One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB638

Chairperson: Senator Laura Ebke

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: March 03, 2017

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB638 amends Ne. Rev. Stat. Sections 28-111, 28-115, 28-929, 28-929.01, 28-930, 28-931, 28-931.01, 28-1351 and 28-1354 to provide enhanced criminal penalties when certain crimes as listed in LB638 are committed against a person based upon a person's employment as or association with an: officer, firefighter, emergency responder, correctional employee, Department of Health and Human Services employee, or a health care professional.

LB638 allows for the imposition of the next higher penalty classification then that prescribed for the criminal offense involved when the offense is because of that person's employment as identified above or such an individual's discharge of his or her lawful duty under that employment unless such criminal offense is already punishable as a Class IB felony or higher classification.

LB638 creates the offense of assault on a local correctional employee. An assault on a state correctional employee of the Department of Correctional Services is already covered by 28-929 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. LB638 simply adds local correctional employees to the relevant sections of statute.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Bruce Bostelman, District 23