ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2024 COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB1	313
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Hearing Date:	Tuesday February 13, 2024
Committee On:	Agriculture
Introducer:	Dover
One Liner:	Provide for regulation of health benefit plans for nonprofit agricultural organizations

Vote Results:		
Aye:	7	Senators Brewer, Halloran, Hansen, Holdcroft, Hughes, Ibach, Riep
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Raybould
Present Not Voting	:	
	Testi	mony:
Proponents:		Representing:
Senator Robert Dover		Opening Presenter
Mark Mchargue		Nebraska Farm Bureau
Dawn Kucera		Nebraska Farm Bureau
Erin Petersile		Kansas Farm Bureau
Ben Sanders		Nebraska Farm Bureau
Opponents:		Representing:
Neutral:		Representing:
Eric Dunning		Nebraska Department of Insurance

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1313 would declare a health benefit plan offered by a qualifying nonprofit agricultural organization is not insurance subject to regulation under insurance laws of the state.

Section-by-section summary:

Sec 1: Inserts a wholly new statutory section that exempts health benefit plans from insurance regulation provided the plan meets certain criteria:

-- The plan is self-funded and administered by a licensed third-party administrator

-- The plan is sponsored by a nonprofit agricultural organization meeting a number of requirements described in subsection (1) regarding its corporate purpose, duration of existence, membership and membership participation.



Subsection (2) requires an organization offering a health benefit plan to apply for certification by the Department of Insurance that the plan qualifies for the exemption from insurance regulation granted under this section. The process of application and certification is to be set by the Dept. of Insurance.

Subsection (3) authorizes risks assumed under a health benefit plan to be reinsured by an authorized insurance company

Subsection (4) requires applications and contracts for health benefit plans to prominently disclose that the plan is not insurance, is not provided by an insurance company, and is not regulated under the state's insurance laws.

Steve Halloran, Chairperson

