

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB89

Hearing Date: Friday February 06, 2015
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Campbell
One Liner: Change provisions relating to aid to dependent children

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Riepe, Kolterman, Howard, Crawford, Cook, Campbell, Baker
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Kathy Campbell
Becky Gould
John Else
Tracey Williams
Kim Sadoski
Ericka Guinan
Tricia Moore
Luke Waltman
Aubrey Mancuso
Greg Schleppebach

Representing:

District 25
Nebraska Appleseed
League of Women Voters of Nebraska
Self
Self
Heart Ministry Center
Nebraska Appleseed
Center for People in Need
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Nebraska Catholic Conference

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB89 addresses the "cliff effect" in aid to dependent children, which causes working parents to avoid raises, promotions, or better paying jobs because it would increase their income enough to make them ineligible for cash assistance payments but not enough to cover the loss of benefits. The bill also addresses the fact that the benefit amount has not changed in over thirty years.

Section-by-section description:

Section (1): Amends 43-512, regarding assistance to children, increases the maximum benefit each year through 2019, after which it stabilizes at 70% of the standard of need.

Section (2): Amends 43-513 to ensure the payment does not drop lower than current levels.

Section (3): Amends 68-1713 of the Welfare Reform Act regarding earned income disregard.

Section (4): Amends 68-1726 to allow a 20% income disregard when determining eligibility for new ADC applicants, and a 50% income disregard for renewing ADC applicants, to address the "cliff effect".

Section (5): Operative date is July 1, 2105.

Section (6): Repealer
Section (7): Emergency clause

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson