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22nd Instance of Safe Haven Law Occurred Today

Lincoln - Todd Landry, director of the Division of Children and Family Services for the Department of Health and Human Services, said a 17-year-old boy from Douglas County was left at Creighton University Medical Center through LB 157, Nebraska's "safe haven" law this morning.

Landry said the boy's mother left him at the hospital late this morning and the Department is in the process of gathering additional information.

This is the 22nd instance of use of LB 157 and the 30th child left at a hospital under the law since September 13. LB 157 went into effect on July 18.

In addition, there was a report that the safe haven law may have been used in Lincoln last night regarding an 18-year old. DHHS has investigated and confirmed with the Lancaster County Attorney's Office that a juvenile petition will not be filed in this instance. As a result, Landry said DHHS does not consider this a use of the safe haven law, but is providing assistance to the young woman on a voluntary basis.

More information about Nebraska's safe haven law, as well as information about local resources for families, can be found on the Department's Website at

http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/Pages/SafeHaven.aspx

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