

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB481

Hearing Date: Tuesday March 12, 2019
Committee On: Appropriations
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: State intent relating to an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services

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

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Bolz, Dorn, Hilkemann, McDonnell, Stinner, Vargas, Wishart
Nay:	2	Senators Clements, Erdman
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Kate Bolz

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Bo Botelho
Marion Miner
Karen Bowling

Representing:

Department of Health and Human Services
Nebraska Catholic Conference
Nebraska Family Alliance

Neutral:

Danielle Conrad

Representing:

American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The contents of LB 642 are amended into LB 481. As amended, it would establish the Brain Injury Trust Fund Act. The Act creates a Brain Injury Trust Fund. The fund would consist of appropriations from the Legislature, transfers authorized by the Legislature, grants, and any contributions designated for the purpose of the fund. The fund is to be administered through a contract with the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) for administration, accounting and budgeting purposes, and used to pay for contracts for assistance for individuals with a brain injury with outside sources that specialize in the area of brain injury. No more than 10% of the fund is to be used for administration.

LB481 would also create a 12-member Brain Injury Oversight Committee which shall:

- Provide financial oversight and direction to UNMC in the management of the trust fund;
- Develop criteria for expenditures from the trust fund;
- Represent the interests of individuals with a brain injury and their families through advocacy, education, training, rehabilitation, research, and prevention.

LB481 states the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$500,000 annually from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund annually beginning in FY2020-21.

Explanation of amendments:

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LB481 states the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$500,000 annually from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund annually beginning in FY2020-21. (Introducer - Sen. McDonnell; Proponent - Denise Gehringer, Tiffany Armstrong of Nebraska Brain Injury Advisory Council, Steve Martin, Brenda Petersen of Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska, Sharon Royers, Edison McDonald of The Arc of Nebraska, Kjell Cronn, Christine Stewart; Opponent - None; Neutral - None)

John Stinner, Chairperson