



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 371

Chairperson: Tim Gay
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 11, 2009

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

LB 371 is intended to remove the sunset provision for the Medicaid Reform Council, to provide for members' terms of service; to increase the Department of Health and Human Service's accountability to the council and the public, to make council and public participation ongoing components of Medicaid reform; and to reinforce legislative involvement in Medicaid reform.

The bill:

- strikes 68-948 (3), which provides that the Medicaid Reform Council terminates on June 30, 2010, and adds a new subsection (4) which provides for members' terms of service;
- changes the department's "summary and analysis of the medical assistance program" report from biennial to annual;
- moves forward the deadline for the draft report and moves forward the council's public meeting;
- requires the department's final report to address each of the council's specific recommendations;
- requires the council to hold public meetings at least quarterly instead of at least twice annually;
- requires the department to provide to the council, no later than two weeks prior to the council's quarterly meeting, background information on proposed reforms;
- adds the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee or his or her designee to the membership of the council.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Kathy Campbell