

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB596**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday March 09, 2017  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** Groene  
**One Liner:** Exempt equine massage therapy from credentialing and regulation under the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice 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:** 4 Senators Crawford, Erdman, Linehan, Riepe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:** 3 Senators Howard, Kolterman, Williams

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**  
Senator Mike Groene  
Karen Hough

**Representing:**  
Introducer  
Self

**Opponents:**  
James Unwin  
Bruce Crabtree  
Brett Speece  
Lissa Nelson  
Kent Rogert

**Representing:**  
Nebraska Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery  
Self  
Self  
Nebraska Veterinary Medicine Association  
American Massage Therapy Association, Nebraska Chapter

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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

LB 596 provides a licensure exemption for equine massage therapy and defines equine massage therapy.

**SECTION BY SECTION:**

Section (1): Amends Section 38-3301 to add additional section.

Section (2): Amends Section 38-3302 to add additional section.

Section (3): Defines "equine massage therapy".

Section (4): Amends Section 38-3314 to add unlicensed assistant does not include a person engaged in equine massage therapy to definition of "unlicensed assistant".

Section (5): Amends Section 38-3321 to add equine massage therapy from exemption from required licensure under the

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Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act.

Section (6): Repeals Sections 38-3301, 38-3302, 38-3314 and 38-3321.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

Strikes "high performance" from definition of "equine massage therapy".

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Merv Riepe, Chairperson