

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB30**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 15, 2023  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** Dungan  
**One Liner:** Provide for answers of no contest in adjudication hearings under the Nebraska Juvenile Code

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Blood, DeBoer, DeKay, Geist, Holdcroft, Ibach, McKinney, Wayne  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator George Dungan  
Jennifer Houlden  
Tim Hruza  
Bri McLarty

**Representing:**

District 26  
Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorney's Association  
Nebraska State Bar Association  
Nebraska County Attorney Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Section 1 would amend § 43-279 to add an answer of no contest to the options available to a juvenile at adjudication. Juveniles are currently allowed to admit or deny the factual allegations or stand mute.

Section 2 would amend § 43-280 to add answers of no contest to the statements made in juvenile court that are inadmissible in adult criminal or civil proceedings. This section currently excludes admissions, confessions, or statements made in court.

Answers of no contest would allow a juvenile court to take jurisdiction over a juvenile without requiring the juvenile to admit specific facts.

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Justin Wayne, Chairperson