

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB207

Hearing Date: Friday January 20, 2017
Committee On: Executive Board
Introducer: Krist
One Liner: Change provisions relating to powers and duties of the Office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare

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

Vote Results:

Aye:	8	Senators Bolz, Chambers, Crawford, Hughes, Kuehn, McCollister, Scheer, Watermeier
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Larson
Present Not Voting:		

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:
Senator Bob Krist
Julie L Rogers

Representing:
District 10
Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB207 amends provisions of Office of Inspector General of Child Welfare Act as follows:

*Clarifies that investigations of death or serious injury of children in state custody shall be conducted only when the IG "determines the death or serious injury did not occur by chance."

*Adds clarifying language that if the IG issues a subpoena to compel a person to appear and give sworn testimony or produce documentary evidence, he or she is entitled to have counsel present, but that the fees for such legal counsel "shall be the personal responsibility of the person required to provide information."

*Clarifies that any person receiving a report of an investigation shall not further distribute the report or any confidential information contained in the report "beyond the entity that is the subject of the report."

*Adds language to clarify that an agency's written response to a report by the IG "may include correction of factual errors."

*Provides the entity that is the subject of the report the opportunity to "accept, reject, or request in writing modification of the recommendations contained in the report."

*Adds a new section that provides that personnel action may not be taken against an employee when the employee

gives information to the IG.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment (AM23) clarifies the language regarding fees associated with legal representation so that it is clear that such fees are not the responsibility of the office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare.

Dan Watermeier, Chairperson