

THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE'S
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UPDATE

Bill calls for smaller Omaha school board, new election



Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh explains the need for a smaller Omaha school board.

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee heard testimony Jan. 24 on a bill that would reduce the size of the Omaha Public School (OPS) board and call for all positions to be re-elected.

Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh introduced LB125, saying the Legislature needs to exercise its constitutional authority to manage school boards. He said the size of the Omaha school board is far too large to efficiently address the needs of students, including the widening achievement gap.

“The drumbeat for change to the

Omaha Public School board has become deafening,” Lautenbaugh said. “These issues are not going to go away.”

Under the proposal, the membership of the board would be reduced from 12 to nine members. Election of school board members would be changed to coincide with the city-wide election instead of the general election.

The bill also contains a provision to institute term limits of two consecutive four-year terms with an allowance to run for the position again after a four-year hiatus. Lautenbaugh said a forthcoming committee amendment

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Liability for gun owners proposed

The Judiciary Committee heard testimony Jan. 23 on two bills that would create liability for firearm owners and would include ammunition in certain offenses involving firearms.

LB50, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford, would prohibit unreasonable placement of a firearm where a minor may unlawfully possess it.

The bill would impose liability for civil damages if a gun owner—who is 19 years or older—unreasonably leaves the firearm in a place where a minor or a mentally incompetent person may take possession of it.

Ashford said the purpose of the bill was to prevent “catastrophic instances” of juveniles and mentally ill persons obtaining firearms to commit crimes.

“This is a personal responsibility measure. It does not prevent an individual from purchasing, possessing or using a firearm in a legal manner,” he said.

No one testified in support of the bill.

John Wallace of the Nebraska Firearms Owners Association, testified in opposition, saying it failed to define what would be considered “reasonable storage” of firearms.

“[The bill] opens up the door for civil liability for law abiding gun owners,” he said.

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Bill calls for smaller OPS board, new election

(continued from front page)

would remove the term limit provision.

Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, a co-sponsor, testified in support of the bill. He said that change will always leave some people unhappy, but it is necessary.

“We may not be able to correct everything, but we can make sure everything is done with introspection,” he said. “This is a shot across the bow to remind them that the Legislature is constitutionally authorized to run the public schools.”

Justin Wayne, a current member of the OPS board, also supported the bill, saying that reducing the size of the board is the first step in building a better-run school district.

“I fundamentally believe many, if not all, problems come down to board governance, leadership and accountability,” Wayne said. “It’s about a governing structure that’s more effective and efficient.”

Former senator Brenda Council testified in opposition to the bill. She said the Legislature absolutely has the authority to govern school boards, but that the proposed bill is trying to govern the character of the people who run OPS.

“Anyone suggesting to you that there is a correlation between the number of people on the board and the quality of the people in the board is not being honest,” she said.

Omaha resident Nancy Huston also opposed the bill, questioning the speed with which the bill was being presented.

“Where is the voice of the voter who just elected four new board members in November?” she asked. “A bill of this

magnitude needs to be considered carefully. Citizens should have the opportunity to learn about and respond to the bill.”

OPS interim superintendent Virginia Moon testified in a neutral capacity. She said the school district had voted to take a neutral position because there is a need for change.

“OPS does understand we have a huge job in changing the achievement gap,” Moon said. “But we want to be sure we’re a part of making this bill the best it can be in serving the students and parents of OPS for years to come.”

The committee also considered LB78, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, which would eliminate certain boards and commissions. Avery said those selected either had not met in the last four years or had no significant accomplishments to report.

The following boards and commissions would be eliminated:

- the Affirmative Action Committee;
- the State Airline Authority;
- the Athletic Advisory Committee;
- the Livestock Auction Market Board;
- the Private Postsecondary Career Schools Advisory Council;
- the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force; and
- the Rural Development Commission.

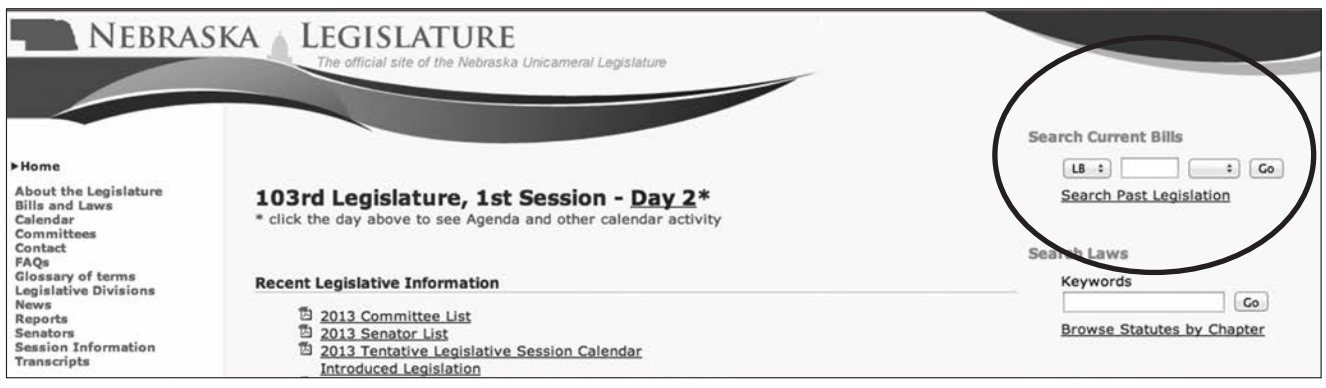
The committee took no immediate action on either bill. ■

SEARCH FOR BILLS

Learn more about bills considered by the Unicameral by logging on to www.NebraskaLegislature.gov.

The Legislature’s website offers a bill search on the upper-right portion of the home page. Entering a bill number will retrieve the bill’s text, fiscal note, statement of intent, transcripts and more.

You also can search current laws using the keyword search found below the bill search.



Liability for gun owners, ammunition offenses considered

(continued from front page)

Ron Jensen, lobbyist for the National Rifle Association, also testified in opposition, and said the bill is redundant. If tragedies result from gun owners improperly storing their guns, he said, they already would be liable under current law.

Ashford also introduced LB148, which would include ammunition in offenses involving the transfer of firearms.

LB148 would impose the following changes:

- a Class ID felony for a first offense for possession of a deadly weapon that is a firearm—or ammunition—by a prohibited person, and a Class IB felony for subsequent offenses;
- a Class III felony for the unlawful transfer of a firearm—or ammunition—to a juvenile;
- a Class III felony for the possession of a deadly weapon that is not a firearm—or ammunition—by a prohibited person; and
- a Class IV felony for transferring a firearm—or ammunition—to a person who is prohibited from receipt or possession of such items by state or federal law.

Douglas County Attorney Don Kleine testified in support of the bill, saying it mirrors current federal law.

“About 95 percent of [firearm] cases are prosecuted by state attorneys not federal [attorneys], so we need a state law to enact ourselves,” he said.

Jerry Soucie, a private attorney, testified in opposition to the bill, saying the use of ammunition varies statewide among rural and urban communities.

“There will be a mirror application of this statute throughout the state, but the crimes would not be prosecuted the same,” he said.

The committee took no immediate action on either bill. ■



Judiciary Committee chairperson Sen. Brad Ashford explains provisions of LB148.

FIND LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS

Committee hearing schedules, daily agendas and more can be viewed using the calendar on www.NebraskaLegislature.gov.

Clicking the “Calendar” link on the left side of the website’s home page will open a calendar that is constantly updated with new information.

January 2011						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						01
03	04	05 Day 1 102nd Leg. 1st Session	06 Day 2 102nd Leg. 1st Session	07 Day 3 102nd Leg. 1st Session 1 Hearing		08
10 Day 4 102nd Leg. 1st Session	11 Day 5 102nd Leg. 1st Session	12 Day 6 102nd Leg. 1st Session	13 Day 7 102nd Leg. 1st Session	14 Day 8 102nd Leg. 1st Session		15
17	18 Day 9 102nd Leg. 1st Session 5 Hearings	19 Day 10 102nd Leg. 1st Session 5 Hearings	20 Day 11 102nd Leg. 1st Session 5 Hearings	21 Day 12 102nd Leg. 1st Session 5 Hearings		22
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MEET THE SENATOR



Omaha Sen. Rick Kolowski enjoys traveling. He is pictured here at Paris' Eiffel Tower.

Educator ready to tackle session

When Sen. Rick Kolowski and his wife Bonnie arrived in Nebraska in 1967, they had no real plans on staying.

“We thought we’d be here for a year or two,” he said. “Forty-seven years later, here we are. We just fell in love with the state and the people.”

Kolowski’s eventual journey to the Legislature began as an Eagle Scout in Oglesby, IL. His passion for public service was sparked by great teachers and a three-year career in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. He earned a bachelor’s degree in government while playing football at Lake Forest College, 30 miles north of Chicago.

So how does an Illinois native become a Nebraska state senator? Professional football, of course.

After college graduation, Kolowski was a 12th-round draft pick by the Kan-

sas City Chiefs at the 1967 National Football League draft. He eventually was cut from the Chiefs and arrived in Nebraska as an offensive lineman for the Omaha Mustangs of the Continental Football League.

After his stint with the Mustangs, Kolowski decided to stay in Omaha and pursue a master’s degree in history and secondary education from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He received his Ph.D. in secondary education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln eight years later.

When speaking about his 41-year career as an educator and administrator, the senator lights up.

“To help build a school from the ground up and have it acknowledged as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence in its first year of eligibility,” he says wistfully, “was truly the

highlight of my career.”

He has experience in nearly every aspect of education – from classroom teacher and graduate assistant to school principal and district administrator. He laughs when discussing the transition to state senator and the challenges faced by citizen-legislators.

“Being principal of a high school will prepare you for just about anything.”

An overloaded bookcase in Kolowski’s office gives subtle hints about his priorities in the Unicameral: “One House: The Unicameral’s Progressive Vision for Nebraska,” a book detailing the history of Nebraska’s unique government; and “Good Night, Moon,” his grandchildren’s favorite book.

Planning for future generations is especially important to the father of two sons – Dr. Jason Kolowski, a forensic scientist and Dr. David Kolowski, a chiropractor – and grandfather of four.

Kolowski identifies himself as a realist, but his optimism and positivity are apparent in his new role. He stresses the need to make wise decisions and listen thoughtfully to constituents.

“One of our greatest strengths in Nebraska is our common sense decision-making,” he said.

He wants to make sure defined retirement plans stay strong for people who have contributed their whole lives, manage the state’s natural resources thoughtfully and with an eye on the future, and stress student and school accountability.

“We all live for the ideals of what we’re about, tempered by the reality of the situation,” he said. “We need to make an effort to focus on the ideals.” ■

Agriculture

Dairy industry would see changes under proposed bills

The size of the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board would be clarified under a bill heard before the Agriculture Committee Jan. 22.

Under current statute, membership on the board is proportional to the number of milk producers in the state. The formula in place designates one board member for every 40 milk production units.

LB70, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, would maintain the formula and install a safeguard preventing a decrease in the board's membership below its current level. If the formula results in less than seven members, the governor would appoint a member or members from nominees submitted by the board.

Schilz said the change was necessary to ensure best practices within the dairy industry.

"This is absolutely needed to make sure the board remains viable," he said.

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board chairman Jim Eschliman testified in a neutral capacity. He said the bill would address a problem that is affecting the entire agricultural industry.

"The dairy industry is experiencing the same consolidation and loss of producers as other agricultural sectors," he said. "As we lose producers, the number of members on the board will only continue to decline."

No one testified in support or opposition to the bill.

The committee also heard LB67, introduced by Schilz, which would amend the Nebraska Milk Act by adopt-

ing the majority of the 2011 Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance. Under the bill, new milk production facilities would be required to comply with all of the requirements of the ordinance. Existing facilities would be allowed to follow state statutory requirements for milk production which is not Grade A.

The committee took no immediate action on either bill.

Banking, Commerce & Insurance

Bill would change ATM fee disclosure requirements

The Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee heard a bill Jan. 22 that would bring state law into conformity with federal law relating to automatic teller machine (ATM) fee disclosure requirements.

LB100, introduced by Syracuse Sen. Dan Watermeier, would eliminate a requirement that an ATM fee notice be affixed to or displayed on an ATM.

Currently, fee notices are required to be affixed to or displayed on ATMs as well as displayed on the ATM screen or on a paper notice issued from the machine after a transaction is initiated and before the consumer is irrevocably committed to complete the transaction.

Watermeier said the current state requirement was patterned after federal ATM disclosure requirements that have since changed. Federal law recently was amended to require fee notification only on-screen or on a paper notice, he said.

"Congress recognized that the [additional] requirement was no longer necessary," he said. "Consumers are provided with adequate protection."

Robert J. Hallstrom, representing the Nebraska Bankers Association, testified in support of the bill, saying the current two-pronged approach to fee notification has resulted in "frivolous" class-action lawsuits brought by individuals claiming inadequate fee notification.

Kathy Siefken of the Nebraska Grocery Industry Association also testified in support of the bill, saying it would help protect Nebraska businesses from such lawsuits. She said people have been known to remove fee notification placards from ATMs, take a photo and claim violation of the existing fee notification law.

No opposition testimony was offered and the committee voted 8-0 to advance the bill to general file.

Bill would clarify qualifying securities for public funds

A bill heard Jan. 22 by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee would clarify the types of financial instruments authorized as securities for public funds under state law.

Introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, LB155 would clarify that both mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations qualify to be pledged for purposes of securing public funds as mortgage-backed obligations.

Gloor said that public funds in excess of amounts insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) must be secured by "securities" as outlined in state law. Current law needs to clarify which fi-



Sen. Ken Schilz



Sen. Dan Watermeier



Sen. Mike Gloor

nancial instruments qualify as security for those funds, he said.

As introduced, LB155 would clarify that both mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations issued or backed by collateral 100 percent guaranteed by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Farm Credit System, Federal Home Loan Bank or the Federal National Mortgage Association qualify as securities for purposes of satisfying the pledging for public funds requirements.

The bill also would allow the pledging for public funds requirements to be satisfied by letters of credit issued by any Federal Home Loan Bank and not just the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka.

Robert J. Hallstrom, representing the Nebraska Bankers Association, testified in support of LB155, saying it would update and clarify terminology related to qualifying securities for public funds and would expand the use of letters of credit.

Hallstrom said several banks that operate in Nebraska have moved their headquarters to other states. Under the bill, those banks would be able to use letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank of whichever region they are headquartered in, he said.

No one testified in opposition to the bill and the committee took no immediate action on LB155.

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Changes to early voting procedures proposed

Increased voter engagement is the focus of a bill heard by the Govern-

ment, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Jan. 23.

Under LB41, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, county election commissioners and clerks would be required to:

- maintain a permanent early voting request list;
- outline procedures for the permanent early voting request list; and
- establish that a ballot received for early voting by mail may be returned by hand to the registered voter's designated polling place on the day of the election.

Cook said access to early voting mechanisms would strengthen and preserve the democratic election process by increasing voter turnout.

"Early voting by mail is vital to the continued participation by all voting groups, including the growing elderly population and service men and women," she said. "This bill will help these Nebraskans continue their engagement with our democracy."

Nebraskans for Civic Reform director Adam Morfeld testified in support of LB41. He said the bill would increase voter turnout in all elections.

"Increased accessibility to elections should always be a priority," Morfeld said. "When people automatically receive ballots, we see increased voter turnout in smaller or off-cycle elections."

Wayne Bena, Sarpy County election commissioner, testified in opposition to the bill saying local control should decide early voting procedures.

"It should be the decision of the county election commissioner and the county board if they have the means and resources to maintain a permanent list," he said. "There may be no



Sen. Tanya Cook

fiscal impact to the state, but there is definitely a fiscal impact to my office."

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Bill proposes changes to campaign finance statutes

Candidates for public office would see increased campaign finance restrictions under a bill heard by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Jan. 25.

LB79, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, would lower the threshold for reporting campaign finance expenditures from \$250 to \$100.



Sen. Bill Avery

"I've worked on campaign finance laws over the past 20 years," Avery said. "The argument I always hear is we don't need to fight expenditures as much as we need more transparency and accountability."

An additional provision would repeal the Campaign Finance Limitation Act, which recently was declared unconstitutional by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

The bill also would require that all filings with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission be electronic as of Jan. 1, 2016. The development of the new electronic system would be funded by money already appropriated under the Campaign Finance Limitation Act.

Jack Gould, representing Common Cause Nebraska, supported the bill, saying the amount of cash involved in campaign expenditures needs to be accounted for.

"There's a lot of cash floating around," he said. "If you lower the rate, you're exposing it more and making it more visible to the public."

No one testified in opposition and the committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Amendment offers new county management model

The organizational structure of county governments could change under a proposed constitutional amendment heard by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Jan. 23.

Citizens would have the option of voting to adopt a county manager form of government if LR12CA is passed by the Legislature. Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms cited the existing city manager structure of government as the model for his proposal. Counties would benefit from having one central manager to ensure operations run smoothly, he said.



Sen. John Harms

“Times have changed. County government today is truly big business and it needs to be treated as such,” Harms said. “This gives citizens an opportunity to make government more transparent.”

If the Legislature were to pass the constitutional amendment, the measure would be subject to voter approval. Then a bill outlining the specific procedures for implementing the new form of government would need to be passed.

Central City Administrator Chris Anderson, representing the International City/County Management Association, testified in support of the bill. He said a county manager would be a great fit for some counties.

“In cases where the system has great inefficiencies, this can be a very helpful option,” he said. “County

managers can provide management expertise in a nonpartisan manner.”

League of Nebraska Municipalities representative Lynn Rex also testified in support of the bill, saying that the solution is not right for every county but the option should be offered.

“This is simply an option,” Rex said. “This just gives citizens the opportunity to authorize the Legislature to consider it.”

Douglas County Clerk Tom Cavanaugh testified in a neutral capacity. He agreed with the intent of the bill but said citizens should have the power to elect a county manager.

“County officials should be accountable to the citizens,” he said. “They should be able to remove the person if they feel he’s not performing.”

No one testified in opposition to the bill and the committee took no immediate action on it.

Health & Human Services

Bill would require radon resistant construction

The Health and Human Services Committee heard a bill Jan. 23 that would require all new homes in Nebraska to include radon resistant construction.

As introduced, LB13, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would apply to all new residential housing beginning Jan. 1, 2014.

Krist said the measure would protect families from radon, a radioactive element found in uranium in the soil. Nebraska has the third

highest radon emission rate in the United States, he said, and radon exposure is the number one cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers.

Under the bill, the state Department of Health and Human Services would be responsible for coordination, oversight and implementation of measures to mitigate the risks of radon in residential dwellings.

The bill also would create a Radon-Resistant Building Codes Task Force that would include homebuilders, home inspectors, realtors and medical professionals, among others. The task force would terminate Jan. 1, 2015.

Krist said the bill’s operative date likely would be amended to allow for input from the task force.

Curtis Drew, owner of National Radon Defense, testified in support of the bill. While many existing Nebraska homes have been mitigated for radon since the early 1980s, he said, new homes built during that same time period remain vulnerable to radon emissions.

“This is the only way that we can catch up with the problem,” Drew said.

Justin Brady, representing a coalition of Lincoln and Omaha metropolitan area homebuilders, testified in a neutral capacity.

Brady said placing a passive radon mitigation system in a home during construction - which could be activated if excessive radon emissions are detected at a later date - likely would add between \$200 and \$800 to construction costs.

No one testified in opposition to LB13 and the committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Bill seeks to curb indoor tanning for teens

The Health and Human Services Committee heard testimony Jan. 25



Sen. Bob Krist

on a bill that would prohibit tanning facilities in Nebraska from allowing people younger than 18 to use tanning equipment.

Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, sponsor of LB132, said he introduced the bill to lower the risk of skin cancer among young adults in Nebraska. The prohibition would apply to sun lamps, tanning booths and tanning beds.



Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

An owner or operator of a tanning facility found to be in violation of the bill's provisions would be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor. LB132 also would require tanning facilities to post a warning sign in a conspicuous location outlining the dangers of overexposure to ultraviolet radiation.

Nordquist said lawmakers have a history of protecting young people from the long-term consequences of dangerous behavior. He noted that people younger than 18 are not allowed under state law to purchase handguns, alcohol or cigarettes and cannot legally consent to body piercings or tattoos.

Laws even prohibit those under 18 from attending R-rated films, he said, adding that exposure to a Class 1 carcinogen is more potentially harmful to the state's young people than viewing an inappropriate movie.

"This is an issue that is truly a matter of life and death," Nordquist said.

Kasey Shriver, who was diagnosed with melanoma as a teenager, testified in support of the bill, saying she began indoor tanning as a 14-year-old without fully understanding the risks.

Shriver said she was an athlete who exercised regularly and did not smoke.

"I thought I was doing everything right," she said. "It should not take another 17-year-old prom queen diag-

nosed with cancer to make a change."

Dr. David Watts, representing the Nebraska Medical Association, also testified in support of the bill, saying the risk of melanoma is 20 percent higher among those who use indoor tanning.

"The more indoor tanning, or the younger the person, the higher the risk," he said. "We are witnessing a developing public health crisis."

Barton Bonn, owner of Ashley Lynn's Tanning, testified in opposition to the bill, saying the danger is from sunburn rather than sun exposure. He said his company stresses the need for moderation and educates the community about UV exposure.

"All we are is a simulation of sunlight," he said, adding that government already regulates the use of indoor tanning beds to ensure their safety.

Steve Grasz of the Nebraska Indoor Tanning Association also testified in opposition to the bill, calling it a "heavy-handed intrusion" by government into small business in Nebraska.

If enacted, Grasz said, LB132 would be the most extreme law in the United States regulating indoor tanning. Currently, only Vermont and California ban indoor tanning for people under 18, he said, and penalties in those two states are less severe than in the proposed legislation.

"If the industry isn't being responsible, there are other ways to address the issue," he said.

Grasz said young people would not stop tanning as a result of ban, but simply would tan aggressively outdoors or use home tanning devices.

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Newborn heart disease screening proposed

The Health and Human Services Committee heard testimony Jan.

24 on a bill that would adopt the Nebraska Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening Act.

Under LB225, introduced by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith, all newborns in Nebraska would be required to undergo screening for critical congenital heart disease (CCHD) in accordance with standards adopted by the state Department of Health and Human Services.



Sen. Jim Smith

CCHD is among the leading causes of morbidity and death in newborns, Smith said, and can be detected with a simple test similar to those already required for metabolic disorders and hearing.

Smith said he is not normally in favor of government mandates, but that CCHD screening has been shown to save money and lives.

"Screening doesn't prevent CCHD," he said, "but early detection is essential in getting the necessary support and care. I became convinced that required screening is the right thing for us as a state to do."

Dr. Robert Spicer, chief of cardiology at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, testified in support of the bill. CCHD is the most common birth defect in newborns, he said, and can lead to cardiogenic shock and death if undetected.

Dr. David Minderman, an Omaha neonatologist, also testified in support of the bill. Approximately nine out of 1,000 newborns will be diagnosed with some form of heart defect, he said, and an estimated 25 percent of those infants will have CCHD.

CCHD screening can alert physicians to potentially life-threatening complications among that 25 percent, he said, adding that all newborns in

his practice already are screened for CCHD.

No one testified in opposition to LB225 and the committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Judiciary

Bill would allow termination of digital accounts upon death

The Judiciary Committee heard testimony Jan. 24 on a bill that would clarify the treatment of digital assets upon an individual's death.

LB37, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman, would allow a personal representative or a court-appointed administrator of an estate to possess, conduct, continue or terminate social networking, microblogging or short message service websites or email accounts upon the death of the account owner.



Sen. John Wightman

Wightman said there is a conflict between state law and the federal Telecommunications Act—which was last amended in 1996 to include the Internet in the broadcasting spectrum—that should be reconciled to provide clarity for attorneys.

Andrew Loudon, a Lincoln estate-planning attorney, testified in support of the bill. He cited instances in which Facebook posts inappropriately were made on behalf of deceased individuals.

The bill would help personal representatives terminate digital accounts of deceased individuals, he said, which could help prevent such a problem.

Steve DelBianco, executive director of NetChoice, testified in opposition to the bill, saying a state law could override any terms of service the de-

ceased had agreed to before they died. Digital accounts include e-commerce accounts that operate throughout state borders, he said, so a uniform law is needed to create consistency among such cases.

Steve Wilborn is chair of the Uniform Law Commission (ULC), a group that drafts legislation for states in an attempt to provide clarity and stability to laws. He testified in a neutral capacity, saying the commission currently is drafting a more comprehensive law addressing digital assets.

“The ULC provides bills that are very well drafted and highly competent. But because of that, we do not work at a fast speed,” Wilborn said. “This is an important topic and [the commission] would understand if the state wants to act now,” he added.

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Revenue

Earlier property tax filing deadline proposed

The Revenue Committee heard testimony Jan. 25 on a bill that would change the late filing date for personal property tax returns.

Currently, taxpayers must meet a July 31 deadline for late personal property tax filings. LB28, introduced by Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley, would change the deadline to June 30. Taxpayers missing the deadline would face a penalty of 25 percent of the tax on the value added.



Sen. Galen Hadley

“The primary reason for bringing this bill is to give county assessors more time to get their job done,” he said.

Seward County assessor Marilyn

Hladky supported the bill, saying it would allow for a more efficient process without placing unnecessary constraints on taxpayers.

“This still gives individuals and businesses six months to finalize their schedules,” Hladky said.

No one testified in opposition and the committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Urban Affairs

Committee considers appointment terms, biennial budgets

The Urban Affairs Committee heard testimony Jan. 22 on four measures that would modify provisions for primary, first and second class cities and villages. All were introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill.

LB87 would provide that an appointee filling a vacancy on an airport authority board would serve the unexpired term of the vacated board



Sen. Amanda McGill

member. Currently, the appointee would serve only until a successor could be elected at the next general election.

Some cities are having problems filling board vacancies, McGill said, because a board member who is appointed soon must campaign for the same position.

Rodney Storm, Blair city administrator, testified in support of the bill, saying he has difficulty convincing people to serve on special purpose entities.

“[This bill] would be a big step in helping us secure a qualified candidate,” he said. “Once their appointment is made, they would not have to worry about running for election, and that would give them time to get

acclimated to the responsibilities and needs of the airport.”

LB111 would allow cities of the first and second class and villages to file biennial budgets with the state auditor’s office and county clerk.

State law classifies incorporated cities, villages and municipalities by their population. If the population is:

- 300,000 or more it is a metropolitan class city;
- 100,001 to 299,999 it is a primary class city;
- 5,001 to 100,000 it is a first class city;
- 801 to 5,000 it is a second class city; and
- 100 to 800 it is a village.

McGill said metropolitan and primary class cities were authorized in

2000 to file biennial budgets with voter approval. The bill would extend to smaller cities and allow more opportunities for long-term planning, she said.

Crete Mayor Roger Foster testified in support of the bill. Crafting and operating under a biennial budget would save time and protect cities from inflation costs incurred on expenses throughout a budget’s time frame, he said.

LB112 would transfer record keeping and reporting on bonds from a city clerk to a city treasurer in first and second class cities and villages. The bill also would require the treasurer to prepare lists of and collect all special assessments.

Gary Krumland of the League of Nebraska Municipalities testified in

support of the bill, saying city clerks obtain much of the information needed by city treasurers to conduct the bond reports. Transferring these duties to the city treasurer would make the process more efficient, he said.

Finally, LB113 would authorize the mayor of a second class city to vote when it would create a number equal to a majority of the members elected to the council.

Krumland also supported LB113: “If the council is evenly divided, the mayor [currently] can vote. It just puts everything in limbo if [a council member] is absent and there is a 3-to-1 vote.”

No one testified in opposition to the bills and the committee took no immediate action on them. ■

NEW BILLS

Bill Introducer One-line description

Jan. 22, 2013

LB402	Mello	Change power purchase agreement provisions relating to rural community-based energy development
LB403	Seiler	Prohibit retail sale of novelty lighters
LB404	McGill	Change State Natural Gas Regulation Act provisions relating to infrastructure system replacement cost recovery charges
LB405	McCoy	Eliminate certain sales tax exemptions, corporate and individual income taxes, and the franchise tax and change other tax provisions
LB406	McCoy	Change tax provisions
LB407	Sullivan	Change calculation provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act
LB408	Sullivan	Change dates and provisions relating to certification and distribution of state aid
LB409	Sullivan	Change distribution provisions for core services and educational technology funds
LB410	Sullivan	Change and eliminate provisions relating to education
LB411	Nordquist	Change a renewable energy tax credit
LB412	Schumacher	Adopt the Freedom from Unwarranted Surveillance Act
LB413	Schumacher	Change license violation provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
LB414	Schumacher	Change funding for the Municipal Equalization Fund
LB415	Seiler	Change provisions relating to financial institutions and attachment and garnishment
LB416	Kolowski	Change teacher education allowance provisions relative to the state aid formula
LB417	Kolowski	Provide for guidelines for election workers
LB418	Kolowski	Change powers and duties of election commissioners, chief deputy election commissioners, and county boards
LB419	Hadley	Change provisions relating to the nameplate capacity tax
LB420	McGill	Provide authorization for disposition of human remains based on military documents
LB421	McGill	Provide powers and duties for professional boards regarding credentialing veterans
LB422	McGill	Provide duties for credentialing boards and temporary practice permits for military spouses
LB423	Agriculture	Change seizure provisions of the Livestock Animal Welfare Act
LB424	Coash	State intent to appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Patrol Internet Crimes Against Children Unit
LB425	Campbell	State intent to appropriate funds for intervention services for at-risk children and youth
LB426	Howard	Change provisions relating to fraternal benefit societies
LB427	Howard	Adopt the Carbon Monoxide Safety Act
LB428	Haar	Change permitted practice provisions for certified nurse midwives
LB429	Crawford	Require disclosure of state contracts
LB430	Crawford	Change asset limitation for the aid to dependent children program, child care subsidy, and the Welfare Reform Act
LB431	Karpisek	Change definition of food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act
LB432	Price	Appropriate funds for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB433	Price	Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes
LB434	Price	Provide for emergency management registries for persons with special needs
LB435	Hansen	Provide for out-of-state brand permits under the Livestock Brand Act
LB436	Hansen	Redefine franchisee under the Franchise Practices Act
LB437	Hansen	Transfer administration of mechanical safety inspection programs to the State Fire Marshal
LB438	Adams	Provide for priority schools, operating councils, and community schools
LB439	Gloor	Change cigarette and tobacco tax provisions
LB440	Gloor	Adopt the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act and provide an income tax credit
LB441	Seiler	Change provisions relating to control of dead human remains
LB442	Schumacher	Change provisions relating to homeowners' associations and the Nebraska Condominium Act
LB443	Cook	Adopt the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act
LB444	Krist	Require certification and presence of authorized personnel by retail liquor licensees
LB445	Karpisek	Provide funding to the Department of Motor Vehicles to purchase a vehicle titling and registration computer system
LB446	Avery	Define the term flood damage for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act
LB447	Avery	Provide for sales tax on soft drinks, change the distribution of sales tax proceeds, and provide funding for projects to help children
LB448	Avery	Prohibit contributions by lobbyists to candidates or members of the Legislature during legislative session
LB449	Avery	Redefine high elective office for restrictions on multiple office holding
LB450	Avery	Change political party convention and caucus provisions
LB451	Janssen	Prohibit federal restrictions on firearms, magazines, and firearm accessories as prescribed
LB452	Conrad	Require a medicaid waiver to provide coverage for family planning services
LB453	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle headlights
LB454	Haar	Adopt the Electronics Extended Producer Responsibility and Job Creation Act
LB455	Lautenbaugh	Provide procedures for termination of a lease based upon clear and present danger
LB456	Lautenbaugh	Provide for removal of containers of draft beer from licensed premises as prescribed
LB457	Krist	Change provisions relating to deductions for net operating losses and capital losses
LB458	Krist	Require general acute hospitals to offer tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis vaccinations as prescribed
LB459	Krist	Require certain health care facilities to offer onsite vaccination services
LB460	Krist	Require a booster meningococcal conjugate vaccine for students as prescribed
LB461	Karpisek	Provide liability limitation for bucking bull activities
LB462	Ashford	Change provisions relating to contracts for joint law enforcement services
LB463	Ashford	Change the number of separate juvenile court judges
LB464	Ashford	Change court jurisdiction over juveniles and indictment procedures
LB465	Lautenbaugh	Adopt the College Choice Grant Program
LB466	Avery	Redefine a term under the Postsecondary Education Act
LB467	Avery	Provide for interstate reciprocity agreements under the Postsecondary Education Act
LB468	Scheer	Allow an income tax deduction for tuition payments
LB469	Scheer	Change an exemption to school budget lid relating to payments for a voluntary termination
LB470	Scheer	Adopt the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act
LB471	Coash	Change provisions relating to juvenile commitment evaluations
LB472	Karpisek	Prohibit flying lanterns
LB473	Bloomfield	Authorize certain residency restrictions near parks under the Sexual Predator Residency Restriction Act
LB474	Krist	Change provisions relating to occupation taxes
LB475	Carlson	Change the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act and the Business Innovation Act
LB476	Carlson	Change provisions relating to grants for internships
LB477	Carlson	Change sunset for the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force
LB478	Smith	Provide requirements for awards under the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act
LB479	Lathrop	Prohibit policy and contract terms relating to contractual rights and insurance proceeds
LB480	Lathrop	Adopt the Nebraska Career Technical Education Grant Program Act
LB481	Lathrop	Create the Career Education Task Force
LB482	Kintner	Prohibit the state and political subdivisions from adopting certain policy recommendations
LB483	Bolz	Provide for a reentry planning program in adult correctional facilities
LB484	Karpisek	Change dental hygienist training and authorized functions
LB485	Conrad	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation as prescribed
LB486	Dubas	Appropriate funds to the Legislative Council to pay dues under the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact
LR34CA	Schumacher	Constitutional amendment authorizing gaming and directing use of the proceeds
LR35	Schumacher	Congratulate Jonathon Kurtis Adam Braasch for earning the rank of Eagle Scout
LR36	Ashford	Congratulate the Omaha South High School boys' tennis team for their accomplishments
LR37	Janssen	Extend sympathy to the family of James Ebers
LR38	Avery	Endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer and support efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change
LR39	Bloomfield	Extend sympathy to the family of Commander Marsha Ann(Heineman)Hanley

NEW BILLS

Bill Introducer One-line description

Jan. 23, 2013

LB487	Wightman	Change health care certificate of need provisions
LB488	Revenue	Change provisions relating to municipal occupation taxes
LB489	Revenue	Change the sales tax rate
LB490	Revenue	Change income tax rates
LB491	Cook	Change calculation of target level of funds under the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act
LB492	Cook	Appropriate funds to carry out the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program
LB493	Davis	Authorize transfer of portions of the Cowboy Trail
LB494	Davis	Change number of districts and members of Game and Parks Commission
LB495	Sullivan	Change provisions relating to the Education Innovation Fund and early childhood grant reporting
LB496	Sullivan	Change provisions relating to school reorganization incentive payments
LB497	Sullivan	Change distribution and provide for a study of the Education Innovation Fund
LB498	Brasch	Provide for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief against foreign defamation judgments
LB499	Brasch	Change powers and duties of Game and Parks Commission
LB500	Brasch	Change school bus operation provisions
LB501	Hadley	Redefine a term in the Nebraska Advantage Act
LB502	Hadley	Change a sales tax exemption for health clinics
LB503	Coash	Rename the Child Protection Act and provide for alternative response to a report of child abuse or neglect
LB504	Coash	Change Commission on Indian Affairs state assistance for political subdivisions provisions
LB505	Coash	Provide requirement for insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders
LB506	Bolz	Change elementary class size allowance in the state aid formula
LB507	Campbell	Adopt the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act
LB508	Campbell	Change provisions relating to the aid to dependent children program
LB509	Murante	Change election of learning community coordinating council
LB510	Scheer	Change Open Meeting Act telephone conference call provisions and authorization for videoconferencing and teleconferencing
LB511	Scheer	Change allocation provisions relating to the Education Innovation Fund
LB512	Scheer	Change provisions relating to academic content standards and statewide assessment and reporting
LB513	Carlson	Change notice provisions under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act
LB514	Carlson	Provide for new funding mechanisms under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act
LB515	Carlson	Change provisions relating to irrigation district elections
LB516	Carlson	Adopt the Nebraska Water Legacy Act
LB517	Carlson	Create the Water Sustainability Project Task Force
LB518	Janssen	Change certain eligibility provisions of the medical assistance program
LB519	Krist	Appropriate funds for improvements at the Nebraska History Museum
LB520	Christensen	Allow land surveyors to enter upon public or private lands or waters as prescribed
LB521	Christensen	Require cities and villages and other public bodies that maintain web sites to publish ordinances and other information as prescribed
LB522	Christensen	Provide state financial assistance to irrigation districts to compensate water appropriators
LB523	Christensen	Provide requirements for copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles relating to certain services
LB524	Christensen	Adopt the Pharmacy Audit Integrity Act
LB525	Haar	Change deadlines under the Election Act
LB526	Howard	Change optometry licensure and certification to perform minor surgery and use pharmaceutical agents
LB527	Howard	Change optometry licensure and certification to use pharmaceutical agents
LB528	Howard	Provide for partner treatment relating to sexually transmitted diseases
LB529	Dubas	Change requirements for approval of redevelopment plans under the Community Development Law
LB530	Dubas	Add, change, and eliminate provisions relating to foster care reimbursements
LB531	Conrad	Change distribution of sales and use tax revenue and repeal the Build Nebraska Act
LB532	Conrad	Change income tax rates
LB533	Avery	Require oil and gas pipeline eminent domain condemners to provide notice to property owners
LB534	Avery	Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislative Performance Audit Section
LB535	Lathrop	Adopt Prescription Monitoring Program Act and repeal prescription monitoring provisions
LB536	Business & Labor	Approve claims against the state
LB537	Business & Labor	Deny claims against the state
LB538	Chambers	Change provisions relating to revocation and suspension of law enforcement training certificates or diplomas
LB539	Chambers	Prohibit requiring teaching experience for superintendents
LB540	Chambers	Prohibit rules and regulations requiring teachers to lead pledge of allegiance
LB541	Chambers	Prohibit arbitration of claims involving disciplinary actions against peace officers
LB542	Chambers	Eliminate an aggravating circumstance regarding death penalty sentencing hearings
LB543	Chambers	Change a penalty from death to life imprisonment or life imprisonment without possibility of parole
LB544	Hansen	Require notifications regarding bovine trichomoniasis
LB545	Dubas	Change Public Service Commission appeal procedures
LB546	Kolowski	Eliminate review of postsecondary capital construction projects as prescribed

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB547	Kolowski	Provide an income tax credit for payments to school districts for extracurricular activities and character education programs
LB548	Schilz	Change a length exception for semitrailers transporting baled livestock forage
LB549	Schilz	Change the scrap tire recycling sunset provision and fees
LB550	Schilz	Adopt the Livestock Growth Act and change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act
LB551	Schilz	Change recreational liability provisions
LB552	Nordquist	Adopt the Cities of the First Class Firefighters Cash Balance Retirement Act
LB553	Nordquist	Change provisions relating to school employee retirement
LB554	Nordquist	Change provisions relating to school employee retirement
LB555	Nordquist	Adopt the Preparing Students for Educational Success Act
LB556	McGill	Provide for telehealth services for children, change the medical assistance program, and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services
LB557	McGill	Change provisions relating to net metering and authorize community solar gardens
LB558	Kintner	Change provisions relating to certain declaratory judgments and illegal taxes paid
LB559	Mello	Adopt a short-time compensation program under the Employment Security Law
LB560	Mello	Provide enforcement provisions to certain labor and employment acts
LB561	Ashford	State findings and intent for changes to the juvenile justice system and a funding mechanism
LB562	Ashford	Change provisions of the juvenile justice system
LB563	Krist	Change provisions relating to contracts for services
LB564	Nelson	Adopt the Health Care Freedom of Conscience Act
LB565	Nelson	Prohibit registering to vote and voting early on the same day
LB566	Karpisek	Create the Educational Technology Infrastructure Grant Program
LB567	Haar	Change provisions relating to approval of electric generation facilities and transmission lines
LB568	Harr	Provide for licensure of insurance navigators
LB569	Harr	Appropriate funds to the Supreme Court for county court employees
LB570	Harr	Adopt the Employers Certainty in Records Act
LB571	Harr	Adopt the Community Enhancement Financing Assistance Act
LB572	Harr	Change the Nebraska Advantage Act and provisions relating to extraordinary dividends and capital gains on certain capital stock
LB573	Harr	Change provisions relating to an adjustment to income for certain capital gains and extraordinary dividends
LB574	Harr	Provide that certain assessments are levied and collected as special assessments
LB575	Harr	Provide for professional development training for school board and learning community coordinating council members
LB576	Harr	Require flagging of area near polling places and change restrictions on electioneering
LB577	Campbell	Change provisions relating to the medical assistance program
LB578	Nordquist	Create a fund to provide funding for medicaid services and change distribution of premium tax revenue
LB579	Karpisek	Provide a duty regarding administration and enforcement of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
LB580	Johnson	Change certain condemnation procedures
LB581	Crawford	Change the sales and use tax collection fees
LB582	Carlson	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Tourism Commission
LB583	Haar	Change provisions relating to membership on the Climate Assessment Response Committee and provide duties for the committee
LB584	Smith	Change Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act medical guidelines and independent medical examiner provisions
LB585	Smith	Provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to learning councils
LB586	Mello	Provide content for rules and regulations relating to child care and preschools
LB587	Schilz	Change provisions of the Livestock Brand Act
LB588	Watermeier	Change veteran employment preference provisions and name the act
LB589	Watermeier	Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act
LB590	Lautenbaugh	License and regulate wagering on historic horseracing
LB591	Lautenbaugh	Change civil service commission membership
LB592	Lautenbaugh	Authorize the carrying of concealed handguns by qualified law enforcement officers and qualified retired law enforcement officers
LB593	Lautenbaugh	Adopt the Charter Schools Act
LB594	Price	Provide Nebraska Investment Council duties relating to administration of the Nebraska Veterans' Aid Fund
LB595	Price	Provide for a Public Service Commission study of next-generation 911
LB596	Price	Change provisions relating to specialty license plates and Purple Heart license plates
LB597	Larson	Change provisions relating to county agricultural societies
LB598	Larson	Change provisions relating to net metering
LB599	Sullivan	Change exemptions relating to school budget limitations
LB600	Wightman	Change inheritance tax rates
LB601	Bloomfield	Require notice for natural resources district subcommittee meetings
LB602	Bloomfield	Adopt the Nebraska Firearms Freedom Act
LB603	Chambers	Include affirmation as an alternative when an oath is required
LB604	Haar	Change computation of the cost growth factor relating to state aid to schools

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB605	Pirsch	Provide for Telehealth Behavioral Health Services Program
LB606	Pirsch	Adopt the Nebraska Technology Entrepreneur Act to provide sales and use tax refunds to certain businesses
LB607	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to protection order violations and conditions of release violations
LB608	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to stalking
LB609	Pirsch	Create the Nebraska's Emerging Future Subcommittee of the Legislature's Planning Committee
LB610	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to terroristic threats
LB611	Pirsch	Redefine serious bodily injury for purposes of domestic assault
LB612	Schumacher	Require the Department of Revenue to present reports to legislative committees
LB613	Schumacher	Create the Tax Modernization Commission
LB614	Schumacher	Provide for withholding insurance proceeds for demolition costs
LB615	Schumacher	Provide for summary guardianships
LB616	Schumacher	Adopt the Nebraska Money Transmitters Act and eliminate the Nebraska Sale of Checks and Funds Transmission Act and provide penalties
LB617	Schumacher	Change provisions of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act
LB618	Karpisek	Create the Agricultural Land Valuation Task Force
LB619	Haar	Require instruction in sexual health education
LB620	Performance Audit	Require the Department of Administrative Services and University of Nebraska to present health insurance management plans to the Appropriations Committee
LB621	Karpisek	Exempt certain information from disclosure under the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act
LB622	Haar	Change provisions relating to a report filed with the Nebraska Power Review Board
LB623	Price	Change provisions relating to bridge construction and road improvements
LB624	Pirsch	Provide for fees for copies of motor vehicle accident reports
LB625	Conrad	Change income eligibility provisions relating to federal child care assistance
LB626	Conrad	Eliminate an income reduction for extraordinary dividends and certain capital gains
LB627	Conrad	Provide for termination of certain tax incentives as prescribed
LB628	Conrad	Change and extend the Small Business Innovation Act
LB629	Conrad	Provide an additional requirement for the Governor's budget submission
LB630	Kolowski	Redefine place of employment for Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act
LB631	Harr	Change provisions relating to garnishment
LB632	Bolz	Change funding for county offices relating to public assistance programs
LB633	Nordquist	Include contract violations under disciplinary provisions of Civil Service Act
LB634	Davis	Adopt the Wildfire Control Act of 2013
LB635	Wallman	Provide powers and duties regarding hydraulic fracturing to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
LB636	Wallman	Provide restrictions for application of certain herbicides
LB637	Wallman	Require an economic analysis of rules and regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Quality
LB638	Nelson	Provide a cash balance retirement system for school employees
LB639	Nelson	Make new judges and state patrol officers members of the state employees retirement system
LB640	Hadley	Change provisions relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act
LB641	Sullivan	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Historical Society
LB642	Mello	Prohibit receiving certain types of wagers on horseracing
LB643	Davis	Change certain provisions regarding nuisances in cities and villages
LB644	Davis	Adopt the Contract Carrier Safety Act
LB645	Haar	Change teacher education allowance and fall personnel report provisions
LB646	Murante	Change election provisions for public power districts
LB647	Davis	Change cattle identification provisions of the Animal Importation Act
LB648	Pirsch	Change penalty for public indecency
LB649	Karpisek	Change certain penalties relating to operating a motor vehicle during a revocation period and tampering with an ignition interlock device
LB650	Karpisek	Include asphalt crack filler trailers in the definition of trailer under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act
LB651	Davis	Eliminate property tax levy and provide for state funding of community colleges
LB652	Lautenbaugh	Provide procedures for taking grievances by certain county corrections officers to the Civil Service Commission
LB653	Davis	Change and provide for distribution of the gallonage tax on beer
LB654	Davis	Change the brand inspection area under the Livestock Brand Act
LB655	Carlson	Permit collection of fees for insurance consultants
LR40	Davis	Request the United States Forest Service to reconsider its original decision not to pay a proportionate share of the replacement costs of fences destroyed by wildfires between private and public lands in certain counties
LR41CA	Lautenbaugh	Constitutional amendment to authorize enactment of laws relating to wagering on live, replayed, and delayed horseraces
LR42	Brasch	Urge Congress to pass the Parental Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and submit it to the states for ratification
LR43	Seiler	Congratulate David L. Wacker, Jr., for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Monday, January 28

Banking, Commerce & Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB213 (Gloor) Change provisions relating to financial institutions
 LB214 (Gloor) Change provisions relating to securities and seller-assisted marketing plans
 LB279 (Pirsch) Change provisions relating to loan brokers, delayed deposit services, and installment loans
 LB290 (Pirsch) Change provisions relating to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act

Business & Labor

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

LB58 (Larson) Adopt the Workplace Privacy Act
 LB297 (Bolz) Change mental injuries and mental illness compensation under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act
 LB21 (Lathrop) Eliminate a Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act sunset provision for certain benefits
 LB141 (Lathrop) Change court procedures for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
 LB291 (Nordquist) Change medical payment provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act

Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB121 (Lautenbaugh) Provide for waiver of a Nebraska certificate to administer
 LB135 (Avery) Change membership provisions relating to Community College Boards of Governors
 LB211 (Adams) Change and eliminate provisions relating to statewide coordination of community college boards
 LB252 (Adams) Correct and change subdivision references and references to governmental entities related to postsecondary education

Executive Board

Room 2102 - 12:00 p.m.

LB39 (Harms) Change and eliminate references to the Legislative Performance Audit Section
 LB149 (Pirsch) Provide for biennial reviews of state agency programs and services
 LR20 (Lathrop) Provide for continuation

of the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee

General Affairs

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB173 (Coash) Change provisions relating to documentary proof of age under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
 LB230 (Karpisek) Change shipping license provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
 LB259 (Karpisek) Exempt keno writers from licensure under the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act
 LB273 (Karpisek) Change keno time limits

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Lahm, Rhonda - Dept. of Motor Vehicles
 LB32 (Hadley) Change provisions relating to historical vehicle license plates
 LB207 (McCoy) Change motor vehicle registration provisions
 LB249 (Dubas) Change motor vehicle provisions relating to farm vehicles and drivers transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies
 LB250 (Dubas) Change motor vehicle provisions relating to issuance of trip permits

Tuesday, January 29

Agriculture

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

LB15 (Krist) Change Pesticide Act provisions
 LB68 (Schilz) Change provisions of the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act
 LB69 (Schilz) Change provisions of the Pesticide Act

Banking, Commerce & Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB209 (B. Harr) Change provisions relating to publication of trade names
 LB210 (B. Harr) Provide remedies and procedures regarding unauthorized financing statement filings
 LB147 (Gloor) Adopt the Health Carrier External Review Act
 LB336 (Carlson) Change sickness and accident insurance provisions for policies subject to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB47 (Ashford) Change provisions relating to career academies
 LB116 (Harms) Provide requirements for dual-enrollment courses
 LB162 (McGill) Provide for notification of eligibility for an associate degree as prescribed
 LB254 (Adams) Correct references related to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Gerber, Paul - Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board
 Appointment: Pearson, Ricky - Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board
 Appointment: Quinn, Angela - Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board
 Appointment: Scherer, Jeff - Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board
 LB164 (Dubas) Change motor vehicle auction provisions
 LB165 (Dubas) Change provisions relating to motor vehicle dealer warranty service

Urban Affairs

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB66 (Schilz) Authorize cities of the first class to annex certain noncontiguous property
 LB88 (McGill) Change zoning provisions for cities of the primary class
 LB295 (Sullivan) Redefine a term under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act
 LB31 (Hadley) Change provisions relating to parking permits for temporarily handicapped or disabled persons

Wednesday, January 30

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Affairs

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Conway, Sean - Neb. Accountability and Disclosure Commission
 LB65 (Schilz) Authorize counties to set sheriff's fees and commissions
 LB108 (Karpisek) Prohibit counties, cities, and villages from imposing credentialing requirements
 LB257 (McCoy) Change provisions relating to creation of municipal counties

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

LB311 (Scheer) Change filing requirements for official bonds and oaths

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

Public Briefings by the Department of Health & Human Services directors, Foster Care Review Office, and the Inspector General of Child Welfare.

Invited Testimony Only

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB61 (Murante) Change provisions relating to the Financial Data Protection and Consumer Notification of Data Security Breach Act of 2006

LB136 (Avery) Provide for the distribution of administrative fines and costs and forfeited property

LB134 (Avery) Provide for inheritance by issue conceived after death

LB152 (Dubas) Change eminent domain negotiations

LB172 (Coash) Change court filings for guardianships and conservatorships

Natural Resources

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Reida, Frank - Neb.

Power Review Board

LB186 (Christensen) Restrict rule and regulation authority of natural resources districts

LB353 (Christensen) Restrict rule and regulation authority of natural resources districts

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB17 (Nordquist) Exempt social security

benefits from state income taxation

LB74 (Janssen) Exempt social security

benefits from state income taxation

LB238 (Crawford) Exempt social security

and certain retirement benefits from state income taxation

Thursday, January 31

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB160 (Schumacher) Provide for electronic signatures on recall, initiative, and referendum petitions

LB167 (McCoy) Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential

electors

LB183 (Karpisek) Provide for county board appointment of election commissioners

LB188 (Karpisek) Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB216 (McGill) Adopt the Young Adult Voluntary Services and Support Act

LB269 (Campbell) Change provisions relating to children and families

LB265 (Coash) Change foster care licensure and kinship home and relative home provisions

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB226 (Smith) Regulate dealers in the business of purchasing and reselling precious items

LB46 (Ashford) Provide for consolidation and coordination of crime laboratories

LB106 (Lathrop) Adopt the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act and change provisions relating to perjury

LB109 (McGill) Provide requirements for precious metals dealers

LB161 (McGill) Change a penalty for violation of building ordinances or regulations of a city of the metropolitan class

Natural Resources

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB322 (Karpisek) Require the Department of Natural Resources to conduct an environmental study relating to the Blue River

Nebraska Retirement Systems

Room 1525 - 12:00 p.m.

LB638 (Nelson) Provide a cash balance retirement system for school employees

LB639 (Nelson) Make new judges and state patrol officers members of the state employees retirement system

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB5 (Krist) Exempt social security benefits and military retirement income from income taxation

LB75 (Janssen) Exempt military retirement benefits from taxation as prescribed

LB176 (Smith) Exempt military retirement

benefits from taxation as prescribed

LB227 (Kintner) Exclude retirement benefits from state income taxation

Friday, February 1

Appropriations

Room 1003 - 1:30 p.m.

LB185 (Christensen) Authorize state assistance for streamflow enhancement projects undertaken by natural resources districts

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Room 1507 - 2:00 p.m.

LB180 (Adams) Provide for the waiver of education-related fees for dependents of veterans

LB224 (Janssen) Provide veterans preference for public contracts as prescribed

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Boldt, Gary (Randy) -

Board of Emergency Medical Services

Appointment: Miller, Michael - Board of Emergency Medical Services

Appointment: Keely, Sheree - Foster

Care Advisory Committee

Appointment: Timm, Craig - Foster

Care Advisory Committee

LB245 (Nordquist) Change preferred drug list provisions under the Medical Assistance Act

LB484 (Karpisek) Change dental hygienist training and authorized functions

LB326 (Howard) Change provisions of Pharmacy Practice Act and Automated Medication Systems Act

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB277 (B. Harr) Change provisions relating to presentation of a false medicaid claim

LB345 (Wightman) Change transfer on

death deed requirements and filings

LB289 (Lathrop) Change provisions

relating to duration of real estate

improvement contract liens

LB103 (Lathrop) Change judges' general

powers

LB232 (Lathrop) Change judges' salaries

Natural Resources

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB388 (Natural Resources) Change

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

HEARING ROOMS

provisions relating to public power and provide for construction of certain transmission lines

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB264 (Bolz) Provide an income tax credit for individuals caring for dependents
 LB296 (Hadley) Change provisions of the educational savings plan relating to income tax reductions and participation agreements
 LB389 (Bolz) Provide an income tax credit for adoption and guardianship

Wednesday, February 6

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB22 (Hadley) Change Parenting Act provisions relating to parenting plans
 LB212 (Karpisek) Change court-ordered parenting plan provisions of the Parenting Act
 LB124 (Lautenbaugh) Change provisions relating to grandparent visitation
 LB182 (Avery) Change paternity provisions for a child conceived as a result of sexual assault
 LB107 (Lathrop) Change waiver of hearing provisions under the Parenting Act

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB405 (McCoy) Eliminate certain sales tax exemptions, corporate and individual income taxes, and the franchise tax and change other tax provisions

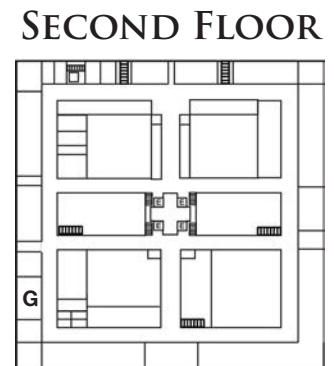
Wednesday, February 7

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB406 (McCoy) Change tax provisions

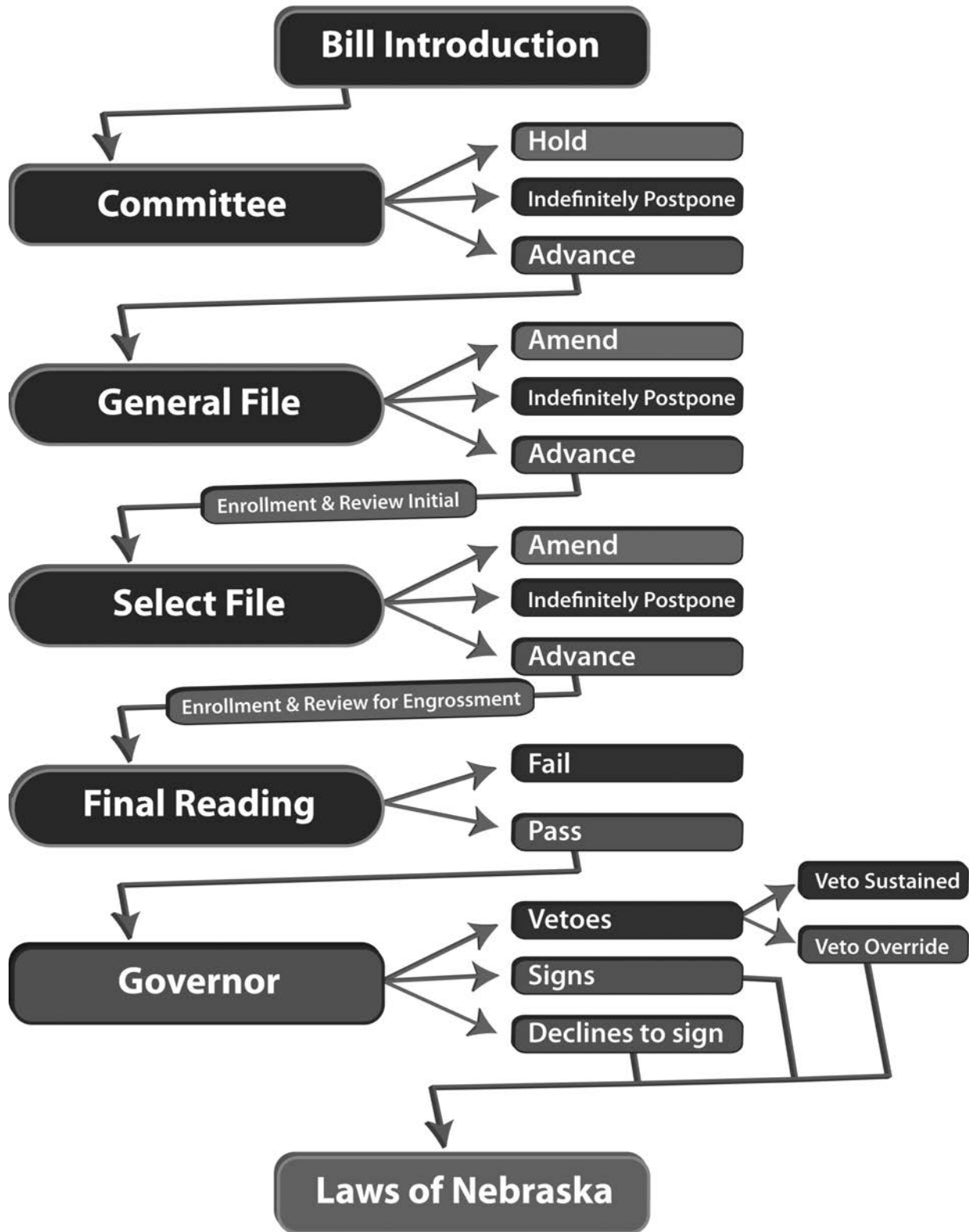
Hearing Room	Committee	Meeting Days
2102 (G)	Agriculture	Tu
1524 (B)	Appropriations	M, Tu
1003 (A)	Appropriations	W, Th, F
1507 (E)	Banking, Commerce & Insurance	M, Tu
2102 (G)	Business & Labor	M
1525 (C)	Education	M, Tu
1510 (D)	General Affairs	M
1507 (E)	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	W, Th, F
1510 (D)	Health & Human Services	W, Th, F
1113 (F)	Judiciary	W, Th, F
1525 (C)	Natural Resources	W, Th, F
1525 (C)	Nebraska Retirement Systems	(Meets at noon as scheduled)
1524 (B)	Revenue	W, Th, F
1113 (F)	Transportation & Telecommunications	M, Tu
1510 (D)	Urban Affairs	Tu



TESTIMONY SUGGESTIONS

- Always state your name and spell it for the record, as hearings are transcribed.
- Prepare written copies of your testimony to distribute to the committee.
- Be prepared to limit your testimony, and try not to repeat the points offered by previous testifiers.
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