

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB891

Hearing Date: Thursday February 11, 2016
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Brasch
One Liner: Adopt the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information and Support Act

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Baker, Campbell, Crawford, Fox, Howard, Kolterman, Riepe
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Lydia Brasch
James Flynn
Sherri Harnisch
Beth Gard
Deb Safarik
Elissa Fuelberth
Dean Fuelberth
Jamie Andrews
Alicia Bruening
Marcus Sikora
Mardra Sikora
Tom Venzor
Andy Hale

Representing:

District 16
Self
Down Syndrome Alliance of the Midlands
Down Syndrome Alliance of the Midlands
Down Syndrome Advocates in Action
Down Syndrome Association for Families
Down Syndrome Association for Families
Self
Down Syndrome Association for Families
Self
Self
Nebraska Catholic Conference
NE Hospital Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB891 creates the Down Syndrome Diagnosis and Information Act, to require health care facilities and practitioners to give a Down syndrome specific information sheet to parents when a test result indicates the unborn or newly born baby tested has or may have Down syndrome. The proposal requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to develop and provide this information sheet to the health care facilities and practitioners. The information is required to include a clinical description that includes outcomes, treatment and therapy options, life expectancy, and contact information for non-profit Down Syndrome organizations. Requires DHHS to post the information on its website. Requires the information sheet to be culturally and linguistically appropriate. Allows Down syndrome organizations to request to have their information added to DHHS' website.

Explanation of amendments:

AM2095 removes the definition of "health care facility" and removes requirements on health care facilities, eliminates the definition of the test. Narrows the requirement to deliver the information sheet provided by DHHS only to health care practitioners who order a prenatal or postnatal screening or diagnostic test detecting Down syndrome and receive a test result indicating a high likelihood or the definite presence of Down syndrome.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson