

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB180**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday January 26, 2017  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** Bolz  
**One Liner:** Provide for bridge orders transferring juvenile court jurisdiction of a juvenile to a district court

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Baker, Chambers, Ebke, Halloran, Hansen, Krist, Morfeld,  
Pansing Brooks

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Kate Bolz  
Kim Hawekotte  
Frank Skorupa  
Robert McEwen  
Beth Baxter

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Foster Care Review Office  
self  
Nebraska Appleseed  
Nebraska Children's Commission

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 180 creates a statutory mechanism for entry of a bridge order by the juvenile court, transferring a juvenile case from the juvenile court, having jurisdiction of the matter pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-247(3)(a), to the jurisdiction of the district court under certain circumstances.

Specifically, a bridge order may be entered by the juvenile court if the juvenile has been adjudicated and a dispositional order is in place, paternity of the juvenile has been duly established, the juvenile has been safely placed with a legal parent, and the juvenile court has determined that its jurisdiction should properly end once orders for custody, physical care, and visitation are entered by the district court. The bill allows a parent to make a motion with the court for a bridge order, and such motion shall be set for hearing by the juvenile court no less than thirty days or more than ninety days from the date of filing. The juvenile court may also set a hearing on the issue of a bridge order on its own motion if a hearing is set no less than thirty days from the date of notice of such motion to the appropriate parties.

A bridge order entered by the juvenile court under LB 180 could only address matters of legal and physical custody of the juvenile and parenting time. LB 180, however, explicitly states that the Nebraska Parenting Act would not apply to the entry of a bridge order in juvenile or district court.

A bridge order entered pursuant to LB 180 could be modified as to legal and physical custody or parenting time upon

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petition to the district court. If such a modification is filed within one year of the filing of the bridge order, the party requesting modification must demonstrate that such modification is in the best interests of the child. Also, if filed within one year, filing fees and other court costs shall not be assessed against the parties.

Finally, LB 180 would apply the Nebraska Parenting Act to subsequent modifications of a bridge order.

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Laura Ebke, Chairperson