

**ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB542**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday February 24, 2011  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Howard  
**One Liner:** Require hospitals to offer and mandate employee influenza vaccinations

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

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Bloomfield, Campbell, Cook, Gloor, Howard, Krist, Wallman  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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<b>Proponents:</b> Senator Gwen Howard Linda K. Ohri Justin Brady Larry Krebsbach  Bruce Rieker	<b>Representing:</b> District #9 Immunization Task Force Metro Omaha Sanofi Pasteur Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc., Greater Omaha Chapter Nebraska Hospital Association
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<b>Opponents:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>
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<b>Neutral:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>
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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 542 provides that, under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act, each general acute hospital annually offer on site influenza vaccinations, if available, to all hospital employees. The bill requires all hospital employees to be vaccinated against influenza unless the employee elects not to be vaccinated and declares such in writing. These actions shall be in accordance with the guidelines of the CDC and US Public Health Services of the US Department of Health and Human Services as existed on January 1, 2011.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The Committee Amendment clarifies that a hospital shall annually offer on site influenza vaccinations to all hospital employees when no national vaccine shortages exist.

Additionally the Committee Amendment changes the requirement that an employee declare in writing that he or she has declined the influenza vaccination. Instead the hospital shall keep a record of which employees received the annual vaccination against influenza and which employees do not receive such vaccinations.

