

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB537

Chairperson: Senator Merv Riepe

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: March 02, 2017

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 537 would allow the Department of Health and Human Services to screen any applicant for or a recipient of cash assistance benefits, if they have reasonable suspicion that a person is using illegal drugs. If the drug test yields a positive result the recipient will become ineligible to receive cash assistance for up to 12 months or until they have completed a substance abuse treatment program and a job skills program. Upon completion of these programs the recipient will then again be eligible to receive cash assistance benefits. Under LB 537, if an individual has a minor child who is still eligible for benefits they may appoint a protective payee to receive payments for the child's benefit.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Dan Hughes