

## Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 606

Chairperson:	<b>Brad Ashford</b>
Committee:	Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 21, 2007

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

Legislative Bill 606 provides authority for Nebraska courts to refer civil cases to mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Once a case is referred to ADR, the parties may file a motion to object to the referral. Although the parties may be ordered to some form of ADR, any resulting agreement or resolution must be entered into voluntarily pursuant to Neb. Const. art. I, sec. 13 (1875); Amended 1996, Laws 1995, LR 1CA, sec. 1. If the order referring a case to ADR includes a date for the case to return to court, the date must be within 90 days after the date on which the order was signed.

LB 606 also provides that the Supreme Court may adopt rules of practice regarding the referral process.

The intent of LB 606 is to encourage judges to take advantage of the ADR services in the state.

Principal Introducer:	
-	Senator Brad Ashford