

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2021
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB296

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 27, 2021
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Hansen, B.
One Liner: Change provisions regarding access to patient records for Department of Health and Human Services institutions

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Arch, Cavanaugh, M., Day, Hansen, B., Murman, Walz, Williams
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Ben Hansen
Sheri Dawson

Representing:

Introducer
Department of Health and Human Services

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 296 would amend language relating to the records of patients in institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Under current law, a patients records of his or her time spent at the facility may be only accessible to DHHS, a legislative committee, the Governor, or certain other interested public or private agencies by order of a judge or court, in accordance with statutory requirements. Records are also released to the Nebraska State Patrol or victims of crimes in accordance with state law, to law enforcement if a crime occurs on the premises of an institution, upon request when a patient has been dead for fifty years or more, and to current treatment providers.

LB 296 would allow a mental health board to order a release of such records, and would allow records to be released to treatment providers for coordination of care related to transfer or discharge.
