

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB506

Hearing Date: Friday February 10, 2017
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Albrecht
One Liner: Adopt the Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act

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

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Crawford, Erdman, Howard, Kolterman, Linehan, Riepe, Williams
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Joni Albrecht
Kelly Gerken
Jennifer Sommer
Shawna Hoffman
Nancy Gibb
Sarah Taylor
Anastasia Vaughn
Jeanna Faulhaber
Kim Robak

Representing:

Introducer
Sufficient Grace Ministries for Women, Inc.
Healing Embrace - Helping Everyone After Loss
Healing Embrace - Helping Everyone After Loss
Self
Self
Self
Self
Nebraska Medical Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Meg Mikolajczyk

Representing:

Planned Parenthood of the Heartland

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 506 creates the Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act, which mandates a physician diagnosing an unborn child with a lethal fetal anomaly must provide information about perinatal hospice services by offering services or referral. The physician must deliver a written support sheet with information to parents provided by Department.

Mandates the Department of Health and Human Services create and organize a list of perinatal hospice programs available in Nebraska and nationally. Mandates the Department post informational sheet on website. Mandates a website and information sheet be completed and available 90 days after effective date of passage of legislation by the Department. Mandates the website and informational sheet include a statement about perinatal hospice and palliative care, description of health care services and contact information. A perinatal hospice program may ask the Department to include its information on website and the Department may add information on website.

SECTION BY SECTION:

Section (1): Creates the Compassion and Care for Medically Challenging Pregnancies Act.

Section (2): Defines the terms "department", "lethal fetal anomaly", "perinatal hospice", and "physician".

Section (3): Mandates a physician diagnosing an unborn child with a lethal fetal anomaly must (1) inform the woman perinatal hospice services are available and offer or refer care (2) deliver written support sheet information to parents provided by Department of Health and Human Services.

Section (4): Mandates Department create and organize list of perinatal hospice programs available in Nebraska and nationally. Mandates Department post informational sheet on website. Mandates website and information sheet be completed and available 90 days after effective date by the Department. Mandates the website and information sheet include: (1) a statement about perinatal hospice and palliative care (2) description of health care services (3) contact information. A perinatal hospice program may ask the Department include its information on website and Department may add information on website.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 464 accomplishes the following:

Adds nurse practitioners, strikes "parents" and inserts "the pregnant woman" to Section 3.

Strikes "palliative care" from Section 4.

Merv Riepe, Chairperson