One Hundred Fifth Legislature - Second Session - 2018

Introducer's Statement of Intent

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Chairperson: Senator Tyson Larson

Committee: General Affairs

Date of Hearing: February 26, 2018

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

Bottle clubs were regulated in Nebraska like bars for over fifty (50) years. In 2004, the Bottle Club license was eliminated and any existing licenses became Class I Restaurant licensees. The Bottle Club was thought to be an outdated business model and the classic Bottle Club had not existed since the 1980's. There are now businesses which are using the "bring your own booze" model to circumvent the regulatory oversight of a liquor license. This bill addresses that grey area by creating a definition of a Bottle Club and requires a business operating as a Bottle Club to obtain the correct license. It also enhances the penalty for operating a Bottle Club without a license.

Senator Theresa Thibodeau, District 6