



LB 880

- Provide for an Early Childhood Element in a Comprehensive Plan Developed by a City -

Introduced by Senator Matt Hansen, 2018

Comprehensive Plans

A comprehensive plan is a long-range community plan that focuses on factors and functions that affect the growth and development of a community. The comprehensive plan outlines future improvements and development to change a community into a desired future state. Cities are required to develop and release comprehensive plans in order to adopt zoning regulations. Other required elements include the issues of land use, transportation, community facilities, energy, and annexation.

LB880

LB880 would require cities to include an early childhood element in comprehensive plans before January 1, 2022, either when they create a new plan or when they update an existing plan.

The early childhood element would have three requirements:

- 1) an assessment of the supply of quality licensed early childhood education programs for children under six,
- 2) an evaluation of the availability and utilization of licensed child care capacity and quality for children under six, and
- 3) promotion of early childhood health and education measures that benefit the community.

LB 880 Compliance

To comply, cities would utilize existing public resources and data.

- 1) ***To assess the supply of quality licensed early childhood education programs for children under age six:***
 1. Utilize Nebraska Department of Education's Step Up to Quality for participating programs rated Step 3 and higher,
 2. Count all Early Head Start and Head Start Programs,
 3. Count all Sixpence Programs,
 4. Count all Accredited Programs, and,
 5. Count all Rule 11 School District Pre-K Programs.
- 2) ***To evaluate the availability and utilization of licensed child care capacity and quality for children under age 6:***
 1. Utilize U.S. Census Bureau Data to assess total number of children under age 6,
 2. Utilize Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Child Care Licensing Data for total availability of licensed care, and,
 3. Quality licensed child care data supply previously assessed.
- 3) ***Promote early childhood health and education measures that benefit the community:***

This could be achieved by any number of measures that could include the support of prenatal care beginning in the first trimester, immunization schedules prior to Kindergarten entrance age, dental, vision and hearing screenings, home visitation services for children ages birth to 3-years-old, how to find and support quality child care in the community, and local financial incentives or local public-private partnerships to increase access to quality early childhood education programs.