ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB305

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 04, 2009

Committee On: Judiciary Introducer: Council

One Liner: Include state identification card holders in jury lists

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Ashford, Christensen, Coash, Council, Lathrop, Lautenbaugh,

McGill, Rogert

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Sen. Brenda Council Introducer

Riko Bishop

Dr. Elizabeth Neeley

Coleen Nielsen

Elaine Menzel

NE Minority Justice Committee

NE Criminal Defense Attorneys

NE Association of County Officials

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 305 amends Sec. 25-1628 to add state identification card holders to the group of people included in initial jury pools. This bill is based on a recommendation from the Nebraska Minority Justice Committee's Minority and Justice Task Force, a joint effort of the Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska State Bar Association.

Current source lists for jury pools in Nebraska consist of registered voters and driver's license holders. This bill would expand the source lists in order to reduce racial disparities found on many Nebraska Juries.

Under the bill, the Department of Motor Vehicles would have to make available to each jury commissioner a list of the names, birthdates and addresses of all state identification card holders. If a county treasurer has an automated procedure for developing lists of state identification card holders, the jury commissioner may request the list from the county treasurer.

Brad Ashford, Chairperson