

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB933

Hearing Date: Monday February 13, 2012
Committee On: Judiciary
Introducer: Ashford
One Liner: Change provisions relating to truancy

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Ashford, Council, Harr, Lathrop, Lautenbaugh
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator McGill
Present Not Voting:	2	Senators Coash, Larson

Proponents:

SEN. BRAD ASHFORD
MARY ANN BORGESSEN
WARREN WHITTED
MARK YOUNG

Representing:

INTRODUCER
SELF
NE STATE BAR
HALL COUNTY ATTORNEY

Opponents:

ROGER BREED
BRENDA VOSIK
BETH MEYER
SYDNEY WEDDLETON
ALICIA HENDERSON

Representing:

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SELF
SELF
SELF
LANCASTER COUNTY ATTORNEY

Neutral:

KEVIN RILEY

RUSS UHING
NICOLE GOALEY

Representing:

SUPERINTENDENTS OF DOUGLAS AND SARPY COUNTY
LPS
DOUGLAS COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 933 would amend the law on excessive absenteeism in Statute Section 79-209. When a child has missed more than twenty days of school in a year, the case would not just be reported to the county attorney. Rather, the case would be reviewed by the school district and the county attorney to determine if any further action is necessary to address the child's attendance. If the county attorney needs to meet with the parents in the review process then the meeting would be at a location determined by the school. The bill would also remove redundant language regarding the authority of the county attorney to file charges and petitions.

Explanation of amendments:

Committee Amendment AM 2001 would strike the new language on page 4 of the green copy and reinsert the reporting requirement. Under AM 2001, the attendance officer would be required to report to the county attorney when a child has

been absent more than twenty days on a form on which one of the following three recommendations has been checked off: 1) The absences are due to documented illness or are otherwise excused, 2) The school requests more time to work with the student before the county attorney intervenes and 3) The school has used all reasonable efforts to address the child's absence from school without success and recommends intervention by the county attorney. If further action is needed after the twenty-day report, the initial meeting between the county attorney, the parents and the school must be at a location determined by the school.

Brad Ashford, Chairperson