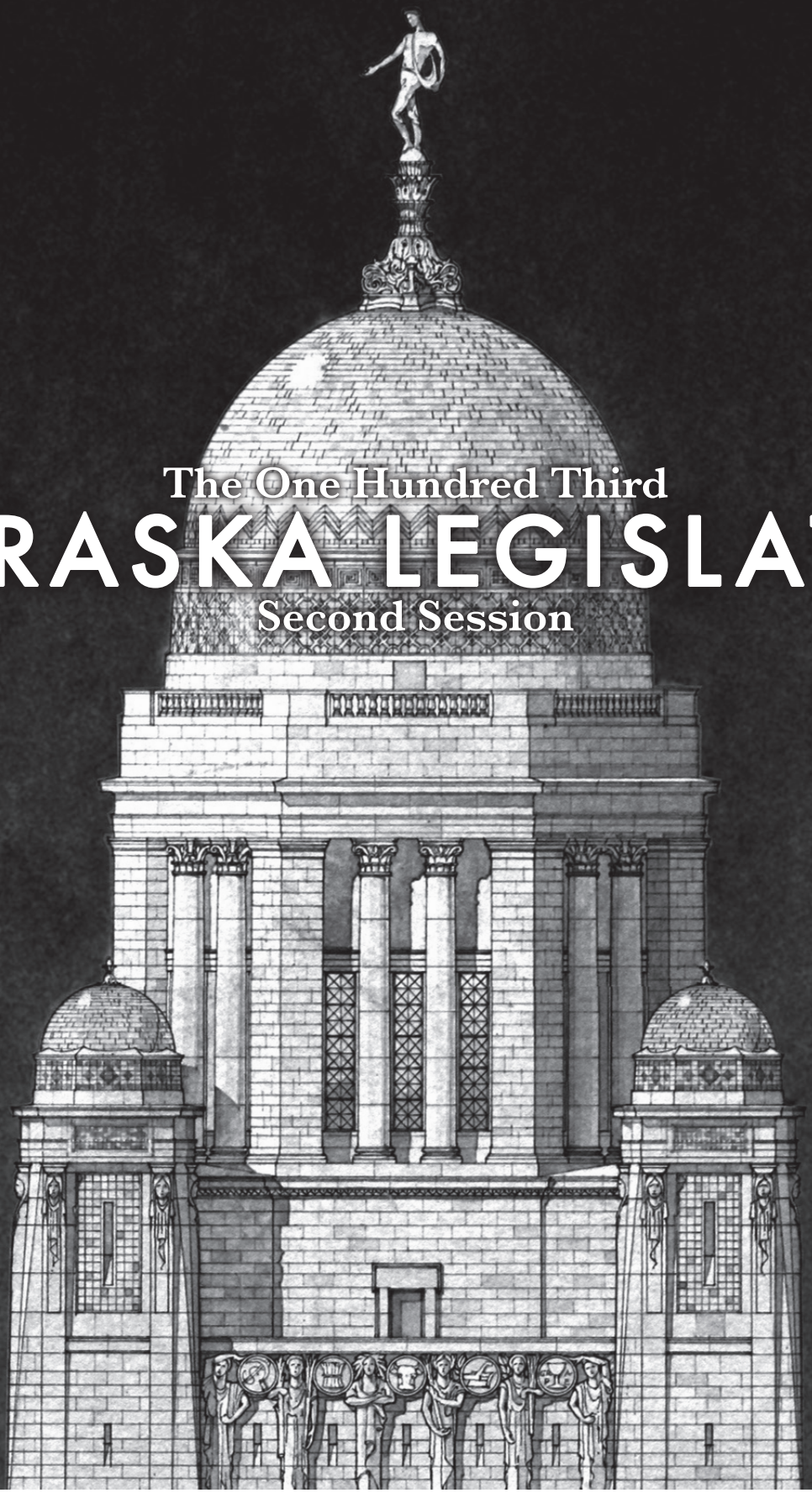

The One Hundred Third

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Second Session

Unicameral Update
Session Review

2014

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Cover: This image is the drawing that led the Nebraska Capitol Commission to choose Bertram Goodhue as the architect of the Nebraska State Capitol in 1920. Image courtesy of the Nebraska Capitol Collections and Nebraska Educational Television.

AGRICULTURE

Sen. Ken Schilz, Agriculture Committee chairperson

Livestock producers will operate under new procedures implemented as a result of legislation heard by the Legislature's Agriculture Committee.

Livestock management

Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz introduced **LB768**, which codifies practices used by the Nebraska Brand Committee for calculating annual inspection fees for feedlots and dairies participating in a voluntary registration program. The registration fee shall base the calculation on capacity only upon an initial application. The annual average inventory will be used to calculate the fee for subsequent renewals.

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB846**, a bill originally introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis. It establishes that the brand inspection service area includes any Nebraska county, or portion thereof, immediately adjacent to the mandatory brand inspection area. Brand inspection is a service available upon request within the brand inspection service area at the same costs as imposed for mandatory inspections within the brand area.

Sen. Al Davis

The measure also requires that the amount of federal beef checkoff collected under the Federal Beef Promotion and Research Order be enumerated on a bill of sale.

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

LB941, introduced by Schilz, calls for the state Department of Agriculture to provide a report examining Nebraska's milk production and processing, marketing and expansion opportunities, productivity comparisons and trends and efforts to recruit dairies and stimulate investment.

The report will study the capacity of instate processors to increase their use of milk produced in Nebraska and examine the potential for expansion of self-processing and direct marketing of Nebraska milk and dairy products. Additionally, the bill allows the department director to recommend ways that state government could stimulate milk production and markets.

The deadline for the report is Nov. 15, 2014, with the intent that it receive a public hearing by the Agriculture Committee.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen introduced **LB884**, which adopts the Exotic Animal Auctions or Exchange Venue Act and requires organizers of exotic animal auctions or swap meets to obtain a permit before holding such events. The bill also requires that organizers retain or contract with a licensed accredited veterinarian to be available during each sale.

Sen. Tom Hansen

The bill defines an exotic animal as those species or breeds not commonly sold through auction markets but required to be licensed pursuant to the Livestock Auction Market Act, such as miniature cattle, horses and donkeys. Exotic venues are no longer limited to the types of sheep and goats that may be sold and are exempt from the requirement that they be licensed as a Livestock Auction Market when sheep, goats and bovine, camelid and porcine species are sold there, provided an accredited veterinarian is on site and each animal that changes ownership is accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. An inspection could be issued on the sale day or written within 30 days prior to the sale date.

Further, LB884 requires verification that a permit applicant has contracted for the services of an accredited veterinarian. The department may deny a permit based on an incomplete application, previous violations of the act or an applicant's inability to fulfill the responsibilities of a permit holder.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Environmental regulation

The committee advanced one of two bills introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar pertaining to the Climate Assessment and Response Committee.

LB1008 requires the committee to produce a climate change report derived from reports and recommendations submitted to it. The final report is due Dec. 1, 2014.

Sen. Ken Haar

The bill stems from **LB583**, passed in 2013, which directed the climate committee to produce an original report to the governor on the impact of climate change on the state and to facilitate communication between stakeholders to address those impacts and response strategies.

The bill passed on a 44-1 vote.

LB882 would have directed the committee to redefine "cyclical climate change" as information and research that includes all climate influences considered relevant by scientists, including human influence.

LB882 failed to advance from committee.

Haar also introduced **LB696**, which would have prohibited the manufacture, sale or distribution of a reusable food container containing Bisphenol A (BPA) as of Jan. 1, 2015. Beginning January 1, 2016, BPA would be prohibited in food packaging for foods consumed by or marketed to children under 12 years old and food packaging containing BPA would have been required to carry the following warning: This package contains Bisphenol A, a chemical that may harm fetal development, which can leach into the food.

LB696 was indefinitely postponed by the committee.

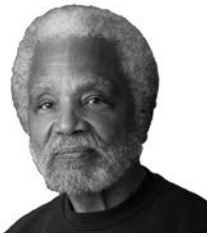
Other measures

O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson introduced **LB597**, passed 43-0, which expands the use of an agricultural society levy to include purchase of equipment.

Sen. Tyson Larson

The bill requires that a society receive consent from the county board before buying, selling or entering into long-term leases with society-owned real estate. Consent will not be required for short-term leases of 90 days or less.

LB673, introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, would have repealed the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act of 2012, which prohibits the uncontrolled spread of colonies of black-tailed prairie dogs and authorizes county boards to administer efforts to control them.


Sen. Ernie Chambers

LB673 failed to advance from the committee. ■

APPROPRIATIONS

Appropriations Committee chairperson Sen. Heath Mello

Lawmakers made adjustments to the state's two-year budget with four bills passed this session.

LB905, introduced by York Sen. Greg Adams on behalf of the governor, is the mainline budget bill and passed on a 40-8 vote.

Sen. Greg Adams

Among other provisions, the bill included the following adjustments:

- $25 million to the state's Property Tax Relief Fund;
- $14 million to address issues in the state's correctional system;
- $10 million to the Job Training Cash Fund;
- $5 million to provide service to individuals on the developmental disability waiting list; and
- $3.7 million for the early childhood grant program.

LB906, also introduced by Adams at the request of the governor and passed on a 41-7 vote, authorizes various fund transfers.

Among other provisions, the bill creates the following funds and transfers:

- $21 million to the Water Sustainability Fund;
- $15 million to the Game and Parks Improvement and Maintenance Fund; and
- $12.5 million to the Vehicle Title Registration System Replacement and Maintenance Cash Fund.

LB130, introduced by Appropriations Committee chairperson Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, makes transfers from the state's cash reserve, including $50 million to the General Fund and $14.5 million to the Nebraska Capitol Construction Fund to begin work to upgrade the State Capitol heating, ventilating and air-conditioning system.

The bill passed on a 44-4 vote.

Finally, **LB949**, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, approves claims against the state and agency write-offs. The bill includes approval of a $2 million claim made by the family of Joyce Meeks, who was killed in a vehicle accident in Lincoln by an inmate authorized to drive a state vehicle. LB949 passed 48-0.

Gov. Dave Heineman subsequently vetoed approximately $65 million in general, federal and cash funds from three of the budget bills including the following items from LB905:

- $11.7 million in Nebraska capital construction funds for the first three years of the State Capitol heating, ventilation and air conditioning system renovation project;
- $10 million in general funds to the Job Training Cash Fund;
- $7.4 million in general funds to the state Supreme Court for a juvenile services project contingency program; and
- $7.4 million in cash reserve funds to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for state park deferred maintenance.

Mello filed a motion to override those and most other line-item vetoes in LB905. Senators voted 37-11 to adopt the motion.

Among other gubernatorial vetoes were the following transfers authorized in LB906: $12.5 million to a fund to replace a vehicle title and registration system and $1.1 million of a $21 million transfer to the Water Sustainability Fund.

Senators voted 39-9 to pass LB906 and LB130 notwithstanding the line-item objections of the governor. ■

BANKING, COMMERCE & INSURANCE

Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee chairperson Sen. Mike Gloor

Insurance coverage and banking regulation were among the issues considered by the Legislature this session.

Lawmakers removed a bill's original provisions and created an omnibus banking bill related to the processing of tangible and intangible property.

As originally introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, **LB788** originally dealt with security interest in government bond-pledged revenue sources. The original provisions were amended out of the bill and replaced with provisions of the following bills.

Sen. Paul Schumacher

LB151, introduced by Hastings Sen. Les Seiler, creates an acquired or integrated business records exception to Nebraska's hearsay rule.

Sen. Les Seiler

LB775, also introduced by Seiler, provides an exception to the disclosure of confidential information rules to allows banks and other corporations to release information regarding date of death valuation and beneficiary designations for property in their possession.

LB810, introduced by Syracuse Sen. Dan Watermeier, prohibits local ordinances or resolutions from interfering with the enforcement or servicing of any real estate loan agreement or any mortgage, deed of trust or other security instrument by which the loan is secured.

Sen. Dan Watermeier

LB815, introduced by Gretna Sen. John Murante, brings state law regarding the pledging of securities for trust funds awaiting investment or distribution into conformity with federal law.

Sen. John Murante

LB819, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman, conforms provisions regarding the way debts or obligations and future advances may be secured pursuant to a mortgage or trust deed covering an interest in real property.

Sen. John Wightman

LB988, introduced by Schumacher, creates a process for entry into a decedent's safe deposit box for the limited purposes of locating a will, deed to a burial plot or burial instructions.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB751, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, allows a business corporation to become a benefit corporation by a two-thirds vote of each class of shareholders.

Sen. Danielle Conrad

Under the bill, the benefit director is required to submit an annual report to shareholders explaining whether or not the corporation's actions were in accordance with its stated public benefit purposes. The report will describe the impact of its actions on shareholders, employees, customers, the community and the ability of the corporation to achieve its general public benefit purpose.

The bill passed 44-0.

Three bills dealing with health insurance coverage that originated in the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee were amended into **LB254**, which passed this session.

LB505, originally introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, requires some insurance plans in Nebraska to

Sen. Colby Coash

provide coverage for applied behavior analysis and other autism spectrum disorder treatments.

LB397, originally introduced by Conrad, requires the state Department of Health and Human Services to establish a two-year program to provide amino-acid based elemental formulas for the diagnosis and treatment of food allergies, food protein induced enterocolitis syndrome, eosinophilic disorders and short-bowel syndrome.

LB883, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, repeals the Dec. 31, 2015, termination date for a requirement that individual and group health policies, certificates and contracts and self-funded employee benefit plans—to the extent not preempted by federal law—provide coverage for orally administered anticancer medication on a basis no less favorable than intravenously administered or injected anticancer medications.

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

A bill that ensures homeowners receive additional insurance protections passed on a 48-0 vote.

Currently, some homeowner insurance policies contain a pollution exclusion, which denies coverage for damage resulting from a carbon monoxide leak.

Under **LB876**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, any policy that includes a pollution exclusion clause must contain an exception for bodily injury sustained within a building and caused by smoke, fumes, vapor or soot from a heating or ventilation system.

Sen. Sara Howard

A bill that updates laws governing the establishment of reserves by life and health insurers in Nebraska passed 48-0 this session.

LB755, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, adopts the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Standard Valuation Act.

Under the bill, the state Department of Insurance director is required to adopt a valuation manual by July 1, 2017, that conforms substantially to the manual adopted by the NAIC. The bill also requires the director annually to value the reserves of every company issued on or after the operative date of the valuation manual for life insurance, deposit-type, accident and health and annuity and pure endowment outstanding contracts.

Lawmakers updated the Nebraska Real Property Appraiser Act this session and replaced the Business Corporation Act.

LB717, introduced by Gloor, brings Nebraska law into compliance with new federal real property appraiser qualification criteria that will become effective Jan. 1, 2015.

The bill passed 47-0.

LB749, introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr, repeals the current Business Corporation Act and adopts a revised and updated Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act. The bill passed 48-0.

Sen. Burke Harr

Four bills considered by the committee were not advanced to general file.

LB734, introduced by Schumacher, would have allowed deposit of public funds in credit unions insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

LB880, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, would have required businesses to inform a customer if preauthorization hold practices are being conducted and facilitated.

Sen. John Harms

LB991, introduced by Nordquist, would have prohibited imposition of interchange fees by payment card networks on the sales tax portion of a purchase made using a debit or credit card.

LB1010, introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, would have created the Nebraska Enterprise Fund. ■

Sen. Charlie Janssen

BUSINESS & LABOR

Sen. Steve Lathrop, Business and Labor Committee chairperson

Family medical leave, minimum wages and protection from wage theft were some of the business and labor issues addressed by senators this session.

Employee wages

Senators rejected a measure to increase the minimum wage in Nebraska. Introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, **LB943** would have increased the minimum wage for all workers incrementally from $7.25 per hour to $9.00 by 2017.

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

A Business and Labor Committee amendment would have added provisions of **LB947**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop. The amendment proposed an increase of the tip earner minimum wage from $2.13 to $3.00 in 2014. In each year thereafter, the amendment proposed an increase of the lesser of 95 cents or the amount necessary to equal 70 percent of the regular minimum wage.

The bill failed to advance to select file on a 20-20 vote.

A bill involving wage theft was passed this session.

LB560, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, authorizes the state Commissioner of Labor to investigate and enforce the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act. The commissioner may subpoena records and witnesses related to an investigation. Violators will be issued a citation and may incur a fine of up to $500 for a first offense and up to $5,000 for subsequent offenses.

Sen. Heath Mello

Provisions of **LB903**, sponsored by Lathrop, were added to the bill by a committee amendment. These require an employer to deliver or make available to each employee, on each regular payday, a statement of hours worked, wages earned and deductions made. An employer is not required to provide the information for employees who are exempt from overtime under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

The bill passed on a 42-0 vote.

Workers' compensation and benefits

Lawmakers passed a bill that affects workers' compensation and unemployment benefits. **LB961**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, originally would have enabled workers injured due to willful negligence of their employers to seek damages outside of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act.

Sen. Tanya Cook

Several bills were amended into the bill, replacing the original provisions.

LB895, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer, ensures that the wage used to calculate workers' compensation indemnity benefits for volunteer fire or emergency service personnel is 1.5 times the maximum state average weekly wage or wages from his or her regular employer, whichever is higher.

Sen. Jim Scheer

LB951, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, clarifies that a lump sum settlement that is not required to be submitted for approval by the state Workers' Compensation Court shall be final and conclusive unless procured by fraud.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

LB559, introduced by Mello, allows employers to establish a short-time compensation plan, which temporarily provides unemployment benefits

to eligible employees. Health and retirement benefits must be continued under the plan and employers are prohibited from hiring additional staff while the plan is in effect.

LB373, introduced by Mello, amends the Nebraska Construction Prompt Pay Act to establish a maximum cap on the retainage amount at 10 percent and, once the project is 50 percent complete, caps retainage at 5 percent. The bill requires the owner or owner's representative to pay the retainage to the contractor within 45 days of substantial completion, after which the contractor must pay subcontractors within 10 days.

Sen. Al Davis

Finally, **LB820**, introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, authorizes the governor to make Nebraska a member of the Great Plains Interstate Fire Compact.

Senators passed the bill on a 47-0 vote.

Two bills concerning family and sick leave were held in committee.

LB955, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, would have adopted the Paid Family Medical Leave Act, providing income for employees if they must leave work to care for family members who are incapable of caring for themselves. The bill would have provided eligible employees up to six consecutive workweeks—or up to 42 nonconsecutive days per year—of paid leave. The leave was to be provided by employee contributions collected as payroll deductions.

Sen. Annette Dubas

LB1090, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, would have required certain employers to provide full-time employees at least one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked up to a maximum of 40 hours in a calendar year.

Sen. Danielle Conrad

Business incentives

LB800, introduced by Mello, reauthorizes and updates the Enterprise Zone Act.

Under the bill, the state Department of Economic Development will designate five areas as enterprise zones, with no more than one zone in a city of the metropolitan class and no more than one zone in a city of the primary class.

An enterprise zone will be required to meet two of the following criteria:

- the area's population has decreased by 10 percent;
- the average unemployment is at least 200 percent of the state average; or
- the average poverty rate exceeds 20 percent for the total federal census tract.

Projects located within a designated enterprise zone will be given preference for various business incentive and grant programs. Enterprise zone designations will last for 10 years and projects within the zones will receive preference for funding from the Job Training Cash Fund, Business Innovation Act and Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

The committee held a bill proposing employer incentives to hire veterans.

LB1083, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Tommy Garrett, would have increased the maximum amount of job training grants for employers who hire recently separated veterans. Employers would have received an additional $2,500 or $5,000 to train each recently separated veteran.

Sen. Tommy Garrett

The provisions of **LB932**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, were incorporated into **LB907**, which passed 46-0 and made numerous changes to Nebraska's prisoner rehabilitation program. The provisions prohibit the state from asking job applicants to disclose their criminal history until the applicant has been determined to meet the minimum employment qualifications. Law enforcement agencies are exempt from the restriction, as are school districts when the criminal record relates to sexual or physical abuse.

Sen. Bill Avery

Finally, **LB949**, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, approved claims against the state and agency write-offs. The bill includes approval of a $2 million claim made by the family of Joyce Meeks, who was killed in a vehicle accident by an inmate authorized to drive a state vehicle in Lincoln.

The bill was part of the budget package and passed 48-0. ■

EDUCATION

Sen. Kate Sullivan, Education Committee chairperson

Safety and accountability were priorities of the Legislature's Education Committee while considering legislation this session.

Accountability

LB438, introduced by York Sen. Greg Adams, creates an intervention team appointed by the State Board of Education to assist the state's three lowest performing school districts in diagnosing issues and designing and implementing strategies to address them. A school will retain the priority designation until the State Board of Education determines it is no longer necessary.

Sen. Greg Adams

The intervention team—in conjunction with school district staff—is required to develop a progress plan to include specific action by the school and district to remove the priority designation. Any priority school will be required to comply with the progress plan for the school district to maintain accreditation.

The State Board annually will review progress plans and suggest any modifications. If a school is designated as a priority school for five consecutive years, the board is required to reevaluate the progress plan. It may implement an alternative administrative structure if a school consistently fails to meet the guidelines set forth in its progress plan.

Senators passed the bill on a 48-0 vote.

Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer introduced **LB470**, which requires that contracts for current superintendents and ESU administrators—including all current and future costs to the school district or ESU—be posted on the district or ESU website at least three days before being considered for approval by the board or within two days following approval for newly hired superintendents and ESU administrators.

Sen. Jim Scheer

Senators passed the bill on a 43-0 vote.

Student safety

Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill introduced **LB923**, passed 45-0, which provides annual training on suicide awareness and prevention to all public school nurses, teachers, counselors, school psychologists, school social workers and administrators, beginning with the 2014-15 school year.

Sen. Amanda McGill

The required training will be included as in-service training required by the state Department of Education or as part of required professional development activities. The department will be required to collaborate with appropriate organizations and experts to develop a list of approved training materials.

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB872**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Rick Kolowski, which create the position of state school security director under the department, effective Jan. 1, 2015. The director's duties include:

Sen. Rick Kolowski

- collecting safety and security plans from each school system;
- recommending minimum standards for school security;
- conducting an assessment of the security of each public school building;
- identifying deficiencies in school security based on

the minimum standards adopted by the state;

- establishing security awareness and preparedness tools and training programs for public school staff;
- establishing research-based model instructional programs for staff, students and parents to address causes for violent attacks on schools; and
- overseeing suicide awareness and prevention training.

The bill exempts private, parochial and denominational schools from the state school security director's authority. Exempted school districts still may consult with the security director on individual matters.

The bill also contains provisions of two other bills: **LB782**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, which establishes a "return-to-learn" protocol to help ease the transition for students who have suffered a concussion; and **LB741**, originally introduced by Gretna Sen. John Murante, which requires that public school districts conduct at least two tornado preparedness drills each school year.

Sen. Steve Lathrop

Sen. John Murante

School funding

The Education Committee introduced **LB967**, which contains several changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Support Opportunities Act (TEEOSA) and Education Innovation Fund.

The bill reduces by half the teacher education and instructional time allowances for the calculation of aid under TEEOSA for fiscal year 2015-16 and eliminates the two allowances completely in FY2016-17. The bill also provides district reorganization support grants.

For 2014-15 and 2015-16, LB967 incorporates the following changes to allocations and transfers from the Education Innovation Fund:

- adds $200,000 per year to the existing transfers to the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund, per **LB842** by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis;
- limits distance education equipment and incentives to $2 million for 2014-15 and $2.5 million for 2015-16;
- transfers $1 million per year for reorganization support, per **LB967**;
- allocates $145,000 per year to continue the college admissions test pilot project for two additional years, per **LB835** by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery; and
- allocates $335,000 for 2014-15 and an estimated $344,000 for 2015-16 for evaluating and improving career education programs to align with economic and workforce needs, per **LB754** by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith.

Additional provisions related to the Education Innovation Fund will:

- allow lottery funds that are allocated to reorganization support grants and early childhood education prior to the termination of the Education Innovation Fund to be used after the fund terminates on June 30, 2016, per LB967 and **LB984** by Cedar Rapids Sen. Kate Sullivan;
- transfer unspent funds from other allocations and transfers to the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund on Aug. 1, 2016, per LB967 and LB984;
- transfer the remaining funds in the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund to the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund on Aug. 1, 2016;
- retain $3 million to be transferred to the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund, which will receive lottery funds for education beginning July 1, 2016, per LB984; and
- further clarify the final deadlines for distance education incentives, per **LB1069** by Sullivan.

Other provisions from LB984 add legislative intent for all children to have access to early childhood education programs in the year prior to kindergarten and for funding to be used for such access to programs.

Additional provisions from LB1069 will:

- replace outdated references to the North Central Association for postsecondary education;
- harmonize department of education requirements with the Nebraska Publications Clearinghouse requirements;
- specifically authorize school district expenditures related to programs and activities;
- require the Early Childhood Training Center to approve training for the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act;
- update special education definitions; and
- include private postsecondary career schools in any interstate reciprocity agreements for postsecondary distance education.

Provisions amended into LB967 that originated from **LB958**, a bill by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, reinstated the position of achievement coordinator in the state Department of Education.

Sen. Tanya Cook

The bill also incorporated provisions of **LB129**, originally introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar. The original per diem for board members of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds was $40 per meeting when it was eliminated effective Oct. 1, 2011. The bill reinstates the per diem and increases it to $50 per meeting. The board is required to meet monthly in Lincoln.

Sen. Ken Haar

LB967 passed on a 44-0 vote.

Lawmakers also approved additional changes to the TEEOSA formula, which increases state aid to schools. Sullivan introduced **LB725**, which lowers the local effort rate (LER) used to calculate aid under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act.

The LER was scheduled to decrease from $1.03 to $1.00 for the 2015-16 school fiscal year. The bill implements the decrease for the 2014-15 school fiscal year and into the foreseeable future.

It also changes the calculation of the student growth adjustment correction to more accurately reflect the difference between the actual student growth and the estimated student growth.

Senators passed LB725 on a 44-0 vote.

Sullivan also introduced **LB838**, passed 45-0, which delayed the deadline from March 1 to April 10 for certifying state aid, budget authority and applicable allowable reserve percentages under TEEOSA for 2014.

Under **LB546**, introduced by Kolowski, revenue bond projects proposed by the state university or college systems no longer will require review and approval from the Legislature or Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Instead, bond projects will be allowed to proceed following Board of Regents approval.

The bill retains legislative approval for capital construction projects if any part of the funds used for repayment of the bonds comes from state general funds, funds received by the University of Nebraska or any state college, tuition or the state's operating investment pool investment income.

Senators passed the bill on a 40-2 vote.

Other measures

The Education Committee introduced **LB1103**, passed 43-0, which authorizes members of the committee to conduct a strategic planning process to create a common statewide vision for education.

Members of the committee may conduct meetings, working sessions and focus groups to discuss aspirational goals, visionary objectives, meaningful priorities and practical strategies. The committee will hold at least three hearings throughout the state to receive testimony from the general public and submit a report to the clerk of the Legislature by Dec. 31, 2014.

Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford introduced **LB740**, passed 48-0, which allows veterans who have separated from a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States within the past two years to qualify for in-state tuition.

Sen. Sue Crawford

To receive residency status, a veteran must demonstrate intent to become a permanent resident of the state by registering to vote and obtaining a state driver's license.

The bill does not apply to veterans who qualify for benefits under the Yellow Ribbon Program, which pays the difference in tuition and fees not covered under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Spouses and dependents of Yellow Ribbon benefit recipients still are eligible under the bill.

LB682, introduced by Scheer, called on school districts with fewer than 650 students to enter into an allied system with at least three other districts of the same size to allow for more collaboration and shared remote courses.

Lawmakers gave unanimous consent on general file to bracket the bill, ending consideration of the bill for the session. ■

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sen. John Wightman, Executive Board chairperson

The Legislature's Executive Board initiated an in-depth investigation into the handling of a former prison inmate suspected of multiple homicides.

The month after Nikko Jenkins' July 2013 release from the Nebraska State Penitentiary, he allegedly killed four people in Omaha. Jenkins was found by an ombudsman's report to have requested continued incarceration because he feared he would kill people upon his release.

Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop introduced **LR424**, adopted 31-0, which establishes the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee to study the circumstances of Jenkins' incarceration and release. The committee will issue a report to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2014.

Sen. Steve Lathrop

The Executive Board appointed seven state senators to serve on the committee: Sens. Kate Bolz, Ernie Chambers, Bob Krist, Steve Lathrop, Heath Mello, Paul Schumacher and Les Seiler.

The resolution authorizes the committee to study the following with respect to the state Department of Correctional Services:

- administration of good time laws;
- policies relating to the segregation of inmates;
- adequacy of programs designed to rehabilitate inmates;
- availability of mental health care and measures in place to ensure that inmates receive appropriate mental health care or confinement through the civil commitment process; and
- transition of inmates from incarceration to the community at large.

LB976, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, proposed an Independent Redistricting Advisory Commission, responsible for drawing new governmental boundaries for districts pertaining to the U.S. House of Representatives, the Legislature, Public Service Commission, University of Nebraska Board of Regents and the State Board of Education after each decennial census.

Sen. Russ Karpisek

The six-member commission would submit proposed redistricting maps to the Legislature for approval.

After extended debate, Karpisek offered a cloture motion to cease debate and force a vote on the bill. The motion failed on a vote of 27-22, six votes short of the number required, stalling the bill on select file.

Omaha Sen. Bob Krist introduced **LB1016**, adopted 34-5, which authorizes the state Department of Aeronautics to purchase a new aircraft and sell the state's current plane.

Sen. Bob Krist

The bill is the product of legislation passed in 2013 commissioning an independent study to determine whether the state should purchase an aircraft for state purposes. The study indicated that a new King Air C90GTx would incur the lowest costs over a 20-year life cycle at a cost of $3.85 million.

The department is required to report the name of the agency or entity using the plane, the name of all passengers, all purposes of the trip, the destination and intermediate stops, and all miles flown.

LR400, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, establishes the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. ACCESSNebraska is an online and call center system developed by the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and implemented in 2009 to determine

Sen. Annette Dubas

public benefit eligibility and deliver benefits to clients.

The scope of the investigation will include the experiences of clients and their families, adequacy of the technology used within the ACCESSNebraska system and adequacy of staffing and training of DHHS employees working within the system.

The Executive Board appointed seven members to serve on the committee: Sens. Kate Bolz, Sue Crawford, Annette Dubas, Mike Gloor, Sara Howard, Amanda McGill and Jeremy Nordquist. The committee is authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas as deemed necessary and will issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than Dec. 15, 2014.

The resolution was adopted on a 23-0 vote. Legislative resolutions require a simple majority of members present for adoption.

The Legislative Performance Audit Committee introduced **LR444**, adopted 34-0, which creates the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee. The committee will develop a proposal for evaluating the state's tax incentive programs and report to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2014.

The new committee comprises the seven members of the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Appropriations and Revenue committees and Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, who was appointed by the Executive Board.

The committee is tasked with developing recommendations regarding specific and measurable goals for each tax incentive program and a process for regular evaluation.

LB996, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, would have required state agencies to respond within four business days to written requests for information from a member or employee of the Legislature.

Sen. Amanda McGill

If a legal basis existed for denial of access to information, or if the entire request could not be fulfilled within the time constraint, an agency would have been required to provide a written denial or explanation.

The bill was advanced from committee but was not scheduled for general file debate.

Papillion Sen. Bill Kintner introduced **LB909**, which would have amended the Administrative Procedures Act to require state agencies that promulgate rules and regulations to submit a list of all current agency regulations that have been in effect for more than five years and cite the legislative basis for each.

Sen. Bill Kintner

LB909 was held in committee. ■

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Sen. Russ Karpisek, General Affairs Committee chairperson

Lawmakers considered several gaming and liquor law changes this session, as well as regulation of e-cigarette products.

Senators passed a measure intended to pave the way for wagering on replayed horse races in Nebraska.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, **LR41CA** will place a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 2014 general election ballot regarding historic horse racing. If approved by voters, the amendment will allow wagering on the results of live, replayed or delayed horse races at licensed racetracks where live racing occurs by a pari-mutuel method.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

If voters approve the measure, proceeds from historic horse racing will be allocated as follows:

- 49 percent for elementary and secondary education;
- 49 percent to reduce property taxes; and
- 2 percent to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund.

Senators voted 30-17 to pass the measure.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that makes various changes to state law regarding the sale of liquor and e-cigarettes.

LB863, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, removes a petition and voting procedure requirement in the Liquor Control Act for allowing the sale of hard liquor by the drink in Nebraska.

Included in the bill are provisions of **LB861**, also introduced by Karpisek, which adds vapor products to the list of tobacco-based items that are illegal to sell to minors younger than 18. In Nebraska, a vapor product is defined as any noncombustible tobacco-derived product containing nicotine that employs a mechanical heating element, battery or circuit.

Vapor product use by a minor will be a Class V misdemeanor. Selling a vapor product to a minor will be a Class III misdemeanor, which is the current penalty applied for selling other tobacco products to a minor. The bill also prohibits the sale of vapor products through a self-service display.

Tobacco and vapor product specialty businesses that do not permit minors on the premises unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian are exempt from the restriction.

Also included in the bill are provisions from the following:

Sen. John Murante

- **LB888**, originally introduced by Gretna Sen. John Murante, which allows a local governing body to approve off-sale alcohol purchases until 2 a.m. by a two-thirds vote;

Sen. Heath Mello

- **LB680**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, which amends the State Electrical Act to reflect updates in the 2014 version of the National Electrical Code;
- **LB1052**, introduced by Karpisek, which allows any licensed retailer engaged in the sale of distilled spirits to issue tasting cards to customers; and

Sen. Norm Wallman

- **LB855**, originally introduced by Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman, which requires a cemetery association that takes control of a cemetery from a county to mow it at least once a year and to make a good faith effort to map the cemetery.

During general file debate on LB863, senators declined to include provisions of two bills introduced by Karpisek that were offered as amendments: **LB899** would have reclas-

sified hard cider as beer and **LB914** would have established a limited bottling endorsement.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

A measure intended to clarify pari-mutuel wagering rules was bracketed during general file on a 25-2 vote.

Sen. Heath Mello

LB642, introduced by Mello, would have clarified that it is illegal for any person or entity to accept pari-mutuel wagering except at a licensed racetrack facility. The bill also would have increased criminal penalties for accepting pari-mutuel wagers outside of a licensed racetrack facility.

Finally, the General Affairs Committee considered a measure that would have authorized local-option casino gaming in Nebraska.

Sen. Russ Karpisek

LR416CA, introduced by Karpisek, would have placed a proposed amendment to the Nebraska Constitution on the November 2014 general election ballot that—if approved by voters—would have allowed a local governing body to place a measure on a local ballot to authorize casino gaming within its jurisdiction.

The measure did not advance from committee. ■

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee chairperson Sen. Bill Avery

Changes to state agency reporting, election laws and voting procedures were enacted this session.

Government

Lawmakers approved a bill meant to strengthen state agency reporting requirements.

LB719, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, adds a public comment summary to the required information that a state agency must submit to the secretary of state, attorney general and governor regarding a proposed rule change under the Administrative Procedures Act.

Sen. Sue Crawford

The bill requires agencies to provide the Legislature a report containing a written summary of testimony offered at a public hearing, any specific issues or questions presented at the hearing or in written testimony and written responses from the agency.

The bill includes provisions of **LB720**, also introduced by Crawford, that expand an existing complaint process regarding proposed agency regulations.

Current law provides a process for senators to file a complaint regarding proposed regulations on the basis that the proposed rule is unconstitutional, in excess of statutory authority or inconsistent with the legislative intent of the authorizing statute.

The bill expands that process to existing rules and regulations or their repeal. It also adds the following criteria for filing a complaint:

- a rule or regulation creates an undue burden;
- circumstances have changed since passage of a law that a rule or regulation implements; or
- a rule or regulation overlaps, duplicates or conflicts with other laws, rules or ordinances.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, **LB371** requires state agencies to provide a report to the Legislature regarding contracts awarded by the state Department of Administrative Services on or after July 1, 2014.

Sen. Heath Mello

The report will include the total number and value of contracts awarded by the department and differentiate between contracts awarded within the state and to foreign contractors.

The report will be submitted to the governor and the Legislature annually, beginning Sept. 1, 2015.

The bill passed on a 42-0 vote.

A planning commission for the 150th anniversary of Nebraska statehood was established this session.

Under **LB744**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, the governor will appoint 17 members to the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission to develop programs to celebrate the state's anniversary in 2017.

No more than eight members may be affiliated with the same political party and all regions and major interests in the state will be represented. The commission will be housed within the Nebraska State Historical Society for administrative and budgetary purposes and will terminate June 30, 2018.

The bill passed on a vote of 44-3.

Senators passed a bill that places restrictions on how money from the County Visitors Promotion Fund can be spent. Currently, if county attractions do not require improvement, the county's governing body may use the money to promote attractions in the county.

Sen. Ken Schilz

Under **LB215**, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, the governing body will be required to use the funds to promote, encourage and attract visitors to the county.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Provisions of **LB772**, introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al

Davis were amended into **LB390**, which passed on a 45-0 vote. The bill allows the adjutant general to spend up to $25,000 per event on aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response without a state of emergency proclamation issued by the governor. The previous spending limit was $10,000.

Sen. Al Davis

Under **LB935**, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, the Legislature would have had the authority to approve or deny a major relocation of a state agency or service from one community to another. A request for relocation would have included a justification for the relocation, a review of the long-term costs, measurable goals for improving the quality of the service and an assessment of the feasibility of alternatives within the state agency to moving the service.

Sen. Mike Gloor

The bill failed to advance from general file on a 13-17 vote.

LB980, introduced by Wahoo Sen. Jerry Johnson, would have established a time frame for a township board termination procedure. Under the bill, a county board could hold a public hearing regarding termination of a township board within 45 days of two or more vacancies occurring on a board.

Sen. Jerry Johnson

If no appointments were made within 45 days of the public hearing, the county board could adopt a resolution to terminate the township board. The bill also would have authorized the county board to pay future obligations of the township until the township board was reactivated.

The bill was advanced to general file but was not scheduled for debate.

Elections

LB946, introduced by Gretna Sen. John Murante, makes numerous changes to the Election Act, including:

Sen. John Murante

- delaying from noon to 8 p.m. on election day the deadline for a voter to return the statement declaring the original early ballot was lost;
- allowing the election commissioner or county clerk to mail a notice explaining how to obtain a ballot in place of a ballot to all registered voters who have been sent a notice and failed to respond in a special election by mail;
- allowing for a special election for a Class IV or Class V school district to be held in conjunction with the primary or general election for a city of the primary or metropolitan class which is governed by a home rule charter;
- requiring that workers appointed to the counting board for the purpose of counting ballots for school district bonds receive minimum wage; and
- changing reporting thresholds in the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

The bill includes provisions of six other bills:

- **LB167**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy, which requires presidential electors to take a pledge and cast a ballot for the presidential and vice presidential candidates who receive the highest number of votes in their district;

Sen. Beau McCoy

- **LB219**, introduced by Avery, which allows any registered voter—who was not a candidate in the primary election and who was not registered to vote with a party affiliation on or after March 1 and before the general election in the calendar year of the general election—to have his or her name placed on the general election ballot for a partisan office by filing a petition or by political party convention or committee nomination;
- **LB726**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer, which changes the number of school board members for Class II and Class III school districts and outlines their election procedures;
- **LB743**, introduced by Murante, which specifies when the second half of an elected official's term begins;
- **LB833**, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, which defines how county surveyors can be elected or appointed; and
- **LB1084**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Tommy Garrett, which clarifies how city council vacancies are filled.

The bill passed on a 43-0 vote and will go into effect Jan. 1, 2015.

If the number of county office candidates from each party in a primary election does not exceed the number of candidates that may be nominated by the party, those candidates automatically will advance to the general election under **LB56**, a bill introduced by O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson.

Sen. Tyson Larson

The bill allows for a person to file as a write-in candidate in a partisan primary

election within two days of the March 1 filing deadline.

Senators passed the bill on a 41-2 vote.

Under **LB144**, introduced by Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch, candidates for all but statewide offices who lose a primary election decision "by lot" are eligible to file as a write-in candidate in the general election for the same office.

Sen. Lydia Brasch

Currently, these primary elections that result in a tie are decided by lot, such as a coin toss or the drawing of a card used to determine a question by chance. The loser of the decision by lot is ineligible to run for the same office in the general election, including write-in candidacy, filing by petition or filing a nomination. The only exception is when there is a vacancy on the ballot for that office.

Senators passed the bill on a 43-0 vote.

LB1048, introduced by Murante, requires political parties to file a copy of the party's plan for selecting national convention delegates with the secretary of state by Dec. 1 of the year prior to a presidential election.

Under the bill, the delegate selection plan requires that at least 80 percent of the delegates commit to choosing a presidential candidate based on the results of the caucus or primary election. It also requires that the delegates be awarded to the winner of the caucus or primary election, or awarded proportionally based on the number of votes received by each candidate receiving at least 15 percent of the votes.

The delegate selection plan will specify whether delegates are committed to a presidential candidate based on the results of a combination of a caucus system and a statewide primary election. The secretary of state will deliver a copy of the official election calendar to the state party headquarters of each party within 10 days of publication of the calendar.

Senators passed the bill on a 49-0 vote.

LB382, introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, would have reinstated a winner-take-all system awarding all five electoral votes to the winner of the state's popular vote in presidential elections.

Sen. Charlie Janssen

After extended debate, the bill was bracketed on general file.

Voter registration

Senators passed a bill that allows Nebraskans to register to vote online.

Under **LB661**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, those with a valid driver's license or state identification card can complete voter registration through a secure website maintained by the secretary of state's office.

Sen. Bob Krist

The bill also requires the development of a paperless registration system, which will allow the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to electronically transmit completed registrations to the proper county election officials. Further, the bill authorizes the DMV to provide applicants' Social Security numbers to the secretary of state for voter registration purposes.

Senators passed the bill on a 44-0 vote.

LB565, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Nelson, creates new procedures for registering to vote and casting an early ballot on the same day.

Sen. John Nelson

Under the bill, an early ballot cast will be placed in an envelope with the voter's name and address and kept securely for counting. It cannot be counted if an acknowledgement of registration sent to the registrant is returned undeliverable within 10 days of mailing. If the acknowledgement is not returned after 10 days, the ballot will be counted.

The deadline for registering to vote and voting on the same day is the same as the deadline for voter registration.

Senators passed the bill on a 37-3 vote.

Veterans

Veterans can receive preferential treatment when applying for some jobs according to legislation passed this session.

LB588, introduced by Syracuse Sen. Dan Watermeier, requires that 5 percent be added to all parts of an employment application examination or numerical scoring if a veteran receives a passing score and makes a claim for preference on the application.

Sen. Dan Watermeier

If no examination or numerical scoring is used, preference will be given to a qualifying veteran if two or more equally qualified candidates are being considered for a position. Notices of all positions of employment available for veteran preference are required to state that the position is subject to the preference.

The bill also allows the spouse of a veteran who has a 100 percent permanent disability to claim the preference.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote and takes effect Jan. 1, 2015. ■

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Kathy Campbell, chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee

Child welfare, licensure requirements and a second attempt to expand Medicaid topped the list of health and human services issues considered by lawmakers this session.

Child welfare

Senators updated a program that provides foster care transition services and authorized a pilot program for alternative response in certain Nebraska child welfare cases.

LB853, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, updates the Young Adult Bridge to Independence Act, which is intended to ease the transition for young people aging out of the foster care system.

Sen. Amanda McGill

The bill makes a number of changes to the program, including requiring the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide information on community resources if a former ward voluntarily terminates a support agreement and to meet with former wards who are determined no longer eligible for the program.

LB853 also requires DHHS, in consultation with the Nebraska Children's Commission, to develop an alternative response implementation pilot program.

Alternative response does not include an investigation or a formal determination as to whether child abuse or neglect has occurred and the subject of the report is not entered into the child protection central registry.

Implementation will include provision of concrete supports and voluntary services, including mental health and substance abuse services and assistance with child care, food, clothing, housing and transportation.

Continuation of the pilot program beyond 2017 will require legislative approval.

The bill also contains provisions of **LB790**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, which requires the same initial training for all child welfare case managers, whether employed by DHHS or an organization under contract with the department.

Sen. Sara Howard

DHHS also will collaborate with social work programs at Nebraska public colleges and universities to establish a program to provide stipends for undergraduate and graduate students who are committed to working in the child welfare services field. The stipends will be funded with federal Title IV-E dollars.

LB853 passed on a 42-0 vote.

A pilot project authorized as part of the Legislature's response to the state's troubled child welfare reform effort may be extended under a bill passed this session.

Efforts undertaken by the 2012 Legislature to address child welfare reform included returning child welfare case management to DHHS except in the eastern service area, where the department was allowed to contract for lead agency case management as a pilot project.

LB660, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, allows DHHS to extend the pilot, which is currently under contract with the Nebraska Families Collaborative (NFC). If the pilot project is extended, the bill also requires an evaluation to determine whether case management should be returned to DHHS and whether private contractors should be used in the case management process.

Sen. Bob Krist

Evaluation results will be reported to the Legislature, DHHS and NFC by Dec. 31, 2014.

The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.

Public benefits

Lawmakers voted to override a gubernatorial veto of a bill that creates a statewide task force on aging and seeks federal grant funds.

LB690, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, creates the Aging Nebraskans Task Force to facilitate implementation of a statewide strategic plan for addressing the needs of Nebraska's aging population.

Sen. Kate Bolz

The task force will include stakeholders as well as representatives of the three branches of state government and will report its recommendations to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2014. The task force will terminate June 30, 2016, unless extended by the Legislature.

The bill also requires DHHS by Sept. 1, 2014, to apply for a federal grant to fund the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of home and community based long-term care services.

LB690 was approved on a 32-11 vote. Gov. Dave Heineman subsequently vetoed the measure, objecting to the bill's provision requiring DHHS to apply for federal funding.

Lawmakers voted 30-12 to override the governor's veto and enact LB690 notwithstanding his objections. Thirty votes are required to override a veto.

A second attempt at Medicaid expansion stalled during general file debate this session.

LB887, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell, would have established the Wellness in Nebraska Act. Campbell said the measure would provide health care coverage through a Medicaid expansion demonstration waiver to approximately 54,000 uninsured and underinsured individuals who are newly eligible under the federal Affordable Care Act.

After eight hours of general file debate, Campbell offered a motion to invoke cloture to end debate and force a vote on all pending action on the bill. The motion failed on a vote of 27-21, falling six votes short of the number required.

Senators passed a bill that allows schools to seek reimbursement for a broader array of services delivered to Medicaid-eligible special education students.

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

LB276, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, allows school districts to seek reimbursement for audiology services, counseling, psychological and behavioral services, nursing, nutritional services, personal assistance, transportation, social work and vision services.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

LB359, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, increases the percentage of a household's gross earned income that must be disregarded when determining continued eligibility for the state's child care subsidy program. The income disregard is set at 10 percent after 12 continuous months on the program and at each subsequent redetermination of eligibility.

Sen. Tanya Cook

The bill also includes provisions of **LB732**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Rick Kolowski, that removes 529 college savings plans, student scholarships and work-study income from asset limit tests for the state's child care subsidy program and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program.

Sen. Rick Kolowski

The bill passed 44-0.

A bill intended to slow proposed Medicaid changes in Nebraska was approved by the Legislature this session.

LB854, introduced by Krist, prohibits DHHS from releasing a request for proposals relating to procurement of Managed Long-Term Services and Supports prior to Sept. 1, 2015. Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

Licensure and credentialing

Gov. Heineman vetoed a bill that would have changed practice agreement requirements for nurse practitioners in Nebraska.

LB916, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, would have removed the requirement for an integrated practice agreement between a nurse practitioner and a collaborating physician and replaced it with a transition to practice agreement.

Sen. Sue Crawford

The new agreement was defined in the bill as a collaborative agreement between a nurse practitioner and a supervising provider, which could be a physician, osteopathic physician or nurse practitioner licensed and practicing in Nebraska. The supervising provider would have been required to be in the same practice specialty, related specialty or field of practice as the nurse practitioner being supervised.

Lawmakers passed the bill on a 43-0 vote April 17, the final day of the 2014 session.

In his veto message, the governor said LB916 would give nurse practitioners too much independence and that recent graduates of nurse practitioner programs would lack the clinical experience necessary to ensure patient safety under the bill's provisions.

LB526, introduced by Howard, authorizes licensed optometrists to administer a body injection for treatment of anaphylaxis and to prescribe oral steroids, oral antiglaucoma medication and oral immunosuppressive agents.

Sen. Sara Howard

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB132, introduced by Nordquist, prohibits indoor tanning facilities in Nebraska from allowing people younger than 16 to use tanning facilities. The prohibition applies to sun lamps, tanning booths and tanning beds.

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

An exception is provided if a parent or legal guardian signs a statement at the facility before each use indicating an understanding of the warnings provided by the facility and consenting to the minor's use of tanning equipment.

The bill requires tanning facilities to post a warning sign in a conspicuous location outlining the dangers of overexposure to ultraviolet radiation. An owner or operator of a tanning facility found to be in violation of the bill's provisions will be subject to a civil penalty of $100. The bill also adds a tanning facility owner to the state Board of Cosmetology.

Senators approved LB132 on a 40-1 vote.

A bill that will bring Nebraska into compliance with federal regulations regarding background checks for certain employees passed this session.

LB728, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, removes a requirement for a finger printing and national criminal history record check of all employees who are employed by contracted providers and work directly with developmental disabilities clients.

Sen. John Harms

The Nebraska State Patrol still will be required to undertake a criminal history record search for each state employee and DHHS will coordinate and pay for background checks for third-party contractor employees through an alternative provider.

LB728 passed 44-0.

Other measures

Lawmakers passed a measure intended to increase access to behavioral health services in Nebraska.

LB901, introduced by McGill, requires the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Behavioral Health Education Center to fund five one-year doctoral-level internships within 12 months of the bill's enactment. The number of internships will increase to 10 within 36 months.

Sen. Amanda McGill

Under the bill, interns will be placed in communities where their presence will improve access to behavioral health services for patients residing in rural and underserved areas of Nebraska.

The bill also includes provisions of **LB931**, originally introduced by Bolz, which requires DHHS to establish a mental health first aid training program.

Sen. Kate Bolz

LB901 passed on a 43-0 vote.

Senators passed a bill that increases the fees that DHHS may charge to issue certified copies or abstracts of marriage and for searches of death certificates.

Under **LB994**, introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee, the fee to issue a certified copy or abstract of marriage will increase from $11 to $16. The current cap of $2 on the fee for a search of death certificates will increase to $3.

The bill passed on a 46-1 vote.

A partnership established to examine how best to control costs and improve quality in Nebraska's health care system is continued under a resolution adopted this session.

LR422, introduced by Campbell, builds on a resolution adopted by the Legislature in 2013, which designated the Health and Human Services Committee—in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee—to evaluate the state's health care system.

Sen. Kathy Campbell

Under LR422, the committees will bring together policymakers and stakeholders at all levels to work toward providing a comprehensive review of Nebraska's health care delivery, cost and coverage demands and developing cooperative strategies and initiatives for the design, implementation and accountability of services to improve care, quality and value while advancing the overall health of Nebraskans.

Funding for activities outlined in the resolution will be provided by existing appropriations from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. The resolution was adopted on a vote of 26-1.

Lawmakers also approved a bill intended to promote transparency in the cost and quality of health care services in Nebraska.

LB76, introduced by Nordquist, establishes a Health Care Data Base Advisory Committee tasked with making a series of recommendations to improve transparency in the state's health care system.

The department director will report the advisory committee's recommendations to the governor and the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2014. LB76 passed 43-0.

A bill that would make changes to telehealth provision in Nebraska was approved.

Introduced by Campbell, **LB1076** originally dealt with Medicaid authorization and payments but was amended to contain only provisions of **LB1078**, a bill introduced by Nordquist related to telehealth services.

The provisions will allow physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and pharmacists to use telehealth—or electronic communication—for the purpose of prescribing medication and will set the reimbursement rate for a telehealth consultation at least as high as the Medicaid rate for a comparable in-person consultation regardless of the distance between the health care practitioner and the patient.

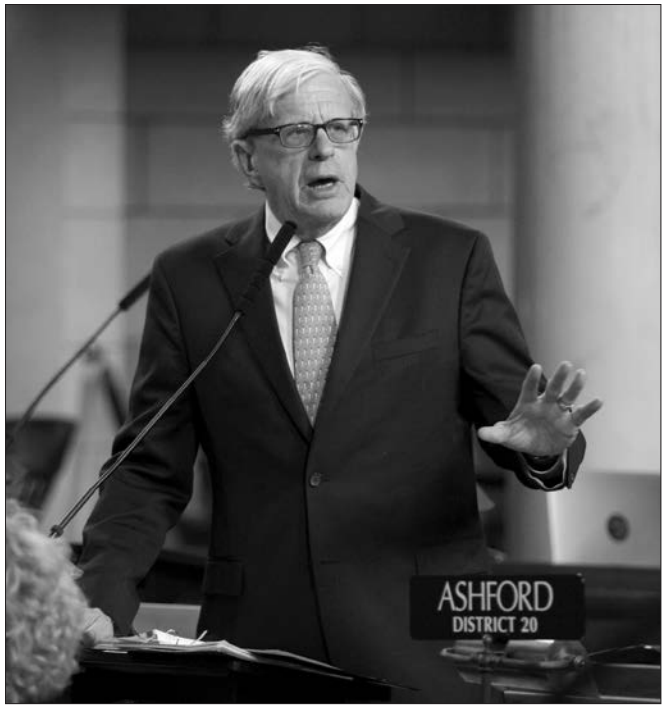
LB1076 passed on a 48-0 vote.

Finally, senators gave unanimous consent during select file debate to bracket a bill that would have required that all new homes in Nebraska include radon resistant construction.

LB13, introduced by Krist, would have applied to all new residential construction beginning Jan. 1, 2016, and would have clarified that any regulation regarding radon resistant construction adopted by a county, city or village must be at least as stringent as that adopted by DHHS. ■

Sen. Bob Krist

JUDICIARY



Sen. Brad Ashford, chairperson of the Judiciary Committee

Lawmakers passed extensive changes to Nebraska's criminal and juvenile justice systems this session.

Prison reform

Senators approved a measure that initiates prison reform in Nebraska.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford, **LB907** is intended to reduce the recidivism rate of offenders released from prison.

The measure appropriates to the state Office of Probation Administration $5 million to expand mental health services and $3.8 million to expand new reporting centers, $5 million to the state Department of Correctional Services to create the vocational and life skills program and $200,000 to establish the Nebraska Center for Justice Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The department must develop a re-entry program to transition inmates into communities and ensure an inmate's rehabilitation and re-entry program is complete or near completion upon the inmate serving 80 percent of his or her sentence.

The bill also:

- requires parole officers to assist parolees and inmates prior to release in accessing housing and mental and physical health care;
- permits supervision of parolees via global positioning systems and other monitoring technology;
- directs the Commission on Public Advocacy to identify areas in Nebraska that need legal professionals; and
- creates the Nebraska Justice Reinvestment Working Group, comprising members selected by the governor, chief justice of the state Supreme Court and speaker of the Legislature. The group will assist the Council of State Governments Justice Center in producing a report by Sept. 1, 2015, that prescribes how to reduce prison overcrowding.

The bill includes provisions of two other bills.

LB808, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, provides $500,000 to expand a student loan assistance program for attorneys who provide public legal service in rural Nebraska. Recipients will be eligible for $6,000 a year in loan forgiveness for at least three years of practice in areas with a population of less than 15,000.

Sen. Danielle Conrad

LB932, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, prohibits the state and political subdivisions from asking job applicants to disclose their criminal history until an applicant has been determined to meet the minimum employment qualifications. Law enforcement agencies are exempt from the restriction. School districts are still allowed to conduct criminal background checks.

Sen. Bill Avery

Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

Introduced by Ashford, **LB999** authorizes the state Department of Health and Human Services to study the feasibility of establishing a behavioral health center at the site of the former Hastings Regional Center. The department must provide the governor, by Dec. 15, 2014, a program statement that examines:

- renovating or building facilities for up to 200 inmates at the center;
- estimated costs of building renovation, staffing, operation and a proposed project schedule;
- criteria for inmates to be placed in the center;
- long-term needs of mentally ill and substance addicted inmates; and

- programs needed to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Senators passed the measure on a 47-0 vote.

Introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, **LB313** proposed that only the director of Correctional Services assign inmates to the Work Ethic Camp in McCook. Currently, the director, courts and the Nebraska Board of Parole place prisoners at the camp.

Sen. Mark Christensen

The bill was bracketed until March 4 on a 34-0 vote, ending consideration of the bill for the session.

Juvenile justice

LB464, introduced by Ashford, requires that misdemeanor and Class IIIA and IV felony cases involving a juvenile be initiated in juvenile court. The bill exempts Class I, II and III felonies for minors aged 14 and older from the mandatory juvenile court initiation.

Prosecutors have the option to transfer cases to adult court or have them heard before the juvenile court for a felony violation or for misdemeanor violations if a juvenile was 16 or 17 years old at the time the crime was committed.

The bill also outlines a plan for school districts and families to address student attendance problems. The plan may consider illness related to physical or behavioral health of the child, educational counseling and evaluation, referral to community agencies for economic services, family or individual counseling and assisting the family in working with other community services.

If a plan is unsuccessful and a student has missed 20 days of school, the school may submit a report to the county attorney. Illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable cannot be included as the basis for referral to the county attorney.

Further, the bill creates a 10-person Council on Student Attendance that will review school district absentee policies and submit a report to the Legislature annually.

Provisions of **LB1093**, introduced by Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch, also are included in the bill. These expand the definition of juvenile facilitated conferencing and transfer $450,000 from the state Department of Health and Human Services' budget to the state court administrator's budget, foregoing the current granting process.

Sen. Lydia Brasch

Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

Another bill changed several statutes relating to children.

LB908, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, primarily:

Sen. Colby Coash

- permits juvenile courts to appoint guardians for abused or abandoned children;
- enables young adults to request guardianship past the age of 19 and requires that guardianship assistance funding be used specifically for their benefit;
- clarifies that guardianships and guardianship funding assistance can be extended when a child reaches 19 years old;
- defines "abandonment" as a parent's act of intentionally withholding from a child without just cause or excuse: presence, care, love, protection, maintenance and the opportunity to display affection; and
- allows a biological father to file an objection to an adoption and seek custody of a child at any time during a pregnancy and up to five days after receiving notification of a child's birth.

Senators passed the bill on a 49-0 vote.

Penalties

Senators passed a bill that reduces penalties for violating ignition interlock device restrictions. It was amended to also address human trafficking, photography and funerals.

Introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, **LB998** lowers the penalty for using a vehicle not equipped with an ignition interlock device for those restricted to driving only vehicles with the device. Ignition interlock devices prevent a vehicle from starting if the driver has a blood-alcohol level of .03 or higher. The penalty is reduced from a Class IV felony to a Class I misdemeanor.

Sen. Russ Karpisek

The bill includes provisions of Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill's **LB1034**, which prohibit a person from knowingly photographing, filming, recording or broadcasting images of another person's intimate areas without that person's consent, regardless of whether the person is in a public or private place.

Sen. Amanda McGill

Currently, Nebraska statute prohibits photography only in places where people have a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as restrooms and locker rooms.

An initial violation of the law is a Class I misdemeanor punishable by a $1,000 fine and up to one year of incarceration. A subsequent violation is a Class IV felony, punishable by a $10,000 fine and up to five years of incarceration. Sharing images or video made in violation of the proposed law is a Class III felony, punishable by up to 50 years imprisonment.

Additionally, if an offender is at least 19 years old and the victim is younger than 18, the offender is required to register as a sex offender.

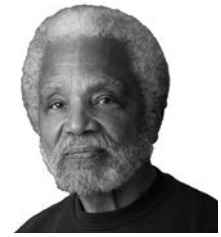
The measure includes provisions of **LB933**, also introduced by McGill, which update statutes prohibiting human trafficking. Prohibited actions include debt bondage, threats of deportation, controlling or threating to control access to controlled substances and exploitation of disabilities.

Finally, the bill incorporates provisions of **LB441**, introduced by Hastings Sen. Les Seiler, which update the Nebraska Probate Code by clarifying who may be authorized to organize a funeral.

Sen. Les Seiler

Senators passed the bill on a 49-0 vote.

LB674, introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, enables judges to impose the same animal ownership restrictions for cruel neglect of animals as can be imposed for the cruel mistreatment of animals.


Sen. Ernie Chambers

Currently, cruel mistreatment of an animal is a Class I misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year imprisonment, a $1,000 fine or both. The court has the option to order that a person not own, possess or reside with an animal for up to five years.

Under the bill, cruel neglect of an animal also would be a Class I misdemeanor and the offender would be subject to the same animal ownership restrictions.

Senators passed the bill on a 48-0 vote.

Firearms

LB390, introduced by Christensen, amends the Emergency Management Act by removing the governor's authority to suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of firearms during a state of emergency.

The bill includes provisions of two other bills:

- **LB694**, introduced by Seiler, which allows firearms on school campuses for use in historical reenactments, hunter education programs or as part of an honor guard; and
- **LB772**, introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, which allows the adjutant general to spend up to $25,000 per event on aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response without a state of emergency proclamation issued by the governor.

Sen. Al Davis

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

Provisions of **LB1035**, introduced by McGill, were incorporated into LB699, and passed 43-0. McGill's measure requires the Nebraska State Patrol and the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide the Legislature a record of citizens unable to purchase handguns due to disqualification or disability. The report will be published on the Nebraska State Patrol and DHHS websites.

LB128, introduced by Coash, proposed a new offense of intentionally and knowingly removing a firearm or weapon from a peace officer in uniform or a peace officer displaying a badge of authority who is engaged in the performance of their official duties. A violation would have been a Class I misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of $1,000 and up to one year in jail.

The bill remained on select file.

Product legality

Senators approved a bill that updates the list of banned synthetic drug compounds in Nebraska.

Introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, **LB811** amends one class of currently banned substances under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and adds another class of synthetic cannabinoids to the list of banned substances. The bill also revises the act to apply to substantially similar imitations of prohibited controlled substances that may be developed in the future.

Sen. Ken Schilz

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB752**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop. His measure expands the list of professions that trigger enhanced assault penalties to include firefighters, paramedics, state correctional employees, state Department of Health and Human Services employees and health care professionals.

Sen. Steve Lathrop

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Introduced by Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman, **LB1001** allows postsecondary institutions or the state Department of Agriculture to grow industrial hemp for agricultural or academic research. The department is required to develop regulations for industrial hemp cultivation and certify sites where it is grown.

Sen. Norm Wallman

Only plants containing three-tenths percent or less of tetrahydrocannabinols (THC), the active ingredient of the cannabis plant, are approved for use.

The bill passed on a 39-2 vote.

LB403, introduced by Seiler, outlaws the sale of novelty lighters in Nebraska that have no child-proof safety feature.

The bill defines a novelty lighter as a mechanical or electrical device typically used for lighting cigarettes, cigars or pipes and designed to resemble a cartoon character, toy, gun, watch, musical instrument, vehicle, animal, food or beverage container or a similar item that plays musical notes, has flashing lights or has more than one button or function.

The bill does not apply to standard refillable lighters or lighters:

- manufactured prior to Jan. 1, 1980;
- incapable of being fueled or lacking a device necessary to produce combustion or flame; and
- that are disposable and printed or decorated with a logo, label, decal, artwork or heat shrinkable sleeve.

Novelty lighters being transported through Nebraska or stored in nonretail facilities in the state also are exempt from the ban.

Senators passed the bill on a 34-6 vote.

Other bills

LB920, introduced by Coash, adopts the Public Guardianship Act, which establishes an office to serve as guardian or conservator for situations in which no family member or suitable individual is available. The office will provide education, training and support to current and future guardians and conservators.

The bill establishes the Office of Public Guardianship under the jurisdiction of the Nebraska State Court Administrator, which will employ a director, deputy public guardian and up to 12 associate guardians. The bill also creates the Public Guardianship Cash Fund.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

LB988, introduced by Schumacher, creates a process for entry into a decedent's safe deposit box for the limited purposes of locating a will, deed to a burial plot or burial instructions. **LB775**, introduced by Seiler, provides an exception to the disclosure of confidential information rules to allow banks and other corporations to release information regarding date of death valuation and beneficiary designations for property in their possession. Provisions of both bills were incorporated into LB788 and passed on a 45-0 vote.

Sen. Paul Schumacher

Senators debated legislation that would have expanded Nebraska's workplace nondiscrimination laws to include gay and transgender employees.

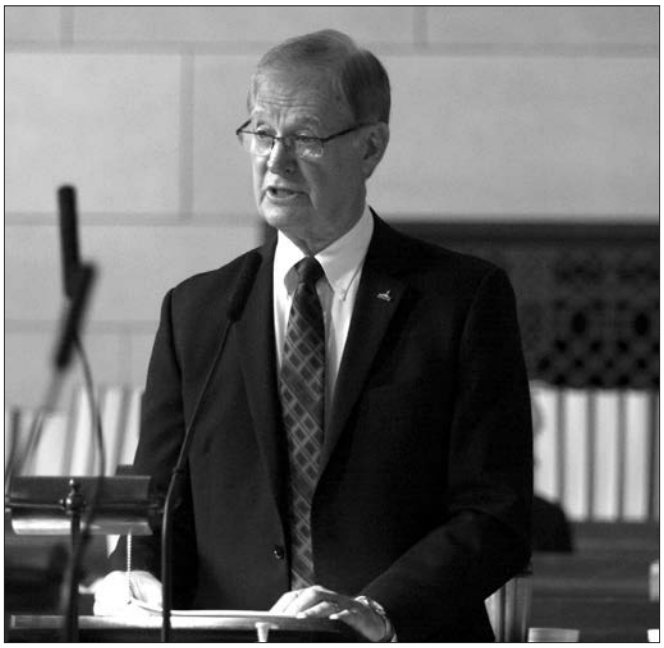
LB485, introduced by Conrad, would have prohibited employers, employment agencies and labor organizations from discriminating against an individual on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill would have applied to employers having 15 or more employees, employers with state contracts, the state of Nebraska, governmental agencies and political subdivisions.

Sen. Danielle Conrad

Current law prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status or national origin.

Conrad offered a motion on general file to invoke cloture, or cease debate and take an immediate vote on the bill. The motion failed 26-22, ending debate on the issue this session. ■

NATURAL RESOURCES



Sen. Tom Carlson, chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee

Water

The long-term sustainability of the state's water resources was the primary focus of legislation considered this session by the Legislature's Natural Resources Committee.

Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson introduced **LB1098**, passed 48-0, which creates a Water Sustainability Fund and restructures the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission to better emphasize water sustainability.

It requires that the fund be used to contribute to multiple water supply management goals, fund municipal sewer infrastructure projects, increase water productivity, enhance water quality and comply with interstate compacts or other agreements.

Funds will be distributed equitably throughout the state with no more than 10 percent dedicated annually to sewer infrastructure projects.

Currently, three state Natural Resources Commission members are appointed by the governor and 13 are elected to represent river basins across the state. LB1098 adds 11 members to the commission to be appointed by the governor and represent the following interests:

- agribusiness and agriculture;
- ground water irrigators and irrigation districts;
- manufacturing;
- metropolitan utilities districts;
- municipal water users;
- outdoor recreation users;
- public power districts;
- range livestock owners;
- surface water irrigators; and
- wildlife conservation.

The bill also incorporates provisions of **LB1074**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop. It requires the development of a basin-wide plan for basins with three or more natural resources districts operating under an integrated management plan.

Sen. Steve Lathrop

The Legislature's Appropriations Committee will conduct a biennial analysis of the Water Sustainability Fund, beginning in the 2019-2021 biennium.

Provisions of several other bills were incorporated into LB1098, including:

- **LB391**, introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, which adds "downstream" to current statute prohibiting storing water in reservoirs when water is required for direct irrigation;

Sen. Al Davis

- **LB710**, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, which requires that a natural resources district hold a public hearing before entering into a water augmentation project outside district boundaries;
- **LB723**, introduced by Christensen, which creates subclasses of irrigated cropland for use in the sales comparison approach of land valuation; and

Sen. Mark Christensen

- **LB686**, introduced by Christensen, which extends the annual deadline from March 1 to June 1 for irrigators to file for an irrigated land occupation tax exemption.

Carlson also introduced **LB514**, which authorizes the state Department of Environmental Quality to create and regulate a linked deposit program. The program will promote loans for the construction, rehabilitation and enhancement of water pollution control projects.

The bill authorizes a portion of loan funds to be deposited with eligible financial institutions in low-yielding deposit accounts, certificates of deposit or other agreed upon deposits for loans at a rate lower than the prevailing rate.

The department also can buy or refinance debt of municipalities for wastewater treatment works under LB514.

Senators passed the bill on a 44-0 vote.

Carlson introduced **LB513**, passed 43-0, which reduced from 10 to three the number of days required before a natural resources district (NRD) can issue a cease and desist order under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act.

Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman introduced **LB856**, which would have required any person who withdraws ground water for hydraulic fracturing stimulation to install a meter to measure the water used for the stimulation and the fracturing fluid recovered.

Sen. Norm Wallman

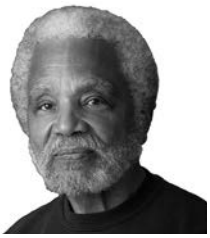
The bill would have required submission of an annual report of the measurements to the state Department of Natural Resources.

LB856 did not advance from committee.

Wildlife management

Senators declined to override a gubernatorial veto of a bill that would have prohibited the hunting of mountain lions.

Senators originally passed **LB671**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, March 24 on a 28-13 vote. The bill would have repealed a law passed in 2012 that authorized the state Game and Parks Commission to hold a mountain lion hunting season.


Sen. Ernie Chambers

In his veto letter, Gov. Dave Heineman said the bill could be challenged as infringing upon Article XV, Section 25 of the Nebraska Constitution, which establishes that "hunting, fishing and harvesting of wildlife shall be a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife."

Senators voted 24-21 on the motion to override, six votes short of the number required. Senators later approved a Chambers motion to reconsider the vote 30-17, but the vote to pass the bill notwithstanding the objections of the governor failed again on a 28-21 vote.

O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson introduced **LB699**, passed 43-0, which allows a person with developmental disabilities to purchase a hunting permit after securing a license-purchase exemption certificate issued by the state Game and Parks Commission.

Sen. Tyson Larson

Applicants for an exemption certificate will be required to provide a written note from their physician indicating that the person is at all times capable of understanding and following directions given by another person and that he or she is not currently a danger to himself, herself or others.

The bill also consolidates current hunter education programs to form one program covering all hunting implements including firearms, crossbows, bows and arrows and air guns. Those applying for bow hunter permits will be required to take additional bow hunter education programming.

Energy production

LB402, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, will allow more wind projects to qualify for a wind energy sales tax exemption.

Sen. Heath Mello

Currently, private wind energy projects can qualify for a sales tax exemption on the equipment and supplies used in construction if at least 33 percent of the revenue from the project for the first 20 years is directed back to Nebraska residents or companies.

The bill defines a qualifying community-based energy development project as a new wind energy generation project using a wind, solar, biomass, landfill gas or low-emission fuel source that reduces the overall carbon emissions of the generation system.

LB402 amends the current statute by:

- reducing the qualifying percentage threshold from 33 percent to 25 percent;
- loosening corporate restrictions by allowing corporations domiciled in Nebraska to meet the definition of "qualified owner;" and
- expanding the definition of "payments to the local community" to include payments for products manufactured in Nebraska or by Nebraska companies and services provided by Nebraska companies as well as lease and easement payments to property owners.

Senators passed the bill on a 43-0 vote.

Davis introduced **LB1115**, adopted 47-0, which appropriates $200,000 from the General Fund to study existing and future state, regional and national transmission infrastructure and policy.

The bill also establishes a working group, including five members of the Legislature, which will provide input to the board. A report detailing the results of the study will be provided to the governor by Dec. 15, 2014.

Senators gave unanimous consent to bracket **LB965**, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar, which would have required the Nebraska Power Review Board to broaden its public purpose evaluation.

Sen. Ken Haar

The bill would have required the review board to consider additional costs and benefits to consumers in addition to cost, feasibility, convenience and necessity. ■

NEBRASKA RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, chairperson of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee

Senators made several changes to the state's retirement systems this session.

LB1042, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, changes the cost for repurchase of relinquished creditable service in the School Employees Retirement Plan.

Current plan members who rejoined the school system prior to the effective date of the bill who wish to repurchase creditable service must complete payment for such service within six years of the effective date of the bill. All other members who rejoin the system after the effective date of the bill must complete payment within five years of rejoining the system.

All members must pay to the retirement system an amount equal to the member's previously withdrawn contributions for the credible service to be restored, plus an amount equal to the actuarial assumed rate of return on such amount to the date of repayment—currently 8 percent.

The bill also includes provisions of **LB1041**, introduced by Nordquist, which changes the length of service required for new employees of the School Employees Retirement Plan and the Class V (Omaha) School Employees Retirement Plan to be eligible to purchase additional service credit.

Beginning July 1, 2014, new employees of the two plans will not be eligible to purchase service credit—also known as "air time"—until they have acquired 10 years of creditable service. Employees hired before the deadline still will be eligible to purchase air time after acquiring five years of creditable service.

LB1042 passed on a 48-0 vote.

Senators also approved a bill that was amended to become the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee omnibus bill.

Under **LB759**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, any political subdivision that offers a defined benefit retirement plan is required to file a report with the committee if plan contributions do not equal the actuarial requirement for funding or the funded ratio of the plan is less than 80 percent. The report will include an analysis of the conditions and recommendations for corrective actions.

Sen. Heath Mello

The bill includes provisions of four additional bills.

LB713, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, increases from $1 million to $6 million the maximum amount of time deposit open accounts made available to banks, capital stock financial institutions and qualifying mutual financial institutions willing to meet the rate and other requirements of the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act.

Sen. Mike Gloor

LB918, introduced by Nordquist, removes a limitation on investment options for participants in the county and state employees defined contribution plans.

LB929, also introduced by Gloor, amends the city of the first class police and firefighter retirement acts to define the term sex-neutral basis.

LB977, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, adds a city of the primary class and public power districts to the list of exempt entities that can offer investment in a fund as long as it is a prudent investment. Currently, only a city of the metropolitan class, a metropolitan utilities district and a county in which a city of the metropolitan class is located are exempt.

Sen. Danielle Conrad

The bill passed 47-0. ■

REVENUE $

Sen. Galen Hadley, chairperson of the Revenue Committee

After several public hearings across the state during the 2013 interim, the Legislature's Tax Modernization Committee identified property and income tax relief as top priorities for the 2014 legislative session.

Tax relief

The committee introduced **LB987**, which will adjust for inflation the minimum and maximum dollar amounts for each individual income tax bracket. The changes will prevent a cost of living wage increase from bumping a taxpayer into the next higher tax bracket.

The bill also reduces the amount of Social Security benefits that are included in the federal adjusted gross income (AGI) for state income tax purposes. The adjustment applies to taxpayers with an AGI of $58,000 or less for married persons filing jointly and $43,000 or less for all other returns.

The reduction in state General Fund revenue is estimated to be:

- $8.3 million in fiscal year 2014-15;
- $24.9 million in FY2015-16;
- $37.3 million in FY2016-17; and
- $51.6 million in FY2017-18.

The bill incorporated provisions of **LB75**, introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, which allow an individual to make a one-time election to exclude a portion of his or her military retirement income from state income tax within two years of retirement. The individual can choose to exempt 40 percent of military retirement income for seven consecutive years or 15 percent for each year, beginning with the year he or she turns 67.

Sen. Charlie Janssen

The exemption applies only to individuals retiring after Jan. 1, 2015.

Senators passed the bill on a 44-0 vote.

LB986, also introduced by the committee, changes the Nebraska homestead exemption program by increasing the maximum eligible income from $28,500 to $46,900 for partial exemptions to married claimants older than 65. The maximum eligible income for partial exemptions to single claimants older than 65 is increased from $24,200 to $39,500.

The percentage of tax relief provided under the homestead exemption will now decrease by 10 percent at each income level instead of 15 percent, so as one's income increases, a smaller portion of the exemption is lost.

The Nebraska homestead exemption program gives property tax relief to homeowners who are more than 65 years old or who are totally disabled veterans or their surviving spouses. The bill incorporates provisions of LB850, introduced by Syracuse Sen. Dan Watermeier, which also allow qualified individuals with developmental disabilities to apply for the homestead exemption.

Senators passed the bill on a 43-0 vote.

Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch introduced **LB1087**, passed 48-0, which provides a 100 percent property tax exemption for a veteran with an honorable or general discharge who is drawing compensation for a 100 percent disability but is not eligible for the existing total homestead exemption.

Sen. Pete Pirsch

The bill also provides a 100 percent exemption to the single widow or widower of any honorably or generally discharged veteran who died due to a service-related disability. The single widow or widower of a veteran killed while on active duty also is eligible for the exemption.

The bill decreases General Fund revenue by an estimated $406,000 in fiscal year 2015-16 and $416,000 in FY2016-17.

Senators approved several state sales tax exemptions on agricultural and business inputs.

Sen. Annette Dubas

LB96, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, exempts from state sales tax the sale of repairs and replacement parts for agricultural machinery or equipment. Any qualifying purchases made prior to Oct. 1, 2013, remain eligible for refund.

Senators passed the bill on a 40-0 vote.

Tax incentives

An effort to encourage communities to restore historic properties to service was approved by lawmakers.

Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist introduced **LB191**, passed 45-0, which allows property owners returning a historically significant property to service to apply for a nonrefundable tax credit equal to 20 percent of eligible expenditures, up to $1 million. The total amount of credits available per year is limited to $15 million. Taxpayers are eligible for the credit beginning Jan. 1, 2015, and applications will be accepted until Dec. 31, 2018.

In order to be eligible for the credit, an application must be filed with the state historic preservation officer prior to beginning work. Within 12 months of the project's completion, a final approval request must be made, after which the final credit would be awarded.

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB885**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr.

Sen. Burke Harr

In counties of at least 150,000 people, two or more vacant or unimproved lots owned by the same person in the same tax district and held for sale or resale now can be included in one parcel for property tax purposes. The measure directs county assessors to use the discounted cash-flow analysis method, in addition to the income approach, when determining property taxes.

Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley introduced **LB1067**, passed 49-0, which extends the date for first claiming the credit for Tier 1 and Tier 3 projects under the Nebraska Advantage Act from Dec. 31, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2017. The date for Tier 6 projects under the Act is extended from Jan. 1, 2016 to Jan. 1, 2018.

The state Department of Revenue's deadline to approve applications under the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act is extended from Dec. 31, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2017.

The Legislative Performance Audit Committee introduced **LB836**, passed 42-0, which adds language to the state's tax incentive programs indicating the types of jobs and industries that the programs are meant to encourage.

The bill specifies that the goal of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act is to make tax structure revisions that encourage businesses to locate in rural Nebraska in order to decrease unemployment, create new jobs and increase investment.

LB836 also specifies that it is Nebraska state policy to encourage modernization of livestock facilities, increase research and development and create quality jobs—specifically those related to research and development, manufacturing and large data centers.

Finally, the bill adds language to the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act stating that it is state policy to encourage entrepreneurship and increase investment in high technology industries in underserved areas of Nebraska.

LB836 passed on a 42-0 vote.

Other measures

Sen. Bill Avery

Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery introduced **LB814**, which dedicates the state sales tax revenue derived from the sale or lease of motorboats and personal watercraft for state Game and Parks Commission infrastructure maintenance projects.

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB841**, introduced by Hadley, which also dedicates to the maintenance fund state sales tax revenue collected from all-terrain and utility-type vehicles titled in Nebraska.

Senators passed the bill on a 43-1 vote.

Sen. Bob Krist

Omaha Sen. Bob Krist introduced **LB474**, passed 45-0, which prevents a municipality from levying an occupation tax on an item that is subject to a state excise tax, which includes alcohol, tobacco, groceries and motor fuel.

Hadley introduced **LB33**, passed 42-0, which authorizes the state Department of Revenue to contract with in-state financial institutions for an electronic levy pilot project.

The bill also makes a number of changes, including:

- allowing the department to waive the traditional three-year statutory lien period when a taxpayer has entered into an agreement to satisfy an overdue tax liability;

- repealing the individual income tax return checkoff for contributions to the Campaign Finance Limitation Cash Fund; and
- authorizing the imposition of a 25 percent penalty for filing a late tobacco products tax return.

LB867, introduced by Hadley, broadens current law to allow any person certified by a municipality to access sales and use tax information of permit holders within city limits. Currently, only a municipal employee is authorized to access such information. Confidentiality provisions already in statute still bind the certified person, who could include a financial or accounting contractor.

LB867 incorporates the provisions of several additional bills, including:

- **LB159**, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, which exempts the sale, lease or rental of currency or bullion from sales and use taxes;
- **LB783**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, which changes the annual determination and certification of sales tax revenue under the Sports Arena Financing Act to a quarterly determination and certification;
- **LB809**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, which exempts purchases made by historic automobile museums from sales and use taxes;
- **LB829**, also introduced by Schumacher, which exempts separately stated postage charges from sales and use taxes; and
- **LB1043**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Nelson, which exempts from the documentary stamp tax charitable donations of land to nonprofits.

Provisions of **LB150**, originally introduced by Nordquist, also were incorporated into the bill. Currently, the Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD) remits the equivalent of 2 percent of the annual gross revenue derived from all retail sales of water and gas sold by MUD to Omaha. The provision exempts from the calculation the retail sale of natural gas used as vehicular fuel and the energy used in the compression of natural gas for sale as vehicular fuel.

Senators passed the bill on a 49-0 vote.

North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen introduced **LB251**, passed 43-0, which allows rental car companies to charge a fee of up to 5.75 percent to cover licensing costs for the cars in their fleets.

Sen. Tom Hansen

Currently, car rental companies are required to charge a 4.5 percent fee and remit excess funds to their county treasurers. Companies now may vary the fee to recover licensing costs but are not forced to collect the fee if it is not needed.

Finally, **LB1092**, introduced by Dubas, would have authorized the State Highway Commission to issue up to $200 million in bonds for highway construction projects. At least 25 percent of bond proceeds would have been dedicated to construction of federally designated, high priority corridors and the expressway system through Chadron, Alliance and Scottsbluff.

LB1092 failed to pass final reading on a 27-16 vote, three votes below the number required for passage. ■

TRANSPORTATION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Sen. Annette Dubas, chairperson of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee

Senators considered legislation regarding motorcycle helmets, specialty license plates and texting while driving, among other topics this session.

Rules of the road

LB399, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, would have allowed volunteer members of public safety or crime prevention organizations to use rotating or flashing amber lights on any motor vehicle.

Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

Currently, flashing amber lights may be displayed on vehicles used for specific purposes such as military, public utility maintenance, towing, vehicle maintenance, Civil Air Patrol, oversized load, railroad, emergency management and storm spotting.

Lautenbaugh offered a motion on select file to invoke cloture and force a vote on the bill. The motion failed **32-12**, falling one vote short of the number required.

LB807, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, would have created the Nebraska Roadway Safety Act and changed five motor vehicle violations from secondary to primary offenses:

Sen. John Harms

- texting while driving;
- failure by occupants in a vehicle to use seat belts;
- using any type of wireless communication device while driving a school bus;
- using any type of wireless communication device while driving for those with a learner's, school or provisional driving permit; and
- operating a motor vehicle with a provisional driving permit between 6 a.m. and midnight with more than one passenger who is not a family member and is under 19 years old.

Currently in Nebraska, secondary offenses can be enforced only when a driver has been cited or charged with a traffic violation or some other offense.

The bill was held in committee.

Introduced by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith, **LB757** relaxes the requirement that a mailbox be placed 1 foot outside the shoulder line of a highway. The bill also removes the requirement that the state Department of Roads regulate Nebraska's diminishing wayside, or picnic, areas.

Sen. Jim Smith

Finally, the bill repeals an outdated county roads numbering system in favor of the more modern E-911 road numbering system.

Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

Agricultural transportation

LB1039, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, allows farm equipment dealers to designate commercial haulers as their agents when moving their equipment. Haulers are required to carry documentation signed by the dealers identifying them as dealer representatives.

The bill also permits commercial haulers to follow the same width, height and length restrictions specified for farm equipment dealers.

Senators passed the bill on a 48-0 vote.

Provisions of **LB982**, also introduced by Dubas, were amended into **LB814**, which passed 43-1. The measure allows manufacturers to market new varieties of all-terrain and utility-type vehicles by amending vehicle dimension

restrictions and tire definitions.

LB174, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, increases from $100 to $250 the minimum fine for any driver who spills livestock manure or urine from a vehicle on a highway located within the corporate limits of a metropolitan class city. The violation is a Class IV misdemeanor.

Sen. Heath Mello

The bill also changes penalties for zoning ordinance violations in metropolitan class cities to a Class IV misdemeanor for a first or second violation and a Class II misdemeanor for third and subsequent violations, if committed within two years of a prior violation.

The bill passed on a vote of 40-2.

Licensing and administration

Introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, **LB383** creates the Military Honor license plate. To be eligible, current and former service members are required to register with the state Department of Veterans' Affairs. The fee for alphanumeric plates is $5, which may be waived on one set of plates and is credited to the Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund. Personalized plates cost $40, with $30 credited to the cemetery fund and $10 credited to the state Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

Sen. Charlie Janssen

Individuals receiving Prisoner of War and Purple Heart plates are exempt from the $5 fee. The Military Honor plates will be available in January 2016. Fees for the plates are in addition to standard motor vehicle registration fees.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

Introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, **LB446** adds flood-damaged vehicles to the definition of salvage in the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act.

Sen. Bill Avery

The bill defines a flood-damaged vehicle as one that has been submerged in water to the point that rising water has reached over the floorboard, entered the passenger compartment and caused damage to any electrical, computerized or mechanical components.

Under the bill, any vehicle designated as flood damaged will receive a salvage title.

Lawmakers approved the bill on a 44-0 vote.

The legislature passed two bills that brought Nebraska statutes in compliance with federal guidelines.

LB983, introduced by Dubas, updates Nebraska statutes to comply with federal regulations regarding commercial driver's licenses, permits and identification cards issued by the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

If convicted of using a hand-held telephone while driving, commercial vehicle drivers, drivers of nine- to 15-passenger vans and school bus drivers will have a three-point penalty assessed against their license. The bill also exempts farmers, their family members and employees from commercial driving regulations when driving covered farm vehicles.

Senators passed the bill on a 42-0 vote.

LB776, introduced by Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley, makes state laws administered by the DMV consistent with federal laws by amending reference dates in several statutes. Included in the updates is a requirement that DMV employees who handle licensing and registration documentation be subject to background checks.

Sen. Galen Hadley

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

LB786, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, would have created an emergency contact registry within the state DMV for exclusive use by law enforcement following crisis situations in which a victim cannot communicate.

Sen. Sue Crawford

The bill would have enabled Nebraska residents with a state driver's license or identification card voluntarily to provide up to two contact names and phone numbers via the DMV website without charge.

The bill was held in committee.

Motorcycles and bicycles

A bill dealing with motorcycle helmets stalled on general file.

LB393, introduced by Hoskins Sen. Dave Bloomfield, would have allowed motorcycle riders 21 years old and older to ride without wearing a protective helmet. The bill would have required motorcycle riders to use eye protection such as goggles, a windshield or a face shield attached to a helmet.

Sen. Dave Bloomfield

Bloomfield filed a motion on general file to invoke cloture, which would cease debate and force a vote on the bill. The motion failed on a 25-22 vote, as 33 votes

were needed.

LB667, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would have allowed motorcyclists to display light-emitting diodes—or LEDs—on a motorcycle. Current law prohibits the use of red or green lights that are visible from the front of any vehicle except police and fire department vehicles or school buses. The bill was held in committee.

Sen. Bob Krist

Senators considered two bicycle-related measures this session.

LB756, introduced by Smith, would have expanded the state's definition of a bicycle to include electric-assist bicycles. In addition to having two or three wheels and pedals for propulsion by human power, an electric bicycle features an electric motor producing up to 750 watts, up to one brake horsepower and a maximum speed of 20 mph.

Sen. Jim Smith

The bill was advanced to general file but not scheduled for debate.

Finally, **LB1071**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, would have required the state Department of Roads to establish minimum safety design criteria for planning and constructing routes for bicycles.

Sen. Steve Lathrop

The bill also would have given cyclists the same rights as pedestrians when riding their bicycles on sidewalks, crosswalks and roadway shoulders.

The bill was held in committee. ■

URBAN AFFAIRS

Sen. Amanda McGill, chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee

Utility district elections, redevelopment, zoning ordinances and city financing were among the urban affairs issues taken up by lawmakers this session.

Senators passed a bill that authorizes district elections for the metropolitan utilities district (MUD) board of directors.

LB1014, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Murante, authorizes the MUD board of directors to divide the district's territory into seven election subdivisions.

Sen. John Murante

The board has until Feb. 1, 2016, to establish districts composed of substantially equal population and compact and contiguous territory and will assign each member a numbered subdivision for the remainder of their current term of office.

Assignments will be made so as to stagger elections to the new districts until 2023. The board must redistrict following each federal decennial census.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

Also approved this session, on a 43-0 vote, was a measure that revises guidelines for the accounting of certain blighted properties.

LB1012, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, permits cities to exempt redevelopment projects using formerly used defense sites when determining the amount of blighted land in their municipalities.

Sen. Ken Schilz

Lawmakers updated requirements for how municipalities provide notice to neighborhood associations of zoning and redevelopment plan changes.

Currently, municipalities are required to provide notice by certified mail. Under **LB679**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, a neighborhood association electing to receive notices may request a preferred method of notice, including email, regular, certified or registered mail.

Sen. Heath Mello

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

A measure intended to facilitate the use of tax increment financing (TIF) in Nebraska cities and villages remained on select file.

LR29CA, introduced by York Sen. Greg Adams, would have placed a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 2014 general election ballot. If approved by voters, the amendment would have changed how cities and villages are able to use TIF to rehabilitate substandard properties.

Sen. Greg Adams

Two bills advanced from committee but were not scheduled for debate.

LB791, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill would have authorized cities of the first and second class and villages to borrow money from financial institutions to purchase property.

LB801, introduced by the committee, would have established a procedure for a property owner or occupant to appeal a nuisance citation in a first- or second-class city or village.

Finally, **LB968**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer, would have provided additional powers for certain sanitary and improvement districts in Nebraska. The bill did not advance from committee. ■

Sen. Jim Scheer

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB13	Krist	SF	Require radon resistant construction and radon mitigation statements for residential construction and create a building codes task force	2, 5
LB33	Hadley	S	Authorize tax collection agreements and change lien, levy, and penalty provisions	2, 5
LB48	Ashford	GF	Change provisions relating to housing agencies	
LB51	Ashford	GF	Change provisions relating to publication of court opinions	
LB54	Wightman	GF	Change display of credential and advertisement provisions under the Uniform Credentialing Act	
LB56	Larson	S	Provide for automatic nomination of certain county officers	2, 4, 6
LB75	Janssen	GF (>987)	Exempt military retirement benefits from taxation as prescribed	11
LB76	Nordquist	S	Adopt the Health Care Transparency Act	3, 5
LB84	Schumacher	GF	Change provisions relating to the operation of utility-type vehicles	
LB96	Dubas	S	Exempt repair or replacement parts for agricultural machinery and equipment from sales and use tax	3, 12
LB128	Coash	SF	Create the offense of disarming a peace officer	2
LB129	Haar	GF (>967)	Change the compensation for members of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds	12
LB130	Mello	VO	Eliminate Cash Reserve Fund transfers	10, 11, 12, 13
LB132	Nordquist	S	Adopt the Skin Cancer Prevention Act and change membership provisions for boards appointed under the Uniform Credentialing Act	8, 9, 12
LB144	Brasch	S	Provide for write-in candidacy by defeated candidate	4, 9, 11
LB145	Brasch	C	Change valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land	
LB150	Nordquist	GF (>867)	Change provisions relating to the sale of natural gas by metropolitan utilities districts and exempt certain purchases of energy and fuel from sales tax	11, 13
LB151	Seiler	GF (>788)	Provide a hearsay exception for certain documents and data kept in the regular course of business	14
LB159	Schumacher	GF (>867)	Provide and change sales tax provisions relating to gold, silver, and platinum and provide a tax amnesty	9, 11, 13
LB161	McGill	GF (>174)	Change a penalty for violation of building ordinances or regulations of a city of the metropolitan class	
LB167	McCoy	GF (>946)	Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors	
LB171	Bloomfield	C	Provide for an expedited concealed handgun permit process for applicants who are victims of domestic violence	
LB174	Mello	S (+161)	Change provisions relating to vehicle load contents and spillage in cities of the metropolitan class	2, 4, 5
LB188	Karpisek	GF	Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners	13
LB191	Nordquist	S (+885)	Adopt the Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act, provide tax credits, and change certain valuation provisions as prescribed	7, 12, 14
LB191A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB215	Schilz	S	Change provisions relating to use of the County Visitors Promotion Fund	3, 5
LB217	Avery	GF	Change constitutional officers' salaries	
LB219	Avery	GF (>946)	Change petition requirements for general election ballot	
LB249	Dubas	GF (>983)	Change motor vehicle provisions relating to farm vehicles and drivers transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies	
LB251	Hansen	S	Change a fee relating to the rental of motor vehicles	10, 12
LB254	Adams	S (+397, 505, 883)	Eliminate a termination date for insurance coverage for anticancer medication and provide insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorder and funding for amino acid-based elemental formulas	14
LB259	Karpisek	S	Exempt keno writers from licensure under the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act	
LB272	Carlson	S	Change provisions relating to chemigation permits and fees	
LB274	Nordquist	IPP (>470)	Adopt the Education Compensation Transparency Act	
LB276	Nordquist	S	Change reimbursement provisions under the Early Intervention Act and require a medicaid state plan amendment	12, 14
LB276A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB278	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to fees charged by the Secretary of State	3, 5
LB300	Krist	C	Provide licensure requirements for health care facilities and require Department of Health and Human Services to provide abortion information	
LB313	Christensen	GF	Change provisions relating to incarceration work camps	3
LB348	Harr	GF	Change provisions relating to the assessment of certain rent-restricted housing projects	
LB359	Cook	S (+732)	Change asset and income limitations for certain programs of public assistance and change eligibility redeterminations relating to a child care subsidy	2, 9

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LB359A	Cook	S	Appropriations Bill	
LB364	Avery	S	Permit cities of the metropolitan, primary, and first class to set limits on contracts which affect public officials or employees	
LB371	Mello	S	Adopt the Transparency in Government Procurement Act	3, 11
LB371A	Mello	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB373	Mello	SF (>961)	Change Nebraska Construction Prompt Pay Act provisions	12, 14
LB378	Smith	C (>383)	Eliminate fees for the issuance of certain license plates	
LB381	Janssen	C	Require photographic identification to vote	
LB382	Janssen	GF	Change presidential elector selection and voting requirements	4, 5
LB383	Janssen	S (+378)	Provide for Military Honor Plates and change certain license plate fee provisions	13, 14
LB383A	Janssen	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB390	Christensen	S (+694, 772)	Change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school and Emergency Management Act provisions	13, 14
LB391	Davis	GF (>1098)	Change water law provisions relating to water storage	14
LB392	Lathrop	GF (>699)	Eliminate certain firearms provisions no longer authorized by federal law	
LB393	Bloomfield	GF	Change helmet and eye protection provisions regarding motorcycles	6
LB397	Conrad	C (>254)	Require insurance coverage for screening for amino acid-based formulas	14
LB399	Lautenbaugh	SF	Permit members of certain organizations to use flashing amber lights on motor vehicles	2, 5
LB402	Mello	S	Change provisions relating to community-based energy development projects	12
LB403	Seiler	S	Prohibit retail sale of novelty lighters	3, 5
LB404	McGill	GF	Change State Natural Gas Regulation Act provisions relating to infrastructure system replacement cost recovery charges	
LB427	Howard	GF	Adopt the Carbon Monoxide Safety Act	
LB433	Price	GF	Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes	
LB438	Adams	S	Change the accountability system for schools and school districts under the Quality Education Accountability Act	6, 9, 13
LB438A	Adams	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB441	Seiler	GF (>998)	Change provisions relating to control of dead human remains	13
LB444	Krist	GF	Require certification and presence of authorized personnel by retail liquor licensees	
LB446	Avery	S	Define salvage to include flood damage under the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act	2, 5
LB464	Ashford	S (+1093)	Change provisions relating to the juvenile justice system, arraignment, court jurisdiction, services for juveniles and families, and truancy	11, 14
LB464A	Ashford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB465	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the College Choice Grant Program Act	
LB470	Scheer	S (+274)	Adopt the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act	3, 5
LB474	Krist	S (+488)	Change provisions relating to occupation taxes	7, 11
LB475	Carlson	C (>1067)	Change the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act and the Business Innovation Act	
LB485	Conrad	GF	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation as prescribed	13, 14
LB485A	Conrad	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB488	Revenue	GF (>474)	Change provisions relating to municipal occupation taxes	
LB494	Davis	GF	Change number of districts and members of Game and Parks Commission	
LB494A	Davis	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB503	Coash	GF (>853)	Rename the Child Protection Act and provide for alternative response to a report of child abuse or neglect	
LB505	Coash	GF (>254)	Provide requirement for insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders	14
LB513	Carlson	S	Change notice provisions under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act	3, 5
LB514	Carlson	S	Provide for new funding mechanisms under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act	3, 5
LB526	Howard	S	Change provisions relating to use of pharmaceutical agents by optometrists	12, 14
LB546	Kolowski	S	Eliminate and change provisions relating to the review of postsecondary capital construction projects	8, 11
LB550	Schilz	C	Adopt the Livestock Growth Act and change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act	
LB551	Schilz	C	Change recreational liability provisions	
LB558	Kintner	S	Change provisions relating to certain declaratory judgments and illegal taxes paid	
LB559	Mello	SF (>961)	Adopt a short-time compensation program under the Employment Security Law	12, 14
LB559A	Mello	SF (>961)	Appropriation Bill	
LB560	Mello	S (+903)	Change provisions of the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	9, 12
LB560A	Mello	S	Appropriation Bill	

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LB565	Nelson	S	Change provisions relating to registering to vote and requesting a ballot for early voting at the same time	13, 14
LB588	Watermeier	S	Change veteran employment preference provisions	3, 6
LB597	Larson	S	Change provisions relating to county agricultural societies	3, 4, 5
LB642	Mello	GF	Prohibit receiving certain types of wagers on horseracing	2
LB656	Exec Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal parimutuel wagering provisions held unconstitutional	
LB657	Exec Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete handicapped or disabled parking permit provisions	
LB658	Exec Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete section relating to public power suppliers	
LB659	Exec Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete section relating to the Radiation Control Act	
LB660	Krist	S	Provide for extension of a pilot project and a contract relating to case management	3, 10, 12
LB660A	Krist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB661	Krist	S	Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's website and use of Department of Motor Vehicle records	3, 7, 12
LB661A	Krist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB662	Krist	IPP	Provide and change requirements for voter identification	3
LB663	Krist	IPP	Change provisions for elections conducted by mail	
LB664	Krist	C	Provide immunity under the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act during an emergency	
LB665	Krist	C	Change the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	
LB666	Krist	C (>905)	State intent relating to funding for the Civil Air Patrol	
LB667	Krist	C	Provide an exception for motorcycles to certain vehicle light requirements	8
LB668	Hadley	GF (>851)	Provide for extinguishment of a lien or security interest as prescribed	
LB669	McCoy	C	Transfer cash reserve funds to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund	7
LB670	McCoy	C	Change property tax valuations of agricultural land and horticultural land	5
LB671	Chambers	V	Eliminate provisions relating to hunting and killing of mountain lions	4, 7, 11, 12, 13
LB672	Chambers	C	Provide a duty for attorneys and counselors	
LB673	Chambers	C	Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act	5
LB674	Chambers	S	Change provisions relating to abandonment or cruel neglect of an animal	11, 13
LB675	Chambers	C	Eliminate the property tax exemption for religious organizations	3
LB676	Chambers	C	Change filing and enforcement provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	4
LB677	Mello	C	Adopt the Nebraska Patent Abuse Prevention Act	
LB678	Mello	C (>905)	Change the funding allocation percentage for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund	
LB679	Mello	S	Change notice requirements relating to zoning, redevelopment projects, and neighborhood associations	3, 12, 14
LB680	Mello	GF (>863)	Amend the State Electrical Act and update the reference to the National Electrical Code	
LB681	Mello	GF (>851)	Change provisions relating to land banks and tax sales for delinquent property taxes	
LB682	Scheer	GF	Provide for formation of allied school systems as prescribed	4, 10
LB683	Scheer	S	Change a reference to federal rules and regulations relating to storm water management	
LB684	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act	
LB685	Christensen	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the Real Property Appraiser Act	
LB686	Christensen	GF (>1098)	Change a certification date relating to nonirrigated acres	4
LB687	Christensen	S	Change application procedures for real estate licenses	14
LB687A	Christensen	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB688	Christensen	GF (>700)	Change provisions relating to cease and desist orders of the Director of Insurance	
LB689	Bolz	C (>905)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB690	Bolz	VO	Create the Aging Nebraskans Task Force and require a grant application	8, 12, 13, 14
LB690A	Bolz	VO	Appropriation Bill	
LB691	Bolz	C	Increase a child and dependent care tax credit	
LB692	Sullivan	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Act	
LB693	Seiler	S	Change succession of real property for small estates	
LB694	Seiler	GF (>390)	Change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school	13, 14
LB695	Haar	C	Require an affidavit relating to radon levels at a child care location	
LB696	Haar	IPP	Prohibit the use of and require labeling of food containers containing Bisphenol A	6
LB697	Larson	S	Require publication of a statewide list of tax-delinquent properties	
LB698	Larson	S	Change provisions relating to mowing and harvesting hay on the right-of-way of highways	
LB699	Larson	S (+392, 1035)	Change hunting permit and hunter education provisions, provide reports to a firearm database, and eliminate certain firearm provisions	3, 8, 9, 12

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LB700	Schumacher	S (+688, 715, 926, 993)	Adopt the Risk Management and Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Act, provide requirements for certain health care sharing ministries, and change provisions relating to insurance rules and regulations, definitions, cease and desist orders, and risk-based capital	
LB701	Dubas	S	Change provisions relating to salvage titles and acquisition of salvage titles by insurance companies	
LB702	Johnson	S	Change provisions for organization of cities of the second class and villages	
LB703	Avery	C	Change the Nebraska Optometry Education Assistance Contract Program	
LB704	Avery	C	Create the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Fund	4
LB705	Coash	GF	Change personal needs allowance under medicaid	
LB705A	Coash	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB706	Harr	C	Change provisions relating to sexual assault, child abuse, sexually explicit conduct, and child pornography and to provide for forfeiture of property as prescribed	
LB707	Conrad	C	Change provisions and procedures relating to sexual assault, stalking, domestic assault, and use of an electronic communication device and to create the offense of harassment	3
LB708	Kintner	C	Exempt social security benefits from state income taxation	
LB709	Kintner	C	Exempt military retirement benefits from state income taxation	
LB710	Christensen	GF (>1098)	Provide requirements for entering into certain ground water augmentation projects	4, 14
LB711	Watermeier	GF	Change provisions relating to contamination of property by clandestine drug labs	
LB712	Gloor	S	Revise powers of state-chartered banks, building and loan associations, and credit unions	
LB713	Gloor	GF (>759)	Change state investment officer provisions relating to time deposit open accounts and limits on total deposits	11, 13
LB714	Gloor	S	Eliminate provisions relating to forged, altered, or raised checks under the Nebraska Banking Act	
LB715	Gloor	GF (>700)	Add definitions relating to insurance	
LB716	Gloor	C	Provide procedures relating to electronic delivery of insurance notices and documents and Internet posting of certain insurance policies	
LB717	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to the Real Property Appraiser Act and professional qualifications	11, 13
LB718	Crawford	GF	Change procedures for adoption of rules and regulations and require publication of certain information	3
LB718A	Crawford	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB719	Crawford	S (+720)	Require a report and change complaint procedures regarding rules and regulations	3, 12
LB720	Crawford	GF (>719)	Provide and change complaint procedures for rules and regulations	12, 14
LB721	Janssen	C	Change tax provisions	
LB722	Kolowski	C	Adopt the Recognition and Enforcement of Tribal Court Civil Judgments Act	
LB723	Christensen	GF (>1098)	Change property tax provisions relating to the valuation of irrigated cropland and comparable sales	7, 14
LB724	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school	
LB725	Sullivan	S	Change student growth adjustment correction and local effort rate yield under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	3, 5, 12
LB725A	Sullivan	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB726	Scheer	GF (>946)	Provide for changing the number of school board members in Class II and Class III school districts	4, 10, 12
LB727	Harms	C	Change provisions relating to anatomical gift donation designations on drivers' licenses and state identification cards	
LB728	Harms	S	Change provisions relating to criminal history record information checks for certain employees of the Division of Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Health and Human Services	9, 12
LB729	Kolowski	C	Create the Task Force on Expanded Learning Opportunities for School-Age Youth	
LB730	Kolowski	C	Change reporting provisions under the Child Protection Act	
LB731	Kolowski	C	Change provisions relating to workers' compensation first injury reports	
LB732	Kolowski	GF (>359)	Change asset limitation for certain programs of public assistance	4, 9
LB733	Schumacher	C	Adopt the Mass Assessment Act for valuation of real property for ad valorem tax purposes	
LB734	Schumacher	C	Provide for deposit of public funds with credit unions	5
LB735	Bolz	S	Require refund of certain insurance premiums upon death of insured	
LB736	Dubas	S	Change the service of notice provision in the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB737	Dubas	S	Change qualifications for county veterans service officers	
LB738	Larson	C (>906)	Create a fund and appropriate funds to the Department of Motor Vehicles	
LB739	Hadley	S	Update references to the Internal Revenue Code	
LB740	Crawford	S	Provide residency requirements for postsecondary education purposes for veterans and their family members	3, 6, 12
LB741	Murante	C (>923)	Require schools to have a policy relating to tornado drills as prescribed	4, 14
LB742	Murante	C	Require instant run-off voting in primary elections	

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LB743	Murante	GF (>946)	Provide definition of one-half of an elected term of office	10, 12
LB744	Avery	S	Establish the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission	3, 9, 13
LB744A	Avery	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB745	Avery	GF (>974)	Change various provisions relating to administrative governmental functions	
LB746	Avery	GF	Change election provisions to authorize provisional ballots and require identification for certain voters	
LB747	Avery	C	Provide electioneering communication reporting requirements and restrictions under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	
LB748	Avery	C	Change paternity provisions for a child conceived as a result of sexual assault	3
LB749	Harr	S	Adopt the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act	7, 12
LB750	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to lien perfection and termination	
LB751	Conrad	S	Adopt the Nebraska Benefit Corporation Act	5, 10, 12
LB751A	Conrad	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB752	Lathrop	GF (>811)	Change certain assault provisions	14
LB753	Gloor	S	Change a provision for notice of a change of address for an agent for service of process for a limited liability company and provide a filing fee	
LB754	Smith	C (>967)	Provide funds for career education programs	7, 12
LB755	Gloor	S	Adopt the Standard Valuation Act for valuation of insurance reserves	7, 12
LB756	Smith	GF	Redefine bicycle and motor vehicle	8
LB757	Smith	S	Create a mailbox location exception and repeal an obsolete road numbering system requirement	3, 12, 14
LB758	Smith	S	Change duties relating to registration certificates for trailers	
LB759	Mello	S (+713, 918, 929, 977)	Require reports, define terms, change investment provisions, and provide powers and duties relating to retirement systems	3, 11, 13
LB760	Mello	C	Adopt the Combined Sewer Overflow Infrastructure Assistance Act and the Unfunded Federal Mandate Infrastructure Assistance Act	4
LB761	Mello	GF (>851)	Provide for a tax amnesty program and change provisions on contracts for finding nonpayers of taxes	
LB762	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to integrated management plans	
LB763	Janssen	IPP	Require reports from state agencies on inefficient programs	
LB764	Conrad	C (>905)	Appropriate funds for pediatric cancer research at the University of Nebraska Medical Center	
LB765	Conrad	S	Change the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	
LB766	Bloomfield	S	Change tuition assistance program provisions for National Guard members	
LB767	Schilz	C	Change provisions relating to operator training for underground storage tanks and provide funding	
LB768	Schilz	S (+846)	Change provisions of the Livestock Brand Act and estray provisions	9, 13
LB769	Crawford	C	Change provisions relating to military parents under the Parenting Act	3
LB770	Wallman	C	Change provisions relating to explosives and destructive devices	
LB771	Wallman	C	Change length of certification period under the Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act	
LB772	Davis	GF (>390)	Increase expenditure amount for Adjutant General for aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response	3, 13, 14
LB773	Davis	C	Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections	
LB774	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to filing corrected or amended annual and biennial reports with the Secretary of State	
LB775	Seiler	GF (>788)	Provide for disclosure of a decedent's financial information as prescribed	14
LB776	Hadley	S	Adopt and update references to certain federal provisions related to motor vehicles	8, 12
LB777	Hadley	S	Change license renewal and issuance provisions under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act	
LB778	Chambers	C	Require certain entities to comply with provisions on open meetings, public records, and conflicts of interest	4
LB779	Scheer	C	Change duties of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education relating to transfer-of-credit policies	
LB780	Wightman	S	Change provisions relating to transfer on death deeds	
LB781	Harms	S	Change a date relating to a community college area comprehensive audit	
LB782	Lathrop	GF (>923)	Establish a return-to-learn protocol for students who have sustained a concussion	14
LB783	Lathrop	C (>867)	Change distributions under the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act	9, 11, 13
LB784	Lathrop	GF	Change a provision relating to juror disqualification	
LB785	Lathrop	C	Provide when acknowledgment is not required for contract for sale of homestead property	
LB786	Crawford	C	Adopt the Emergency Contact Registry Act and provide powers and duties for the Department of Motor Vehicles	4
LB787	Schumacher	C	Provide an income tax deduction for loan principal payments for graduate degrees	6

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LB788	Schumacher	S (+151, 775, 810, 815, 819, 988)	Change provisions relating to real estate loans, fiduciary accounts, decedents' estates, hearsay exceptions, mortgages, trust deeds, and safe deposit boxes	13, 14
LB789	Bolz	C	Provide for a survey relating to paraeducators	
LB790	Howard	GF (>853)	Require training for case managers as prescribed	11
LB790A	Howard	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB791	McGill	GF	Authorize cities of the first and second class and villages to borrow from state-chartered or federally chartered financial institutions	3
LB792	Sullivan	S	Eliminate a report requirement by the county treasurers to the State Treasurer	
LB793	Wallman	C	Change workers' compensation death benefit provisions	
LB794	Harr	C	Change provisions relating to the collection of sales and use taxes on credit and debit card transactions and change sales and use tax collection fees	
LB795	Harr	GF (>998)	Change provisions relating to operator's license reinstatement	
LB796	Harr	C	Provide for disposition of a tenant's personal property upon death	3
LB797	Nelson	C (>905)	Provide funding for fountains at the State Capitol	5, 10
LB798	Christensen	S	Authorize power districts to use a fiscal year rather than a calendar year	
LB799	Carlson	GF	Change a filing requirement for insurance companies	14
LB800	Mello	S	Provide for designation of enterprise zones and preferences in certain business incentive programs	11, 13
LB801	Urban Affairs	GF	Change procedures relating to declarations of nuisances in certain cities	3
LB802	Urban Affairs	S	Eliminate provisions for adopting future amendments of certain standard codes	
LB803	Urban Affairs	S	Change veto power provisions for mayors of first and second class cities	
LB804	Avery	GF	Change and eliminate procedures for filling vacancies and removal of certain gubernatorial appointees	
LB805	Avery	C	Change application requirements to Nebraska veterans homes	6
LB806	Avery	S	Change provisions of the Military Code relating to Military Department personnel	
LB807	Harms	C	Change provisions relating to provisional operator's permits, interactive wireless communication devices, and occupant protection systems and update references to certain federal provisions	4
LB808	Conrad	C (>907)	Change provisions of the Legal Education for Public Service Loan Repayment Act and transfer funds from the State Settlement Cash Fund	7, 12, 14
LB809	Coash	C (>867)	Exempt purchases by historic automobile museums from sales and use taxes	9, 11, 13
LB810	Watermeier	SF (>788)	Change provisions relating to the enforcement and servicing of real estate loans	11, 14
LB811	Schilz	S (+752, 869)	Change provisions relating to controlled substances, prescriptions, and certain assault provisions	8, 12, 14
LB812	Hansen	C	Terminate the inheritance tax	7
LB813	Hansen	C	Change valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land for property tax purposes	
LB814	Avery	S (+841, 982)	Redefine all-terrain vehicle, utility-type vehicle, and sales price, change sales and use tax provisions relating to ATV's and UTV's, and change duties of sellers in the distribution of sales tax revenue to provide funding to the Game and Parks Commission	4, 9, 11, 12
LB814A	Avery	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB815	Murante	GF (>788)	Change provisions relating to fiduciary accounts controlled by a trust department	14
LB816	Murante	S	Authorize use of electronic forms of evidence of insurance for purposes of motor vehicle registration	
LB817	Haar	GF	Change membership provisions relating to public power district boards	
LB818	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to net metering	
LB819	Wightman	GF (>788)	Change provisions relating to future advances on mortgages or trust deeds	14
LB820	Davis	C (>961)	Authorize the Governor to execute a compact for prevention and control of forest fires and provide employment status for certain volunteer firefighters	13, 14
LB821	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide a public benefits exemption for burial or cremation of an unclaimed body	
LB822	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to sexual assault of a child in the second and third degree	
LB823	Lautenbaugh	C	Terminate metropolitan utilities districts on January 1, 2015	
LB824	Lautenbaugh	C	Change workers' compensation temporary disability provisions	
LB825	Lautenbaugh	GF	Require Open Meeting Act compliance by boards and subcommittees subject to the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act	
LB826	McCoy	C	Provide for a study relating to education incentives for high-need occupations	
LB827	Harms	C (>905)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB828	Seiler	S	Authorize court acceptance of certain criminal waivers and pleas	
LB829	Schumacher	GF (>867)	Exempt separately stated postage charges from sales and use taxes	9, 11, 13

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB830	Christensen	W	Authorize special permits to certain vehicle dealers in adjacent states	
LB831	Christensen	C	Provide a requirement relating to coverage of medical equipment and prohibit unreasonable delays relating to preapproval of coverage	
LB832	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to reductions in sentence, change good-time provisions, and provide for earned time	6
LB833	Dubas	GF (>946)	Change selection provisions for county surveyors	10, 12
LB834	Avery	C	Change provisions relating to funding for school breakfast programs	
LB835	Avery	C (>967)	Extend a pilot project relating to college entrance exams	12
LB836	Performance Audit	S	Provide and change provisions relating to legislative findings for tax incentive programs	10, 12
LB837	Performance Audit	C (>974)	Change a provision relating to preaudits by state agencies	9
LB838	Sullivan	S	Change dates relating to certifications and distribution of state aid to schools	6, 7
LB839	Janssen	C	Extend the effective period for a continuing lien for a garnishment in aid of execution	
LB840	Haar	C	Require rules and regulations for mandatory water well permits in management areas	
LB841	Hadley	C (>814)	Change sales and use tax provisions relating to all-terrain vehicles, utility-type vehicles, and distribution of revenue	4, 9
LB842	Davis	C (>967)	Change provisions relating to allocations to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund	7, 12
LB843	Johnson	IPP	Change provisions relating to membership on the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery	
LB844	Schilz	S	Extend the termination date of the Nebraska Litter Reduction and Recycling Act	
LB845	Schilz	GF	Provide for regulation of meteorological evaluation towers	
LB846	Davis	C (>768)	To create the brand inspection service area for brand inspection fees and estray disposition	9, 13
LB847	Hadley	C	Provide for fees for copies of motor vehicle accident reports	
LB848	Harr	C	Provide financial assistance under the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act for the development and acquisition of low-income housing	
LB849	Harr	C	Redefine automobile liability policy relating to the Motor Vehicle Registration Act	
LB850	Watermeier	GF (>986)	Provide a homestead exemption for individuals with developmental disabilities	
LB851	Hadley	S (+668, 681, 761, 979)	Change land bank, tax sales, liens and security interests, nonresident vehicle registration, ethanol facilities, Department of Revenue powers and duties, and taxation provisions	
LB852	Crawford	C	Change provisions relating to asbestos regulation	7
LB853	McGill	S (+503, 790)	Change and rename acts, a register, and an advisory committee relating to children and young adults and require case manager training as prescribed	9, 11, 12
LB853A	McGill	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB854	Krist	S	Prohibit issuance of a long-term care request for proposals before September 1, 2015	5, 9, 12
LB855	Wallman	GF (>863)	Change provisions for formation and operation of cemetery associations	10, 13
LB856	Wallman	C	Require water well metering relating to hydraulic fracturing	5
LB857	Bloomfield	C	Change application provisions under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act regarding members of the armed forces to include spouses of such members	
LB858	Howard	C	Provide requirements relating to pharmacists and health care services in health insurance	
LB859	Krist	S	Change provisions for onsite vaccinations at certain health care facilities	
LB860	Nordquist	C	Adopt health insurance requirements relating to dollar limits, rescissions, preexisting conditions, and dependents	
LB861	Karpisek	GF (>863)	Prohibit use and distribution of vapor products and other products derived from tobacco as prescribed and provide an exception and provide penalties	4, 10, 13
LB862	Lathrop	C	Change the amount recoverable under the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	
LB863	Karpisek	S (+680, 855, 861, 888, 1052)	Change provisions relating to cemeteries and alcohol sales, prohibit sales to and use of vapor products and alternative nicotine products by minors, prohibit certain sales of tobacco products, and adopt by reference provisions of the National Electrical Code	10, 13
LB864	Mello	C	Allocate funds to the Early Childhood Education Grant Program	
LB865	Smith	C	Eliminate certain taxing authority of learning communities and change state aid calculations	6
LB866	Karpisek	C	Provide for appointment of two additional members to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LB867	Hadley	S (+150, 159, 783, 809, 829, 1043)	Change provisions relating to distribution of, exemptions from, and review of taxes and tax information	9, 11, 13
LB867A	Hadley	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB868	Karpisek	C	Prohibit peace officers from using government-issued equipment for private employment	
LB869	Gloor	GF (>811)	Change and transfer provisions on prescriptions and controlled substances	
LB870	Bolz	C	Adopt the Public Debt Recovery Program Act	6
LB871	Harr	IPP	Require creation of fiscal notes as prescribed	
LB872	Kolowski	GF (>923)	Create the position of state school security director and provide duties	4, 12, 14

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB872A	Kolowski	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB873	Larson	C (>906)	Create a fund and appropriate and transfer funds for the Game and Parks Commission	5
LB874	Larson	C (>906)	Appropriate funds to the Game and Parks Commission	
LB875	Howard	C	Change provisions relating to long-term insurance	
LB876	Howard	S	Require a bodily injury exception from a pollutant exclusion in certain insurance policies	6, 12, 14
LB877	Harr	GF	Change provisions relating to use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony	
LB878	Seiler	C	Change provisions relating to wrongful death actions	
LB879	Christensen	C	Provide for a permit to carry a concealed handgun in a school	8
LB880	Harms	C	Require notice of debit and preauthorization hold amounts as prescribed and provide for a violation to be a deceptive trade practice	8
LB881	Watermeier	C	Change provisions relating to death, injury, or property damage to innocent third parties as a result of a police vehicular pursuit	5
LB882	Haar	C	Change duties of the Climate Assessment Response Committee	5
LB883	Nordquist	GF (>254)	Eliminate a termination date on coverage requirements for anticancer medication	14
LB884	Hansen	S	Name and change the Exotic Animal Auction or Exchange Venue Act and change the Livestock Auction Market Act	4, 9, 12
LB885	Harr	GF (>191)	Require the use of the income approach to value certain real property for tax purposes	12, 14
LB886	Harr	C	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Condominium Act	
LB887	Campbell	GF	Adopt the Wellness in Nebraska Act	4, 11
LB887A	Campbell	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB888	Murante	GF (>863)	Provide for changing the hours for sale of alcohol	10, 13
LB889	Dubas	C (>905)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for emergency medical services training and licensure	
LB890	Dubas	C	Change provisions relating to procedures for acquiring private property for public use	
LB891	Dubas	C (>905)	Appropriate funds to the Legislative Council to pay dues under the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	6, 10
LB892	Smith	GF	Change enforcement provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB893	Seiler	GF (>961)	Change the amount recoverable under the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	
LB894	Harr	C	Change provisions relating to applying for property tax exemptions	
LB895	Scheer	C (>961)	Change compensation rate for certain volunteers under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	13, 14
LB896	Carlson	GF	Change provisions of the Erosion and Sediment Control Act	5
LB897	Cook	C	Provide an income tax credit to employers of public assistance recipients	
LB898	Performance Audit	GF	Require reports for public benefit programs delivery system	
LB899	Karpisek	GF	Define hard cider under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	10
LB900	Janssen	C	Change a Nebraska Uniform Trust Code provision governing charitable trusts	
LB901	McGill	S (+931)	Provide for psychology internships and change duties of the Behavioral Health Education Center and adopt the Nebraska Mental Health First Aid Training Act	8, 9, 12
LB901A	McGill	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB902	Crawford	C	Exempt military retirement income from state income taxation	
LB903	Lathrop	C (>560)	Require a wage statement for employees under the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	9
LB904	Kolowski	C	Create an endowment fund to provide grants for a black history museum and center	6
LB905	Speaker Adams	VO (+666, 678, 689, 764, 797, 827, 889, 891, 936, 944, 1047, 1091, 1094)	Provide for deficit appropriations	10, 11, 12, 13
LB906	Speaker Adams	VO (+738, 873, 874, 940, 1004, 1033, 1046)	Transfer funds and create and eliminate funds	10, 11, 12, 13
LB907	Ashford	S (+808, 932)	Add, change, and eliminate provisions relating to criminal justice, incarceration, probation, parole, and legal education financial assistance	5, 12, 14
LB907A	Ashford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB908	Coash	S	Change child guardianship, ward, and adoption for child out of wedlock provisions	11, 13

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LB909	Kintner	IPP	Require state agencies to submit to the Legislative Performance Audit Committee a list of certain rules and regulations and legislation requiring the rules and regulations	5
LB910	Dubas	C	Require notice from state or local law enforcement to lienholders or mortgagees of abandoned motor vehicles	
LB911	Dubas	C	Adopt the Nebraska 911 Act and create the Next-Generation 911 Advisory Council	
LB912	Kolowski	C	Adopt the Property Tax Relief Act	
LB913	Kolowski	C	Provide an income tax credit for property taxes paid	
LB914	Karpisek	GF	Provide for a limited bottling endorsement under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	10
LB915	Crawford	GF	Provide for a person to accept city or village ordinance violation notices during mortgage foreclosure or trust deed default	
LB916	Crawford	V	Eliminate integrated practice agreements and provide for transition-to-practice agreements for nurse practitioners	12, 14
LB917	McCoy	IPP	Provide procedures for donation of real property to the Northeast Community College Area	
LB918	Nordquist	GF (>759)	Change provisions relating to investments for certain defined contribution plans	11, 13
LB919	Mello	C	Create the Open Data Advisory Board	
LB920	Coash	S	Adopt the Public Guardianship Act	4, 7, 12
LB920A	Coash	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB921	Nordquist	C	Prohibit possession, sale, offer for sale, trade, or distribution of shark fins	4
LB922	Christensen	C	Change qualification provisions under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	
LB923	McGill	S (+741, 782, 872)	Provide for the position of state school security director and require training on school security, suicide awareness and prevention, and tornado preparedness for school personnel and provide for a concussion protocol	12, 14
LB923A	McGill	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB924	McGill	C	Redefine terms under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act	
LB925	Coash	C	Provide for transfer of motor vehicle registration duties to county treasurers	
LB926	Howard	GF (>700)	Change provisions relating to rules and regulations of the Department of Insurance	
LB927	Nordquist	C	Provide that judges retirement fees cannot be waived	
LB928	State-Tribal Relations	C	Change provisions of the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act	4
LB929	Gloor	C (>759)	Define a term with respect to cities of the first class police officers' and firefighters' retirement	11, 13
LB930	Watermeier	S	Require an operator's presence at an excavation under the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB931	Bolz	GF (>901)	Adopt the Nebraska Mental Health First Aid Training Act	9
LB932	Avery	GF (>907)	Restrict public employer requests for criminal history information from an applicant	4, 12, 14
LB933	McGill	GF (>998)	Change provisions and define and redefine terms relating to labor trafficking and sex trafficking	13
LB934	McGill	C	Establish the position of Coordinator of Human Trafficking Prevention and provide duties	4
LB935	Gloor	GF	Require legislative approval to move state services	6, 13
LB936	Bolz	C (>905)	Create and provide duties for the State Ward Permanency Pilot Project	
LB937	Karpisek	S	Change quorum requirements for county boards of supervisors	
LB938	Janssen	C	Provide an income tax credit to individuals who pay a federal health insurance penalty	
LB939	Wallman	C	Create the offense of false presentation of proof of financial responsibility under the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act	
LB940	Schilz	C (>906)	Create the Water Sustainability Fund and transfer cash reserve funds	7
LB941	Schilz	S	Provide for a dairy growth study	9, 12
LB941A	Schilz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB942	Schilz	C	Change provisions relating to packers under the Competitive Livestock Markets Act	
LB943	Nordquist	GF	Change the minimum wage rate	5, 13
LB944	Bolz	C (>905)	State intent relating to funding for early childhood services	
LB945	Davis	C	Provide procedures for aid to political subdivisions from the Governor's Emergency Program	
LB946	Murante	S (+167, 219, 726, 743, 833, 1084)	Change provisions relating to bond elections, county surveyor elections, school board elections, administration and conduct of elections, vacancies, presidential electors, and threshold amounts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	10, 12
LB947	Lathrop	C	Change the minimum wage for persons compensated by way of gratuities	5, 13
LB948	Karpisek	C	Change catering license fees under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB949	Business & Labor	S	Approve claims against the state	10, 11, 12
LB950	Business & Labor	C	Deny claims against the state	
LB951	Lautenbaugh	C (>961)	Change lump-sum settlement provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	13, 14
LB952	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the Working to Improve Nebraska Schools Act	4
LB953	Howard	C	Adopt the Health Information Initiative Act and provide funding	
LB954	Dubas	GF	Change rotating or flashing light provisions for certain vehicles	

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LB955	Dubas	C	Adopt the Paid Family Medical Leave Act	8
LB956	Conrad	C	Increase the earned income tax credit	7
LB957	Christensen	W	Require certain oil and gas exploration findings to be a public record	
LB958	Cook	C (>967)	Provide for appointment of a student achievement coordinator	8, 12
LB959	Carlson	C	Provide a permit application exemption for certain water storage reservoirs	
LB960	Carlson	C	Change inheritance tax rates	7
LB961	Cook	S (+373, 559, 559A, 820, 893, 895, 951)	Provide for a fire fighting compact, change workers' compensation provisions and require coverage for volunteer firefighters, change provisions of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act, the Nebraska Construction Prompt Pay Act, and the Employment Security Law	13, 14
LB962	Brasch	GF	Change provisions relating to personal property exemptions in cases of attachment, execution, or sale	
LB963	Brasch	GF	Change provisions relating to personal property exemptions in cases of forced sale on execution	
LB964	Brasch	S	Extend a homestead exemption for claimants under sixty-five years of age and not married	
LB965	Haar	GF	Change public policy provisions and findings required by the Nebraska Power Review Board relating to the provision of electric service	13
LB965A	Haar	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB966	Davis	C	Change provisions relating to the averaging adjustment in the state aid to schools formula	
LB967	Education	S (+129, 754, 835, 842, 958, 984, 1069)	Change provisions relating to accountant licensing examination accreditation, education funding, compensation of members of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, education regulation, teaching, early childhood education programs, distance education programs, and postsecondary institutions	10, 12
LB967A	Sullivan	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB968	Scheer	C	Provide additional powers for certain sanitary and improvement districts	4
LB969	Sullivan	C (>974)	Change a limitation on appropriations for special education programs and support services	5, 9
LB970	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Provide that certain votes of public officials are public record	
LB971	Kolowski	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to stacking of insurance coverage	
LB972	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the Independent Public Schools Act	8
LB973	Harr	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to classification of school districts	
LB974	Mello	S (+745, 837, 969, 1023)	Change state government provisions relating to special education funding, preaudits, planning duties, reporting requirements, contracts, warrants, and vehicles	9, 12
LB974A	Mello	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB975	Murante	IPP	Change provisions for filling vacancies in the Legislature and Board of Regents	
LB976	Karpisek	SF	Adopt the Redistricting Act	5, 13, 14
LB977	Conrad	GF (>759)	Change provisions relating to standard of care for corporate trustees regarding governmental retirement and pension funds	11, 13
LB978	Harr	C	Authorize funding for on-bill payment programs under the Low-Income Home Energy Conservation Act	8
LB979	Harr	C (>851)	Change provisions relating to tax sales for delinquent property taxes	
LB980	Johnson	GF	Change provisions relating to termination of a township board	7
LB981	Dubas	C (>983)	Change commercial motor vehicle provisions relating to falsified information, medical examinations, texting, and use of handheld mobile telephones	
LB982	Dubas	GF (>814)	Redefine the terms all-terrain vehicle and utility-type vehicle	11
LB983	Dubas	S (+249, 981)	Change licensing provisions and operating restrictions for commercial motor vehicles, farm vehicles, and other vehicles as prescribed	7, 12
LB983A	Dubas	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB984	Sullivan	C (>967)	Change allocations from the Education Innovation Fund	5, 12
LB985	Davis	C	Provide standing to natural resources districts and provide requirements for water appropriations	
LB986	Revenue	S (+850)	Change homestead exemption income limitations and provide a homestead exemption for individuals with developmental disabilities	5, 9, 12
LB986A	Hadley	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB987	Revenue	S (+75)	Adjust individual income tax brackets for inflation and exempt social security and military retirement benefits from income taxation	5,10,11,12
LB987A	Hadley	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB988	Schumacher	C (>788)	Provide for certain access to decedent's safe deposit box	7, 14
LB989	Schumacher	S	Require a report relating to sales taxes and change tax expenditure reporting requirements under the Tax Expenditure Reporting Act	
LB990	Nordquist	C	Add a penalty and change a record requirement for 911 service suppliers	

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LB991	Nordquist	C	Prohibit collection of interchange fees by payment card networks on certain taxes and fees	8
LB992	Howard	C	Create the Early Childhood Data Governing Body	5
LB993	Christensen	GF (>700)	Provide that health care sharing ministries are not insurance	
LB994	Health & Human Services	S	Change fees as prescribed for vital statistics	12, 14
LB994A	Campbell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB995	Hadley	C	Provide an income tax credit for state and local taxes paid	
LB996	McGill	GF	Require state agencies to respond to legislative requests for information	5
LB997	McGill	S	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Training and Support Trust Fund and provide duties for the Nebraska Worker Training Board	
LB998	Karpisek	S (+441, 795, 933, 1034)	Change provisions relating to disposition of human remains, offenses related to the person, sexual exploitation, labor and sex trafficking, the Sex Offender Registration Act, and driving under the influence	11, 13
LB999	Ashford	S	Provide duties relating to the establishment of a Hastings Correctional Behavioral Health Treatment Center	5, 12, 14
LB999A	Ashford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1000	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to parenting plans	
LB1001	Wallman	S	Allow growth and cultivation of industrial hemp by the Department of Agriculture or a postsecondary institution	6, 9, 11, 12
LB1001A	Wallman	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB1002	Wallman	C	Add enforcement powers under the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act	
LB1003	Kolowski	C	Provide for natural resources districts to issue general obligation bonds	7
LB1004	Avery	C (>906)	Authorize additional sources of funding for the Commission on Indian Affairs Cash Fund	
LB1005	Avery	C	Create the Surface Water and Ground Water Review Board and provide powers and duties	
LB1006	McGill	C	Change a provision of the Private Prison Contracting Act and prohibit state agencies from entering into contracts that include certain provisions	
LB1007	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to the Security, Privacy, and Dissemination of Criminal History Information Act	
LB1008	Haar	S	Change duties of the Climate Assessment Response Committee	5, 12, 14
LB1009	Haar	C	Establish a pilot program relating to problem-based learning	
LB1010	Janssen	C	Adopt the Nebraska Enterprise Act and authorize the Governor to award economic development grants	5
LB1011	Janssen	C	Change the time limit on amending or repealing a municipal initiative	
LB1012	Schilz	S	Change provisions relating to blighted areas under the Community Development Law	10, 12
LB1013	Murante	C	Permit counties to regulate peddlers, hawkers, and solicitors by ordinance	
LB1014	Murante	S	Change provisions for election of metropolitan utilities district board of directors	6, 9, 12
LB1015	Kintner	C	Include certain fire and rescue departments under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	
LB1016	Krist	S	Provide for acquisition and sale of state aircraft and a transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund	4, 8, 12
LB1016A	Krist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1017	Krist	C	Change and transfer pharmacy, prescription, and drug provisions	
LB1018	Hadley	C	Change public record provisions for withholding job application materials from the public	5
LB1019	Schumacher	C	Adopt the Development and Venture Enterprise Act	7
LB1020	Schumacher	C	Change provisions relating to liquor licensee violations	
LB1021	Seiler	C	Change provisions relating to the sealing of records of a juvenile	
LB1022	Seiler	C	Change legal procedure provisions of hearsay, disposition of untried charges, and speedy trial	
LB1023	Mello	C (>974)	Change certain budgetary reports	9
LB1024	Mello	W	Permit the Nebraska Tourism Commission to adopt an official state symbol or slogan	4
LB1025	Bolz	C	Change the distribution of sales and use tax revenue	8
LB1026	Bolz	C	Create and provide for a Nebraska Educational Trust Fund	
LB1027	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to restoration of seized firearms as prescribed	
LB1028	Coash	GF	Change the number of judges of the separate juvenile court as prescribed	
LB1028A	Coash	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB1029	Coash	C	Change provisions relating to size, weight, and load with respect to vehicles transporting fertilizer	
LB1030	Kintner	C	Adopt the State Firearms Rights Act	
LB1031	Kintner	C	Change the distribution of sales and use tax revenue and provide for decreased income tax rates	
LB1032	Kintner	C	Require posting of signs regarding abortion	8
LB1033	Watermeier	C (>906)	Appropriate funds to the Game and Parks Commission and state intent relating to operation and maintenance of Arbor Lodge State Historical Park	
LB1034	McGill	GF (>998)	Change provisions and penalties relating to unlawful intrusion	7, 13

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1035	McGill	GF (>699)	Require reports regarding records of persons unable to purchase or possess handguns because of disqualification or disability	8, 9
LB1036	Wallman	C	Provide for biennial contracts for cities of the primary class under the Industrial Relations Act	
LB1037	McGill	GF	Authorize Auditor of Public Accounts to examine certain entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act	
LB1038	Dubas	C	Provide an income tax credit for certain property taxes paid on agricultural land and horticultural land	
LB1039	Dubas	S	Change provisions relating to size, weight, and load for farm equipment	6, 12, 14
LB1040	Karpisek	C	Create an energy conservation grant program	
LB1041	Nordquist	C (>1042)	Change retirement provisions relating to school employees	6, 13, 14
LB1042	Nordquist	S (+1041)	Change school retirement provisions and duties of the Public Employees Retirement Board	6, 13, 14
LB1042A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1043	Nelson	GF (>867)	Exempt certain deeds from the documentary stamp tax	11, 13
LB1044	Schilz	S	Provide procedures for abandoned mobile homes	
LB1045	Harr	C	Redefine the term underground facility for purposes of the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB1046	Carlson	C (>906)	Create the Water Sustainability Fund and transfer General Funds	7
LB1047	Carlson	C (>905)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources	
LB1048	Murante	S	Require delivery of the official election calendar and change and eliminate political party provisions	11, 13
LB1049	Wightman	C	Change provisions for actions for recovery of title or possession of real estate or foreclosure of mortgages or deeds of trust as mortgages	8
LB1050	Campbell	S	Change provisions relating to inspections of certain child care facilities	
LB1051	Howard	C	Adopt the Public Health Leadership and Development Act and appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	
LB1052	Karpisek	GF (>863)	Change restrictions on retailers under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	10, 13
LB1053	Karpisek	C	Provide state aid to municipalities, counties, and natural resources districts	7
LB1054	Karpisek	C	Redefine treatment under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	
LB1055	Janssen	C	Provide for tuition-free credits for veterans and military personnel as prescribed	
LB1056	Davis	C	Change individual income tax brackets and rates	
LB1057	Davis	GF	Change the distribution of sales and use tax revenue and provide duties for the Department of Revenue	
LB1058	Larson	GF	Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote	
LB1059	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change membership of learning community coordinating councils	
LB1060	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change from elected to appointed boards for educational service units	
LB1061	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change from elected to appointed boards for community college areas	
LB1062	Lautenbaugh	C	Require presentment of operator's license and proof of financial responsibility or evidence of insurance to a peace officer by a driver involved in an accident or impoundment of vehicle and authorize civil actions for certain expenses	
LB1063	Lautenbaugh	C	Require juvenile court approval to obtain a juvenile court proceeding transcript	
LB1064	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the Teach for Nebraska Program Act	
LB1065	Lautenbaugh	C	Eliminate secret ballot provisions under the Open Meetings Act	
LB1066	Lautenbaugh	C	Require a recorded roll call vote by certain county boards	
LB1067	Hadley	S (+475)	Change sales and use tax refund provisions, extend sunset dates under certain tax incentive laws, and change provisions of the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act	8, 11, 13
LB1068	Sullivan	C	Change provisions relating to learning communities	
LB1069	Sullivan	C (>967)	Change provisions relating to education	12
LB1070	Sullivan	C	Change provisions relating to state aid to schools	
LB1071	Lathrop	C	Provide additional rules of the road for bicycles and bikeways	8
LB1072	Lathrop	S	Change provisions relating to prescription drug monitoring and create a fund	
LB1073	Lathrop	C	Require employers to e-verify immigration status of new employees	
LB1074	Lathrop	C (>1098)	Change provisions relating to the regulation of ground water	5
LB1075	Harr	C	Prohibit employment of certain persons leaving public positions	7
LB1076	Campbell	S (+1078)	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Telehealth Act	5, 9, 12, 14
LB1077	Sullivan	C	Adopt the Shared Responsibility for Access and Success Act	
LB1078	Nordquist	GF (>1076)	Change the Nebraska Telehealth Act, provide for the establishment of a patient relationship through video conferencing, and require insurance coverage for telehealth services	12, 14
LB1079	Davis	W	Authorize grants to certain county agricultural societies under the Civic and Community Center Financing Act	
LB1080	Bloomfield	IPP	Provide for nonprofit nursery stock distributors under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1081	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to school-sponsored activities	
LB1082	Brasch	C	Allow all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles to be operated as authorized emergency vehicles	
LB1083	Garrett	C	Change job training grant provisions relating to veterans	6
LB1084	Garrett	GF (>946)	Change provisions governing the filling of certain vacancies	10, 12
LB1085	Cook	C	Require listing of employee salaries and job titles of certain private employers	
LB1086	Pirsch	C	Transfer cash reserve funds to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund	7
LB1087	Pirsch	S	Create a homestead exemption for disabled veterans, widows, and widowers	10, 13
LB1087A	Pirsch	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1088	Conrad	GF	Change income eligibility provisions relating to federal child care assistance	
LB1089	Conrad	S	Provide for disposition of residual funds in class action litigation and charitable trusts	
LB1090	Conrad	C	Adopt the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act	8
LB1091	Conrad	C (>905)	Transfer funds from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Job Training Cash Fund and change job training grant provisions	
LB1092	Dubas	FR	Authorize issuance of highway construction bonds	6,10,12,14
LB1093	Brasch	GF (>464)	Change provisions relating to juvenile facilitated conferencing and funding	14
LB1093A	Brasch	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB1094	Davis	C (>905)	Change a fund transfer to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund	7
LB1095	Davis	C	Create the Tax-increment Financing Division of the Department of Economic Development and change the Community Development Law	
LB1096	Ashford	C	Change provisions for expansion of a business improvement district	
LB1097	Harr	C	Change individual income tax brackets and rates and corporate income tax rates	
LB1098	Carlson	S (+391, 686, 710, 723, 1074)	Adopt and change provisions relating to water, irrigation, and natural resources	8, 13, 14
LB1098A	Carlson	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1099	Haar	C	Provide for a study relating to state aid to schools	
LB1100	Haar	C	Create the Public Power Task Force	
LB1101	Crawford	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to state aid and learning communities	
LB1102	Crawford	W	Redefine marijuana and authorize the medical use of hemp extract as prescribed	5
LB1103	Education	S	Provide for a strategic planning process for education	6, 10, 12
LB1104	Watermeier	IPP	Change farm winery licensing provisions	
LB1105	McGill	C	Create veterans and servicemembers court programs	7
LB1106	McGill	C	Change provisions relating to career academies	
LB1107	Conrad	GF	Change medicaid payment provisions for federally qualified health centers as prescribed	
LB1108	Conrad	C	Change a standard used by a court in finding a pregnant woman sufficiently mature to decide to have an abortion	
LB1109	Conrad	C	Change provisions relating to consent and parental notification and eliminate certain penalties with respect to abortion	
LB1110	Christensen	C	Change concealed handgun permit renewal provisions for members of the armed forces and their spouses	
LB1111	Christensen	C	Provide duties relating to integrated management plans	
LB1112	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to an occupation tax on irrigated land	
LB1113	Christensen	C	Provide powers and duties relating to surface water appropriations	
LB1114	Mello	S	Change and state intent relating to funding for economic development programs and change a termination date	10, 12
LB1114A	Mello	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB1115	Davis	S	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a study and state public policy	11, 14
LB1115A	Davis	S	Appropriation Bill	
LR29CA	Adams	SF	Constitutional amendment to change provisions relating to redevelopment projects	2
LR38	Avery	P	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	
LR41CA	Lautenbaugh	P	Constitutional amendment authorizing legislation for licensing and regulating wagering on live or replayed horseraces	9, 12, 13, 14
LR42	Brasch	C	Urge Congress to pass the Parental Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and submit it to the states for ratification	
LR397CA	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Constitutional amendment to require public recording and preservation of votes of public officials	
LR399	Wightman	P	Recommend the enactment of comprehensive immigration reform	

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LR400	Dubas	P	Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature	6, 9
LR411CA	Karpisek	C	Authorize municipalities and counties to exercise powers in matters of local concern and to eliminate home rule charters	
LR413	Davis	P	Request the United States Department of Agriculture immediately withdraw its proposed rule entitled "Importation of Beef from a Region in Brazil"	
LR414	Davis	C	Request the federal government to reject changes to the current law governing country of origin meat labeling	
LR416CA	Karpisek	C	Constitutional amendment to authorize casino gaming, provide for a local vote, and provide for distribution of tax proceeds	6
LR422	Campbell	P	Provide the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce & Insurance Committee, be designated to develop policy recommendations towards transformation of Nebraska's health care system	7, 9
LR423CA	Nordquist	C	Constitutional amendment to provide that residential real property may be classified separately for property taxation	
LR424	Lathrop	P	Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature	6, 9
LR427	Carlson	P	Urge the United States government to support a sustainable Renewable Fuel Standard	
LR433	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to production, possession, and use of hemp oil for the purposes of treating epileptic seizures	
LR440	Karpisek	P	Urge Congress to reauthorize federally provided terrorism reinsurance for insurers	
LR444	Performance Audit	P	Create the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee as a special legislative committee	9
LR463	Chambers	W	Urge the United States Department of Agriculture to adopt its proposed rule entitled "Importation of Beef from a Region in Brazil"	
LR482	Carlson	P	Urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency, in developing guidelines for regulating carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants, to respect the primacy of Nebraska and other states and to rely on state regulators to develop performance standards	
LR487	McCoy	C	Urge Congress to enact comprehensive health care reform	
LR491	Davis	C	Interim study to examine the need to clarify and expand application of LB985 (2014), which provided standing to natural resources districts and requirements for water appropriations	
LR497	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should amend its insurance statutes to authorize property and casualty to provide electronic delivery of insurance notices and documents and Internet posting of certain insurance policies	
LR498	Gloor	C	Interim study to further examine the updating of Nebraska's business entity statutes	
LR499	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine whether Nebraska's Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated	
LR501	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine whether the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act should be updated	
LR506	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine whether changes in the electronic payments market have rendered section 8-157.01 unworkable and inapplicable to financial institutions	
LR508	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska P-16 Initiative organized and managed by the University of Nebraska	
LR510	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding offshore tax shelters	
LR512	Scheer	C	Encourage Nebraska high schools to offer hands-only CPR training	
LR517	Haar	C	Interim study to examine ways to improve the quality and availability of interpreter services for Nebraskans who are deaf or hard of hearing	
LR518	Haar	C	Interim study to examine the need to craft a policy to ensure that women who choose to give birth at home are adequately supported by trained health care professionals	
LR519	Scheer	C	Interim study to evaluate current course offering for high school students in Nebraska	
LR520	Davis	C	Interim study to examine the problems that law enforcement is encountering since the State of Colorado legalized the sale and recreational use of marijuana	
LR521	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR522	Watermeier	C	Interim study to examine the U.S Dept. of Transportation's Maritime Administration's designation of the Missouri River from South Sioux City, Nebraska, south to Kansas City, Missouri, as the M-29 Marine Highway Connector	
LR523	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine alternative transportation options and recommend potential changes to Nebraska's statutes	
LR525	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine the skills gap in Nebraska's workforce and to identify options for workforce education	

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LR526	Haar	C	Interim study to examine options to provide incentives for professional growth and development of teachers as the means to increased student achievement and success in Nebraska public schools	
LR527	Bloomfield	C	Interim study to examine the reasons why emergency disaster payments made by or through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are not made in a timely manner once awarded	
LR528	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding financing the maintenance and replacement of county bridges	
LR529	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the adequacy of provider rates to meet the needs of Nebraskans with disabilities and the providers of services	
LR530	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine existing and proposed programs, policies, administrative rules, and statutes that impact the financial stability of working families in Nebraska	
LR531	Bloomfield	C	Interim study to examine Department of Agriculture regulation of nonprofit nursery stock distributors under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act	
LR532	Davis	C	Interim study to examine utilization of federal school breakfast and lunch programs and the impact of new federal options on Nebraska	
LR533	Crawford	C	Interim study to assess the enrollment of former foster youth in the new medicaid category for youth formerly in foster care up to age 26 in Nebraska under the new federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	
LR534	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding patent assertion entities, commonly referred to as “patent trolls”	
LR535	Mello	C	Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the structure of health and human services functions currently administered by the Department of Health and Human Services	
LR536	Adams	C	Interim study to examine the process of creating legislative task forces, committees, and commissions	
LR537	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine implementation, management, operation, and ongoing development of Next Generation 911 service in Nebraska	
LR538	Harr	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the implementation of an electronic notary system in Nebraska	
LR539	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine whether the maximum payment rate in the Aid to Dependent Children program, is adequate to meet the goals of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including keeping children in their own home	
LR540	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the treatment and services for people dually diagnosed with I/DD and MI or I/DD and behavioral health problems	
LR541	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the implementation of educational stability plans for children in foster care under the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008	
LR542	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine issues regarding the current guardian ad litem system	
LR543	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee	
LR544	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the fiscal impacts of unfunded mandates	
LR545	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine state-wide efforts that can be taken to improve Nebraska’s access to local food supply and distribution networks	
LR546	Kolowski	C	Interim study to review existing state and local programs and policies on expanded learning opportunities	
LR547	Smith	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding labor shortage areas in the state and opportunities available to Nebraska’s future workforce	
LR548	Coash	C	Interim study to assess how the State of Nebraska can improve the coordination and provision of child welfare services for Native American children and families	
LR549	Bloomfield	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to Game and Parks Commission funding	
LR551	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine enforcement under the Employee Classification Act and the effect misclassification has on facets of business and labor in Nebraska	
LR552	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska’s juvenile courts, especially juvenile courts within Douglas County	
LR553	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine the issue of drivers’ licenses for young Nebraskans who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals by the Department of Homeland Security	
LR554	Howard	C	Interim study to gather information and study the possible existence and extent of labor trafficking in the State of Nebraska	
LR555	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine how cities and villages provide services to residents located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction or sanitary improvement districts of such cities and villages	

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LR556	Harr	C	Interim study to examine local use of property taxes to study the fiscal relationship between state and local governments and the impact on our schools and justice system	
LR557	Harr	C	Interim study to examine the need to appropriate funds to Memorial Park in Omaha, Nebraska, for improvements to the park and to examine ways to honor our veterans	
LR558	Harr	C	Interim study to examine ways the state and municipalities can encourage the development of community gardens, including providing spaces for gardening on public lands	
LR559	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Medicaid Reform Council	
LR560	Schilz	C	Interim study to provide a forum for receiving the dairy industry report authorized pursuant to LB941, which was enacted during the 2014 legislative session	
LR561	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the role and value of private veterinarians in assisting law enforcement in carrying out duties under the Livestock Animal Welfare Act	
LR562	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the adequacy of revenue supporting the licensure and enforcement of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act	
LR563	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine vertical coordination in the pork industry	
LR564	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine regulatory and statutory provisions governing packer procurement of swine through marketing or production contracting under the federal Packers and Stockyards Act	
LR565	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine whether adding antidepressant, antipsychotic, and anticonvulsant drugs to the medicaid preferred drug list would be of benefit to Nebraska medicaid or Nebraska medicaid clients	
LR566	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine methods used by other states to determine the taxable value of agricultural land	
LR567	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine potential funding sources for the Great Plains Black History Museum, Science and Technology Center in Omaha, Nebraska	
LR568	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine options for the creation of a Nebraska educational trust fund for the purpose of stabilizing the availability of state aid to education when there is a significant decline in state sales and income tax revenue	
LR569	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine the professional development of forensic science in Nebraska	
LR570	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine the compliance and enforcement issues relative to Nebraska's tax incentive programs	
LR571	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's individual and corporate income tax systems	
LR572	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's sales and use tax base	
LR573	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's state aid programs to cities, counties, and other political subdivisions	
LR574	Coash	C	Interim study to explore the need for fully integrated residential services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing	
LR575	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding in-home personal services	
LR576	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the current status of the sharing of electronic health records and health information exchanges in Nebraska	
LR577	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee	
LR578	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine the various Nebraska agricultural products used in the production of craft beer and distilled spirits	
LR579	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the need-based financial aid program, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act, to determine whether the program is sufficient to meet the needs of students	
LR580	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the reform effort of Nebraska's behavioral health system	
LR581	Avery	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee	
LR582	Crawford	C	Interim study to review the work of the Task Force on Unfunded Mandates created in 1996 and to study the impacts of unfunded and underfunded mandates on counties and county governments	
LR583	Crawford	C	Interim study to assess the behavioral health and mental health needs of Nebraska's K-12 students and available resources to meet those needs	
LR584	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to changing recreational liability provisions	
LR585	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine the Nebraska statutes relating to cities of the first class	
LR586	Howard	C	Interim study to gather information and make recommendations to craft policy to support and continue electronic health records exchanges and health information initiatives	
LR587	Howard	C	Interim study to gather information and make recommendations to craft policy to support the creation of a sustainable community health workforce in Nebraska	
LR588	Howard	C	Interim study to examine the establishment of an early childhood data governance entity	
LR589	Haar	C	Interim study to evaluate the local and statewide health impacts of burning coal	

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LR590	Haar	C	Interim study to examine the organizational structure of public power	
LR591	Karpisek	C	Interim study to review issues surrounding child custody proceedings and parenting time determinations as they pertain to families of divorce	
LR592	McGill	C	Interim study to examine various methods of behavioral health workforce development	
LR593	McGill	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee	
LR594	Schumacher	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska constitutional provisions which enable or limit the Legislature's power to provide for property tax policies and relief programs	
LR595	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the impact of Nebraska changing to a home rule state in matters of local concern	
LR596	Watermeier	C	Interim study to evaluate the potential uses of Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment and out-of-hospital Do Not Resuscitate protocols	
LR597	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine methods by which to find balance between water resources and water uses in areas under interstate compacts, cooperative agreements, or decrees	
LR598	Davis	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the potential impact of federal legislation that would require remote retailers with no physical presence in Nebraska to collect and remit sales and use tax	
LR599	Davis	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of tax increment financing under the Community Development Law in Nebraska	
LR600	Davis	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of a foundation formula per student in the calculation of need for a school district and use of an income factor in the calculation of resources for state aid purposes	
LR601	Davis	C	Interim study to examine the impact of implementing, and the impact of failing to implement, medicaid expansion in Nebraska	
LR618	Education	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee	
LR624	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health & Human Services Committee	
LR628	Natural Resources	C	Interim study to examine the role of Nebraska state government in establishing and implementing standards of performance for existing carbon dioxide emissions from public power plants within the state	

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About the Update

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