

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2024
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB910

Hearing Date: Thursday February 01, 2024
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Riepe
One Liner: Authorize emergency care providers to provide care to injured law enforcement canines

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

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Ballard, Cavanaugh, M., Day, Hansen, Hardin, Riepe, Walz
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Merv Riepe
Christopher Richardson
Micheal Dwyer

Representing:

Opening Presenter
Nebraska City Police Department
Nebraska Volunteer Firefighter Association

Opponents:

Zachary West

Representing:

Self

Neutral:

John Lindsay

Representing:

Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 910 allows emergency care providers to provide medical care to law enforcement dogs when the injuries stem from line of duty and the care is given at the scene. This can extend to the time of transportation of the dog to a vet clinic. The provider will be shielded from civil and criminal liability so long as the care is provided in good faith.

SECTION BY SECTION SUMMARY

Sec. 1: Include Section 2 in the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act

Sec. 2: (1) For purposes of this section, law enforcement canine means any canine that is owned or employed in the service of any state or local law enforcement agency, the Department of Correctional Services, any local fire department, or the State Fire Marshal for the purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, flammable materials, or missing persons; the enforcement of laws; the investigation of fires; or the apprehension of criminal offenders.

(2) An emergency care provider validly licensed for emergency transport may transport a law enforcement canine



injured in the line of duty to a veterinary clinic or similar facility if there is no person requiring medical attention or transport at that time

(3) An emergency care provider may provide emergency medical care to a law enforcement canine injured in the line of duty while at the scene of an emergency or while a law enforcement canine is being transported to a veterinary clinic or similar facility. An emergency care provider who acts in good faith to provide emergency medical care to an injured law enforcement canine shall be immune from criminal or civil liability

(4) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

Sec 3: Add to the list of those exempt from the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act: An emergency care provider providing emergency medical care to a law enforcement canine injured in the line of duty as described in section of this act.

Sec 4: Original sections 38-1201 and 38-3321, repealed.

Explanation of amendments:

The standing Committee Amendment splits out the criminal/civil liability language in section 3 to form a new section to clarify the immunity being provided. Further, the amendment adds an operative date of July 1, 2025.

Ben Hansen, Chairperson

