2	905	Ebke		Adopt the Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys Establishment Act of 2016	IPP	SINE DIE
2/17	908	Kolterman		Provide for temporary licenses for veterinary technicians	PASSED	

STATUS of 2016 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee					As of 4/20/2016	
Hrg Date	LB/LR #	Introducer	Priority	One-liner	Status	IPP'd
2/19	939	Mello		Adopt the Nebraska Early Childhood Advantage Act	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/24	952	Watermeier		Require availability of emergency medical services and change membership of the Board of Emergency Medical Services	PASSED	
2/5	962	Fox	Speaker	Change requirements for the practice of acupuncture	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/5	963	Fox		Change provisions relating to area plans and budgets under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act	IPP (General File) AM to LB698	SINE DIE
2/5	979	Kuehn		Provide for selection of interchangeable biological products by pharmacists	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/11	985	Schumacher		Provide reporting duties for regional behavioral health authorities	IPP	SINE DIE
2/24	998	Schumacher		Provide for emergency community crisis centers and change provisions relating to emergency protective custody	IPP	SINE DIE
2/25	1011	Campbell		Change provisions relating to at-risk managed care contracts as prescribed	PASSED	
2/10	1032	McCollister	HHS Committee	Adopt the Transitional Health Insurance Program Act and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services	IPP (General File)	SINE DIE
2/4	1033	Campbell	Speaker	Create an advisory committee relating to persons with disabilities within the Department of Health and Human Services	PASSED	
2/19	1034	Campbell		Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Children's Commission	IPP (General File) AM to LB746	SINE DIE

STATUS of 2016 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee					As of 4/20/2016	
Hrg Date	LB/LR #	Introducer	Priority	One-liner	Status	IPP'd
2/4	1039	Coash		Define and redefine terms relating to developmental disabilities	PASSED	
2/18	1043	Howard		Create a palliative care program and advisory council for the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	IPP	SINE DIE
2/25	1061	Kolterman		Adopt the Surgical Technologist Registry Act	IPP	SINE DIE
2/19	1081	Campbell	Howard	Change provisions relating to eligibility for public assistance	PASSED	

**2016 Bills Referenced
to the HHS Committee
Passed by the Legislature**

LB/LR	Introducer	One-liner	Status
680	Riepe	Change requirements for pharmacy technicians	PASSED
684	Bolz	Change provisions relating to exemption from an adoptive home study as prescribed	PASSED
698	Mello	Adopt the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act	PASSED includes LB708, LB849, LB869, and LB963
721	Baker	Adopt the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act	PASSED
722	Baker	Adopt the Stroke System of Care Act	PASSED
746	Campbell	Adopt the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act, change provisions for guardians ad litem and services for children, and create the Normalcy Task Force	PASSED includes LB1034
750	Lindstrom	Change Uniform Credentialing Act provision relating to confidentiality and prohibit retaliation as prescribed	PASSED
786	Larson	Change requirements for completion of death certificates and cremation permits	PASSED
813	Kolterman	Permit certain persons to consent to donate plasma	PASSED
816	Scheer	Change and eliminate provisions relating to state institution patients' records	PASSED
842	Harr	Change admission and graduation provisions relating to barber schools and colleges	PASSED
859	Campbell	Change cease and desist orders under the Uniform Credentialing Act	PASSED
891	Brasch	Adopt the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act	PASSED
895	Coash	Require a report regarding the Beatrice State Developmental Center and the Bridges program	PASSED

898	Fox	Exempt persons solely engaged in natural hair braiding from credentialing requirements under the Uniform Credentialing Act	PASSED
899	Baker	Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act	PASSED
908	Kolterman	Provide for temporary licenses for veterinary technicians	PASSED
952	Watermeier	Require availability of emergency medical services and change membership of the Board of Emergency Medical Services	PASSED
1011	Campbell	Change provisions relating to at-risk managed care contracts as prescribed	PASSED
1033	Campbell	Create an advisory committee relating to persons with disabilities within the Department of Health and Human Services	PASSED
1039	Coash	Define and redefine terms relating to developmental disabilities	PASSED
1081	Campbell	Change provisions relating to eligibility for public assistance	PASSED includes LB701

2015 Bills Referenced to the HHS Committee Passed by the Legislature in 2016			
LB/LR	Introducer	One-liner	Status
19	Krist	Change provisions relating to laboratory certification under the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act	PASSED
235	Howard	Adopt the Consumer Protection in Eye Care Act	PASSED
471	Howard	Change prescription drug monitoring provisions and create the Veterinary Prescription Monitoring Program Task Force	PASSED
567	Johnson	Permit transfer of prescription information between pharmacies as prescribed	PASSED

2016 Bills Referred to the Health and Human Services Committee: Summary and Status

All bills became effective July 21, 2016 unless otherwise noted.

LB 674 (Krist) Provide financial compensation for care for disabled persons by family as prescribed (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would change the Disabled Persons and Family Support Act to allow the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to pay family caregivers of disabled persons by creating an exception to the \$300/month limit on services and would require such family caregivers to be compensated at the rate of pay for a salaried state employee doing similar work in a state facility. Would also require the family caregiver to be eligible for state employee health insurance.

LB 680 (Riepe) Change requirements for pharmacy technicians (Passed, 47-0-2)

Requires pharmacy technicians registered with the State of Nebraska prior to January 1, 2016 to become certified by a state or national certifying body approved by the Board of Pharmacy by January 1, 2017. Requires that pharmacy technicians who registered with the state after January 1, 2016 become certified within one year after registration. Requires pharmacy technicians to remain certified while registered with the State of Nebraska.

Contains an emergency clause, making it effective April 7, 2016.

LB 684 (Bolz) Change provisions relating to exemption from an adoptive home study as prescribed (Passed, 47-0-2)

Allows a judge to waive the requirement for biological grandparents to participate in an adoptive home study when the grandparent, and step-grandparents married to biological grandparents at the time of adoption, are adopting a grandchild. Allows a judge to waive the requirement for a complete medical history for the child being adopted be provided to the grandparent.

LB 690 (Morfeld) Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would remove the prohibition on eligibility for SNAP benefits for persons who have three or more felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance or have been convicted of a felony involving the sale or use of a controlled substance. Amended into LB910, which was also indefinitely postponed sine die after failing at cloture.

LB 696 (Howard) Provide for a medicaid state plan waiver to provide coverage for treatment of opioid abuse (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would require DHHS to submit to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a state plan amendment or waiver to provide treatment of opioid abuse. Currently, Nebraska Medicaid only provides coverage of methadone for the treatment of pain and not for the treatment of opioid addiction. Medicaid does provide coverage for injectable Naltrexone and Buprenorphine/Naloxone in conjunction with substance abuse counseling. Medicaid has begun work on a state plan amendment to cover peer support services.

LB 697 (Howard) Provide for a medicaid state plan amendment application relating to functional family therapy (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would require DHHS to submit to CMS a state plan amendment to provide functional family therapy for Medicaid eligible youth. DHHS has submitted such an amendment, making legislation unnecessary.

LB 698 (Mello) Adopt the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act and the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act and change provisions of the Medical Assistance Act, Health Care Facility Licensure Act, Alzheimer’s Special Care Disclosure Act, and Nebraska Community Aging Services Act (Passed 47-0-2)

Health and Human Services Committee priority bill.

Creates the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act. Protects seniors, and anyone receiving home care services, from risks associated with having independent contractors provide services in their homes by providing information and rights. Creates rights for home care consumers including the right to: confidentiality, access records, receive disclosure on the employment status of providers and tax or liability implications, be informed of rights in an accessible format, contact information for complaints, choice, information to make informed decisions, refuse, information on costs, receive care and services in a way that promotes dignity and individuality, express grievances without retaliation. Allows the Attorney General to enforce the act.

Amended in LB 849 (Crawford) Adopt the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act

Creates the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act. Requires hospitals to give patients the opportunity to select a caregiver within 24 hours of admission or as soon as the patient is able to do so and before release. Requires hospitals to consult with the caregiver on the patient’s discharge plan and aftercare needs, and document the caregiver’s acceptance or refusal. The Act specifically states it does not create a private right of action against the hospital or employees, create liability for the hospital, change other existing remedies under the law, affect the hospital’s licensure requirements, create a payment for caregiver services, or interfere with existing powers of attorney.

Amended in LB 869 (Crawford) Require that certain providers under the Medical Assistance Act be subject to a national criminal history record information check

Requires fingerprint-based national criminal background checks for Medicaid providers deemed to be high risk. Aligns Nebraska statutes with federal requirements. Contains an emergency clause, these sections became effective March 31, 2016.

Amended in LB 708 (Bolz) Provide for a memory care endorsement under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act

Provides for a memory care endorsement for assisted-living facilities. Requires DHHS to examine rates paid for such care and make recommendations for a higher or supplemental reimbursement rate for facilities with the memory care endorsement.

Amended in LB 963 (Fox) Change provisions relating to area plans and budgets under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act

Changes the frequency with which area agencies on aging are required to submit area plans and budgets under the federal Older Americans Act. Updates references to the Older Americans Act. Equalizes the process for how AAAs fund local programs. Outright repeals Neb. Rev. Stat. 81-2218 regarding duties for governing units of AAAs.

LB 701 (Mello) Eliminate a termination date relating to a self-sufficiency contract
(Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB1081)

Would remove the sunset provision on a program that allows recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) to use hours the recipient spends working towards an associate's degree or certificate to count towards the recipient's work activity requirement.

LB 708 (Bolz) Provide for a memory care endorsement under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB698)

Would create a memory care endorsement for health care facilities and services. Would require DHHS to examine rates for memory care services and provide enhanced Medicaid reimbursement for facilities with the endorsement.

LB 721 (Baker) Adopt the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act (Passed, 48-0-1)

Creates a license for Surgical First Assistants. Provides a list of activities for assisting the surgical team in the intraoperative care of a surgical patient. Sets education and training requirements for SFA licensure applicants. Creates a credential of L.S.F.A. Requires DHHS to issue licenses and collect fees. Sets out duties for the Board of Medicine and Surgery related to licensure of SFAs.

The credentialing review by DHHS (known as the "407 process") recommended approval of the changes, specific to the surgical first assistant, at all three levels of review.

The act becomes operative on January 1, 2017 to give DHHS time to make necessary changes.

LB 722 (Baker) Adopt the Stroke System of Care Act (Passed, 45-2-2)

Allows hospitals to obtain a designation noting their readiness to treat stroke patients. Allows hospitals to enter into coordinating stroke care agreements with comprehensive stroke centers. Requires hospitals without such designation to have a plan for the triage and transfer of stroke patients and file such plan annually with DHHS.

Requires DHHS to designate hospitals as comprehensive stroke centers, primary stroke centers, and acute stroke-ready hospitals. Requires DHHS to compile and maintain a list of such hospitals. Requires DHHS to adopt and distribute a stroke triage assessment tool, and provide a copy online and to licensed emergency medical services (EMS). Requires DHHS to establish a stroke system of care task force to provide advice and recommendations on implementation of this Act.

Requires EMS to establish protocols for stroke patients.

LB 746 (Campbell) Adopt the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act, change provisions for guardians ad litem and services for children, create the Normalcy Task Force, and eliminate a reporting requirement (Passed, 48-0-1)

Implements provisions of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, creates a reasonable prudent parent standard for foster parents to use in making decisions on a foster child's participation in age or developmentally appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. Creates requirements on DHHS, juvenile courts, and guardians ad litem to document the provision of information to foster children.

Requires caregivers to use the reasonably prudent parent standard (including input from the child and the parent of the child when possible) and take reasonable steps to determine the appropriateness of activities.

Requires DHHS to ensure policies are consistent with, promote, and protect children's ability to participate in activities. Requires DHHS to create rules governing the training of foster parents to apply the reasonably prudent parent standard. Requires DHHS to document how it is ensuring proper use of the standard, that the child has regular and ongoing opportunities to participate in activities, and that barriers to participation are identified and addressed.

Requires child-care institutions to notify children verbally and in writing of the process to request participation in activities.

Requires juvenile courts to make determinations regarding DHHS's efforts to ensure the reasonable prudent parent standard is being used, whether the child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in activities, and whether DHHS has consulted with the child in an age or developmentally appropriate manner about the opportunity to participate in such activities. Allows the court to make findings or orders to ensure the child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in activities. Requires DHHS and the courts to work collaboratively to remove or reduce barriers to a child's participation in activities.

Requires a permanency plan to include the rights of the child including their right to a consumer credit report and the right to stay safe and avoid exploitation. Requires DHHS to provide a copy of the child's consumer credit report each year from age fourteen until discharge, and assist in correcting inaccuracies in the report. Adds items to be provided by DHHS to the child on or before the date the child is leaving foster care or the bridge to independence program; health insurance information, medical records, driver's license or state id card, educational records, credit report, contact information of family and other supportive adults, community resources,

state and federal programs, public assistance information, a letter verified by DHHS with dates of care and Medicaid status, Indian heritage or tribal status, and written information on how to access personal documents.

Requires guardians ad litem to make written reports and recommendations to the court at every dispositional, review, or permanency planning hearing regarding compliance with the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act.

Reduces the age requirement for a written independent living transition proposal from sixteen to fourteen. Requires the child to be consulted in any changes to such plan. Adds “behavioral health treatment and support”, and development of “permanent connections” to the list of items to be included in the transition proposal.

Allows children to select and designate an advisor to advocate for the child in application of the reasonable prudent parent standard, but DHHS may reject such advisor for good cause.

Limits the use of “another planned permanent living arrangement” (APPLA), also known as “independent living” to children sixteen years of age or older. Creates requirements for such plan.

Creates the Normalcy Task Force to monitor and make recommendations on the implementation of the federal Act and report annually. Requires the Nebraska Children’s Commission to appoint the members of the task force.

Amended in LB1034 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Children’s Commission

Extends the sunset date of the Nebraska Children’s Commission, adds juvenile justice to the commission’s oversight, and restricts members of the Commission from profiting from their work on the Commission. Updates statutes to reflect changes to juvenile justice, the inclusion of the Office of Probation Administration. Requires the Commission to develop a system of care plan for the child welfare system, and to analyze case management workforce issues.

Appropriates funds from the Health Care Cash Fund.

Outright repeals Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-534 and 50-424.

Contains an operative date for the Strengthening Families Act portion of July 1, 2016 to allow DHHS to make necessary changes to systems. Contains an emergency clause, making all other provisions effective April 19, 2016.

LB 750 (Lindstrom) Prohibit discrimination and retaliation against and provide for confidentiality of the identity of persons involved in making reports under the Uniform Credentialing Act (Passed, 45-0-4)

Prohibits an individual or business credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act from discriminating or retaliating against whistleblowers. Ensures the confidentiality of whistleblowers identity. Prohibits health care facilities from retaliating against any person who

makes a report or provides information leading to the making of a report under the UCA that leads or could lead to a disciplinary action.

LB 782 (Schumacher) Provide for a medicaid state plan amendment relating to coverage for family planning services (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would have required DHHS to submit a state plan amendment to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the purpose of providing medical assistance for family planning services for persons whose family's earned income is at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level.

Would have appropriated \$500,000 from the General Fund in FY2015-16 and \$500,000 in FY201-17 to DHHS for the Every Woman Matters Program, which serves low income women aged 40-74, for services including: reimbursement for mammograms; breast examinations; pap smears; colposcopy; associated laboratory costs; preventive health and family planning services; and education and outreach.

LB 786 (Larson) Change requirements for completion of death certificates and cremation permits (Passed, 47-0-2)

Removes the option for physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to sign death certificates by hand and requires an electronic signature only. The same change is made for county attorneys who are required to sign the death certificate for deaths where one of the above-mentioned medical professions was not in attendance. Also requires cremation permits to be signed electronically by the county attorney.

LB 791 (Ebke) Change grounds for discipline under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would have eliminated the use of indecent, profane, or obscene language in the presence of a dead human body as grounds for disciplinary action for funeral directors and embalmers.

LB 802 (Haar) Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would have authorized the creation of a task force empowered to devise a strategic plan related to the impacts of climate change on the health and well-being of Nebraskans. Required a report on or before December 15, 2016.

LB 804 (Hilkemann) Adopt the Investigational Drug Use Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would have created the Investigational Drug Use Act. Would have allowed health care providers immunity from prosecution or adverse licensure action if providing an eligible patient with drugs not yet approved for general use by the United States Food and Drug Administration but in clinical trials.

Would have allowed manufacturers of investigational drugs to make the products available to patients, clarified that compensation is not required from the patient, and relieved the patient from outstanding debts if the patient dies during treatment.

LB 813 (Kolterman) Permit certain persons to consent to donate plasma (Passed 46-0-3)

Allows people aged 18 and over to consent to donate plasma without permission from his or her parents. Disallows the person's consent to be later disaffirmed because he or she was a minor at the time of consent.

LB 816 (Scheer) Change and eliminate provisions relating to state institution patients' records (Passed, 46-0-3)

Allows law enforcement and county attorneys to access records if a crime occurs in the institution, allows records to be accessed upon request fifty years after the patient or resident has died, and allows the records to be accessed by treatment providers. Updates Nebraska law to align with federal requirements under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

The committee amendment ensures records are available only to providers with an established patient relationship, as required under HIPAA.

Eliminates a reporting requirement for the Nebraska Family Helpline, the Family Navigator Program, and Post Adoption/Post Guardianship services.

LB 818 (Kolowski) Change provisions relating to immunity when submitting a complaint under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would align immunity provisions in the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act with the Child Protection and Family Safety Act. Would clarify immunity is not available for those making maliciously false statements to DHHS.

The bill was advanced from committee but never received time for floor debate on general file and was indefinitely postponed sine die.

LB 842 (Haar) Change admission and graduation provisions relating to barber schools and colleges (Passed, 47-0-2)

Amends the Barber Act to bring postsecondary barber schools and colleges into compliance with federal requirements related to the provision of financial aid under 34 C.F.R. § 600.9, regarding state agency authority to approve and authorize barber schools in the state at a postsecondary level. Includes requirement for barber students to have successfully completed high school or its equivalent.

LB 849 (Crawford) Adopt the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB 698)

Creates the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act. Requires hospitals to give patients the opportunity to select a caregiver within 24 hours of admission or as soon as the patient is able to do so and before release. Requires hospitals to consult with the caregiver on the patient's discharge plan and aftercare needs, and document the caregiver's acceptance or refusal. The Act specifically states it does not create a private right of action against the hospital or employees, create liability for the hospital, change other existing remedies under the law, affect the hospital's licensure requirements, create a payment for caregiver services, or interfere with existing powers of attorney.

LB 859 (Campbell) Change cease and desist orders under the Uniform Credentialing Act (Passed, 47-0-2)

Transfers the authority to issue a cease and desist order from the licensing board to the Director of the Division of Public Health. Responds to the Supreme Court's decision in *North Carolina State Bd. of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission*, 135 S. Ct. 1101, 2015 that members of a state licensing board are not immune from anti-trust actions as a state actor where the board is not supervised by the state and a majority of board members are professionally licensed to perform the business they are restricting.

Contains an emergency clause, making it effective March 10, 2016.

LB 866 (Bolz) Adopt the Transition to Adult Living Success Program Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would have created a program run by DHHS for individuals in the juvenile justice system and in out-of-home care for 90 of the last 180 days before the juvenile turns 19. Participants in the program would have been eligible to receive assistance toward achieving goals to become productive adults including housing assistance, help with education and employment, life-skills coaching and general assistance, including cash assistance, as approved by their caseworker, for items necessary to achieve such goals, up to \$1,000 per year. Would have required case management for participants up to age 21.

Would have required DHHS to track data and submit an annual report.

LB 869 (Crawford) Require that certain providers under the Medical Assistance Act be subject to a national criminal history record information check (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB698)

Requires fingerprint-based national criminal background checks for Medicaid providers deemed to be high risk. Aligns Nebraska statutes with Federal requirements.

Contains an emergency clause, making these sections effective when passed and approved.

LB 891 (Brasch) Adopt the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act
(Passed 46-0-3)

Requires health care practitioners to give an information sheet to the parents of a child who has been diagnosed with or has a high likelihood of having Down syndrome. Requires DHHS to develop and make available the data sheet in culturally and linguistically appropriate formats. Allows Down syndrome advocates to request to have their information added to the DHHS website.

The committee amendment narrows the requirement to provide Down syndrome information from health care facilities, to health care providers ordering a prenatal or postnatal screening or diagnostic test and receiving a test result indicating a high likelihood or the definite presence of Down syndrome. Removes the definition of the test.

LB 895 (Coash) Require a report regarding the Beatrice State Developmental Center and the Bridges program (Passed 46-0-3)

Requires DHHS to engage in strategic planning for the future of service at the Beatrice State Developmental Center (BSDC) and the Bridges Program in Hastings. The report will include (a) analysis of DHHS's ability to serve the individuals in the two programs in the community, (b) the role of the two programs as part of the continuum of services offered to individuals, (c) preferences of the residents/participants of the two programs, (d) nationwide trends regarding like programs, (e) cost efficiency of the two programs, (f) analysis of the two facilities and their long-term structural needs, (g) census trends and future needs, (h) community integration.

Requires DHHS to prepare an assessment of the long-term viability of the two facilities. Requires DHHS to analyze Nebraska's compliance with the Olmstead decision. Requires DHHS prepare a report on the plan.

Contains an emergency clause, making it effective April 8, 2016.

LB 898 (Fox) Exempt persons solely engaged in natural hair braiding from credentialing requirements under the Uniform Credentialing Act (Passed, 42-0-7)

Creates an exemption for natural hair braiders from licensure and certification as a cosmetologist. Defines natural hair braiding as the twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, locking, or braiding of hair by hand or with mechanical devices such as clips, combs, crochet hooks, curlers, curling irons, hairpins, rollers, scissors, blunt-tipped needles, thread, and hair binders. Includes the making of wigs. Specifically excludes the application of dyes, reactive chemicals to alter the color or structure of hair.

LB 899 (Baker) Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act (Passed 45-0-4)

Changes the definition for lead free to conform to the definition in the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

Strikes specific requirements for public water systems. Permits DHHS to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations regarding the use of lead-free materials in public water systems.

LB 901 (Kolterman) Change dental assistant and licensed dental hygienist provisions
(Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would expand the allowable scope of practice for dental assistants and dental hygienists in accordance with a credentialing review (407) process completed in September 2015. Would delineate three new licenses, the licensed dental assistant, the expanded function dental assistant, and the expanded function dental hygienist. Would not change the existing licensed dental hygienist requirements nor the ability for unlicensed dental assistants to be trained on the job.

Would create requirements for licensed expanded function dental hygienists including presenting proof of 1,500 hours of experience as a licensed dental hygienist as well as educational and testing criteria. Would create requirements for licensed dental assistants including either graduation from an accredited dental assisting program or 1,500 hours of experience working as a dental assistant in the last five years, as well as educational and testing criteria. Would create requirements for expanded function dental assistants including 1,500 hours of experience working as a licensed dental assistant in the last five years as well as educational and testing criteria. Would allow the board to require continuing education.

Would amend the scope of practice for dental hygienists, to clarify they can perform duties of a non-licensed dental assistant, reorganizes the scope, expands their scope for additional techniques, including fluoride treatments, restorations, and denture adjustments, if they have completed necessary education and testing.

Would create the scope of practice for an expanded function dental hygienist, including all procedures authorized for a licensed dental hygienist, and under the indirect supervision of a dentist may perform level one and two restorations. Requires expanded function dental hygienists to complete education and testing requirements and receive a permit from the department.

Would require dentist's offices to post the permits of expanded function dental assistants or expanded function dental hygienists. Would create supervision requirements for dentists over the newly created credentials.

An amendment from Sen. Kolterman, AM 2213, allows dental assistants to take x-rays under general supervision of a licensed dentist, and to perform coronal polishing under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist.

The bill was advanced from committee but never received time for floor debate on general file and was indefinitely postponed sine die.

LB 905 (Ebke) Adopt the Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys Establishment Act of 2016 (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would create the Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys to advise the Governor, Legislature, courts, and the public on fatherhood, family socio-economic issues, fatherlessness, employment, poverty, family law, health and well being, and post incarceration.

LB 908 (Kolterman) Provide for temporary licenses for veterinary technicians (Passed 45-0-4)

Allows veterinary technicians to obtain a temporary license after graduating from a vet tech program but before passing the vet tech credentialing exam. Allows vet techs licensed in other states to obtain a temporary license while their application for a full license is pending. The temporary license is valid for up to one year.

LB 939 (Mello) Adopt the Nebraska Early Childhood Advantage Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would direct a state agency to administer home-visiting programs to provide parenting education, coaching, and service coordination. Would direct the program to provide face-to-face visits with trained parent educators, work in partnership to serve children, and achieve two or more specified outcomes including improving health outcomes, reducing entry into the child welfare system, improving parenting and relationship skills, improving parental self-sufficiency, improving children's readiness for school, and improving children's early development.

Would direct the agency, home-visiting service providers, and experts in home-visiting program evaluation to develop an outcomes measurement plan. Would require participating agencies to submit annual outcomes reports. Would allow a participating agency to allocate up to 5% of the home-visiting program's annual budget for administrative costs to submit the annual outcomes report.

Would require the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council to advise and assist agencies in carrying out this act, to make needs and policy assessments, to study and recommend additional resources, and to submit an annual report.

LB 952 (Watermeier) Change membership of the Board of Emergency Medical Services (Passed 47-0-2)

Adds two more volunteer emergency medical care providers to the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

The committee amendment removed the proposed requirement for the county board to ensure the availability of emergency medical services.

LB 962 (Fox) Change requirements for the practice of acupuncture (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would remove the requirement for a licensed physician to refer a patient to an acupuncturist. Would replace the referral requirement with a requirement for acupuncturists to refer a patient to another practitioner when the treatment needs are beyond the ability of the acupuncturist.

The bill was advanced from committee but never received time for floor debate on general file and was indefinitely postponed sine die.

LB 963 (Fox) Change provisions relating to area plans and budgets under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB698)

Equalizes the process for how Area Agencies on Aging fund local programs and aligns requirements to submit area plans and budgets with the federal Older Americans Act.

LB 979 (Kuehn) Provide for selection of interchangeable biological products by pharmacists (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would allow pharmacists to substitute interchangeable biological products for prescribed biological products, similarly to the allowable substitution of generic drugs. Requires communication between the pharmacists and prescribers to ensure the prescribers know exactly what their patients receive.

Would require a list of the interchangeable drug products approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to be posted on the DHHS webpage.

LB 985 (Schumacher) Provide reporting duties for regional behavioral health authorities (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would require the regional behavioral health authorities to report on their operations and development/coordination of services. Would require the report to include a needs assessment identifying (i) target populations, (ii) necessary programs and services, (iii) available providers, (iv) service delivery gaps, (v) recommendations for filling the gaps and related cost estimates. Would require the report to include detailed expenditure information including staff salaries, personnel classifications and hiring qualifications, list of programs with specific requirements, expenditures to providers made separate from a contract, and an analysis of the impacts the programs have had on the target population. Would require the reports to be made available to the public. Would require the Division of Behavioral Health to create a summary report of the reports from all the Regions, to be submitted annually to the Legislature and the Governor.

LB 998 (Schumacher) Provide for emergency community crisis centers and change provisions relating to emergency protective custody (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would require the Division of Behavioral Health at DHHS to establish five emergency community crisis centers across the state in the next five years. The centers would house and treat persons who have been taken into emergency protective custody (EPC), instead of charging them with a crime in order to house them in correctional facilities.

Would require the centers to (a) provide medical and psychological evaluations within 36 hours, (b) provide short-term treatment to stabilize persons taken into EPC with a goal of returning at least half of them to their community to avoid future inpatient (IP) behavioral health treatment, (c) connect the people with substance abuse treatment programs in their community after discharge.

Would require the Director establish two of the centers within a year and one center per year for the following three years. Would require the Division establish a regional outreach center and hotline providing information about access to IP beds for behavioral health services in the state.

Would eliminate the ability of law enforcement to admit persons taken into EPC to jails and correctional facilities, instead placing them in the custody of the Division for placement and admission to a community crisis center. Makes requirements on where the custody transfers may take place. Allows the division to contract with law enforcement agencies for the transport, placement, and admission to appropriate facilities.

Subjects the Director or designee to a class IV misdemeanor for not carrying out their duties after being informed that a person has been taken into EPC. Refusal or neglect on the Director's part constitutes a separate offense.

Would make requirements for sex offenders taken into EPC regarding placement at a center.

LB 1011 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to at-risk managed care contracts as prescribed (Passed 47-0-2)

Provides more flexibility to DHHS in contracting with behavioral health managed care organizations to facilitate implementation of the Heritage Health managed care contracts.

Allows for contractor incentives to be up to 2% of the contract instead of a static 1.5%, allows reinvestment of unearned incentives to be used for all Medicaid services instead of directed at behavioral health, increases the administrative expenditures cap to help promote quality improvement in care management programs, and allows DHHS to decrease the percentage of profit allowable instead of keeping the percentage at the current limit of 3%.

Removes the administrative spending cap of 7% and instead restricts administrative expenditures to a contracted amount of profit. Specifies that administrative expenditures will not include contractor incentives. Sets a limit on administrative expenses at 12%. Requires that the spending be tracked by the contractor and reported to the department on a quarterly basis.

Requires that profit not exceed a percentage set by the department that is not to exceed 3%. Eliminates the 3% cap on contractor losses. Requires reinvestment of any remittance if the contractor does not meet the medical loss ratio.

Removes reference to consumers, family members, the office of consumer affairs within the Division of Behavioral Health and the regional behavioral health authority from inclusion with stakeholders who should provide input on any plan developed by the contractor to use any unearned incentive funds for additional health services for children instead of being specifically limited to behavioral health services. Strikes a provision allowing for a penalty of a minimum of

.25% of the aggregate of all income and revenue earned by the contractor for failing to meet performance metrics.

LB 1032 (McCollister) Adopt the Transitional Health Insurance Program Act and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would expand Medicaid eligibility to include adults with incomes at or below 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL). Would require DHHS to submit a waiver to the Medicaid state plan to implement a health insurance premium assistance program, an employer sponsored insurance premium program for those with access to health insurance through their employer, and an innovation health improvement program for the medically frail, with coverage equal to a silver plan on the exchange. Such premiums would be paid directly to the insurers.

Would require DHHS to provide fee for service coverage from the date of enrollment until the plan is effective, plus wrap around services. If the newly eligible individual has access to employer sponsored insurance, premiums, copays and deductibles would be paid by DHHS if the employer policy is determined to be cost effective. Required personal responsibility, the development of cost conscious consumer behavior, and the use of preventative care. Required new enrollees to contribute 2% of their monthly income if income exceeded 50% FPL, not to exceed 5% of family income per quarter. Would declare failure to pay monthly contributions as a debt to the state. Disallowed additional copays or cost sharing except for inappropriate use of emergency room services, capped at \$50. Such contributions would have offset the state's cost for the program.

Required DHHS to submit the waivers within 14 months of the effective date of the Act and to negotiate in good faith with CMS.

Would require participating health plans to ensure newly eligible enrollees have a primary care provider and patient centered medical home where available. Would require DHHS to develop plans to increase availability of patient centered medical homes, if they are not available for a significant number of participants. Would require enrollees to make an appointment with their primary care provider within 60 days of enrollment. Would require medically frail enrollees to have access to a primary care provider and be enrolled in a health home. Would require DHHS to develop clinical outcomes measures for patient centered medical homes, health homes, and for quality, and to report to the Legislature and Governor.

Would create the Transitional Health Insurance Employment program to provide recipients of assistance with referral to employment and education programs. Would require DHHS to share data with entities participating in the program. Would require the program to prioritize unemployed, English reading and writing and math skills to succeed in a postsecondary educational program. Would require such program to target workforce needs of the state, to use educational best practices, and provide for supportive services such as child care. If possible, such programs would work with programs funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Would appropriate \$500,000 each fiscal year, disallows the use of state or federal Medicaid dollars for the program. Would allow DHHS to contract with a non-profit to administer the program. Would require evaluation of the program. The program would sunset June 30, 2020.

Would require data collection to determine effects of the program on participants, such as transition off Medicaid, continuous access to health insurance, employment, earnings, educational attainment, and decreased utilization of public assistance programs. Would require data collection to determine effects of the program on the administration of Medicaid, the health outcomes for the medically frail, the health benefit exchange participation, and emergency room use for non-emergency needs. Would require annual reporting to the HHS Committee of the Legislature.

Would have terminated the expansion of Nebraska Medicaid if federal funding fell below the 90% match.

The committee amendment would terminate the program after three years and would appropriate \$63 million from the Health Care Cash Fund to the Transitional Health Insurance Program Fund.

The bill was bracketed on general file with a vote of 28-20.

LB 1033 (Campbell) Create an advisory committee relating to persons with disabilities within the Department of Health and Human Services (Passed 49-0)

Directs DHHS to develop a plan to ensure compliance with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* and creates a stakeholder advisory committee to guide the development of a strategic plan to address serving individuals with developmental disabilities in community-based settings. Requires DHHS's strategic plan to be completed by December 15, 2018.

Contains an emergency clause, making it effective April 19, 2016.

LB 1034 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Children's Commission (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die, Amended into LB746)

Extends the sunset for the Nebraska Children's Commission from June 30, 2016 to 2019.

Adds juvenile justice to the Commission's purview, directs the commission to monitor and evaluate both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Updates the charge of the commission. Prohibits members of the commission or its committees from financially benefitting from their work on the commission. Directs the commission to develop a system of care plan from prevention through treatment for the child welfare system.

Requires the commission to analyze case management workforce issues and make recommendations to the HHS committee on salary, incentives, training requirements, and collaboration with the University to increase and sustain the workforce.

Outright repeals a section of statute on budgeting that is no longer in use.

LB 1039 (Coash) Define and redefine terms relating to developmental disabilities (Passed 47-0-2)

Updates statutory definitions of intellectual disability in the Developmental Disabilities Court-Ordered Custody Act, the statutes relating to the Beatrice State Developmental Center, and the

Developmental Disabilities Services Act, to better align with current clinical standards and best practices and upcoming changes to federal law.

LB 1043 (Howard) Create a palliative care program and advisory council for the Health Care Facility Licensure Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would direct DHHS to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program. Would create a nine member Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council.

The Council would include 2 physicians or nurses certified in palliative medicine, and others with interactions and relationships with palliative care provision. Would require the council to meet twice per year, allows reimbursement for council member expenses. Would require the council to assist each health care facility and service to establish a system for identifying patients that could benefit from palliative care, provide the identified patients with information, and facilitate access to palliative care.

Would direct DHHS to consult with the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council, and to provide a place for the council to meet and staffing for the meetings. Would require DHHS to make information on palliative care available on its website.

LB 1061 (Kolterman) Adopt the Surgical Technologist Registry Act (Indefinitely Postponed Sine Die)

Would create a registry under the Board of Medicine and Surgery to establish educational and other requirements for surgical technologists employed by a licensed health care facility in the state. Would require all surgical technologists employed by a licensed health care facility to register.

LB 1081 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to eligibility for public assistance and eliminate termination dates for self-sufficiency contracts (Passed 47-0-2)

Creates a disregard for income received for participation in grant funded research on the impact of income on child development when determining eligibility for public assistance programs. Limits the exclusion to \$4,000 per year for four years, to be discontinued at the end of 2022.

Amended in LB 701 (Mello) Eliminate a termination date relating to a self-sufficiency contract

Removes the sunset date on a program allowing TANF recipients to use up to 24 hours per week for up to 36 months of time spent pursuing an associate's degree or certificate to count towards the work activity requirement imposed on eligibility for the assistance program.

***All bills become effective July 21, 2016, unless otherwise indicated. ***

2015 Bills Referenced to the Health and Human Services Committee, Passed in 2016:

Summary and Status

LB 19 (Krist) Change provisions relating to laboratory certification under the NE Safe Drinking Water Safety Act (Passed 41-0-8)

Changes requirements on the Department of Health and Human Services under the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act regarding the ability of private laboratories to test water samples for purposes of the Act. Includes standards for lab certification.

LB 235 (Howard) Adopt the Consumer Protection in Eye Care Act (Passed 49-0-0)

Creates the Consumer Protection in Eye Care Act to ensure new technology to examine ocular health has oversight from the health profession. Sets out requirements relating to kiosks, automated equipment or applications to conduct an eye exam. Requires a valid prescription in order to dispense contacts or glasses (excluding over the counter glasses). Sets out procedures for violations, investigations, and civil penalties. Allows the Attorney General to file civil actions or enforce the rules at the request of DHHS. Administered by DHHS, in consultation with the Board of Optometry and the Board of Medicine and Surgery.

LB 471 (Howard) Change prescription drug monitoring provisions and create the Veterinary Prescription Monitoring Program Task Force (Passed 46-0-3)

Strengthens the existing prescription drug monitoring program in Nebraska by changing language from an intent to a mandate. Removes patient's ability to opt out of the system, requires all prescriptions dispensed in the state to be included in the system beginning January 1, 2017, allows all prescribers or dispensers of prescription drugs to access the system at no cost and ensures Medicaid data is included. Allows dispensers to designate a licensed or registered health care professional to submit or access data in the system.

Adds prescription drug monitoring program data to the list of records not publicly available.

Creates the Veterinary Prescription Monitoring Program Task Force to study and recommend what prescriptions to report and how to report prescriptions dispensed from a veterinarian's office or animal shelter.

Contains an emergency clause, making it effective February 25, 2016.

LB 567 (Johnson) Change transfer of prescription refill information provisions and provide for forwarding original prescriptions (Passed 46-0-3)

Allows a pharmacy to transfer an initial prescription before it is ever filled at the pharmacy to which the doctor wrote the initial prescription. Excludes controlled substances unless allowed under federal law.

Bills by Subject Matter

Aged

LB 698 (Mello) Adopt the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act and the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act and change provisions of the Medical Assistance Act, Health Care Facility Licensure Act, Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure Act, and Nebraska Community Aging Services Act (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 963 (Fox) Change provisions relating to area plans and budgets under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB698, Passed 47-0-2*)

Behavioral Health

LB 985 (Schumacher) Provide reporting duties for regional behavioral health authorities (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 998 (Schumacher) Provide for emergency community crisis centers and change provisions relating to emergency protective custody (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Child Welfare

LB 684 (Bolz) Change provisions relating to adoptive home studies and medical histories as prescribed (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 746 (Campbell) Adopt the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act, change provisions for guardians ad litem and services for children, create the Normalcy Task Force, and eliminate a reporting requirement (*Passed 48-0-1*)

LB 866 (Bolz) Adopt the Transition to Adult Living Success Program Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB1034 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Children's Commission (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB746, Passed 48-0-1*)

Department of Health and Human Services

LB 816 (Scheer) Change and eliminate provisions relating to state institution patients' records (*Passed 46-0-3*)

LB 1011 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to at-risk managed care contracts as prescribed (*Passed 47-0-2*)

Developmental Disabilities

LB 891 (Brasch) Adopt the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act (*Passed 46-0-3*)

LB 895 (Coash) Require a report regarding the Beatrice State Developmental Center and the Bridges program (*Passed 46-0-3*)

LB 1033 (Campbell) Create an advisory committee relating to persons with disabilities within the Department of Health and Human Services (*Passed 49-0-0*)

LB 1039 (Coash) Define and redefine terms relating to developmental disabilities (*Passed 47-0-2*)

Early Child Education

LB 939 (Mello) Adopt the Nebraska Early Childhood Advantage Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Health Care

LB 802 (Haar) Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 849 (Crawford) Adopt the Assisting Caregiver Transitions Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB698, Passed 47-0-2*)

Health Care Facility

LB 708 (Bolz) Provide for a memory care endorsement under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB698, Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 722 (Baker) Adopt the Stroke System of Care Act (*Passed 45-2-2*)

LB 818 (Kolowski) Change provisions relating to immunity when submitting a complaint under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Human Remains

LB 786 (Larson) Change requirements for completion of death certificates and cremation permits (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 791 (Ebke) Change grounds for discipline under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Pharmacy

LB 680 (Riepe) Change requirements for pharmacy technicians (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 979 (Kuehn) Provide for selection of interchangeable biological products by pharmacists (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Professional and Occupational Licensing/Regulation

LB 721 (Baker) Adopt the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act (*Passed 48-0-1*)

LB 750 (Lindstrom) Prohibit discrimination and retaliation against and provide for confidentiality of the identity of persons involved in making reports under the Uniform Credentialing Act (*Passed 45-0-4*)

LB 804 (Hilkemann) Adopt the Investigational Drug Use Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 842 (Haar) Change admission and graduation provisions relating to barber schools and colleges (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 859 (Campbell) Change cease and desist orders under the Uniform Credentialing Act (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 898 (Fox) Exempt persons solely engaged in natural hair braiding from credentialing requirements under the Uniform Credentialing Act (*Passed 42-0-7*)

LB 901 (Kolterman) Change dental assistant and licensed dental hygienist provisions (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 908 (Kolterman) Provide for temporary licenses for veterinary technicians (*Passed 45-0-4*)

LB 952 (Watermeier) Change membership of the Board of Emergency Medical Services (*Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 962 (Fox) Change requirements for the practice of acupuncture (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 1061 (Kolterman) Adopt the Surgical Technologist Registry Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Public Assistance

Economic Assistance

LB 674 (Krist) Provide financial compensation for care for disabled persons by family as prescribed (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 690 (Morfeld) Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 701 (Mello) Eliminate a termination date relating to a self-sufficiency contract (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB1081, Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 1081 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to eligibility for public assistance and eliminate termination dates for self-sufficiency contracts (*Passed 47-0-2*)

Medical Assistance

LB 696 (Howard) Provide for a medicaid state plan waiver to provide coverage for treatment of opioid abuse (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 697 (Howard) Provide for a medicaid state plan amendment application relating to functional family therapy (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 782 (Schumacher) Provide for a medicaid state plan amendment relating to coverage for family planning services (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 869 (Crawford) Require that certain providers under the Medical Assistance Act be subject to a national criminal history record information check (*Indefinitely postponed sine die, Amended into LB 698, Passed 47-0-2*)

LB 1032 (McCollister) Adopt the Transitional Health Insurance Program Act and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

Public Health

LB 813 (Kolterman) Permit certain persons to consent to donate plasma (*Passed 46-0-3*)

LB 899 (Baker) Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act (*Passed 45-0-4*)

LB 905 (Ebke) Adopt the Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys Establishment Act of 2016 (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

LB 1043 (Howard) Create a palliative care program and advisory council for the Health Care Facility Licensure Act (*Indefinitely postponed sine die*)

REPORT ON THE PRIORITIZING
OF INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS
Pursuant to Rule 4, Section 3(c)

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

DATE: April 5, 2016

The following resolutions were referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services. The committee has prioritized the resolutions in the following order:

<u>Introducer</u>	<u>Resolution No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Howard	529	The federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014 and related state law and policy
McCollister	575	Access to healthcare in Nebraska
Gloor	397	Health care transformation in Nebraska
Howard	513	Workforce issues within the child welfare and juvenile justice systems
Riepe	602	Barriers to the delivery of health care services through telehealth technologies in Nebraska
Campbell	545	Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, with an emphasis on children that are eligible but unenrolled in these programs
Bolz	514	Availability of transition services for youth who will leave or have left the juvenile justice system while in an out-of-home placement
Crawford	544	Alternative response demonstration projects created in LB 853, 2014
Krist	551	Congregate care in Nebraska for youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems
McCollister	574	Nebraska's Medicaid program that include share of cost or resource spend down components
Riepe	582	Low-income individuals currently without insurance
Howard	523	Nebraska law regarding the protection of children who have reached eighteen years of age but have not yet reached the age of majority
Riepe	590	Options to offer incentives to health care professionals who provide free care and services to qualified recipients
Davis	507	Public notification system to broadcast alerts when vulnerable adults go missing

Haar	603	Issues faced by residents of mobile home communities
Watermeier	412	Communication access for movie theaters in Nebraska to ensure all persons can fully experience the movie theater experience
Howard	522	How to best educate the public and create awareness about the risks associated with sun exposure and ultraviolet radiation exposure
Riepe	548	Youth tobacco use
Riepe	572	Issues surrounding the Division of Veterans' Homes of the Dept. of Health and Human Services and wait times for admission to the veterans' homes system
Campbell	463	Ways to improve the coverage of hearing aid costs for Nebraska families
Riepe	553	The Medicaid Reform Council
Howard	510	Palliative care
Campbell	499	Issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee