



Nebraska Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Heavican told lawmakers that their investment in adult probation is paying off in his annual State of the Judiciary address Jan. 18.

Chief justice points to success of new court programs

The head of the state's judicial branch reported on its work to make the state's court and probation systems more effective in a time of constrained state budgets in his State of the Judiciary address Jan. 18.

"We are constantly asking ourselves: Is there a way to do this better?" said State Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Heavican. "And, indeed, this body has asked us to find ways to do it better."

He said the judicial branch has responded in recent years by creating problem-solving courts, specialized probation programs, the Office of Public Guardian, probation-led juvenile justice supervision, electronic case management and other initiatives.

Heavican highlighted the state's two new veterans' treatment problem-solving courts, which use judicial and probation supervision and trained

veteran mentors to help veterans with substance abuse or mental health problems rejoin society.

He said the judicial branch also is beginning to implement re-entry courts, which provide additional supervision to those released from prison. Those courts are a response to the Legislature's Justice Reinvestment Initiative, Heavican said, which is aimed at providing supervision of Class III and Class IV felons after they are released from state or county correctional facilities.

Heavican said Nebraska has nearly 18,000 people in its adult probation program, an increase of approximately 1,400 since 2016—an indication that judges and probation officers are following the Legislature's directive. He cited a University of Nebraska-Lincoln study, which found that the recidivism rate for adult probationers in

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Property tax offset for streamflow projects considered

The Natural Resources Committee heard testimony Jan. 17 on a bill meant to reduce the impact of streamflow augmentation projects on county tax rolls.

As introduced by Sen. Dan Hughes of Venango, LB758 would require state natural resources districts and interlocal entities that buy private land for the development of a streamflow augmentation project to work with the county in which the project is located to reduce the project's impact on the local property tax base.

Hughes brought an amendment to the hearing that would replace the bill. It would authorize NRDs and interlocal entities to make voluntary payments in lieu of taxes to the county. The amount of the payments would not exceed the property taxes that would have been paid on the land if it were subject to taxation.

Hughes said the amendment would address two concerns about the Rock Creek Augmentation Project and the N-CORPE (Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement) project, an interlocal agency created in 2012 by four of the state's NRDs.

N-CORPE bought 19,500 acres in Lincoln County that it retired from irrigation so that it could pump groundwater into the Republican and Platte rivers to help the state meet streamflow requirements under the 2003 Republican River Compact, which allocates the use of surface water between Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska. Occupation taxes from irrigators within

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Chief justice points to success of new programs

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Nebraska is approximately 15 percent.

“Fifteen percent is an extraordinarily good number based on adult probation standards,” Heavican said. “Your investment in probation is paying off in both tax dollars and public safety.”

He said demand for increased probation services and specialty courts is high, but proposed budget cuts will reduce probation services and capacity.

The state’s juvenile justice system, too, is showing success with a decreased recidivism rate, Heavican said. UNL found the rate of recidivism for a one-year repeat of delinquent or criminal behavior to be approximately 25 percent.

Heavican also noted the success of a new restorative justice pilot program in Scotts Bluff, Douglas and Lancaster counties, which has so far served more than 200 youth, their parents and victims of their delinquent behavior. Participants in the program must admit their misbehavior, agree to a rehabilitation program and meet with their victims. He said the program is being expanded to include Adams, Buffalo, Dodge, Gage and Saunders counties.

“Nearly all program participants, including victims, youth and their parents, have expressed satisfaction with the program,” he said.

Heavican urged lawmakers to read the Office of Public Guardian’s annual report released earlier this month. He said the office, which appoints guardians for vulnerable adults and developmentally challenged individuals, handled 237 cases in the last year, and its 264 wards have many challenging issues, including cognitive impairment, mental health problems, developmental disabilities and substance abuse. Assistant public guardians have full or overflowing caseloads, he added, and the state Supreme Court has set up a waiting list procedure.

Finally, the chief justice reported on the increasing use of technology in Nebraska’s court system. The state recently updated its electronic payment system, he said, making it easier for businesses to pay garnishments and for people to pay probation fees, court fines or civil judgments. He said the probation system also is implementing electronic delivery of presentence

investigation reports across the state.

All of these programs prove the judicial branch’s commitment to an open and fair court system while working within its budget, Heavican told lawmakers.

“Mindful of the budget constraints of the last year, and the likely budget constraints of the near future,” he said, “the courts continue their dynamic pursuit of ways to do our job better.” ■

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Property tax offset for streamflow projects considered

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the four NRDs fund the project. The Rock Creek Augmentation Project acquired about 3,200 acres in Dundy County for the same purpose.

The first of those concerns is the loss of property tax revenue to Lincoln and Dundy counties after the irrigated land was converted to grassland, which has a much lower value. Hughes said N-CORPE and Rock Creek have paid property taxes assessed by the counties but that they have done so in protest because it was not clear if a public entity serving a public purpose should pay property taxes.

In July 2017, the state Tax Equalization and Review Commission ruled that N-CORPE was exempt from paying property taxes for that reason. Lincoln and Dundy counties appealed that ruling, and the state Court of Appeals is waiting to hear arguments in that case, Hughes said.

He said his amendment, by allowing N-CORPE to make payments voluntarily, avoids that prohibition while helping to offset lost property tax revenue to the counties.

Hughes said the N-CORPE and Rock Creek projects are critical to ensuring the state's compliance with the Republican River Compact and the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program, and he cautioned committee members against making major changes to the state's water rights without consulting all stakeholders.

"Kansas has agreed to the terms of the resolution based on the fact that N-CORPE can flip the switch and get them the water when they need it," he said. "It is not an option to put the project at risk."

Hughes said the amendment also would address a lack of public accountability for the N-CORPE project. It would require joint entities or NRDs to provide public notice of their intention to proceed with a water augmentation project and to hold a public hearing. They also would be required to publish an annual report on a project's finances and activities, including the amount of water pumped.

Terry Martin, chairman of N-CORPE's board of directors and chairman of the Upper Republican NRD, which owns the Rock Creek Augmentation Project, testified in support of the amendment. Martin agreed that the N-CORPE project is instrumental in helping the state meet its



Sen. Dan Hughes said his amendment to LB758 would help offset property tax losses to counties affected by stream augmentation projects.

obligations to Kansas. Without it, many more irrigators in the Republican Basin could have been forced to shut down.

"Taking this land out of production has allowed us to keep thousands and thousands of acres in production every year," he said. "That is the key to the economy of southwest Nebraska."

Conrad Nelson, vice president of the Wallace School Board, also testified in favor of the amendment. Most of N-CORPE's land lies within the

Wallace School District, he said, which has lost approximately \$250,000 per year in property tax revenue because of the change in classification from irrigated cropland to grassland. Nelson said he was "mildly in favor of" Hughes's bill because it would make up part of that shortfall.

"It might be a small step," Nelson said, "but maybe it's a step in the right direction."

Kirk Olson, who lives in Lincoln County, testified in opposition to the bill. He said he does not oppose the N-CORPE project, but he questions why it has not had to pay property taxes at a higher rate.

"If the augmentation project is still using the water out from underneath the land, why is it not taxed on the irrigated acre rate?" he said.

Olson said N-CORPE should instead raise its occupation tax on landowners within the 16 counties in the participating NRDs to offset the loss of property tax revenue to Lincoln County.

Randy Robinson, who farms and ranches on land adjacent to the N-CORPE project, provided neutral testimony on the amendment. It would help protect counties, schools and other local entities from losing more revenue, he said, but it would not address concerns about N-CORPE's management. Robinson said the project spends too much of its budget on managing the land, and he believes selling it to private owners while allowing N-CORPE to maintain groundwater rights would be a better plan.

"It puts the property tax burden back on private enterprise where it belongs," he said, "and it allows better stewardship of the surface land."

The committee took no immediate action on the bill. ■

EDUCATION

Proposal to eliminate several school classifications advanced

Lawmakers advanced a bill Jan. 16 that would eliminate three of the state's six public school classifications.

Introduced by the Education Committee last session, LB377 would eliminate Class I, II and VI districts, with the remaining Class II districts becoming Class III districts. All districts then would be classified as either Class III, IV or V.

North Platte Sen. Mike Groene, chairperson of the committee, said the state Department of Education requested the reduction to simplify state law. He said the bill would not affect education policy and that the state's 18 remaining Class II districts did not protest the change. The six current classifications have existed since 1949, Groene added, when Nebraska had more than 6,500 school districts. It now has 244, he said.

"It is redundant to have six classifications in statute when three will suffice," Groene said.

Under current law, Class I districts maintain only elementary grades under the direction of a single school board. Class II districts have a population of no more than 1,000 and maintain both elementary and high school grades under a single school board. Class VI districts include those that maintain only a high school or a high school and middle school. Groene said no Class I or VI districts remain.

Under LB377, Class III districts would have fewer than 150,000 in-

habitants and maintain elementary and high school grades under a single school board.

Class IV districts are those with a population of 100,000 or more that maintain elementary and high school grades. Class V districts have a metropolitan-class city, and their employees participate in a separate retirement system. Groene said Lincoln Public Schools would be the only remaining Class IV district, and Omaha Public Schools would be the only remaining Class V district.

Senators voted 41-0 to advance LB377 to select file.

Free meals proposed for low-income public school students

Nebraska public school students from low-income families would receive free breakfasts and lunches under a bill heard by the Education Committee Jan. 16.

Under LB771, introduced by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, public schools participating in the federal school breakfast and lunch programs would provide students eligible for reduced-price breakfasts and lunches with meals

at no cost. The state Department of Education would use state general funds to reimburse each school the amount that otherwise would be charged to the student.

Walz said families with annual incomes of 130 to 185 percent of the federal poverty level, or approximately \$26,500 to \$38,000 for a family of three, qualify for reduced-price meals under the federal programs. Rising childcare and healthcare costs make it difficult for families at that income level to afford even the 30- or 40-cent

copy required for those meals, Walz said. LB771 would give low-income families some relief and help students perform better in the classroom, she added.

"Hunger during childhood has the potential to derail proper development, leaving lifelong and negative consequences for cognition, physical and mental health, behavior and academic performance."

Ann Hunter-Pirtle, executive director of Stand for Schools, testified in support of the bill, saying that it would provide free school meals for an additional 27,000 Nebraska students. Ensuring that students get the nutrition they need makes it easier to address every educational challenge, she said, including academic performance, reading comprehension and behavioral problems.

"The reverse is also true," Hunter-Pirtle said. "Fail to address hunger, and all of the other educational investments we make are less effective."

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



Sen. Mike Groene



Sen. Lynne Walz

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Fantasy sports contests discussed

A bill intended to codify fantasy sports in Nebraska law was discussed Jan. 16 and 17.

LB469, introduced by O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson, would adopt the Fantasy Contests Act. The bill would define, license and regulate fantasy contest operators in Nebraska who



Sen. Tyson Larson

offer cash prizes to the general public upon payment of an entry fee.

Larson explained that a typical contest involves participants assembling fantasy teams of professional players. As the selected players finish their sporting events, game statistics are converted into points and the participant with the most team points wins the contest.

The bill would prohibit fantasy contests based on the performance of collegiate, high school or youth athletic events.

Larson said fantasy sports contests are more games of skill than games of chance, and therefore should be acceptable under the state's constitution. In addition, he said, approximately 300,000 Nebraskans already are participating in fantasy sports contests and the state should be regulating the industry.

"[This bill] is necessary to protect Nebraskans who are participating in fantasy sports contests by licensing such contest organizers in order to promote fair play in the state of Nebraska," he said.

Under LB469, a fantasy contest would include any online fantasy or simulated game or contest with an entry fee required for participation and in which:

- the value of all prizes and awards offered is established and made known to participants in advance of the contest;
- all winning outcomes reflect the relative knowledge and skill of the participants and such outcomes are determined by accumulated statistical results of the performance of individuals, including athletes in the case of sports events; and
- no winning outcome is based on the score, point spread or performance of any single

actual team or combination of teams or solely on any single performance of an individual athlete or player in any single actual event.

Grand Island Sen. Dan Quick, who said he has participated in a fantasy sports league, supported the bill. Regulating the industry in Nebraska would guard against operators who might take advantage of players, he said.

"I think having these regulations will actually benefit those who play fantasy sports," Quick said.

Sen. Bob Krist of Omaha agreed, saying the state should regulate existing operators and avail itself of the revenue that gambling can provide. In addition, he said, revenue from licensure of fantasy sports operators could help provide assistance for problem gamblers.

"We need to start regulating gambling as it exists," Krist said.

Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, who opposed the bill, said such an argument logically should lead for calls to legalize and regulate prostitution and drug use - two other activities that Nebraskans currently participate in.

The Nebraska Constitution specifies which forms of gaming are allowed in the state, he said, and fantasy sports currently is not among them.

"I am going to oppose the state sanctioning this type of gambling," Chambers said.

Sen. Suzanne Geist of Lincoln also opposed the bill. Legalizing fantasy sports contests that charge a fee would constitute an expansion of gambling, she said, and would provide a "foothold" for other forms of addictive gaming behavior.

"I don't believe this is a consumer protection bill," Geist said. "This encourages and codifies a deceptive gambling scheme."

As introduced, the bill would

require fantasy contest operators to register with the state Department of Revenue and pay a \$10,000 registration fee. There also would be an annual registration renewal fee of 6 percent of the operator's gross fantasy contest revenue for the preceding 12 months, not to exceed \$10,000.

Instead of a flat \$10,000 registration fee, a pending General Affairs Committee amendment would set the registration fee at 6 percent of gross revenue for the preceding 12 months -not to exceed \$10,000-or \$1,000, whichever is greater.

Among other provisions, the bill would require a fantasy contest operator to:

- verify that participants are at least 19 years old;
- prohibit a fantasy contest operator, employee-or any relative living with the operator or employee-from participating in the operator's fantasy contest;
- prevent the sharing of confidential information with third parties that could affect fantasy contest play until the information is made publicly available;
- prohibit an athlete, official, coach or other individual who participates or officiates in a competition that is the subject of a fantasy contest from participating in that contest;
- provide players with access to information on reasonable play and on seeking assistance for compulsive behavior;
- allow a person to restrict himself or herself from playing upon request;
- prohibit the use of unauthorized third-party scripts on the platform; and
- contract annually with a certified public accountant to conduct an audit to ensure compliance and

submit the results to the state Department of Revenue.

A violation of the act would result in a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each violation, not to exceed \$5,000 for violations arising out of the same transaction or occurrence.

After three hours of debate, the Legislature moved to another item on the agenda. Per a practice implemented last year by Speaker Jim Scheer of Norfolk, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

Lower age considered for public office eligibility

Younger Nebraskans could hold public office under a constitutional amendment discussed by lawmakers Jan. 17 and 18.

LR18CA, introduced by O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson, would place a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 2018 general election ballot that would lower the age of eligibility for public office in Nebraska to the federal voting age, which is 18.



Sen. Tyson Larson

Currently, an individual must be at least 21 to serve in the Legislature and 30 to serve as governor, lieutenant governor or as a Nebraska Supreme Court judge.

Larson said 40 other states have established 18 as the age of eligibility for holding public office. Lowering

the age would encourage greater civic engagement and lessen disenfranchisement, he said.

"If a citizen of our state has the right to vote for those who will serve and represent us, that same individual should be provided the opportunity to serve as well," Larson said.

Stressing the importance of representation, Sen. Matt Hansen of Lincoln also supported the measure.

"It's important that people can get up and see people of a similar background, age, gender or race representing them," he said. "We need to have a conversation about what we can do as a body to make sure young people have an opportunity to be involved in their government and be the change they wish to see."

Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers offered a motion to bracket LR18CA until April 18, saying reaching a specific age does not inherently mean a person is more experienced to hold public office.

"Wisdom mandates that there's a certain minimum age and that you can make an assumption that by that age a person would have a certain amount of education and life experience that would give the personal the ability to do a good job," Chambers said. "You make a [minimum] age because you're setting a standard and hope that people will build on that."

Not a single educator or student publicly voiced their support during its committee hearing, said Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch in opposition to the measure, indicating that its provisions are not a priority for young people now.

"[Serving] is a commitment," she said. "Listening to 1.9 million people is truly a challenging course for anyone to follow, but especially for our youth."

The bracket motion was pending when senators adjourned for the day. LR18CA remains on general file.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Exemption sought for visiting athletic team physicians

Physicians from other states who accompany an athletic team or organization to Nebraska for an event would be exempt from a state law regarding the unlawful practice of medicine under a bill considered Jan. 19 by the Health and Human Services Committee.

LB703, sponsored by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman, would add athletic team doctors to the list of individuals who are not considered under state law to be engaging in the unauthorized practice of medicine. He said that a similar provision already exists in Nebraska law for athletic trainers.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

"[The bill] would address a gap in our medical practice statutes," Kolterman said. "The bill limits the exemption to just the treatment of out-of-state teams while their team is in Nebraska."

Current law allows exemptions for people rendering free services in emergency situations, and medical students under the supervision of a licensed physician, among others. The bill would be limited to physicians who are licensed in good standing to practice medicine under the laws of another jurisdiction.

Matt Schaefer, testifying on behalf of the Nebraska Medical Association, supported the bill. The provision would cover collegiate teams as well as events such as the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials that recently have been

held in Omaha.

“It is our understanding – I’ve been told – that every other state in the Big Ten Conference has this sort of exemption for an out-of-state physician,” he said.

No opposition testimony was offered and the committee took no immediate action on LB703.

Bill would authorize remote drug dispensing

Pharmacies in Nebraska could provide remote drug dispensing under a bill heard Jan. 18 by the Health and Human Services Committee.

Gothenburg Sen. Matt Williams, sponsor of LB731, said the bill would improve access to prescription medications in rural and underserved areas of Nebraska. Under the bill, a pharmacy could provide remote dispensing at a location staffed by a certified pharmacy technician and owned by a supervising pharmacy licensed and located in the state.



Sen. Matt Williams

Williams said many small, rural Nebraska communities have lost pharmacies due to retirements, leaving residents without convenient access to their prescription medications. Neighboring states have faced similar situations, he said, and the bill is patterned on laws adopted in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

“LB731 provides a framework for remote dispensing to occur in Nebraska with legal requirements in place to enhance and ensure patient safety,” Williams said.

Under the bill, a remote pharmacy would have to be located at least 10 miles from the nearest pharmacy and

dispensing would occur under remote supervision via a real-time audiovisual communication system by a licensed pharmacist employed by a supervising pharmacy.

A remote dispensing pharmacy would be required to have the same pharmacist in charge as the supervising pharmacy, who would be responsible for drug utilization review, final verification and supervision of the remote dispensing pharmacy. A separate license would be required for the remote dispensing pharmacy.

Travis Maloley, a Lexington pharmacist testifying on behalf of the Nebraska Pharmacists Association, supported the bill. He said the nearby town of Franklin has lost its pharmacy and he has been approached by residents who would like to see the pharmacy reopened.

“Without [this bill], maintaining a retail pharmacy would not be economically feasible in a town of Franklin’s size,” Maloley said. “But with the possibility of having a remote dispensing pharmacy, not only would it be possible, but I feel it would flourish.”

Joni Cover, CEO of the Nebraska Pharmacists Association, also testified in support. Nineteen other states are successfully offering remote dispensing, she said, and Nebraska would benefit from joining them. Currently, she said, it is a struggle to keep pharmacies in rural communities.

“With an aging workforce and reimbursements the way they are, it’s challenging,” Cover said.

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

Opiate education sought for health care professionals

Certain health care professionals would be required to participate in

continuing education about prescribing opiates under a bill considered by the Health and Human Services Committee Jan. 18.

LB788, introduced by Ralston Sen. Merv Riepe, would require nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, dentists, physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, podiatrists and veterinarians to enroll in at least five hours



Sen. Merv Riepe

of continuing education on prescribing opiates every two years. Two of the five hours would cover the state’s prescription drug monitoring program.

The requirement would begin Oct. 1, 2018.

Riepe said it is critical for patients to receive pain treatment that is effective and safe, which includes keeping medical professionals up-to-date on best practices. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, he said, the majority of drug overdose deaths in the United States are the result of opioids.

“We must do our part to respond to this national emergency as it continues to draw closer to Nebraska,” he said.

Riepe indicated that he would offer an amendment to reduce the two-hour requirement focusing on the prescription drug monitoring system to 30 minutes. The state Department of Health and Human Services has indicated that they currently have 30 minutes of material on that subject prepared, he said.

Stephen Lazoritz, chairman of the continuing medical education commission of the Nebraska Medical Association, testified in support of the bill. Continuing education is essential for medical professionals, he said, particularly in relation to opioids. While the state has done well in establishing

the prescription drug monitoring program, he said, medical professionals must know how to use it effectively.

“This bill is just one piece of the puzzle,” Lazoritz said. “Anyone who writes a prescription really needs to do this.”

Dr. Edward Truemper, a pediatric intensive care specialist and medical school faculty member, also testified in support. Most medical professionals choose their own continuing education options to fill their requirements, he said, and the vast majority likely do not have a single hour of continuing education related to the prescription delivery of opiates.

“The lack of knowledge related to prescribing related to opiates is a travesty, and we are responsible for much of the problem we currently have here in the United States,” Truemper said. “We need to have this education; it needs to be mandated.”

David O’Doherty, executive director of the Nebraska Dental Association (NDA), testified in support of the bill, but expressed concerns. He said the Board of Dentistry recently recommend three hours of continuing education, one time, and the NDA supports that recommendation. In addition, he said, the bill should be limited to apply only to professionals who are licensed by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to prescribe medications.

“Fifty percent of the dentists, approximately, don’t have a DEA license so they would be forced to take education that doesn’t even apply to them and their practice,” O’Doherty said.

Speaking in opposition to the bill, Lance Roasa, testifying on behalf of the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association (NVMA), echoed those concerns. Many veterinarians do not prescribe opioids at all, he said. In addition, he said, standards for continu-

ing education should be developed at the state board level in order to ensure that the requirements fit the profession.

“Our profession—and the NVMA—is very much for the intent of this bill,” Roasa said. “We do know that we have an opioid crisis and we’re every bit as committed to ceasing that crisis. However, this legislation does affect a lot of veterinarians that don’t contribute to that crisis at all.”

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Bill would allow mobile cosmetology and nail salons

Mobile hair and nail salons were considered by the Health and Human Services Committee Jan. 17.

Crete Sen. Laura Ebke, sponsor of LB790, said the bill would update laws that regulate hair and nail salons to allow for the licensure and regulation of mobile services. There are cosme-



Sen. Laura Ebke

tologists and nail technicians who wish to serve clients outside of their established brick and mortar locations, she said, but they are unable to do so.

“Our current statutes don’t really account for technology changes that make mobile businesses in cosmetology possible these days,” Ebke said. “We just haven’t structured the law to make it possible for these businesses to operate.”

To be licensed under the bill, an applicant would provide evidence to the state Department of Health and Human Services that the mobile salon:

- is clearly identified as such to the public by a sign;
- has an entrance that offers safe access to the public;

- has at least 150 square feet of floor space and 23 additional square feet for each additional practitioner;
- includes a functional sink and toilet facilities and maintains an adequate supply of clean water and waste water storage capacity;
- meets the requirements of the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles; and
- complies with the sanitary requirements of the Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology and Body Art Practice Act.

A mobile nail salon would be required to provide 50 additional square feet for each additional practitioner. A mobile salon could perform cosmetology services only while legally parked.

John Duncan, a cosmetologist since 1976, spoke in support of the bill. Duncan said he has several clients whom he could better serve with a mobile salon. Many have been clients for 20 years and are now in their 80s, he said.

“[It] would open up the market to allow more people to have the privilege of having their hair done, no matter what their situation in life is,” he said.

Nicole Fox of the Platte Institute also testified in support of the bill. Twenty-five states, including Colorado, Kansas and South Dakota allow mobile salons, she said. Mobile salons can help provide services to individuals who are homebound or do not have reliable transportation, she said.

“LB790 would allow this new service-delivery modality while requiring owners to meet reasonable requirements that address health and safety concerns just like brick and mortar salons are currently required to do,” Fox said.

Ken Allen, director of the Nebraska Board of Barber Examiners, testified in a neutral capacity. Many individuals with barber licenses are interested in providing mobile services, he said, but some issues with the bill remain to be worked out regarding access for individuals with disabilities and the ability to conduct random, unannounced inspections of mobile salons.

“It will create more work for us, but more work is not a bad thing,” Allen said.

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

Bill would remove salon alcohol ban

Hair salons and nail and body art studios in Nebraska could offer alcoholic beverages to customers under a bill heard Jan. 17 by the Health and Human Services Committee.

LB794, introduced by Ralston Sen. Merv Riepe, would remove a current ban on consuming, serving, possessing or distributing alcohol by entities operating under the Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology and Body Art Practice Act.

Riepe said the state Division of Public Health had identified removal of the ban as a step that should be taken based on current industry trends. Some salons in Nebraska currently are licensed to serve alcohol in a separate area of the premises, he said, but no crossover is allowed.

Salons wishing to serve alcohol to customers must obtain a liquor license and would be regulated by the state Liquor Control Commission (LCC), Riepe said. Employees still would be

prohibited from consuming alcohol.

Dr. Thomas Williams, director of the Division of Public Health and chief medical officer for the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), testified in support of LB794.

Currently, Williams said, both DHHS and the LCC have oversight of the small, separate space within licensed salons where alcohol may be served. LB794 would remove the need for DHHS oversight, he said.

In addition, Williams said, the measure would allow salons to provide alcoholic beverages to customers for special events, including holiday and bridal parties, which they currently cannot do.

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



Bill advanced to allow transport of firearms on campus for sport shooters

Lawmakers advanced a bill Jan. 19 that would allow college students competing in shooting sports to lawfully transport their firearms on campus.

Firearms currently are prohibited from the grounds and buildings on the state’s college and university campuses. School-sponsored rifle team members are exempt from this ban as long as their weapons are safely transported and stored.

LB321, introduced by Kearney Sen. John Lowe, would accommodate additional teams that compete in other shooting sports by removing “rifle” from the team description in state statute.



Sen. John Lowe

The bill was previously amended on general file to instead allow the transport of firearms on campus specifically for “college or university firearm teams.”

Sen. Ernie Chambers filed several motions to extend debate on the measure. He said he would oppose any proposal that would allow for the proliferation of guns on a school campus.

“In fact, I would like to strike everything from the existing law that relates to any guns on the campus, other than those possessed by law enforcement, sworn officers or campus police,” Chambers said. “If I had my way, there would be no other guns legally on any campus in this state because they serve only one person and that is to kill people.”

Senators voted 47-1 to advance the bill to select file.

Temporary release of inmates for treatment considered

Inmates could receive treatment in the community on a temporary basis under a bill discussed in a Judiciary Committee hearing Jan. 17.

Currently, inmates can be released on a temporary basis to attend the funeral of a relative, contact a future employer or go to work outside a prison facility on a work-release basis.

LB676, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, additionally would allow inmates release to seek substance abuse treatment, rehabilitative programming, residency, employment or to participate in structured programming as required by the state Department of Correctional Services.

Krist said that approximately 400 inmates are eligible for parole but can-



Sen. Bob Krist

not be released because they have not completed the necessary programming or training to qualify. Allowing inmates to complete these requirements in the community could help more people move through the Correctional System and alleviate overcrowding in prisons.

"We are approaching a point at which an emergency could be declared in a few years," Krist said. "We need to get out of the box and think more aggressively about solving the problem we have in front of us with Corrections."

Representing the ACLU of Nebraska, Spike Eickholt spoke in favor of the bill, saying some facilities simply do not offer all of the programming necessary for inmates to be released.

"If the prisons cannot provide the training, the community can," he said. "Perhaps there's no single solution to the problem, but this can be part of an incremental approach."

Doug Koebernick, inspector general of the Nebraska Correctional System, also testified in support of LB676. He said the bill has the potential to assist the department with overcrowding issues and ensure better transitions of individuals into their communities upon release.

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

Bills would equalize district court caseloads

The Judiciary Committee heard testimony Jan. 19 on two bills that would help equalize caseloads in the district court system.

Under LB696, introduced by Crete Sen. Laura Ebke, the number of judges serving Judicial District 4 would increase from 16 to 17.



Sen. Laura Ebke

The proposal comes as a recommendation from the Judicial Resources Commission, she said, and would ensure efficiency and maximum service across the state in the district court system.

Joseph Howard, representing the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, spoke in favor of the bill. He said judges are struggling to keep up with caseloads, which negatively impacts people awaiting trial.

"In terms of getting cases in front of judges, what we've seen is that a lot of our clients cannot post bond because they don't have the money," Howard said. "In terms of equal access to justice, that means they sit in jail and the longer they sit, the longer they suffer."

Nebraska State Bar Association President Tim Engler spoke in favor of adding a judge in District 4 instead of moving a judge from another district. Reallocating judgeships sometimes can fix shortages in one area of the state, he said, but often can create problems elsewhere.

"We are able to reallocate in our system, but it is a difficult thing to do," he said. "If we take a judge from a rural part of the state, what is that doing to access to justice for people in that part of the state?"

Also introduced by Ebke, LB697 would change the geographic boundaries of Judicial Districts 1, 2 and 10. Otoe County would be moved from District 2 to District 1. Clay and Nuckolls counties would move from District 1 to District 10.

Nebraska Supreme Court Justice Stephanie Stacy spoke in support of the bill in her capacity as chairperson of the commission. She said all affected district court judges were consulted when developing the proposal and none opposed the decision.

"This would ensure access to the courts and better balance the judicial workload without adding any judges

or moving any judges to address this particular issue," Stacy said.

Engler also supported LB697. He said properly allocating judicial resources to where they are most needed is synonymous with access to justice.

"If you're sitting in a courtroom for three hours and your case still has not been called, that really isn't equal access to justice," he said. "By doing these small boundary changes, we can reallocate our resources to improve that access."

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

Bill would end high-cost calls for inmates

Members of the Judiciary Committee heard testimony Jan. 18 on a bill that would preserve an inmate's communication access.

LB776, introduced by Omaha Sen. John McCollister, would require county and city jails to provide inmates with affordable communication by telephone or videoconferencing with their families and legal counsel.



Sen. John McCollister

Under the bill, each jail could establish a prepaid or collect telephone system, or a combination of both. Inmates' family members could deposit money into a prepaid account with the third-party provider of telephone services to cover the cost of the call. Any company contracted by a jail to provide such services would be prohibited from charging excessive service rates or commissions.

McCollister said research has shown that regular contact between inmates and their families and attorneys leads to lower rates of recidivism upon release.

“Maintaining contact with parents, spouses and children strengthens an offender’s chances of being rehabilitated and improves outcomes for the children left at home,” he said.

Nearly one in 10 Nebraska children are impacted by parental incarceration, said Voices for Children Policy Director Julia Tse in support of the bill.

“The loss of one parent to incarceration often sets off a domino effect of other issues, including a loss of income and a key figure in the child’s life,” she said. “We cannot undo the trauma [incarceration] inflicts on children, but we can do our best to limit the damage.”

The bill would ensure phone calls or video conference sessions between an inmate and an attorney are free of charge. Monitoring or recording of such communication would be prohibited.

Public Defender Ben Murray spoke in support of the bill. He said 59 phone calls between him and his client were improperly recorded and shared with the prosecution. Establishing trust already is difficult, Murray said, but it is almost impossible to do when jails record calls between an attorney and a client.

“These clients are up against a [legal] system that is so stacked against them, with prosecutors who overcharge them in nearly every single case in order to pressure them into plea agreements and asked to post bonds they cannot afford,” he said. “The least we could do is give them unfettered access to phone calls.”

Juneal Pratt, formerly incarcerated, also supported LB776. Maintaining a connection to the community is imperative to easing an inmate’s post-release transition, he said.

“These bills always come in under the auspice that [the Legislature] is trying to make it nicer for the inmate, but this is about protecting the pub-

lic,” Pratt said. “When I come back to the community, the more I’m able to adjust to my surroundings, the safer everyone is.”

Speaking in opposition to the bill, Douglas County Corrections Director Mark Foxall said his agency would experience a loss of \$616,000 annually. The loss of revenue would negatively impact the ability of Corrections to provide programming to inmates, including job and life-skills training, GED testing and job-readiness training.

“Our inability to serve the programming needs of our inmates could impact the population of the state Correctional System due to recidivism,” he said.

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

Corrections would be required to develop emergency plan

The state Department of Correctional Services would be required to develop an accelerated release plan for inmates under a bill heard by the Judiciary Committee Jan. 17.

Introduced by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, LB841 calls for an accelerated release plan to go into effect if the department is operating at 140 percent of capacity on July 1, 2020. The plan would remain in place until the inmate population reaches 125 percent of capacity.

Pansing Brooks said having a plan in place for an emergency declaration would ensure that any accelerated release would be done in a safe manner for both parolees and citizens.

“There is no question that a lack of programming and understaffing at our prisons has exacerbated the overcrowd-

ing problem,” she said. “This would ensure that prisoners are released in a way that keeps all our citizens safe.”

The plan would provide a process for the department director to certify that an overcrowding emergency exists, prepare and submit a list of parole-eligible inmates to be considered for accelerated release and develop a process by which the board of parole would examine inmates for potential release.

Spike Eickholt testified in support of the bill on behalf of the ACLU of Nebraska. He said the state has never used or implemented an accelerated release plan, so preparing for it now only makes sense.

“There may have already been internal discussions within the department about what would be done, but it just makes sense to have a formal request by the Legislature so that it doesn’t get lost in the shuffle,” he said.

The department’s plan must be delivered to the Legislature no later than Dec. 1, 2018.

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



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks



Special valuation considered for ag land within city limits

Farm land located within cities and villages in most counties would qualify for special valuation under a bill heard by the Revenue Committee Jan. 19.

Under current law, agricultural or horticultural land may be valued at 75 percent of its value for property tax purposes if it is located outside the boundaries of a sanitary improvement district, city or village. Land inside the boundaries of a city or village also may qualify for the special valuation if it is

subject to a conservation or preservation easement.

Under LB772, sponsored by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, those qualifications would continue to apply only to counties with populations of 100,000 or more: Douglas, Lancaster and Sarpy. In counties with fewer than 100,000 inhabitants, agricultural or horticultural land would qualify for the special valuation if it is located outside the boundaries of an SID.



Sen. Lynne Walz

Walz said this change would help Fremont, which is growing rapidly with the arrival of a Costco chicken processing plant and other businesses. A recent housing study found that Dodge County will need 5,000 new housing units in the next few years, she said, and many already are under construction.

As the city has grown, it has surrounded areas of farmland that currently qualify for the special valuation. If those areas were annexed by the city to be developed, Walz said, landowners would be forced to pay a higher commercial or residential rate on their property taxes.

"I brought this bill because I felt that it would protect landowners as well as allow our cities to grow," she said.

Brian Newton, Fremont city administrator, testified in support of the bill. He said Fremont must currently plan streets and utilities around four "doughnut holes"—parcels of farmland that exist within the city's limits but have not yet been annexed by the city. Landowners in those doughnut holes benefit from city services, such as fire and police protection, without having to pay property taxes to the city, Newton said.

Fremont someday will annex those parcels to use for commercial and residential development, Newton

added, but it has not done so because those farmers would lose their special valuation.

"The solution would be very simple," Newton said. "Allow these folks to be annexed, allow them to qualify for the special valuation, allow them to get the same services that all their neighbors surrounding them get—without having to pay the higher taxes."

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

County-wide sales and use tax considered

Counties could impose a local option sales tax in addition to a city's local option sales tax under a bill heard by the Revenue Committee Jan. 18.

Under current law, counties may impose a sales and use tax of 0.5 percent, 1 percent or 1.5 percent within the county but outside any municipality that has adopted a local sales and use tax.

LB884, introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr, would authorize a county to impose its own tax in addition to a municipality's.



Sen. Burke Harr

It also would allow counties to use that sales and use tax revenue for economic development or the development of manufacturing or industrial sites.

Harr said Nebraska missed an opportunity to attract a new Toyota plant last year partly because it did not have a large enough site ready for construction. LB884 would help counties prepare sites for similar manufacturers by authorizing counties to collect sales taxes on any transactions within their boundaries. He said any tax would require a vote of the county's citizens.

"You can't have an increase without

the people saying yes to it," he said.

Larry Dix, executive director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials, testified in support of the bill. He said more and more companies are interested in moving to Nebraska but not necessarily to a large city. Because counties can rely only on property taxes to generate revenue for economic development, Dix said, they lack the resources to prepare sites for manufacturers like Toyota, which required at least 1,000 acres.

"We're trying to figure out, when the Toyotas of the world show up, what can [counties] do?" he said. "We are so, so limited that we might as well go stand in the corner."

Testifying in opposition to the bill was Lynn Rex, executive director of the League of Nebraska Municipalities. The League does not object to allowing counties to use a sales tax for economic development, she said, but it is opposed to authorizing county sales taxes on top of existing local option taxes.

"We had to fight and scrap to get local option sales taxes for municipalities," she said. "We're concerned about having yet another layer of tax on top of municipalities."

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.



Extension of superintendent license considered

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee heard testimony Jan. 16 on a bill that would extend the duration of certain superintendent licenses.

Under LB733, introduced by Omaha Sen. Theresa Thibodeau, the duration of a Class B county high-

way or city street superintendent license would change from one to three years. The renewal fee would change from \$10 annually to \$30 every three years.



Sen. Theresa Thibodeau

Thibodeau said the change would have little to no fiscal impact but would decrease by two-thirds the number of renewals the Board of Examiners for County Highway and City Street Superintendents would have to review.

“In Nebraska, we have a licensing system in place to promote and ensure that those managing our streets are both professionally trained and follow standards of safety and quality,” Thibodeau said. “The very slight but important change that would result [from LB733] is a great example of a state agency that can streamline their work and ensure they’re operating in the most efficient way for taxpayers.”

Board member Chris Jacobsen spoke in support of LB733. The board shares administrative staff with another state board, he said, and the proposed changes would allow staff members to work more effectively.

“Any change in task by either board can impact staff effectiveness and delivery of services,” Jacobsen said. “This doesn’t remove or reduce the licensing task required, but ... it improves the process and provides a more efficient use of staff and resources.”

The bill also would allow a person holding Class A and Class B licenses to renew both at once.

Kyle Schneweis, director of the state Department of Transportation, also testified in support of the bill. He said it makes sense to align the two renewal processes.

“Many folks hold both of these

licenses at the same time and would benefit from a harmonization of these [renewal] time frames,” Schneweis said.

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

URBAN AFFAIRS

Bill to remove economic development cap advanced

A bill that would remove one of the caps in state law on an economic development program available to cities advanced from general file Jan. 16.

Currently, under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act, a cap of 0.4 percent of the taxable valuation of a city is placed on funds derived from local sources of revenue that a city can use for approved economic development programs.

LB614, introduced last year by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, would remove the cap based on taxable valuation while leaving in place a second, flat-dollar spending cap. Wayne said the taxable valuation cap is arbitrary and has negatively impacted some small communities with a lower tax valuation base.



Sen. Justin Wayne

“All we’re doing is modernizing [part] of the local economic development cap,” Wayne said, noting that the taxable valuation cap has not been updated since the early 1990s and approximately 70 communities have been negatively impacted by it.

Wayne said the flat-dollar spending cap is sufficient and voters can approve funds for local economic

development programs under the act that are capped at:

- \$5 million for Omaha and Lincoln;
- \$4 million for first-class cities; and
- \$3 million for second-class cities and villages.

Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher expressed concerns about the bill, saying he had not heard a good reason to remove the taxable valuation cap. Economic incentives such as those authorized under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act repeatedly have not produced the results that Nebraska communities have hoped for, he said.

“Economic incentive programs distort the market – sometimes for the good, sometimes for the bad,” Schumacher said. “Our experience with them hasn’t been the greatest.”

Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford supported the bill, saying Nebraska municipalities would benefit from having clear, consistent limits on the use of sales tax dollars for economic development. The existing flat-dollar spending cap would provide that, she said, while still allowing cities to attempt to “disrupt the market” in a positive way.

“This is an important streamlining of that [economic development] program,” Crawford said.

LB614 advanced to select file on a vote of 35-1.

Bill would discontinue some forms of municipal student loan programs

The Urban Affairs Committee heard testimony Jan. 16 on a bill that would repeal a law that currently authorizes second-class cities and villages to provide loans to students in consideration for a pledge to practice

medicine or dentistry in the municipality following graduation.

Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, sponsor of LB719, said existing law likely violates a section of the state constitution that prohibits state and local governments from giving or loaning the “credit of the state.” Municipalities still would be able to offer similar loans under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act, he said.



Sen. Justin Wayne

Under that act, Wayne said, municipalities may provide loans or grants to qualifying businesses, which then

could provide relocation incentives to individuals.

Emma Schultz, testifying on behalf of the University of Nebraska Medical Center student delegates, spoke in opposition to the bill. The prospect of large amounts of student loan debt drives many students away from health professions, she said.

“[Repealing this law] could stunt the delivery of rural health care as well as the autonomy of second-class cities and villages,” Schultz said.

Testifying in a neutral capacity, Christy Abraham of the League of Nebraska Municipalities pointed out that many Nebraska communities currently are using the program and have contracts with students.

“We are unsure where [LB719] leaves those students,” Abraham said, adding that cities do not want to break existing contracts. She suggested that senators might consider grandfathering in contracts already entered into with medical and dental students.

Abraham also noted that any replacement program under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act could provide funds to private entities only. As a result, she said, a county hospital, for example, would be unable to participate in an incentive program under the act.

No one testified in support of LB719 and the committee took no immediate action on the proposal. ■

GET LEGISLATIVE NEWS ONLINE

While the Unicameral Update print edition is mailed out weekly, the web version of the publication, located at update.legislature.ne.gov, is updated continually throughout the legislative day.

The site provides links to get the Update’s RSS and Twitter feeds. Readers may search Update stories by bill number, senator’s name or keyword using the search box provided in the top-right corner.

A screenshot of the Unicameral Update website. The header features the title "UNICAMERAL UPDATE" and the tagline "The Nebraska Legislature's official news source since 1977". A navigation bar includes links for "ABOUT", "COMMITTEES", "FEATURES", "PRINT ARCHIVE", "SUBSCRIPTIONS", and "SESSION REVIEW 2017". The main content area shows a large photo of a woman speaking at a podium, with the headline "Extension of superintendent license considered" and a sub-headline "Transportation and Telecommunications". On the right side, there is a search box, a "Subscribe to email updates" section with an email address input field and a "Subscribe" button, and a "Most read" section listing several articles.

NEW BILLS

January 16, 2018

| Bill | Introducer | One-line description |
|----------------|----------------|--|
| LB1000 | Briese | Require a bond election under the Public Facilities Construction and Finance Act |
| LB1001 | Briese | Provide for a review of the financing of schools |
| LB1002 | Wishart | Create the Nebraska Film Office Fund |
| LB1003 | McDonnell | Change leave of absence without loss of pay provisions under the Military Code |
| LB1004 | Bolz | Provide for aging and disability resource centers as prescribed and eliminate references to demonstration projects |
| LB1005 | Kolterman | Change county and school retirement provisions |
| LB1006 | McCollister | Change provisions relating to rehearings under the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act |
| LB1007 | Kolowski | Authorize school districts to levy a tax and establish a fund for facilities-related expenditures |
| LB1008 | Bostelman | Increase amounts of liquidated damages for certain violations of the Game Law |
| LB1009 | Murante | Provide a super-two rural highway classification and change maximum highway speed limits as prescribed |
| LB1010 | Hansen | Change procedures for determining competency to stand trial in counties containing a city of the primary class |
| LB1011 | Harr | Provide a duty for drivers approaching certain stopped vehicles on a roadway as prescribed under the Nebraska Rules of the Road |
| LB1012 | Harr | Authorize self-service storage facility operator insurance producer licenses |
| LB1013 | Pansing Brooks | Limit the habitual criminal enhancement to violent felonies |
| LB1014 | Pansing Brooks | Name the Discriminatory Wage Practices Act, change provisions relating to wage discrimination on the basis of sex, and provide protections for employees relating to wage disclosure |
| LB1015 | Briese | Allow withholding from public of reports of injury under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act that reveal an employee's identity |
| LB1016 | Briese | Adopt the Money Transmission Fee Act and provide income tax credits |
| LB1017 | Krist | Change and eliminate pipeline siting provisions and eminent domain provisions |
| LB1018 | Geist | Provide for inadmissibility of audio and video recordings of legislative proceedings, require a notice regarding prohibited uses of such recordings, and provide that such recordings are not public records |
| LB1019 | Clements | Change boundaries of Nebraska planning and development regions |
| LB1020 | Crawford | Change provisions relating to limits on indebtedness from direct borrowing by cities and villages |
| LB1021 | Schumacher | Eliminate certain sales and use tax exemptions |
| LB1022 | Schumacher | Adopt the Irrigation Tax Act and change the valuation of agricultural land for property tax purposes |
| LB1023 | Schumacher | Change sunset dates on certain tax incentive programs |
| LB1024 | Wayne | Change references from Big Twelve Conference to Big Ten Conference in provisions requiring a stipend or restricting hours of participation for intercollegiate athletes |
| LB1025 | Wayne | Create the Building Codes Advisory Committee and change building code provisions |
| LB1026 | Wayne | Authorize issuance of highway bonds, create a fund, and change existing highway funding provisions |
| LB1027 | Wayne | Provide for restoration of voting rights upon completion of a felony sentence or probation for a felony |
| LB1028 | Wayne | Adopt the Abandoned and Dilapidated Housing Act |
| LB1029 | Hansen | Change time for acceptance of a power of attorney |
| LB1030 | Friesen | Change the sales tax sourcing rules for certain motor vehicles and trailers |
| LB1031 | Friesen | Change excavation notification and marking requirements and provide for large project planning meetings, rulemaking authority, and cost allocation under the One-Call Notification System Act |
| LB1032 | Murante | Provide for a statewide presidential primary election |
| LB1033 | Murante | Eliminate learning communities |
| LR285CAMurante | | Constitutional amendment to eliminate the State Board of Education |
| LR286 | Krist | Resolution proposing an election to call a state constitutional convention to amend Article VIII and other revenue provisions of the Constitution of Nebraska |

January 17, 2018

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| LB1034 | Riepe | Change facility standards for school-age child care programs |
| LB1035 | Riepe | Change provisions relating to the Stroke System of Care Act |
| LB1036 | Kolowski | Change the expenditure limit for a recognition dinner under the Local Government Miscellaneous Expenditure Act |
| LB1037 | Baker | Change provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act relating to a potential conflict of interest by an elected office holder of certain cities or villages or a school district |

NEW BILLS

| Bill | Introducer | One-line description |
|--------|----------------|--|
| LB1038 | Thibodeau | Provide a deadline for electronic voter registration |
| LB1039 | Linehan | Increase the amount that may be required for a pet deposit under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act |
| LB1040 | Albrecht | Provide for certificates of nonviable birth |
| LB1041 | Wishart | Require specific training for foster care licensees on sexual abuse |
| LB1042 | Howard | Change and eliminate provisions relating to nail technology |
| LB1043 | Lowe | Change provisions relating to reimbursement of common and contract carriers for transportation costs associated with certain agency clients as prescribed |
| LB1044 | Krist | Change provisions relating to providing social services relating to child abuse and neglect investigations |
| LB1045 | Schumacher | Adopt the Nebraska Excellence Fund Tax Credit Act |
| LB1046 | Bolz | Provide for a caseload ratio emergency declaration relating to health and human services |
| LB1047 | Harr | Change provisions under the Nebraska Uniform Power of Attorney Act relating to banks and other financial institutions |
| LB1048 | Harr | Change provisions relating to the personal exemption credit |
| LB1049 | Harr | Redefine low-speed vehicle |
| LB1050 | Harr | Provide an adjustment to income for certain charitable contributions |
| LB1051 | Pansing Brooks | Change provisions relating to family member visitation |
| LB1052 | Pansing Brooks | Require instruction and teacher education related to dyslexia |
| LB1053 | Wishart | Provide for a 10-year strategic plan by the Legislature's Planning Committee |
| LB1054 | Brewer | Change provisions relating to hearings before the Nebraska Power Review Board and electric generation using wind |
| LB1055 | Crawford | Create the Intern Nebraska Cash Fund and state intent regarding appropriations |
| LB1056 | Hansen | Provide for collection of data on student disciplinary actions |
| LB1057 | Kuehn | Change provisions relating to prescription drug monitoring |
| LB1058 | Halloran | Adopt the Faithful Delegate to Federal Article V Convention Act |
| LB1059 | Wayne | Prohibit certain appropriations to the Supreme Court, prohibit certain entities from accepting appropriations, and change provisions relating to the source of certain funds |
| LB1060 | Wayne | Adopt the Healthy Kids Act and require tests for lead-based hazards in housing |
| LB1061 | Wayne | State intent relating to appropriations relating to a grant program as prescribed |
| LB1062 | McDonnell | State intent relating to appropriations for the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program |
| LB1063 | McDonnell | Provide funding to assist victims of traumatic brain injury and increase certain driver's license fees as a source of such funding |
| LB1064 | Murante | Require election officials to check voter records for deceased individuals and require the Secretary of State to check the citizenship status of all registered voters and applicants to register to vote |
| LB1065 | Murante | Permit use of electronic poll books and use of digital images for confirmation of the voter's identity |
| LB1066 | Murante | Require photographic identification for purposes of voting |
| LB1067 | Quick | Authorize a special tourism surcharge under the Business Improvement District Act |
| LB1068 | Murante | Provide for seventeen-year olds to vote in special elections, provide requirements for adjusting political subdivision boundaries, and change voter registration, special election, recall, and initiative and referendum provisions |
| LB1069 | Brasch | Change provisions related to the Committee on Americanism |
| LB1070 | Brewer | Change an election requirement for school districts with fewer than twenty-five students in high school grades |
| LB1071 | Lindstrom | Adopt the Infrastructure Improvement and Replacement Assistance Act and provide for a turn back of state sales tax revenue |
| LB1072 | Linehan | Change a preference in awarding public contracts and eliminate reciprocal preference provisions |
| LB1073 | Crawford | Provide for additional information relating to foster care placements as prescribed |
| LB1074 | Vargas | Change provisions relating to individual income tax brackets and rates and the earned income tax credit |
| LB1075 | Friesen | Impose a fee on transfers of real estate |
| LB1076 | Friesen | Increase the documentary stamp tax and provide for the use of the revenue |
| LB1077 | Friesen | Eliminate levy limits for school districts |
| LB1078 | Crawford | Require reporting of sexual abuse allegations as prescribed |
| LB1079 | Howard | Change report provisions relating to the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act |
| LB1080 | Hughes | Provide for Wildlife Conservation Plates |

NEW BILLS

| Bill | Introducer | One-line description |
|---------|---------------------|---|
| LB1081 | Education Committee | Change education provisions regarding reporting, penalties, residency, boundaries, priority schools, subpoena authority, poverty, and limited English proficiency |
| LB1082 | Vargas | Require jails, law enforcement agencies, and the Nebraska State Patrol to provide public notice before entering into agreements to enforce federal immigration law and to allow audits of noncomplying entities |
| LB1083 | Hansen | Provide for discovery of telephone numbers and email addresses of witnesses in criminal cases |
| LR288 | Bolz | Create the Child Welfare Death and Abuse Special Oversight Committee of the Legislature |
| LR289CA | Krist | Constitutional amendment to change and provide legislative district redistricting standards and to provide congressional district redistricting standards |

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| | | |
|--------|---------|---|
| LB1084 | Briese | Adopt the Property Tax Request Limitation Act, provide sunset dates for certain tax exemptions and incentives, and change other revenue and taxation provisions |
| LB1085 | Wayne | Change the Community Development Law and provisions relating to tax-increment financing |
| LB1086 | Wayne | Provide for intervention in certain proceedings involving juveniles as prescribed |
| LB1087 | Wayne | Change tax provisions for cigars, cheroots, or stogies |
| LB1088 | Wayne | Adopt the Nebraska Education Formula and the Remote Seller Sales Tax Collection Act, terminate the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and the Property Tax Credit Act, and eliminate certain tax exemptions |
| LB1089 | Smith | Change provisions relating to confidential tax information, refundable income tax credits, and homestead exemptions |
| LB1090 | Smith | Change provisions relating to inflation adjustments, personal exemptions, and standard deductions |
| LB1091 | Smith | Update references to the Internal Revenue Code |
| LB1092 | Smith | Change provisions relating to autocycles |
| LB1093 | Walz | Create the office of Inspector General of Nebraska Public Health |
| LB1094 | Hilgers | Provide for financial literacy and entrepreneurship academic content standards |
| LB1095 | Hilgers | Change the information included in certain tax notices and receipts |
| LB1096 | Hilgers | Change provisions relating to state vehicles and workers' compensation claims, tort claims, and other claims against the state |
| LB1097 | Hilgers | Change provisions relating to treasurer's tax deeds |
| LB1098 | Hilgers | Change dollar threshold for certain purchasing requirements under the County Purchasing Act |
| LB1099 | Kuehn | Adopt the Legislative Ethics Act |
| LB1100 | Erdman | Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land |
| LB1101 | Vargas | State intent relating to appropriations to behavioral health services providers |
| LB1102 | Friesen | Change provisions relating to distribution of taxes collected, license renewals and fees, and the tax on gross proceeds for county and city lotteries |
| LB1103 | Friesen | Provide a minimum amount of state aid for each school district |
| LB1104 | Friesen | Change provisions relating to the special valuation of agricultural or horticultural land |
| LB1105 | Vargas | Change the transaction loan period under the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act |
| LB1106 | Linehan | Change requirements for overriding property tax limits |
| LB1107 | Linehan | Change provisions relating to barber licensing and the Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art Practice Act |
| LB1108 | Harr | Authorize certain tax credits, change the sales tax rate, and provide for school foundation aid and certain grant programs |
| LB1109 | Harr | Create the Grow Nebraska Through Quality Employment Strategic Partnership |
| LB1110 | Vargas | Require annual reporting of school performance scores and classifications |
| LB1111 | Stinner | Adopt the Fiscal Stress Management Act |
| LB1112 | Vargas | Change provisions relating to placement and detention of juveniles and permit an additional use of funds under the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program |
| LB1113 | Walz | Provide an exception for leasing dark fiber or providing broadband, Internet, telecommunications, or video services by an agency or political subdivision of the state |
| LB1114 | Walz | Provide for creation and maintenance of a statewide geographic information system map under the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act |
| LB1115 | Murante | Provide population requirements for establishing district boundary lines for legislative districts, Supreme Court districts, and certain political subdivisions |

NEW BILLS

| Bill | Introducer | One-line description |
|---------|----------------|---|
| LB1116 | Linehan | Create the Quality Education Accountability Commission and the Quality Education Accountability Office |
| LB1117 | Crawford | Change certain cigarette and tobacco products tax rates |
| LB1118 | Krist | Create the Coordinated Reentry Council |
| LB1119 | Riepe | Adopt the Direct Primary Care Pilot Program Act |
| LB1120 | Larson | Change provisions of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act and music licensing provisions |
| LB1121 | Larson | Adopt the Nebraska Uniform Protected Series Act |
| LB1122 | Larson | Authorize testing of automated motor vehicles as prescribed |
| LB1123 | Groene | Provide for streamflow augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed |
| LB1124 | Groene | Provide notice and hearing requirements for public entities relating to land acquisition and ground water pump installations |
| LB1125 | Groene | Change school finance base limitation and local effort rate provisions |
| LB1126 | Bolz | Adopt the Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights Act |
| LB1127 | Kolterman | Provide additional fees for certain credentials under the Uniform Credentialing Act and create the Patient Safety Cash Fund |
| LB1128 | Wayne | Prohibit counties, local governments, and certain state entities from spending legislative appropriations under certain conditions |
| LB1129 | Kuehn | Prohibit state employees from certain political activities |
| LB1130 | Kuehn | Provide a disclosure requirement for certain tax-exempt organizations under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act |
| LB1131 | Riepe | Define minor child relating to dissolution of marriage statutes |
| LB1132 | Pansing Brooks | Provide a procedure to set aside convictions of victims of sex trafficking and to expunge related records |
| LB1133 | Wayne | Adopt the Industrial Hemp Act, provide an exemption under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, and eliminate a provision relating to industrial hemp research |
| LB1134 | Vargas | Adopt the Nebraska Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act |
| LB1135 | Vargas | Adopt the Alternative Certification for Quality Teachers Act |
| LB1136 | Clements | Provide for custody and disposition of certain vehicles in possession of multistate auction dealers by treating such vehicles as abandoned vehicles |
| LR290CA | Kuehn | Constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to value real property for property tax purposes at its market value on date of acquisition |
| LR293CA | Wishart | Constitutional amendment providing a right to use or consume medical cannabis subject to laws, rules, and regulations |
| LR294CA | Larson | Constitutional amendment to allow the Legislature to authorize any game of chance, lottery, or gift enterprise and to provide for distribution of revenue |
| LR295CA | Vargas | Constitutional amendment to change the annual legislative salary to fifty percent of the median household income |

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COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Current hearing schedules are always available at: NebraskaLegislature.gov/calendar

Monday, January 22

Appropriations

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

Budget bills scheduled at this time for official record purposes. Testimony on the overall budget is appropriate, however testimony on specific issues and/or agencies should be presented at the date scheduled for the relevant agency.

LB944 (Scheer) Provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to appropriations and reduce appropriations
 LB945 (Scheer) Provide for transfers of funds and change transfer provisions
 LB946 (Scheer) Change provisions relating to the Cash Reserve Fund

Banking, Commerce & Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB683 (Blood) Provide a license fee exemption for servicemembers and their spouses under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act
 LB736 (Lindstrom) Change real estate agent duties with respect to certain written disclosures
 LB741 (Lindstrom) Change provisions relating to real property appraisers

Business & Labor

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

LB784 (Vargas) Change the Employee Classification Act to prohibit contractors with unpaid fines from contracting with the state or political subdivisions
 LB858 (Hansen) Provide annual adjustments for total disability income benefits under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act
 LB806 (Kuehn) Change the Conveyance Safety Act
 LB712 (Albrecht) Require drug testing for certain applicants and recipients of unemployment benefits

Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB783 (Vargas) Define "educational interpreter" for purposes of students eligible for special education as prescribed
 LB803 (Stinner) Change provisions related to kindergarten, early childhood education, and the Step Up to Quality Childcare Act

LB851 (Linehan) Limit superintendent and educational service unit administrator compensation
 LB779 (Groene) Change provisions relating to learning communities

Executive Board

Room 2102 - 12:00 p.m.

LB744 (Executive Board) Adopt the Legislative Qualifications and Election Contests Act

General Affairs

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Steven F. Anderson - Neb. Arts Council
 Appointment: Jeffrey Galyen - State Racing Commission
 Appointment: Alec Gorynski - Neb. Arts Council
 Appointment: John Hiller - State Electrical Board
 Appointment: Ellen Hornady - Neb. Arts Council
 Appointment: Darrel J. Huenergardt - Neb. Arts Council
 Appointment: Dennis Patrick Lee - State Racing Commission
 Appointment: Sue Roush - Neb. Arts Council
 Appointment: Heather Schneider - Neb. Arts Council
 LB724 (Wayne) Provide for segregation of keno funds, electronic fund transfers, and deposit of gross proceeds by a sales outlet location as prescribed
 LB921 (Lowe) Create a licensing exception under the State Electrical Act for certain farm building construction

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB895 (Geist) Change lien and flood-damaged brand provisions relating to motor vehicle certificates of title and change duties and requirements of the Department of Motor Vehicles as prescribed
 LB896 (Geist) Change provisions relating to electronic certificates of title, salvage vehicles, and the electronic dealer services system and Vehicle Title and Registration System maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles
 LB860 (Friesen) Provide for compensation for motor vehicle dealers affected by recalls and stop-sale orders

LB901 (Bostelman) Require Director of Aeronautics to consult with the Military Department in certain structure permitting decisions

Tuesday, January 23

Agriculture

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

LB764 (Crawford) Exempt certain operations from the definition of a food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act
 LB808 (Harr) Change provisions relating to community gardens and seed libraries

Banking, Commerce & Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB742 (Lindstrom) Change provisions relating to noncompete agreements under the Franchise Practices Act
 LB750 (Williams) Change provisions relating to recording of real property instruments and rights and duties of secured creditors
 LB904 (Vargas) Prohibit the charging of certain fees under the Credit Services Organization Act

Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB888 (Wayne) Require schools to post the child abuse and neglect toll-free telephone number
 LB912 (McCollister) Provide for posting by public schools of a toll-free telephone number set up to report child abuse and neglect
 LB898 (Howard) Require public postsecondary educational institutions to conduct an annual sexual assault climate survey
 LR270CA (Kolowski) Constitutional amendment to reduce the minimum age in the constitutional requirement to provide free instruction

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB900 (Bostelman) Adopt and update references to federal law relating to transportation and increase fines for violations of certain motor carrier statutes and regulations
 LB769 (Quick) Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

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LB671 (Krist) Change requirements for certain driving permits and use of occupant protection systems, change certain violations from secondary to primary enforcement, and prohibit use of interactive wireless communication devices by school bus operators
LB711 (Baker) Change requirements for use of occupant protection systems

Urban Affairs

1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB940 (Friesen) Change provisions of the Civic and Community Center Financing Act relating to fund use, grant request limits, property sale restrictions, and grant application priority
LB707 (Kolterman) Change provisions of the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles by eliminating applicability and references to manufactured homes and renaming the code
LB854 (Quick) Expand the number of municipalities which may create a land bank and change land bank powers and board requirements
LB768 (Quick) Redefine economic development program to include early childhood infrastructure development for cities of the first and second class and villages
LB880 (Hansen) Provide for an early childhood element in a comprehensive plan developed by a city

Wednesday, January 24

Executive Board

Room 2102 - 12:00 p.m.

LB751 (Legislative Performance Audit) Change agency duties with respect to adoption of rules and regulations
LB935 (Legislative Performance Audit) Facilitate tax incentive performance audits by requiring certain application materials, reporting, and data retention for certain tax incentive programs
LB936 (Legislative Performance Audit) Change provisions relating to tax incentive performance audits under the Legislative Performance Audit Act

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

LB749 (Williams) Change provisions relating to recording and filing fees

LR268 (Krist) Resolution to Congress for convention of the states to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB834 (Howard) Provide for waiver of certain occupational and licensing fees as prescribed
LB894 (Crawford) Adopt the EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact
LB924 (Riepe) Change provisions of the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act, the Occupational Therapy Practice Act, and the Uniform Credentialing Act

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB670 (Krist) Change membership, powers, and duties of the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice
LB673 (Krist) Change procedures for certain hearings for juveniles
LB689 (Blood) Exclude juveniles from the Sex Offender Registration Act
LB708 (Bolz) Change provisions relating to juvenile court bridge orders
LB714 (Howard) Provide a procedure for judicial emancipation of a minor
LB774 (Pansing Brooks) Change peace officers' duties regarding encounters with certain juveniles
LB870 (Pansing Brooks) Provide for room confinement for juveniles as prescribed

Natural Resources

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Alden Zuhlke - Environmental Quality Council
Appointment: John Dilsaver - Environmental Quality Council
LB762 (Hughes) Change a date for certain scrap tire recycling grants

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB730 (Wayne) Adopt the Ammunition Excise Tax Act
LB789 (Ebke) Eliminate the marijuana and controlled substances tax
LB738 (Lindstrom) Change revenue and taxation provisions relating to an adjustment to income for social security benefits

Thursday, January 25

Executive Board

Room 2102 - 12:00 p.m.

LB777 (Howard) Provide requirements for filling legislative vacancies
LB837 (Howard) Require applications for medicaid waivers be submitted to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature

Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: John Andrew Bolduc - Neb. State Patrol
LB831 (Wayne) Provide annual salary limitations for elected officials of political subdivisions
LB997 (Murante) Provide limits on salaries of administrative employees of political subdivisions

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB800 (Walz) Provide and change strategic plan requirements for services for qualified persons with disabilities
LB685 (Blood) Provide a funding priority for special-needs military dependents under the Developmental Disabilities Services Act
LB793 (Riepe) Eliminate provisions relating to specialized services under the Developmental Disabilities Services Act

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB688 (Blood) Provide for the possession, use, and application of sunscreen for children and students and provide immunity
LB729 (Wayne) Allow claims arising out of misrepresentation or deceit under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and State Tort Claims Act
LB780 (Pansing Brooks) Prohibit manufacture, import, transfer, and possession of multiburst trigger activators and firearm silencers
LB849 (Ebke) Provide procedure for return of handguns temporarily taken into possession by law enforcement under Concealed Handgun Permit Act
LB757 (Morfeld) Change provisions of the Credit Report Protection Act and the Financial Data Protection and Consumer Notification of Data Security Breach Act of 2006

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

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Natural Resources

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

Appointment: Bradley Bird - Neb.
Ethanol Board
LB754 (Brewer) Authorize purchase of state park permits while registering a motor vehicle online

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB829 (Erdman) Adopt the Property Tax Relief Act
LB899 (Erdman) Provide for an adjustment to the assessed value of destroyed real property

Friday, January 26

Health & Human Services

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

LB838 (Wishart) Change provisions relating to the Indoor Tanning Facility Act
LB717 (Howard) Change training requirements under the Quality Child Care Act
LB701 (Kolterman) Provide for telehealth practice by physicians and physician assistants
LB702 (Kolterman) Change provisions relating to children's health care coverage and Nebraska IV-D child support program modification procedures

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB832 (Wayne) Change definition of marijuana under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act
LB906 (Williams) Change provisions relating to Schedule I controlled substances
LB931 (Howard) Provide requirements for opiate prescriptions
LB933 (Lindstrom) Provide prescription requirements for certain controlled substances
LB934 (Kuehn) Require identification prior to receipt of dispensed opiates
LB970 (Wayne) Change marijuana penalties as prescribed
LB971 (Wayne) Change a penalty for possession under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act

Nebraska Retirement Systems

Room 1525 - 12:00 p.m.

Appointment: John Conley - Neb.
Investment Council
LB700 (Kolterman) Change provisions relating to the state investment officer and investment and management of the University Trust Fund

Revenue

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB728 (Wayne) Change individual income tax brackets and rates
LB804 (Brasch) Include elementary and secondary schools in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and change tax benefits
LB684 (Blood) Change the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 2102 - 1:00 p.m.

Appointment: David Copple - Neb.
Highway Commission
Appointment: Mary K. Gerdes - Neb.
Highway Commission
Appointment: James W. Hawks - Neb.
Highway Commission
Appointment: James Kindig - Neb.
Highway Commission
Appointment: Greg Wolford - Neb.
Highway Commission

Tuesday, January 30

Agriculture

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

LB766 (Brasch) Change provisions relating to division fences

Appropriations

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

LB674 (Krist) State intent to appropriate funds to the Division of Aeronautics for the Civil Air Patrol
Agency 37: Workers' Compensation Court
Agency 86: Dry Bean Commission
Agency 35: Liquor Control Commission
Agency 31: Military Department
Agency 14: Public Service Commission
Agency 21: State Fire Marshal
Agency 22: Dept. of Insurance
Agency 94: Commission on Public Advocacy

Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

LB828 (Lowe) Adopt the Empowerment Savings Account Act
LB876 (Kolowski) Change special education reimbursements
LB877 (Kolowski) Change provisions related to early childhood education in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act
LB718 (Halloran) Adopt the Higher Education Free Speech Accountability Act

Transportation & Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB740 (Lindstrom) Provide for registration and licensing of metropolitan utilities district motor vehicles and trailers as prescribed
LB755 (Brewer) Change rules for operation of all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles
LB830 (Vargas) Change license application, prohibited acts, and franchise restriction provisions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act
LB909 (Bostelman) Change motor vehicle titling and registration provisions, assembled and kit vehicle provisions, and the branding of certificates of title as reconstructed or replica
LB980 (Watermeier) Provide for issuance of permits for divisible loads of hay bales

Wednesday, January 31

Appropriations

Room 1003 - 1:30 p.m.

LB775 (Stinner) Adopt the State Park System Construction Alternatives Act
Agency 29: Dept. of Natural Resources
Agency 84: Dept. of Environmental Quality
Agency 33: Game and Parks Commission

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB792 (Ebke) Change powers and duties of the Nebraska State Patrol, law enforcement agencies, the executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, and the Attorney General
LB883 (Harr) Provide for appointment of independent counsel to prosecute crimes by state officials or employees

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

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and change powers and duties of the Attorney General
LB913 (McDonnell) Change provisions relating to assault with a bodily fluid against a public safety officer
LB923 (Morfeld) Provide immunity for certain law enforcement employees administering naloxone and change provisions relating to immunity for persons reporting or experiencing alcohol overdoses
LB955 (Krist) Provide for reciprocal certification of military police officers and law enforcement officers from other jurisdictions
LR269CA (Schumacher) Constitutional amendment to authorize the Legislature to delegate complete or partial sovereignty to one area of the state

Thursday, February 1

Appropriations

Room 1003 - 1:30 p.m.

LB802 (Stinner) Create the Nebraska Tourism Commission Promotional Cash Fund and provide for its use
Agency 16: Dept. of Revenue
Agency 93: Tax Equalization and Review Commission

Agency 72: Dept. of Economic Development
Agency 91: Neb. Tourism Commission
Agency 65: Dept. of Administrative Services

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB816 (Chambers) Designate Nebraska State Patrol as agency to investigate criminal activity within Department of Correctional Services correctional facilities
LB842 (Pansing Brooks) Change provisions relating to certain minimum sentences
LB852 (Bolz) Provide for medical release of and additional rehabilitative options for committed offenders and allow the use of certain funds for peer and family support programs
LB853 (Bolz) Authorize certain Department of Correctional Services contracts
LB868 (Pansing Brooks) Change parole provisions relating to deferment and structured programming
LB932 (Howard) Provide discharge planning duties for the medical director of the Department of Correctional Services

Friday, February 2

Appropriations

Room 1003 - 1:30 p.m.

Agency 24: Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Agency 60: Neb. Ethanol Board
Agency 77: Comm. of Industrial Relations
Agency 85: Public Employees Retirement Board
Agency 87: Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Judiciary

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

LB845 (Briese) Provide for supportive services relating to child custody
LB863 (Howard) Add grounds for termination of parental rights
LB879 (Ebke) Provide for a parenting time summary report
LB795 (McDonnell) Provide for an acknowledgment of maternity
LB826 (Vargas) Provide for jurisdiction to make factual findings under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act
LB972 (Wayne) Provide for deferred judgments by courts
LB785 (Vargas) Change terminology related to marriage ■

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Escorted by senators, Chief Justice Michael Heavican (right) makes his way to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber to deliver his State of the Judiciary address.