

# **One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB225**

**Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell**

**Committee: Health and Human Services      Date of Hearing: January 21, 2011**

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

LB 225 is intended to allow nonimmigrants lawfully present in the U.S. to obtain Nebraska health occupations and professions licenses if they are eligible under the state's Uniform Credentialing Act

The bill amends Sec. 38-129, which sets out general qualifications for credentialing for health occupations and professions. The section provides that a credential may be issued only to

a citizen of the U.S.,

an alien lawfully admitted into the U.S. who is eligible for a credential under the Uniform Credentialing Act, or

a nonimmigrant whose visa for entry, or application for visa for entry, is related to employment in the U.S. relative to the credential being sought.

Under the section as currently written, a nonimmigrant who holds a work visa may obtain a nursing license. However, if that person subsequently holds a student visa in order to enroll in a nursing program, the nursing license cannot be renewed because student visas are not included under the section. LB 225 would amend the section so that licenses may be issued to nonimmigrants lawfully present in the U.S. who are eligible under the state's Uniform Credentialing Act. LB 225 carries the emergency clause.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Kathy Campbell**