

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB92**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday February 13, 2017  
**Committee On:** Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
**Introducer:** Kolterman  
**One Liner:** Require health carriers to provide coverage for telehealth services

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

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 8 Senators Baker, Brewer, Craighead, Kolterman, Lindstrom, McCollister, Schumacher, Williams  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Mark Kolterman  
Mandi Constantine  
Margaret Woepfel

**Representing:**

Introducer  
CHI Health/NE Hospital Association  
Bryan/NE Hospital Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Eric Dunning

**Representing:**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NE

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

This bill would enact a new section in the insurance statutes to provide that individual and group health policies, certificates, contracts, and plans shall not exclude a service from coverage solely because it is delivered through telehealth and is not provided through in-person consultation or contact between a provider and a patient.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendments would clarify what coverages are subject to the bill. The requirements of the bill, as introduced, apply to (1) sickness and accident insurance, (2) hospital, medical, or surgical expense-incurred policies, except policies that provide coverage for a specified disease or other limited-benefit coverage, and (3) self-funded employee benefit plans to the extent not preempted by federal law. The committee amendments would strike from part (2) the exception regarding coverage for specified disease or other limited-benefit coverage and convert the stricken provisions into a new exception which would apply to parts (1) and (3) as well as part (2).

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Brett Lindstrom, Chairperson