

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2014

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB974

Hearing Date: Thursday January 30, 2014

Committee On: Appropriations

Introducer: Mello

One Liner: Provide duties for certain divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to budgeting and strategic planning

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 9 Senators Bolz, Conrad, Harms, Kintner, Larson, Mello, Nelson, Nordquist, Wightman

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Sen. Heath Mello
James Goddard
Aubrey Mancuso
Nick Faustman
Mike Marvin

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Appleseed
Voices for Children in Nebraska
NE Nursing Facility Assn., NE Assisted Living Assn.
NE Assn. of Public Employees

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 974 would require that the Department of Health and Human Services include strategic plans for the Division of Behavioral Health, the Division of Developmental Disabilities, and the Division of Medicaid and Long-term Care as part of the appropriations process for each of the next two budget cycles. The strategic plans must identify the main purpose of each program in the divisions, the goals for measuring progress in meeting those purposes, and benchmarks and time-frames for meeting those goals. The bill also extends an existing requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services include a strategic plan for the Division of Children and Family Services as part of the appropriations process.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 2025 incorporates the provisions of LB 837, LB 969 and LB 1023 into the bill.

LB 837 would prohibit the Department of Administrative Services from authorizing agencies with seven or fewer full-time employees from conducting their own expenditure preaudits.

Testifiers for LB 837

Senator Watermeier- Introducer

Mardy McCullough- Neutral

Dan Sweetwood, Board of Public Accountancy- Neutral

Gerry Oligmueller, Acting Director, Department of Administrative Services- Neutral

LB 969 would increase the cap on the growth in the special education appropriation from 5% to 10% for future budget years.

Testifiers for LB 969

Senator Sullivan- Introducer

Jon Habben, Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association- Proponent

Jay Sears, Nebraska State Education Association- Proponent

LB 1023 would update statutory references to several budgetary reports, and requires that a copy of the reports be given to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

Testifiers for LB 1023

Senator Mello- Introducer

Heath Mello, Chairperson