



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Committee Statement
LB 136

Hearing Date: January 23, 2003
Committee On: Judiciary

Introducer(s): (Thompson)
Title: Ban the distribution of mercury thermometers

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

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

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Brashear, Chambers, Foley, Mines, Mossey, Pedersen, Tyson
	No	
	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Quandahl

Proponents:

Senator Nancy Thompson
Chuck Stepanek

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Nurses Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Molly Goedeker

Representing:

Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Under Legislative Bill 136, the Legislature finds that elemental mercury, found in fever thermometers, is a persistent and toxic pollutant. Mercury can enter the environment resulting in human exposure due to accidental spills, breakage, and releases. The bill's intent is to ban the sale and distribution of such thermometers to prevent further accidental exposure.

Legislative Bill 136 prohibits the sale and distribution of fever thermometers containing elemental mercury.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment specifies that “liquid mercury” thermometers are those that are to be banned under the provisions of the bill.

Senator Kermit A. Brashear, Chairperson