

Legislature convenes, elects leaders



New and re-elected senators took the oath of office on Jan. 9, the opening day of the 2019 legislative session.

The 106th Nebraska Legislature convened Jan. 9 for its 90-day first session. Thirteen new members and 13 re-elected senators were sworn into office, and lawmakers elected chairpersons of the Legislature's standing committees.

Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer was re-elected speaker of the Legislature in an uncontested race. Scheer told lawmakers that he would continue to act with fairness and consistency during his second two-year term as speaker.

"I will always remember—and have remembered—that you are electing me to serve you," he said. "I do so with humility and integrity."

Lawmakers chose Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers over Sen. Kate Bolz, also of Lincoln, to lead the Executive Board, which oversees legislative services and employees. Sen. Tony Vargas of Omaha was elected vice-chairperson.

Hilgers said his 15 years' experience as a lawyer would help him defend the

Legislature's interests in current and future legal battles.

"I will fight as the [executive] board chair to protect the powers of this body and institution," he said.

Term limits opened leadership positions in three of the Legislature's 14 standing committees, and two other sitting chairpersons lost bids for re-election last fall. Another vacated his seat after being elected to another office.

Sen. Lou Ann Linehan of Elkhorn defeated Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom in a race to lead the Revenue Committee. Linehan said she will focus on reducing property taxes on farmers, businesses and homeowners and ensure that the state's tax system works for all sectors.

"We want to encourage young people, retirees, veterans and businesses to stay and grow in Nebraska," she said. "We also must fund the essential services that our citizens need

and deserve and expect."

Sen. Mike Groene of North Platte remains chairperson of the Education Committee after fending off a challenge from Omaha Sen. Rick Kolowski. Groene said he will introduce legislation this session that is the work of an informal group of senators who met last interim with the goal of reducing the state school aid formula's reliance on property taxes.

"It is time for this body to fulfill the promise of our state constitution that the Legislature shall provide for the free instruction in the common schools of this state," he said. "We can no longer pass the majority of that duty off to the overburdened property taxpayers of Nebraska."

Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen unseated Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston to lead the Business and Labor Committee. Hansen told lawmakers that

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Gov. Ricketts takes oath of office

Surrounded by family, lawmakers and the media, Pete Ricketts was sworn in for a second term as Nebraska's governor Jan. 10.

"It's a deep honor for me to continue to serve as the 40th governor of the great state of Nebraska," Ricketts said during his brief address.

Ricketts said he wants to continue to grow Nebraska for the remainder of his administration. That includes creating high-paying jobs, reducing regulation, constraining state spending and promoting Nebraska, he said.

"I travel all around the country and around the world ... telling people that we have got the best place in the world right here," Ricketts said.

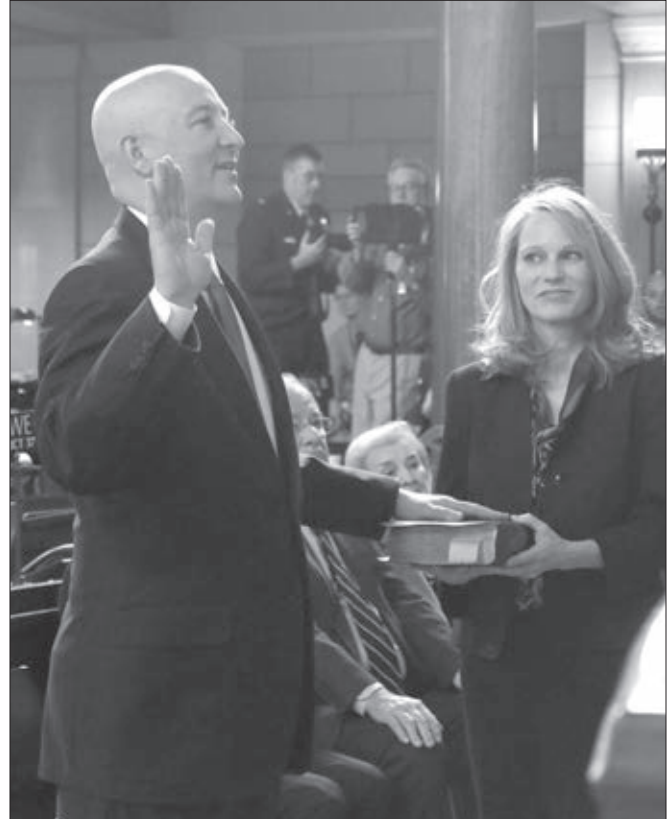
The governor twice mentioned reducing property taxes—an issue that has troubled previous legislatures—voicing optimism that this would be the year senators reach an agreement.

"We're going to have to work hard and work together," Ricketts said. "We're going to have to use some Nebraska grit."

Ricketts again will address the Legislature during his State of the State address Jan. 15 at 10 a.m.

Also sworn in Jan. 10 were several returning and newly elected officials, including:

- Lieutenant Governor Mike Foley;
- Nebraska Supreme Court Judge Stephanie Stacy;
- Secretary of State Bob Evnen;
- State Treasurer John Murante;



Gov. Pete Ricketts, accompanied by first lady Susanne Shore, takes the oath of office during inaugural ceremonies Jan. 10.

- State Auditor Charlie Janssen;
- Attorney General Doug Peterson;
- Public Service Commissioner Tim Schram;
- State Board of Education members Maureen Nickels and Robin Stevens; and
- Board of Regents members Elizabeth O'Connor, Rob Schafer and Barbara Weitz. ■

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

The Unicameral Update is a free, weekly newsletter published during the legislative session. It is produced by the Clerk of the Legislature's Office through the Unicameral Information Office. For print subscriptions, call 402-471-2788 or email uio@leg.ne.gov. Visit us online at Update.Legislature.ne.gov, twitter.com/UnicamUpdate and facebook.com/UnicameralUpdate.

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Printed copies of bills, resolutions and the Legislative Journal are available at the State Capitol room 1023, or by calling 402-471-2709 or 800-742-7456. Status of bills and resolutions can be requested at that number or can be found on NebraskaLegislature.gov. Live video of hearings and floor debate can be viewed on NET2 and at NetNebraska.org/capitol.

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THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE'S OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1977

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(continued from front page)

he would be open, fair and helpful. “I believe a proposed bill can only receive true discussion and debate when senators feel comfortable with the fairness of the process ... and that a final vote is representative of how well they have or have not proven their case to the committee,” he said.

Sen. Tom Briese of Albion, who defeated Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood in the race to lead the General Affairs Committee, also said he would run an open and transparent committee that treats everyone with fairness and respect. As the committee’s leader, Briese said he will promote legislation to help grow the state’s economy while protecting public safety.

Elected in uncontested races were: Hastings Sen. Steve Halloran to the Agriculture Committee; Sen. Matt Williams of Gothenburg to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee; Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee; Sen. Sara Howard of Omaha to the Health and Human Services Committee; and

Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop to the Judiciary Committee.

Three incumbent chairpersons also were re-elected in uncontested races: Sen. John Stinner of Gering to the Appropriations Committee; Venango Sen. Dan Hughes to the Natural Resources Committee; Sen. Mark Kolterman of Seward to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee; Henderson Sen. Curt Friesen to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee; and Sen. Justin Wayne of Omaha to the Urban Affairs Committee.

Sen. Robert Hilkemann of Omaha was re-elected to lead the 13-member Committee on Committees despite a challenge from Bayard Sen. Steve Erdman. The committee submits committee appointments to the full Legislature for approval.

Senators may introduce bills for the first 10 legislative days, or through Jan. 23.

Gov. Pete Ricketts will deliver his State of the State address Jan. 15 in the legislative chamber. Nebraska Supreme Court Justice Michael Heavican will give his State of the Judiciary address Jan. 17.

Committee hearings are scheduled to begin Jan. 22 and will continue through March. The session is scheduled to end in early June. ■



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This web page contains the senator's contact information and links to their biography and photos. It also provides a list of committees they serve on, the bills they've introduced and links to coverage of them in the Unicameral Update.

NEW BILLS

Bill Introducer One-line description

January 10, 2018

LB1	Exec. Board	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete provisions relating to the Water Funding Task Force
LB2	Exec. Board	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete provisions relating to a program that ended in 2012
LB3	Exec. Board	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete appropriation provisions
LB4	Stinner	Change mileage reimbursement and filing fees under the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act
LB5	Blood	Change the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act
LB6	Blood	Change residency provisions relating to persons on active duty and their dependents for college tuition purposes
LB7	Blood	Adopt the Counterfeit Airbag Prevention Act
LB8	Blood	Allow physician medical directors to display certain vehicle lights as prescribed
LB9	Blood	Prohibit cities, counties, and villages from taxing or regulating distributed ledger technology
LB10	Blood	Authorize the operation of lighted-billboard motor vehicles
LB11	Blood	Provide for interlocal agreements regarding nuisances
LB12	Blood	Provide a license fee exemption for servicemembers and their spouses under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act
LB13	Blood	Provide a sales tax exemption for breast pumps and related supplies and exempt breast-feeding from public indecency offenses
LB14	Blood	Provide for truth in advertising and labeling in the sale of meat and provide a penalty
LB15	Blood	Adopt the Children of Nebraska Hearing Aid Act
LB16	Briese	Provide for withhold of records relating to certain critical infrastructure
LB17	Briese	State a right of juveniles who have a parent with a disability
LB18	Briese	Adopt the Remote Seller Sales Tax Collection Act
LB19	Briese	Allow withholding from public of reports of injury under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act as prescribed and provide duties for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
LB20	Briese	Require voter approval of public building commission bonds
LB21	Kolterman	Provide formal protest procedures for certain state contracts for services
LB22	Kolterman	Change provisions relating to the Nursing Facility Penalty Cash Fund
LB23	Kolterman	Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act
LB24	Kolterman	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services
LB25	Kolterman	Provide for additional fees under the Uniform Credentialing Act and create the Patient Safety Cash Fund
LB26	Kolterman	Change provisions related to legal service insurance corporations
LB27	Kolterman	Change provisions related to the use of proceeds from community college levies
LB28	Kolterman	Authorize damages for property taxes and special assessment paid on property lost through adverse possession
LB29	Kolterman	Provide and eliminate telehealth provisions
LB30	Kolterman	Change and eliminate provisions under the Professional Landscape Architects Act
LB31	Kolterman	Provide for a work plan relating to a transfer of management of the retirement system operated under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act to the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems and to require a report and provide duties
LB32	Kolterman	Change defined contribution benefit investment options as prescribed under the County Employees Retirement Act and State Employees Retirement Act
LB33	Kolterman	Change various provisions relating to retirement and the Nebraska Investment Council and the Public Employees Retirement Board
LB34	Kolterman	Eliminate provisions relating to benefits payable after the filing of a grievance or appeal and change provisions relating to employee reinstatement under the County Employees Retirement Act and State Employees Retirement Act

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB35	Kolterman	Change provisions relating to reemployment, reinstatement, repayment, and age eligibility for certain members under the County Employees Retirement Act and State Employees Retirement Act
LB36	Kolterman	Redefine creditable service, change a payment deadline for restoration of relinquished creditable service, and change payment requirements and service credit computation provisions under the School Employees Retirement Act
LB37	Hilkemann	Change the Podiatry Practice Act to authorize a physician assistant to assist a podiatrist
LB38	Hilkemann	Provide for one license plate and In Transit decal per vehicle
LB39	Hilkemann	Change provisions relating to occupant protection system enforcement and change certain violations from secondary to primary enforcement
LB40	Hilkemann	Change provisions related to provisional operator's permits, LPD and LPE learner's permits, and interactive wireless communication devices
LB41	Hilkemann	Change provisions relating to transfers and uses of certain gaming taxes
LB42	Hilkemann	Provide certain responsibilities and a duty under the Condominium Property Act and a duty under the Nebraska Condominium Act
LB43	Bolz	Adopt the Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights Act
LB44	Chambers	Eliminate the death penalty and change provisions relating to murder in the first degree
LB45	Chambers	Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act
LB46	Chambers	Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of mountain lions
LB47	Chambers	Change provisions relating to when a grand jury report may be made public
LB48	Stinner	Change provisions relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation
LB49	Stinner	Change provisions relating to accounting firm ownership
LB50	Vargas	Change individual income tax brackets and rates
LB51	Vargas	Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act
LB52	Stinner	Require accountability for and investment of public funds
LB53	Scheer	Change and provide duties for landowners or their tenants relating to removal of a blockage or obstruction in a watercourse and provide for court costs and attorney's fees
LB54	Lowe	Change provisions relating to carrying a concealed weapon
LB55	Lowe	Authorize persons eighteen years of age to acquire or convey title to real property
LB56	Lowe	Change special designated licensure provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
LB57	Morfeld	Prohibit regulation of short-term rentals and provide for taxation agreements
LB58	Morfeld	Adopt the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act
LB59	Cavanaugh	Change investigation and reporting provisions under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act
LB60	Cavanaugh	Change terminology relating to shaken baby syndrome
LB61	Halloran	Change and eliminate provisions relating to rabies
LB62	Howard	Provide for education regarding and treatment of trichomoniasis
LB63	Groene	Change tax levy provisions relating to rural and suburban fire protection districts and change the Mutual Finance Assistance Act
LB64	Groene	Change and eliminate licensing, training, and internship provisions under the Licensing of Truth and Deception Examiners Act
LB65	Groene	Authorize a licensing exception under the State Electrical Act
LB66	M. Hansen	Provide for an early childhood element in a comprehensive plan developed by a city
LB67	M. Hansen	Change provisions relating to determination of municipality population thresholds and references to cities, villages, and governing bodies
LB68	M. Hansen	Change provisions of the Business Improvement District Act as prescribed
LB69	M. Hansen	Provide income tax credits for caregivers as prescribed
LB70	M. Hansen	Adopt the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act and eliminate the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB71	M. Hansen	Eliminate a cause of action for damages for shoplifting
LB72	M. Hansen	Provide for nonpartisan election of county officers
LB73	Erdman	Require display of the national motto in schools
LB74	Williams	Provide for validation by certified pharmacy technicians
LB75	Williams	Change terms of members of the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board
LB76	Williams	Change provisions relating to the nameplate capacity tax
LB77	Williams	Change provisions of the Real Property Appraiser Act and the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act
LB78	Williams	Change provisions of the Nebraska Uniform Protected Series Act and the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act
LB79	Friesen	Adopt and update references to federal transportation laws and allow for electronic images of certain registration certificates
LB80	Friesen	Change motor vehicle identification inspection provisions
LB81	Friesen	Change provisions relating to special stops at railroad grade crossings under the Nebraska Rules of the Road
LB82	Friesen	Change provisions relating to contracts and state aid for bridges, land acquisition for state highways, functional classification, minimum standards, six-year and one-year plans, and distribution of funds and to change and provide duties as prescribed
LB83	Wayne	Provide for restoration of voting rights upon completion of a felony sentence or probation for a felony
LB84	Wayne	Provide a tax deduction for wages paid to individuals convicted of a felony
LB85	Wayne	Provide for a rental housing inspection program for a city of the metropolitan class or a city of the primary class
LB86	Wayne	Change provisions relating to the allocation of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the collection and remittance of the documentary stamp tax
LB87	Wayne	Provide funding in opportunity zones designated pursuant to federal law
LB88	Wayne	Provide an income tax credit for certain purchases of a residence
LB89	Wayne	Change certain marijuana penalties
LB90	Wayne	Make post-release supervision optional for Class IV felonies
LB91	Wayne	Provide for deferred judgments by courts as prescribed
LB92	Wayne	Require application of Nebraska Evidence Rules at parental termination hearings
LB93	Wayne	Provide for intervention by a biological parent in certain juvenile proceedings
LB94	Wayne	Designate Nebraska State Patrol as agency to investigate criminal activity within Department of Correctional Services correctional facilities
LB95	Wayne	Change applicability provisions for building codes
LB96	Wayne	Change local building code provisions
LB97	Wayne	Change provisions relating to highway funding
LB98	Wayne	Change signature requirements for nomination of partisan candidates by petition
LB99	Wayne	Change requirements of the Prompt Payment Act
LB100	Wayne	State intent relating to an appropriation to the Nebraska State Historical Society
LB101	Wayne	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
LB102	Wayne	Change references from Big Twelve to Big Ten Conference in provisions requiring a stipend or restricting hours of participation for intercollegiate athletes
LB103	Linehan	Change provisions relating to property tax requests
LB104	Linehan	Change distribution of the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund
LB105	Linehan	Designate corn as the state vegetable
LB106	Dorn	Change provisions relating to disclosure of DNA records under the DNA Identification Information Act

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB107	Dorn	Change provisions relating to city and village plumbing boards and change a penalty
LB108	Bolz	Change provisions relating to placement of Department of Correctional Services inmates in county jails
LB109	Bolz	Require the position classification plan and salary or pay plan for state employees to include certain positions
LB110	Wishart	Adopt the Medical Cannabis Act
LB111	Howard	Change a certificate of title application signature requirement as prescribed
LB112	Howard	Provide for waiver of certain occupational and licensing fees as prescribed
LB113	Blood	Require the Department of Correctional Services to disclose certain records
LB114	Blood	Change provisions relating to reductions of good time
LB115	Blood	Change provisions related to enrollment of children of members of the military
LB116	Kolterman	Authorize electronic delivery of insurance policies and billing information to insureds
LB117	Hilgers	Change provisions relating to bridge and highway construction contracts, certification of financial showing, and obtaining contract plans prepared by the Department of Transportation
LB118	Arch	Provide a procedure to withhold residential address of physicians in county records
LB119	Arch	Provide for confidentiality of records and immunity from liability for professional health care service entities involved in peer review
LB120	Crawford	Require teacher and school staff to receive training on behavioral and mental health
LB121	Crawford	Change provisions on limits on indebtedness from direct borrowing by cities and villages
LB122	Crawford	Change postsecondary residency requirements for veterans, family members, and other qualified persons
LB123	Crawford	Add an exemption from the Taxpayer Transparency Act for certain contracts
LB124	Crawford	Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act
LB125	Lathrop	Include certain intimate partners who are victims of theft within victim rights statutes
LB126	Hughes	Provide for special landowner deer hunting permits as prescribed
LB127	Hughes	Redefine immediate family for purposes of limited permits for hunting
LB128	Hughes	Provide for Wildlife Conservation Plates
LB129	Wayne	Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation
LB130	DeBoer	Adopt radon resistant new construction requirements
LB131	Pansing Brooks	Change certain provisions relating to minimum sentences
LB132	Pansing Brooks	Change penalties for certain felonies committed by persons under nineteen years of age
LB133	Pansing Brooks	Change provisions relating to structured programming and deferral of parole
LB134	Stinner	Provide levy authority and duties for natural resources districts
LB135	Stinner	Change provisions relating to students in emergency medical services training
LR1CA	Wayne	Constitutional amendment to eliminate slavery or involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime
LR2	Blood	Rescind any previous resolutions calling for U.S. Constitution Article V conventions
LR3CA	Erdman	Constitutional amendment to provide income tax credits for property taxes paid

January 11, 2018

LB136	Wayne	Adopt the Density Bonus and Inclusionary Housing Act
LB137	Blood	Adopt the Fantasy Contests Act and provide a gambling exception
LB138	Blood	Provide for additional Military Honor Plates and Support Our Troops Plates
LB139	Kolterman	Change provisions relating to a data base of contractors under the Contractor Registration Act
LB140	Kolowski	Change provisions relating to the Indoor Tanning Facility Act
LB141	DeBoer	Provide for the offense of assault by strangulation or suffocation

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB142	Geist	Change provisions relating to driving automation systems and liability
LB143	Hughes	Prohibit throwing or dropping dangerous instruments on motor vehicles
LB144	Hughes	Provide for voter approval of nonpartisan nomination and partisan election of county officers
LB145	M. Hansen	Change power of attorney provisions relating to banks and other financial institutions
LB146	M. Hansen	Change liability and damages provisions for refusal to accept acknowledged power of attorney
LB147	Groene	Provide for the use of physical force or physical restraint or removal from a class in response to student behavior
LB148	Groene	Change requirements for public hearings on proposed budget statements and notices of meetings of public bodies
LB149	Quick	Change provisions relating to vapor products
LB150	Brewer	Change provisions relating to access to public records and provide for fees
LB151	Brewer	Adopt the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act
LB152	Brewer	State rights of Nebraska National Guard members and provide for confidentiality of member's residential addresses
LB153	Brewer	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits
LB154	Brewer	Authorize a study to improve reporting and investigation of missing Native American women
LB155	Brewer	Eliminate authority for eminent domain by certain political subdivisions
LB156	Brewer	Provide for the operation of former military vehicles
LB157	Brewer	Provide for voluntary registration, duties for the Department of Agriculture, and a cause of action under the Nebraska Apiary Act
LB158	Brewer	Change provisions relating to the assessed value of real property
LB159	Williams	Change provisions of the Nebraska Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act
LB160	Quick	Redefine terms under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act to include early childhood infrastructure development and quality early childhood care and education programs for certain cities and villages
LB161	Erdman	Eliminate learning communities
LB162	Hunt	Impose sales and use taxes on certain services
LB163	Hunt	Permit counties to conduct elections by mail
LB164	Hunt	Prohibit electronic transmission or online posting of certain photographs or videos, redefine sexual exploitation, and provide for a registrable offense under the Sex Offender Registration Act
LB165	Hunt	Adopt the Too Young to Suspend Act
LB166	Hunt	Prohibit defendant's discovery of victim's actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation as defense to crime
LB167	Hunt	Prohibit conversion therapy
LB168	Hunt	Define offense of child abuse to include subjecting a child to conversion therapy
LB169	Hunt	Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
LB170	Hunt	Provide a sales and use tax exemption for feminine hygiene products
LB171	Pansing Brooks	Appropriate funds to the Department of Administrative Services
LB172	Pansing Brooks	Change provisions relating to cofiduciaries, payable on death accounts, and competency for persons eighteen years of age or older entering into certain financial agreements
LB173	Pansing Brooks	Define and redefine terms of coercion and without consent and provide for applicability with respect to sexual assault
LB174	Bolz	State intent relating to appropriations for the Office of Violence Prevention
LB175	Chambers	Change provisions regarding candidate committee funds
LB176	Chambers	Eliminate certain mandatory minimum penalties
LB177	Lindstrom	Change a termination date for bonding authority of natural resources districts
LB178	Hilgers	Change provisions relating to claims against the state and state vehicles

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB179	Hilgers	Authorize the appeal of certain motions as final orders
LB180	Bolz	Change program eligibility criteria under the Community College Gap Assistance Program Act
LB181	Bolz	Require a report from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature regarding long-term care sustainability
LB182	Bolz	Adopt the School District Local Option Income Surtax Act
LB183	Briese	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land for purposes of certain school district taxes
LB184	Friesen	Adopt the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act
LB185	Friesen	Change provisions relating to the special valuation of agricultural and horticultural land
LB186	Lindstrom	Adopt the Online Notary Public Act
LB187	Lindstrom	Change the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act
LB188	Lindstrom	Change the rate of interest charge on loans under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act
LB189	Erdman	Change provisions relating to budget limitations for cities and villages
LB190	La Grone	Change provisions relating to rule and regulation authority of the Department of Transportation and the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission
LB191	La Grone	Change provisions relating to budgets and public hearing notice for certain governmental entities
LB192	McCollister	Change provisions relating to veteran designations on operators' licenses and state identification cards
LB193	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to cities of particular classes and villages, correct and include references as prescribed, and eliminate obsolete provisions and repeal definitions
LB194	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to cities of the first class as prescribed
LB195	Urban Affairs	Correct statutory references relating to the State Fire Code
LB196	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to notices of certain zoning matters in cities of the metropolitan class and for hearings under the Business Improvement District Act
LB197	Urban Affairs	Provide a procedure for detachment of real property from the corporate limits of a city or village and eliminate existing detachment provisions
LB198	Halloran	Change provisions relating to use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony and prohibit use of a facsimile firearm to commit a felony
LB199	Wishart	Appropriate funds to the Supreme Court for court appointed special advocate state aid
LB200	Wishart	Change provisions relating to licensure under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act of alcoholism centers providing civil protective custody of intoxicated persons
LB201	McCollister	Prohibit certain unlawful acts as prescribed relating to the Weights and Measures Act
LB202	Wishart	Designate funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services for state aid
LB203	Briese	Change provisions of the Music Licensing Agency Act
LB204	Briese	Require approval of voters for bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act
LB205	Kolterman	Adopt the Surgical Technologist Registration Act
LB206	Morfeld	Protect free speech rights of student journalists and student media advisers
LB207	Morfeld	Create a Death Penalty Defense Standards Advisory Council
LB208	Walz	Provide an exception for leasing dark fiber or providing certain telecommunications and related services by a state agency or political subdivision
LB209	Albrecht	Require information regarding reversal of medication abortion
LB210	Crawford	Change independent expenditure reporting requirements and require electioneering reporting
LB211	Crawford	Provide for nonpartisan nomination and election of county officers
LB212	Government,	Change requirements for videoconferencing and telephone conferencing under the Open Meetings Act
LB213	McCollister	Provide for setting aside certain infraction, misdemeanor, and felony convictions
LB214	La Grone	Authorize cession of certain land to the federal government

NEW BILLS

Bill	Introducer	One-line description
LB215	Linehan	Provide for Prostate Cancer Awareness Plates
LB216	Kolterman	Prohibit releasing a person in custody to avoid medical costs
LB217	Pansing Brooks	Prohibit retaliation against employees for communicating about wages
LB218	Lindstrom	Redefine tangible personal property and gross receipts for tax purposes
LR4	Gragert	Congratulate the Creighton High School football team on winning the 2018 Class D-1 state championship
LR5CA	Brewer	Constitutional amendment to limit the percentage of funding for schools that comes from property taxes
LR6	Geist	Extend sympathy to the family of Ruth Raymond Thone

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Ceremonies

Legislature convenes, elects leaders

January 9, 2019 Edit

The 106th Nebraska Legislature convened Jan. 9 for its 90-day first session. Thirteen new members and 13 re-elected senators were sworn into office, and lawmakers elected chairpersons of the Legislature's standing committees.

Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer was re-elected speaker of the Legislature in an uncontested race. Scheer told lawmakers that he would continue to act with fairness and consistency during his second two-year term as speaker.

2019 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE



Chairperson: Sen. Steve Halloran

Members: Sens. Blood, Brandt, Chambers, B. Hansen, Lathrop, Moser and Slama

Meets: Tuesdays — Room 1524



Sen. Steve Halloran

APPROPRIATIONS



Chairperson: Sen. John Stinner

Members: Sens. Bolz, Clements, Dorn, Erdman, Hilkemann, McDonnell, Vargas and Wishart

Meets: Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. — Room 1003



Sen. John Stinner

BANKING, COMMERCE & INSURANCE



Chairperson: Sen. Matt Williams

Members: Sens. Gragert, Howard, Kolterman, La Grone, Lindstrom, McCollister and Quick

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays — Room 1507



Sen. Matt Williams

BUSINESS & LABOR



Chairperson: Sen. Matt Hansen

Members: Sens. Chambers, Crawford, Halloran, B. Hansen, Lathrop and Slama

Meets: Mondays — Room 1524



Sen. Matt Hansen

EDUCATION



Chairperson: Sen. Mike Groene

Members: Sens. Brewer, Kolowski, Linehan, Morfeld, Murman, Pansing Brooks and Walz

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays — Room 1525



Sen. Mike Groene

GENERAL AFFAIRS



Chairperson: Sen. Tom Briese

Members: Sens. Arch, Blood, Brandt, Hunt, Lowe, Moser and Wayne

Meets: Mondays — Room 1510



Sen. Tom Briese

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS



Chairperson: Sen. Tom Brewer

Members: Sens. Blood, M. Hansen, Hilgers, Hunt, Kolowski, La Grone and Lowe

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1507



Sen. Tom Brewer

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Chairperson: Sen. Sara Howard

Members: Sens. Arch, Cavanaugh, B. Hansen, Murman, Walz and Williams

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1510



Sen. Sara Howard

JUDICIARY

Chairperson: Sen. Steve Lathrop

Members: Sens. Brandt, Chambers, DeBoer, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Slama and Wayne

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays – Warner Chamber



Sen. Steve Lathrop

NATURAL RESOURCES

Chairperson: Sen. Dan Hughes

Members: Sens. Albrecht, Bostelman, Geist, Gragert, Halloran, Moser and Quick

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays – Room 1525



Sen. Dan Hughes

NEBRASKA RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

Chairperson: Sen. Mark Kolterman

Members: Sens. Bolz, Groene, Kolowski, Lindstrom and Stinner

Meets: At the call of the chairperson – Room 1525



Sen. Mark Kolterman

REVENUE

Chairperson: Sen. Lou Ann Linehan

Members: Sens. Briese, Crawford, Friesen, Groene, Kolterman, Lindstrom and McCollister

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays – Room 1524



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan

TRANSPORTATION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson: Sen. Curt Friesen

Members: Sens. Albrecht, Bostelman, Cavanaugh, DeBoer, Geist, Hilgers and Hughes

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays – Warner Chamber



Sen. Curt Friesen

URBAN AFFAIRS

Chairperson: Sen. Justin Wayne

Members: Sens. Arch, Briese, Crawford, M. Hansen, Hunt and Lowe

Meets: Tuesdays – Room 1510



Sen. Justin Wayne

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairperson: Sen. Mike Hilgers

Members: Sens. Vargas (vice chairperson), Bolz, Chambers, Hughes, Kolterman, Lowe, McCollister, Scheer and Stinner (nonvoting ex officio)

Meets: At the call of the chairperson



Sen. Mike Hilgers

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Chairperson: Sen. Robert Hilkemann

Members: Sens. Morfeld (vice chairperson), Bostelman, Erdman, Friesen, Groene, Hilgers, Howard, Lathrop, Lindstrom, Murman, Pansing Brooks and Vargas



Sen. Robert Hilkemann

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Thirteen newly elected and appointed senators were sworn in on the first day of the legislative session. Front row (from left): Sens. Tom Brandt, John Arch, Megan Hunt, Machaela Cavanaugh and Mike Moser. Back row: Sens. Dave Murman, Myron Dorn, Wendy DeBoer, Steve Lathrop and Tim Gragert. Not pictured: Sens. Ben Hansen, Andrew La Grone and Julie Slama.