



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Committee Statement
LB 245

Hearing Date: January 22, 2003
Committee On: Health and Human Services

Introducer(s): (Health and Human Services Committee)
Title: Change provisions relating to health and human services

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- X Advanced to General File
 - Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senator Jensen, Byars, Cunningham, Maxwell, Erdman, Johnson and Stuthman
	No	
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:
Christine Peterson
Robert Hallstrom

Representing:
Nebraska Health and Human Services System
Nebraska Pharmacists Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes: The bill is the annual “cleanup” legislation requested by the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. The bill makes the following changes:

Controlled substances

The bill amends the list of controlled substances in section 28-405 to conform to changes in federal law.

DNA testing

The bill provides, under the DNA Testing Act, that biological material obtained for the purpose of blood-alcohol testing is not required to be retained during a period of incarceration.

Child Support

The bill amends a definition of support in section 43-1716 to also include interest as provided by law. Relating to income withholding for a support obligation, the bill amends section 43-1723 relating to when income withholding begins. Current law requires that withholding begin no later than the first pay period fourteen days following receipt of notice by the employer. The bill deletes the fourteen-day period, and requires withholding to commence no later than the first pay period following receipt of notice.

Water wells

The bill requires that the Department of Natural Resources be notified of registration of a replacement water well or abandonment of a water well, and not the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure (R&L). R&L must determine by rule and regulation which contractor or owner is responsible to file the notice when there is more than one who could be required to file. Failure to file the required notice is added as a ground for discipline under the Water Well Standards and Contractors' Licensing Act in section 46-1235. Sections 54-311 to 54-315 relating to wells and pitfalls are outright repealed.

Respiratory care

The bill deletes obsolete provisions relating to temporary permits for respiratory care practitioners and outright repeals section 71-1,232.

Podiatry

The bill change provisions relating to competency examinations for podiatrists in section 71-176.01, and requires the Board of Podiatry to "approve" the examination but not to "administer" it.

Veterinary technicians

The bill provides for biennial renewal of licenses for veterinary technicians in section 71-1,166, and changes the range of licensure fees for such technicians from \$5 to \$40 to a range of \$20 to \$500.

Exempt employees

The bill amends the list of state employees who are exempt from the state personnel system in section 81-1316, and adds pharmacists, physicians, psychologists and psychiatrists employed by the Department Health and Human Services, the Department Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, or Department Health and Human Services Finance and Support.

The bill has an operative date of January 1, 2004.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson