

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB607**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 18, 2015  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Mello  
**One Liner:** Adopt the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act

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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 Riepe, Kolterman, Howard, Crawford, Cook, Campbell, Baker  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**  
Senator Heath Mello  
Kathy Hoell  
Michaela Valentin  
Kristi Benning  
Shannon Ahlman  
Frank Velinsky  
Mark Intermill

**Representing:**  
District 5  
Nebraska Statewide Independent Living Council  
Home Instead Senior Care  
Right at Home  
A Place at Home  
Home Care Association of America, Nebraska Chapter  
AARP

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 607 creates the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act, a recommendation of the Aging Nebraskans Task Force strategic plan and was developed with help from Home Instead Senior Care.

Section-by-section description:

Section (1): Creates the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights Act

Section (2): Defines home care consumer and home care services.

Section (3): Requires home care service providers to keep personal, financial and medical information confidential, to disclose the type of business model of the home health provider, and to provide a copy of the Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights.

Section (4): Consumers have rights set out in sections 5-10 of this act.

Section (5): Sets out rights of home care consumers to be informed of by the service provider.

Section (6): Gives consumers right to know about and choose between community home care service providers.

Section (7): Gives consumers right to participate in their home care services.

Section (8): Grants consumers right to be informed regarding cost of their care and to have notice of changes in those costs.

Section (9): Gives home care consumers right to receive care in a way that promotes their dignity and individuality.

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Section (10): Sets out home care consumers' right to assistance to secure rights under this act.

Section (11): Creates a misdemeanor offense for violating section 3.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM782 to LB607 addresses concerns brought up at the hearing, adds children's parent or guardian as recipients of information, adds Disability Rights Nebraska (protection and advocacy system) to the list of contacts to be distributed to consumers, and includes more accessible formats including audio, large print, and Braille. The amendment also changes the penalty from criminal to civil.

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Kathy Campbell, Chairperson