

One Hundred Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2022

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1111

Chairperson: Senator John Stinner

Committee: Appropriations

Date of Hearing: February 03, 2022

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

This bill acknowledges that prison overcrowding is a great concern for the state of Nebraska and attention needs to be given to solutions that address this issue. Overcrowding in prisons affect the ability for states to provide necessary medical care and other essential services. Additionally, it can result in degrading practices like requiring prisoners to sleep on the floor. Many prisons and jails expose prisoners to dangerous environmental conditions like extreme heat or cold, contaminated food, and a lack of basic sanitation. One way to address this issue is to allocate resources that allow for prisoners who are eligible to be placed in community corrections facilities to be able to be transferred there.

Under this bill, \$13,000,000 will be appropriated from the Prison Overcrowding Contingency Fund to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall then use the funds for reentry and restorative justice programming for adult and juvenile offenders who are committed to a facility and for adult and juvenile offenders who are released from commitment. In addition, funds can be allocated to reentry centers; transitional, community, and half-way housing; supportive permanent housing; wrap-around services; facility-based programming, including unit-based programming; community corrections; front-end, middle, and back-end services and interventions; and family support.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Terrell McKinney