ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2018 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB923

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 31, 2018

Committee On: Judiciary Introducer: Morfeld

One Liner: Provide immunity for certain law enforcement employees administering naloxone and change

provisions relating to immunity for persons reporting or experiencing alcohol overdoses

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Baker, Ebke, Halloran, Hansen, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks

Nay:

Absent: 1 Senator Chambers

Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents: Representing:

Senator Adam Morfeld Introducer

Staci Witkowski Omaha Police Department

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

John Lindsay Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

This bill would add law enforcement employees to those shielded from civil liability relating to the administration of naloxone to a person apparently experiencing an opioid overdose. Current law already provides immunity to peace officers under such circumstances. "Law enforcement employee" is defined to include employees of law enforcement agencies, contractors to such agencies, and employees of contractors, who regularly handle, process, or are likely to come into contact with evidence or property containing opioids.

This bill would also clarify that criminal immunity for minors reporting a possible alcohol overdose results only from "a good faith request" for emergency medical assistance. The bill eliminates the requirement that such minor be the first person reporting such possible overdose in order to be shielded from criminal prosecution. The bill also provides criminal immunity for the person who is experiencing the reported possible alcohol overdose.

Laura Ebke, Chairperson