

The image shows the top portion of the Nebraska State Capitol building. The central feature is a large, brown, gilded dome. Atop the dome stands a bronze statue of a muscular man, known as the Pioneer, holding a rifle. Below the dome is a decorative band with blue and gold geometric patterns. The building's facade is made of light-colored stone or brick, with several arched windows visible. The entire scene is captured with a dynamic splash of water, creating a sense of movement and energy. The background is a plain, light color.

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Unicameral Update
2011 Session Review

2011

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Agriculture



Sen. Tom Carlson, Agriculture Committee chairperson

The Agriculture Committee addressed a number of issues during the 2011 session, including fencing law, a brand inspection surcharge, the feasibility of a state meat inspection program and a statewide standard for honey.

LB108, introduced by Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson and approved 44-0, requires landowners to keep their division fences in good repair and clear of disruptive trees. The bill also declares trees and woody growth that damage a division fence as private nuisances to adjacent landowners.

The Nebraska Brand Committee is authorized to implement a surcharge to cover travel costs associated with brand inspections under **LB181**. Introduced by North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen and passed 45-0, the bill permits the committee to add up to a \$20 surcharge per



Sen. Tom Hansen

location to the brand inspection fee to cover travel expenses incurred by brand inspectors.

The state Department of Agriculture will research the feasibility of a meat and poultry inspection program under a bill approved 43-0. **LB305**, introduced by O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson, requires the department to submit by Nov. 15 a report to the Legislature describing actions necessary to implement a state meat and poultry inspection program.



Sen. Tyson Larson

The state will adopt a honey standard, courtesy of a bill sponsored by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas and approved 41-1. **LB114** directs the department to develop by Jan. 1, 2012, rules and regulations for all honeys produced by honey bees. Products that fail to meet the standard cannot be labeled as honey, and improper labeling will constitute a violation of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act.



Sen. Annette Dubas

A veto stopped a bill that would have provided a financing program to improve access to healthful foods in underserved communities. **LB200**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brenda Council, would have directed the Rural Development Commission to create a financing program to increase access to fresh fruits, vegetables and other nutritional foods in low-income areas with limited access to healthful food retailers. **LB200** was approved 30-16, but it was vetoed by the governor. Council's motion to override the veto failed on a 20-19 vote.



Sen. Brenda Council

A bill that would eliminate a requirement to label gasoline pumps containing ethanol stalled on select file. **LB698**, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, would change the requirement for ethanol or methanol labels on fuels with concentrations of 1 percent to apply only to pumps containing at least 11 percent ethanol or methanol. Christensen filed a mo-



Sen. Mark Christensen

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tion to indefinitely postpone the bill and elected to lay over LB698 until next session.

The committee also advanced a bill that would create an outstanding dog breeder designation. **LB427**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, would permit the department to designate outstanding commercial dog breeders that meet certain criteria and list them on the department's website. The bill also would require commercial breeders to provide responsible medical care for their dogs and set minimum standards for their dogs' primary enclosures. The bill remains on general file.



Sen. Abbie Cornett

Counties could adopt black-tailed prairie dog management programs under a bill advanced by the committee. **LB473**, introduced by Ellsworth Sen. LeRoy Louden, would permit counties to adopt resolutions creating coordinated black-tailed prairie dog management programs. Landowners would be required to prevent colonies on their property from expanding to a neighboring property if the adjacent landowner objects to the expansion.



Sen. LeRoy Louden

Landowners whose properties serve as a habitat for unmanaged black-tailed prairie dog colonies could receive individual notice of the program and would have 60 days to provide evidence of appropriate management actions before the county could interfere. Landowners failing to take appropriate action could be fined \$100 per day per violation up to a total of \$1,500. The bill remains on general file.

LB356, introduced by Carlson, would direct the department to use federal rural rehabilitation funds to pay the administrative costs of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act and the Beginning Farmer Board. The bill was held in committee.

Finally, the committee indefinitely postponed a bill that would have prohibited restaurants from offering toys with meals that fail to meet certain nutritional standards. **LB126**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, would have prohibited restaurants and convenience stores from advertising, marketing, supplying or selling consumer incentive items associated with the purchase of a packaged child's meal if the meal failed to meet nutritional standards. ■



Sen. Bill Avery

Appropriations



Appropriations Committee chairperson Sen. Lavon Heidemann

After starting the calendar year with a \$987 million budget shortfall, lawmakers balanced the budget in large part due to the work of the Appropriations Committee.

The approved state budget will result in general fund appropriations totaling \$7 billion during the next biennium. General funds expended in the two-year budget will increase an average of 2.7 percent per year. The budget has a projected ending balance of \$215.4 million, which is \$3.3 million greater than the required 3 percent minimum reserve.

Significant spending reductions made in the budget include a \$67.7 million reduction in agency operations, \$29.3 million less for health and human services provider rates and \$19.8 million less for public assistance.

Medicaid and state aid to schools required additional state funds to make up for expenses covered by federal stimulus funds received last biennium. The proposed budget increased Medicaid appropriations by \$110.5 million and \$140.8 million over the next biennium from fiscal year 2010-11 funding levels. Likewise, state funds appropriated for state aid to schools will increase by \$10.7 million and \$67.9 million from the current fiscal year, although the total appropriation still will be \$200 million less than the combined state and federal funds for FY2010-11. Other appropriation increases include \$20 million for the home-stead exemption program and \$18.5 million for employee salary increases, which generally are scheduled to take place in FY2012-13.

The Appropriations Committee budget package comprised nine bills.

LB373, passed 41-0, provides deficit appropriations for the current fiscal year. Adjustments in the bill include \$27 million in savings through a reduction in the FY2010-11 appropriation.

LB374, the mainline budget bill, provides the vast majority of appropriations for state operations and state aid. It passed 43-0.

LB375, passed 43-0, provides for the \$12,000 annual salaries of Nebraska's 49 state senators.

LB376, approved 43-0, appropriates funds for salaries of constitutional officers. The bill also includes funding for a new district court judge in Lancaster County.

LB377, passed 42-1, provides \$28.6 million in general funds for new and existing capital construction projects. The bill also includes a \$25 million appropriation from the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund to the University of Nebraska to finance the renovation of the 4-H Building and construction of the Food, Fuel and Water Research Building. Both projects are part of the Nebraska Innovation Campus.

LB378, passed 43-0, provides a number of fund transfers, including:

- \$220 million from the general fund to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund;
- \$25 million from the general fund to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund;

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- \$6.3 million from the general fund to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund;
- \$5.4 million from the general fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund;
- \$970,000 from the Tobacco Control and Prevention Cash Fund to the Health and Human Services Cash Fund; and
- \$470,000 from the Uniform Commercial Cash Fund to the Election Administration Fund.

LB379, approved 43-0, transfers \$105 million from the Cash Reserve Fund to the general fund. Under the bill, the state's cash reserve is projected to enter FY2013-14 with a balance of \$299 million.

LB380 addresses depreciation charges assessed to state agencies based on a percentage of capital construction costs. The depreciation surcharge was suspended for FY2009-10 and FY2010-11 and was scheduled to be reinstated at a 1 percent rate beginning in FY2011-12. **LB380**, which eliminates the surcharge, was approved 44-0.

A bill that was not part of the budget package but resulted in general fund savings was **LB464**, introduced

by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell at the request of the governor and passed 42-2. Under the bill, the state Department of Health and Human Services will no longer be required to set child care reimbursement rates at a level between the 60th and 75th percentile of a market survey. Instead, the bill lowers to the 50th percentile the minimum rate that HHS may pay for the next two years, beginning July 1, 2011. In addition, the rate paid to child-care providers may be no lower than the rate paid in the preceding fiscal year.

The state would provide funding for a drug rehabilitation program serving mothers under a bill that was held in committee. **LB325**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, would appropriate \$250,000 annually in the next biennium to the Behavioral Health Aid program for allocation to Heartland Family Service's Family Works program. ■



Sen. Kathy Campbell



Sen. Gwen Howard

Banking, Commerce and Insurance



Sen. Rich Pahls, chairperson of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

Insurance and commerce priorities addressed by lawmakers this session included insurance coverage for abortions, economic development proposals and regulation.

Senators approved a bill that limits health insurance coverage for abortions in Nebraska.

The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act allows each state to opt out of offering abortion coverage through qualified health plans offered in the act under a health insurance exchange.

LB22, introduced by Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy, opts out of allowing health insurance plans operating under an exchange to cover abortions unless necessary to prevent the death of a woman.

Additionally, the bill prohibits private health insurance policies in the state from providing coverage for an abortion, except through an optional rider paid for solely by the insured. A health insurance plan issuer is



Sen. Beau McCoy

prohibited from providing any incentive or discount to an individual who chooses abortion coverage via a rider.

Senators voted 37-7 to pass LB22.

A similar measure introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, **LB132**, failed to advance from committee.

A variety of economic development incentives were approved this session, including a bill intended to facilitate development of industrial sites and buildings in Nebraska.

LB388, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman at the request of the governor, creates the Site and Building Development Fund to provide financial assistance to public



Sen. John Wightman

and nonprofit developers for land and infrastructure costs associated with development.

The fund will be administered by the state Department of Economic Development (DED) and will provide loans, grants, subsidies, credit enhancements and other financial assistance.

The bill transfers \$1 million per year for two years from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund. Continued funding will be provided by fees and up to \$1 million per year of unused funds remitted from projects receiving Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars.

LB388 passed on a 46-0 vote.

Senators also approved a statewide pilot program to provide technical assistance to small businesses.

Under **LB345**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, DED will administer the pilot program, which will assist up to 40 Nebraska-based



Sen. Danielle Conrad

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growth businesses, at least half of which will be located in counties with fewer than 50,000 inhabitants.

A qualifying business must have between five and 50 employees and annual sales revenue between \$500,000 and \$2.5 million.

The bill passed on a 47-2 vote.

Lawmakers passed a measure that eliminates three existing economic development programs and replaces them with the Business Innovation Act.

LB387, introduced by Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley at the request of the governor, requires DED to establish five programs to provide financial assistance to:

- microenterprise entities;
- companies or individuals creating prototypes;
- programs to identify commercial products and processes;
- companies receiving federal Small Business Innovation Research grants; and
- companies using Nebraska public college and university researchers and facilities for applied research projects.



Sen. Galen Hadley

DED also is required to establish an innovation in value-added agriculture program to support small enterprise formation in Nebraska's agricultural sector.

All programs created by the bill will be capped at between \$1 million and \$3 million per year. The bill repeals the Agriculture and Value-Added Partnerships Act, the Microenterprise Development Act and the Building Entrepreneurial Communities Act.

LB387 takes effect immediately and will discontinue in 2016.

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

LB684, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, establishes the Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee. The committee will develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote tourism in Nebraska. The department is authorized to hire a consultant to assist with the statewide strategic plan.



Sen. Ken Schilz

LB684 passed on a 48-0 vote.

Lawmakers passed three bills dealing with insurance and business regulation.

LB70, introduced by Boys Town Sen. Rich Pahls at the request of the state Department of Insurance, brings Nebraska's Surplus Lines Insurance Act into compliance with federal law.

Among other provisions, the bill allows the state director of insurance to join the Nonadmitted Insurance Multi-State Agreement (NIMA) and repeals a tax levied by Nebraska in order to comply with a NIMA requirement that participating states have a single tax rate.

LB70 takes effect July 21, 2011, and passed on a 46-0 vote.

Also approved was a bill that requires vendors of cell phones and other portable electronic devices to obtain a license to offer insurance on those products.

LB535, introduced by Hastings Sen. Dennis Utter, establishes a limited lines insurance license to sell portable electronics insurance or provide similar coverage. Portable electronics insurance is defined as insurance covering repair or replacement of portable electronics due to theft, misplacement, damage, mechanical faults or similar damage.



Sen. Dennis Utter

Vendors interested in selling portable electronics insurance must apply to the state Department of Insurance for a one-year license that allows an employee or authorized representative of the vendor to offer insurance policies at each location at which the vendor sells portable electronics.

The bill passed 48-0.

Lawmakers passed a bill that exempts realtors from the Nebraska Professional Corporation Act.

Sponsored by Schuyler Sen. Chris Langemeier, **LB315** allows a designated broker under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act to be organized as a business corporation.

The bill passed on a 42-0 vote. ■



Sen. Chris Langemeier

Business and Labor



Sen. Steve Lathrop, Business and Labor Committee chairperson

Business innovation, job training and workers' compensation issues were some of the business and labor concerns addressed this session.

One of the most contentious issues lawmakers faced this session, however, was reform of the Commission on Industrial Relations (CIR) – the state's arbiter of labor disputes between public sector employees and government employers.

LB397, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, includes a formula that allows wages to be adjusted over a three-year period to bring them within a range of between 98 percent and 102 percent of the average of an array, or between 95 percent and 100 percent during periods of recession.

The bill also:

- incorporates health insurance and pension benefits into an hourly rate value;
- requires that wage information be adjusted to reflect Nebraska's cost of living;
- specifies a 70 percent match of duties performed and time spent performing those duties;
- sets criteria for the size of comparable out-of-state cities and metropolitan statistical areas;

- provides a preference for geographic proximity;
- lowers the preferred array size from between seven and 13 to between seven and nine;
- removes provisions allowing for public and private wage comparisons, except for public utilities;
- removes the rule of evidence requirement;
- removes consideration of ability to pay from provisions governing schools;
- eliminates use of a special master in education labor disputes;
- requires that three CIR commissioners be involved in cases regarding wage disputes;
- requires a public vote on the last, best offer of either a union or public employer before a dispute may be taken to the CIR; and
- authorizes appeals directly from the CIR to the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Lawmakers passed **LB397** on a 48-0 vote.

Hastings Sen. Dennis Utter introduced **LB482** and Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms introduced **LB555** – both intending to reform the CIR. But after compromises were made and incorporated into **LB397**, both bills were indefinitely postponed.

A statewide pilot program to provide technical assistance to small businesses was given final approval by senators.

Under **LB345**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, the state Department of Economic Development will administer the pilot program, which will assist up to 40 Nebraska-based growth businesses, at least one half of which will be located in counties with fewer than 50,000 inhabitants.



Sen. Danielle Conrad

A qualifying business must have between five and 50 employees and annual sales revenue between \$500,000 and \$2.5 million.

LB345 was passed on a 47-2 vote.

Senators also gave final approval to a bill facilitating paid internships for college students.

LB386, introduced by Elk Creek Sen. Lavon Heide-
mann at the request of the governor, allows a company

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eligible for benefits under the Nebraska Advantage Act to apply to the state Department of Economic Development for job-training grants to assist in hiring interns for newly created positions.

Grants will be limited to the lesser of 60 percent of the cost of the internship or \$5,000 in distressed areas of the state, or the lesser of 40 percent of the cost of the internship or \$3,500 in non-distressed areas.

Lawmakers voted 43-0 to pass LB386.

Senators approved two bills, introduced by Lathrop, that related to workers' compensation.

LB152 reimburses a hospital 160 percent of its Medicare rate for inpatient trauma care.

Under the bill, additional compensation is provided for the outlier trauma cases requiring unusual expenses. The stop loss threshold for such cases is 1.25 times the basic reimbursement rate. If the billed charges are greater than the stop loss threshold amount, hospitals will be reimbursed the basic reimbursement rate plus an additional 65 percent of the amount above the threshold.

Lawmakers passed LB152 on a 45-0 vote.

LB151 allows the Workers' Compensation Court to maintain offices outside of the Capitol and allows involved parties to conduct hearings via telephone or video conference.

The bill also eliminates the court's three judge review panel and a requirement that its court judges reside in Lancaster County unless the court approves residence elsewhere.

LB151 passed on a 45-0 vote.

A bill that was part of the Legislature's budget package approved claims made against the state.

LB585, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, approved \$2.5 million in tort claims, \$382,000 in workers' compensation claims and \$222,000 in miscellaneous claims against the state. The bill also includes \$1 million in write-offs for fiscal year 2010-11.

LB585 passed on a 43-0 vote.

Three bills related to workers' compensation issues were held in committee.

LB341, introduced by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith, would make workers' compensation benefits subject to income



Sen. Lavon Heidemann

withholding.

LB346, introduced by Conrad, would authorize the Workers' Compensation Court to issue contempt orders and enforce conformity with the order.

Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh introduced **LB348**, which would limit an employer's liability for medical conditions and disabilities to situations in which the accident itself was the prevailing factor for the personal injury or disability.

Several other bills also were held

by the Business and Labor Committee.

LB113, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, would make the use of credit histories or reports an unlawful employment practice, except when information in the credit check directly relates to the occupation,

LB530, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brenda Council, would prohibit employers from using an employee's or prospective employee's credit history as a basis for employment, recruitment, discharge or compensation.

Omaha Sen. Burke Harr introduced **LB674**, which would require an employer to give prior notice to employees before engaging in electronic monitoring, except in cases where the employer has reasonable grounds to believe the employee is violating the law, violating the legal rights of another employee or may be creating a hostile work environment and the electronic monitoring may produce evidence of misconduct.

Lastly, **LB594**, introduced by Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson, would place responsibility for obtaining inspections of elevators and amusement rides with the owner rather than the State of Nebraska. ■



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh



Sen. Annette Dubas



Sen. Brenda Council



Sen. Burke Harr



Sen. Tom Carlson



Sen. Jim Smith

Education



Sen. Greg Adams, Education Committee chairperson

While much of the education policy focus in 2011 was on state aid to schools, senators also passed legislation requiring minimum standard requirements for postsecondary education institutions, revising civics education requirements and creating educational opportunities for military children.

State aid funding

The state aid formula for education resulted in a decrease of \$13 million in total funding from the current fiscal year to the next.

The decreased funding resulted from the state's projected budget shortfall of nearly \$1 billion coupled with a loss of one-time federal stimulus funds in the last biennium.

LB235, introduced by York Sen. Greg Adams, provides schools \$822 million for fiscal year 2011-12 and \$880 million for FY2012-13. The bill, passed 41-2, calls for:

- allowing school districts with unused budget authority to spend 2 percent of their prior year expenditures;

- eliminating the allowable growth rate for FY2011-12 and increasing the rate to 0.5 percent in FY2012-13;
- eliminating the additional percentage in the cost growth factor;
- setting the local effort rate to \$1.0395 for FY2011-12 and FY2012-13;
- reducing the averaging adjustment and needs stabilization thresholds by 5 percent for FY2011-12;
- reducing the allocated income tax by \$21 million for FY2011-12 and FY2012-13;
- expanding the comparison groups by 10 larger and 10 smaller districts;
- subtracting property tax refunds from district resources beginning with FY2012-13;
- excluding lobbying expenses from the definition of general fund operating expenditures;
- including converted contract students as option students and excluding receipts; and
- including early childhood in the formula's summer school allowance beginning in FY2012-13.

The amended bill contained provisions originally introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery as LB148, which excludes lobbying expenses from the definition of general fund operating expenditures.

Also included in the bill are provisions of **LB273**, originally introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, to include converted contract students as option students and exclude receipts; and **LB287**, originally introduced by Adams, which would include early childhood in the formula's summer school allowance beginning in FY2012-13.



Sen. Annette Dubas

Postsecondary education

Adams introduced two other bills related to postsecondary education.

LB59 distributes the total amount of state aid among the state's six community colleges according to a new formula for FY2011-12 and FY2012-13:

- 28.27 percent for the Southeast Community Col-

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lege Area;

- 26.51 percent for the Metropolitan Community College Area;
- 14.04 percent for the Northeast Community College Area, with 0.1 percent of that amount going to the Nebraska Indian Community College and 0.2 percent to the Little Priest Tribal College;
- 13.27 percent for the Western Community College Area;
- 9.05 percent for the Mid-Plains Community College Area; and
- 8.86 percent for the Central Community College Area.

The bill passed 49-0.

LB637 requires the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to establish minimum standard requirements and levels of operations, establish rules and regulations, review applications for postsecondary institutions and investigate violators of the bill. If the commission finds that a postsecondary institution has violated the rules and regulations, the institution's authorization to operate could be suspended or revoked.

Any private postsecondary career school or institution that is regulated by a federal agency will be exempt from the bill.

LB637, passed 48-0, also will:

- enable the University of Nebraska to offer certificates in additional fields upon approval from the commission if the preponderance of the courses comprising the certificate are above associate-degree level;
- require a study of the need for uniform policies and practices regarding dual-enrollment courses and career academies; and
- allocate \$160,000 to the state Department of Education for a three-year pilot project in participating school districts for the administration of a standard college admission test for 11th grade students beginning in FY2011-12.

Other bills

Civics education requirements, educational opportunities for military children, focus and magnet school provisions, school energy efficiency projects and blood lead test-

ing requirements for students were among the education bills passed by lawmakers session.

LB544, introduced by Boys Town Sen. Rich Pahls, requires that high school civics courses include students' active participation in improving one's community and the practice of civil discourse between opposing interests.

The bill passed 42-0.

LB575, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Price, eases the transition of moving to the state for children whose parents are in the military.

Passed 43-0, the bill permits children of military parents to:

- enroll in school when they arrive and provide a hand-carried record;
- have 30 days to obtain required immunizations;
- continue schooling at the same grade level they were in prior to transferring;
- participate in athletics and extracurricular programs, even if they are in the middle of the school year;
- have additional excused absences if a parent is preparing for or returning from deployment;
- have a power of attorney as guardianship; and
- complete graduation requirements and receive a high school diploma from their previous school if they transferred in the middle of their senior year.

The bill also requires the department to create and oversee a council that would coordinate the state's participation in the compact. The department will be allowed to accept devises, donations or bequests to pay for costs associated with administering the compact.

Senators passed a bill that allows multiple-member school districts to collaborate on focus and magnet schools and programs.

Under **LB558**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, a focus or magnet school or program that participates in a diversity plan could be eligible for a focus school and program allowance.

The bill also requires multiple-member school districts collaborating on a focus or magnet school or program to form a joint entity to assign legal, fi-



Sen. Rich Pahls



Sen. Scott Price



Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

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nancial and academic responsibilities as well as assign students who reside in nonparticipating school districts to districts that participate in such schools or programs.

LB558 was passed 42-0 and will take effect July 1, 2012, with funding for FY2012-13 coming from lottery proceeds through the Education Innovation Fund. Senators passed four bills introduced by the committee that contained additional budget reductions.

LB331, passed 46-0, removes a requirement that the educational television network of Nebraska have two production facilities. The bill also would eliminate the requirement that one of the facilities be located in Omaha.

LB332, passed 46-0, eliminates the \$40 per diem for members of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds beginning Oct. 1, 2011. Members would continue to be paid necessary traveling expenses incurred while performing board business.

LB333, passed 44-0, removes the statutory requirement for schools to have a student achievement coordinator, estimated to save \$103,000 over the next two fiscal years.

Additionally, the bill transfers funds to the lottery fund to support the following programs:

- Early Childhood Education grants;
- high ability learner grants;
- an integrated information system; and
- the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning.

LB334, passed 45-0, makes other cost-saving changes, including:

- eliminating an aquaculturist position;
- repealing a requirement that the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources employ a poultry pathologist;
- limiting eligibility for the Nebraska Optometry Education Assistance Contract Program to students who participated in or were accepted into the program in the 2010-11 academic year;
- making operation of the Nebraska Business Development Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and university and state college campus small business development centers permissive rather than mandatory;
- eliminating a requirement that the university operate an agricultural lab in Box Butte County; and

- making the university's request for general fund support for the Nebraska Safety Center permissive rather than mandatory.

The committee also heard testimony on a bill that would have repealed the in-state tuition rates at Nebraska's universities and colleges for children of illegal immigrants who are not lawfully present in the United States. Introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, LB657 was indefinitely postponed by the committee on a 6-1 vote.



Sen. Charlie Janssen

Vetoed bills

Two education bills that were passed by the Legislature sustained vetoes from the governor.

LB283, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar, would have included energy efficiency projects in the \$0.052 levy school districts receive for the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund (QCPUF).

QCPUF allows expenditures for environmental hazards, accessibility barriers, life safety code violations, indoor air quality and mold abatement. Under the bill, energy efficiency projects would have included:

- inspection and testing regarding energy usage;
- maintenance to reduce, control or eliminate energy usage; or
- restoration or replacement of material in new or existing school grounds or buildings that would reduce or eliminate energy usage.

Senators approved the bill on a 27-19 vote. Gov. Dave Heineman subsequently vetoed the measure, saying LB283 could result in "reduced voter oversight" in projects that could result in property tax increases. Bond issues for energy efficiency projects should not be outside of the levy limits, he said, unless approved by a vote of the people.

The motion to override the governor's veto fell six votes short, at 24-20, so the legislation is not enacted.

LB204, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brenda Council, would have required blood lead level testing of children prior to kindergarten enrollment. School districts would



Sen. Ken Haar

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have been required to inform families prior to the date of school registration of the testing requirement.

The bill passed on a 30-12 vote. Calling it “overly broad,” the governor said in his veto message that the bill likely would result in the testing of children who are not at risk of elevated blood lead levels.



Sen. Brenda Council

The vote to override the veto fell nine votes short, at 21-20. ■

Executive Board



Sen. John Wightman, Executive Board chairperson

A proposal that requires state agencies to promulgate rules and regulations within a specific time frame was approved by the Legislature this session.

LB617, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, requires that a public hearing be held on any rule or regulation to be adopted, amended or repealed pursuant to a bill within 12 months of the legislation's effective date. The governor may extend the time frame for up to six months with good cause and the regulation process must be completed within one year of the hearing date.



Sen. Heath Mello

An agency that does not complete the regulation process within one year will be required to submit a written explanation to the Executive Board and the legislative committee with subject matter jurisdiction over the issue.

All agencies with pending rules and regulations will be required to submit yearly reports to the Legislature's Performance Audit Committee, including the status of any appropriations provided to the agency to carry out the regulation process.

The bill passed 45-0.

Senators also voted to reauthorize legislative oversight of the Beatrice State Developmental Center.

LR47, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, provides for continuation of the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee, which was established three years ago in response to problems at BSDC and was extended for two years in 2009.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

The resolution was adopted on a 47-0 vote.

A resolution that would establish the Health Care Reform Implementation and Oversight Committee did not advance from the Executive Board. **LR30**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell, would establish a committee to research and provide recommendations for implementing new federal health care legislation.

The Executive Board considered two measures that would have placed proposals to shorten the state's legislative sessions on the 2012 general election ballot.

LR5CA, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would reduce the maximum number of legislative days in odd-numbered years from 90 to 60 and cut the maximum days in even-numbered years from 60 to 45. Under **LR44CA**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch, the Legislature would discontinue annual sessions and instead meet only in odd-numbered years.

Neither proposed constitutional amendment advanced from committee.

Finally, a bill introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad that would adopt the Private Attorney Retention Sunshine Act also remains in committee.

Among other provisions, **LB604** would require the attorney general to file a proposed contract for private legal services exceeding \$50,000 with the Appropriations Committee, which then would hold a public hearing on the proposed contract and make recommendations. ■



Sen. Bob Krist



Sen. Pete Pirsch



Sen. Danielle Conrad

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General Affairs



Sen. Russ Karpisek, General Affairs Committee chairperson

Lawmakers considered changes to gaming regulations and passed a variety of measures this session addressing the state's liquor laws.

Senators declined to override the governor's veto of a bill that would have clarified State Racing Commission members' terms of office and attempted to assist Lincoln's horse racing industry.

Introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek to harmonize the terms of two new State Racing Commission members, **LB256** included provisions of **LB299**, also introduced by Karpisek.

The bill would have allowed a racetrack licensee to contract with another licensee to conduct all but one day of live race meetings on its behalf, and allowed a racetrack licensee in a county with a city of the primary class to contract with another licensee to conduct all live race meetings on its behalf.

Lincoln is the state's only primary class city.

LB256 was given final approval May 18 on a vote of 26-17, but was vetoed by Gov. Dave Heineman, who said in his veto message that the bill would expand gambling beyond what Nebraska voters have authorized.

The override motion failed on a 21-23 vote.

Lawmakers passed a gaming measure that allows keno players to access tickets directly from a machine without relying on an attendant. **LB490**, introduced by Karpisek, amends state law prohibiting player access and activation from a machine.

Senators approved **LB490** on a 44-0 vote.

Lawmakers also approved a bill that allows Nebraska credit unions to offer raffles to encourage members to save money.

Under **LB524**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, Nebraska credit unions are authorized to conduct a savings promotion raffle – a contest in which depositing a



Sen. Amanda McGill

specific amount of money into a savings account or program earns an individual a chance to win a designated prize.

Each entry must have an equal chance of winning and raffle terms and conditions must be disclosed to participants. Credit union employees are prohibited from participating and credit unions may limit the number of chances to win a prize but not the number of deposits.

LB524 passed on a 45-0 vote.

Several changes to Nebraska's Liquor Control Act were approved this session.

LB407, introduced by Karpisek, eliminates a requirement that the Liquor Control Commission correspond with municipalities through certified mail regarding license applications. The bill instead allows correspondence through regular mail and electronic delivery.

The bill contains provisions from two additional Karpisek bills.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB249 allows a waiver to the state's 300-foot restriction on alcohol sales near college or university campuses. Currently, only beer may be sold on or off-sale within the 300-foot zone.

The commission is authorized to grant waivers to the 300-foot restriction, taking into consideration the impact on current and prospective students, economic development opportunities and the academic mission of the college or university. A written waiver application will be required and the governing body of the affected college or university must be notified of the application by the commission.

LB336 allows certain commission employees to obtain part-time employment at a business that holds a liquor license, unless the business receives more than 50 percent of its gross revenue from the sale or dispensing of alcohol.

LB407 passed a 46-0 vote.

Senators also repealed an exception that allowed a Nebraska beer manufacturer also to own a beer distributorship.

LB279, introduced by Karpisek at the request of the commission, repeals the exception but allows a beer manufacturer to have ownership interest in a beer wholesale operation for two years upon the death or bankruptcy of a wholesaler owner.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

A bill allowing limousine and private bus passengers to consume alcohol was approved this session.

Under **LB281**, introduced by Karpisek, passengers may

consume alcoholic beverages if their chartered limousine or bus is in a public parking area or on any highway in the state as long as the driver is prohibited from consuming alcohol and it is not readily accessible to the driver.

The bill passed on a 42-6 vote.

Out-of-state liquor shipping application fees will continue to be directed to the state's Winery and Grape Producers Promotion fund under a bill approved this session.

Currently, individuals outside Nebraska who apply for a license to ship liquor directly to a customer in Nebraska are charged a \$500 application fee. Diversion of the fee to the producers promotion fund is scheduled to end April 30, 2012.

LB286, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, removes the sunset date and passed on a 45-0 vote.



Sen. Bob Krist

Among additional measures heard by the General Affairs Committee were two Karpisek bills addressing liquor laws.

LB294 would make it unlawful for a liquor license holder to sell or serve alcohol to any person prior to 6 a.m. on that person's 21st birthday, and **LB411** would raise the application fee for a special designated liquor license from \$40 to \$75 and the fee for a catering liquor license from \$100 to \$250.

Both bills remain in committee. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs



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

Election law was the dominant government issue addressed by lawmakers this session. Senators passed measures addressing nominations, petition drives, campaign finance and recounts.

Elections

Among measures passed this session were two omnibus election law bills.

LB449, introduced by Sen. John Nelson of Omaha, prevents a person who is registered to vote with a party affiliation on or before March 1 in a general election year from pursuing a petition campaign or accepting a party's nomination by political party convention or committee.

Among other provisions, the bill also:

- increases the maximum precinct



Sen. John Nelson

- size from 1,000 registered voters to 1,750;
 - allows an election commissioner to be appointed to an elective office during his or her term as election commissioner, the acceptance of which will be deemed his or her resignation;
 - adds e-mail addresses to the voter registration form;
 - sets Dec. 1 as the earliest date for submission of candidate filing forms;
 - opens early voting records to public inspection prior to an election;
 - requires the principal circulator of a recall petition to collect the petition forms from the election commissioner or county clerk within 20 days after receipt of the targeted official's defense statement;
 - extends the maximum time to hold a recall election from 45 days after the notification of the targeted official to 75 days;
 - eliminates a requirement that voters print their names and addresses on early voting oaths.
 - LB449 passed on a 47-0 vote.
 - Introduced by Bellevue Sen. Scott Price, LB499, makes the following changes:
 - harmonizes voter registration deadlines;
 - requires that military voters include absent voters in addition to overseas voters;
 - requires a candidate petitioning to be placed on the ballot to file a sample copy of the petition with the filing officer prior to circulation;
 - requires that affidavits to remove a person's name from a petition be submitted by the time the petition is submitted for verification; and
 - requires a voter who is present in his or her county on Election Day to vote at an assigned polling site, unless he or she is returning a ballot for early voting.
- LB499 passed on a 45-0 vote.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that changes nomination petition signature requirements for certain offices.

Previously, an individual who wished to place his or her name on a general election ballot as a candidate for nonpartisan office was required to obtain at least 25 signatures from each county that contains at least 100 registered voters in the district.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB399, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, eliminates the distribution requirement and the standard becomes at least 10 percent of the registered voters who cast ballots for governor or president in the last election, not to exceed 2,000 signatures. The distribution requirement for the Board of Regents also is eliminated under the bill.

Similarly, an individual who wished to place his or her name on a general election ballot for statewide partisan office previously was required to obtain 50 signatures from one third of the counties in the state. Under **LB399**, the standard for partisan statewide offices is at least 4,000 signatures, with at least 750 signatures obtained in each congressional district.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote and takes effect immediately.

Senators gave final approval to a bill that clarifies when a political party can nominate a candidate.

Under **LB368**, sponsored by Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch, political parties are prohibited from nominating a candidate for an office at a state post-primary convention if the party did not nominate a candidate for the office at the primary election.



Sen. Lydia Brasch

An exception is provided for new political parties and parties may nominate candidates at a convention in cases of a special election or a vacancy on the ballot.

LB368 passed on a 48-0 vote.

Senators also addressed campaign finance laws this session.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, **LB142** increases the cap on nonindividual contributions that candidates choosing to abide by voluntary campaign spending limitations may accept.



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

The bill increases the cap from 50 percent to 75 percent of the overall spending limitation for a given office.

LB142 passed on a 44-0 vote.

LB176, introduced by Avery, allows the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission to issue an order requiring a person who has violated the Political Ac-

countability and Disclosure Act, and who does not appear personally or is not represented by counsel, to pay hearing costs in a contested case. Funds received will be deposited in the commission's cash fund.

The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.

Two bills dealing with election laws advanced from committee but failed to reach the final stage of debate.

LB606, introduced by Avery, would require a person who makes an electioneering communication in the amount of more than \$250 to file a report with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission.

The bill failed to advance to final reading on a vote of 20-7 and remains on select file.

LB161, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, would have permitted a candidate to request a manual recount at his or her expense. Current law triggers automatic machine recounts paid by political subdivisions if the margin of victory is 1 percent or less for an election in which more than 500 votes were cast, or 2 percent or less for elections in which 500 or fewer votes were cast.



Sen. Russ Karpisek

The bill was bracketed on general file.

LB566, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, would establish a process for petition sponsors to collect signatures online through a secure website administered by the secretary of state's office.



Sen. Paul Schumacher

The bill remains in committee.

Other bills

Senators also approved bills dealing with county lines, charitable donations, public utilities and state audits.

Hamilton and Merrick counties will cease using the Platte River as a dividing county line due to a bill introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas.

LB556 instead uses GPS coordinates to draw the boundary line so it remains consistent.

Lawmakers voted 48-0 to approve the bill.



Sen. Annette Dubas

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

LB628, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, allows a political subdivision to donate to a charitable or veteran's organization any motor vehicle that has reached the end of its useful life.

A donation is prohibited if an employee of the charitable organization or the vehicle recipient is an immediate family member of the political subdivision's governing body.

The bill passed on a 42-1 vote.

Senators also approved a bill intended to protect sensitive public utility information.

Under **LB230**, introduced by Sen. Kate Sullivan of Cedar Rapids, public utility infrastructure specifications or design drawings may be withheld from the public unless otherwise provided by state or federal law if such disclosure will create a substantial likelihood of endangering public safety or property.

The bill also allows a public utility to withhold personally identified private citizen account and



Sen. Tanya Cook



Sen. Kate Sullivan

customer use information.

LB230 passed on a 43-0 vote.

Finally, certain audits currently required to be performed annually or biennially will be performed when the state auditor deems them necessary under a bill passed this session.

Under **LB337**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, the following audits will be conducted when the auditor of public accounts deems them necessary:

- State Highway Commission;
- Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Fund;
- aid given to Indians for law enforcement and jail operations;
- funds expended by the Motor Fuel Tax Enforcement and Collection Division;
- post audits of investment transactions for the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act; and
- money received from the sale of cigarette stamps and tax meter impressions.

LB337 passed 46-0. ■



Sen. Tony Fulton

Health and Human Services



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

Lawmakers considered a variety of uses this session related to the provision of health and human services in Nebraska, including several cost-saving measures intended to address the state's projected budget shortfall.

Three cost-cutting bills were introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell at the request of the governor as part of his budget package.

Under **LB464**, the state Department of Health and Human Services will no longer be required to set child-care reimbursement rates at a level between the 60th and 75th percentile of a market survey.

Instead, the bill lowers to the 50th percentile the minimum rate that HHS may pay for the next two years, beginning July 1, 2011. In addition, the rate paid to child-care providers may be no lower than the rate paid in the preceding fiscal year.

The bill passed 42-2.

LB465 eliminates state-only benefits for certain nonciti-

zen permanent residents who are in the United States legally but do not qualify for benefits under federal guidelines.

Current federal guidelines require that permanent residents be in the U.S. for five years to qualify for benefits, but states can choose to provide benefits without using federal funds.

Lawful noncitizens who met income and other requirements were eligible to participate in Nebraska's state-option Medicaid program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Aid to Needy Families and aid to the aged, blind and disabled regardless of when they entered the country. **LB465** eliminates those benefits.

The bill passed on a 33-8 vote.

LB468 allowed HHS to establish and increase co-payments for certain Medicaid services and passed on a 34-10 vote.

A measure introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee to encourage the fiscal integrity of Nebraska's Medicaid program also was considered.

LB541 would require HHS to contract with one or more recovery audit contractors to review provider claims, seek overpayment recovery and identify third-party liability. The bill remains on final reading.

Children's services

Among the measures considered this session dealing with children's health and human services were several proposals that addressed the recent child welfare reform initiative undertaken by HHS.

Lawmakers adopted a resolution that provides legislative oversight of child welfare reform in Nebraska.

In July 2009, HHS selected six private entities as lead agencies to implement the reform initiatives, which privatized some services to children and families. Currently, only two lead agencies remain under contract with HHS to assist with implementing reforms.

LR37, introduced by Campbell, grants the Health and Human Services Committee oversight of the reform process. Under the resolution, the committee is designated to review, investigate and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative, and has the ability to issue subpoenas and depose witnesses.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

The resolution was adopted 43-0.

Senators stopped short of approving a bill that would require accreditation of agencies involved in carrying out reform efforts.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, **LB95** would require any lead agency contracting with HHS to be accredited by a national accrediting entity, within 18 months of entering into a contract with HHS or of the bill's passage, with respect to out-of-home services provided to those under the age of 19.



Sen. Gwen Howard

The bill also would prohibit the department, until June 1, 2012, from entering into any contract with a new lead agency for service coordination or case management in an area of the state where services previously were provided through a contract with Boys and Girls Home. HHS would be required to provide services to those areas during the moratorium.

Campbell offered a motion on select file to bracket the bill until Jan. 4, 2012. She said HHS had agreed to voluntarily implement the moratorium outlined in the bill and cooperate fully with a legislative review of reform efforts. The bill remains on select file.

Senators approved a bill that makes several changes to the Nebraska foster care system.

LB177, introduced by Campbell, requires HHS to notify adult relatives within 30 days of a child's removal from his or her home. An exception is provided if an adult relative's history of domestic or family violence would make notification inappropriate.

The bill also requires that HHS and the court make reasonable efforts to place siblings together and provide visitation or ongoing interaction when siblings are not placed together. An exception is provided if joint placement or visitation would be contrary to the safety and well-being of any sibling.

Finally, the bill requires the department to develop an individual proposal for each child transitioning out of foster care into adulthood. Such a proposal will include assessment of a foster child's educational, employment, housing, health care and other support needs.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

Senators also passed a bill that gives adoptive parents more access to information about children being consid-

ered for adoption.

A state policy on concussions for child athletes also was adopted this session.

LB260, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, provides schools and organizations with information and training about concussions. The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

Regulation and licensure

Lawmakers voted to override the governor's veto of a bill that institutes a provider assessment on nursing home facilities.

Under **LB600**, introduced by Campbell, nursing facilities will pay an assessment to the state of \$3.50 per day for Medicaid and private pay patients, which then will be reimbursed to facilities through a federal match.

Senators passed the bill on a 44-1 vote. Gov. Dave Heineman subsequently vetoed the measure, calling the assessment a "shell game," in which the federal tax dollars returned to the state are seen as "free money" when those funds actually are Nebraska citizens' federal tax dollars.

Campbell said the financing mechanism outlined in **LB600** is based on a model used by 39 other states and is a legitimate option for leveraging federal tax dollars.

Senators voted 44-0 to override the governor's veto.

A bill that eliminates a deadline for cities and villages to opt out of Nebraska's mandatory drinking water fluoridation provisions was approved this session.

Under a bill passed by the 2008 Legislature, cities or villages with a population of at least 1,000 were required to add fluoride to their drinking water supply unless voters approved local opt-out ordinances by June 1, 2010. The fluoridation requirement does not apply to municipalities with a population under 1,000.

LB36, sponsored by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, extends the opt-out deadline for cities and villages that reach the population threshold for mandatory fluoridation after June 1, 2010.

The bill passed on a 41-0 vote.

Senators also passed a bill to promote the state's Supplemental Nutrition As-



Sen. John Harms

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sistance Program (SNAP).

LB543, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, requires HHS to develop a state outreach plan to inform qualifying persons about SNAP.

The department may work with non-profit organizations to seek gifts, grants and donations to assist in implementing the plan and will be exempt from administering it if sufficient federal or private funds are not secured.



Sen. Tanya Cook

Under the bill, an individual who qualifies for SNAP benefits may have no more than \$25,000 in liquid assets in personal checking or savings accounts, money market or share accounts.

LB543 passed on a 42-0 vote.

A bill that seeks to strengthen the state's guardian and conservatorship system for vulnerable adults was approved this session.

Senators passed a bill allowing Nebraska pharmacies to participate in a nationwide drug disposal program. Currently, state law allows unused prescription drugs to be returned to the dispensing pharmacy for immediate disposal.

LB274, sponsored by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, removes the words "dispensing pharmacy" and "immediate" from state law, allowing Nebraska to participate in a nationwide program that provides pharmacies secure containers to collect unused drugs regardless of where they were dispensed. Under the program, containers are shipped to a medical incinerator for disposal when full.



Sen. Mike Gloor

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

LB591, also introduced by Gloor, requires HHS to set standards for using electronic health records to analyze medical data to detect or anticipate disease outbreaks and to share immunization information with certain entities.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Lawmakers also approved a bill that prevents denial

of privileges to individuals based solely on their classification as certified nurse midwives.

LB68, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, adds certified nurse midwives to the list of practitioners who cannot be denied clinical privileges based on their credential by any hospital licensed under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act.



Sen. Tony Fulton

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

Senators passed a bill that requires HHS to establish or enhance technology for a prescription medication alert system in Nebraska.

LB237, sponsored by Howard, allows HHS to collaborate with the Nebraska Health Information Initiative to add an alert screen to its existing patient medical records system in order to track prescription drug seekers.

The bill passed on a 42-0 vote.

A measure that addresses confidentiality in the health care peer review process passed 46-0.

Under **LB431**, introduced by Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley, no health care provider, individual or employee who acts without malice while serving on a peer review committee or supplying information to a committee may be held liable or be subject to legal action for activities within the scope the committee.



Sen. Galen Hadley

Finally, senators passed a bill designed to broaden the pool of professionals eligible to serve on county mental health boards.

LB111, sponsored by Gloor, removes a requirement that one member be a psychiatric social worker and adds a position for a licensed independent mental health practitioner.

County mental health boards are charged with assessing the mental health status of individuals placed in emergency protective custody through an affidavit from a mental health professional or by law enforcement.

LB111 passed on a 49-0 vote. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Judiciary



Sen. Brad Ashford, chairperson of the Judiciary Committee

Senators approved a bill this session that prohibits chemical abortions from being administered from remote satellite locations. Measures relating to driving under the influence (DUI), juvenile truancy, a substance ban and picketing funerals also were passed.

Abortion

LB521, introduced by Sen. Tony Fulton of Lincoln, makes it a Class IV felony for a physician to knowingly or recklessly use or prescribe any instrument, device, medicine, drug or other substance to perform, induce or attempt an abortion without being physically present in the same room as the patient.

LB521 passed on a 38-9 vote.

Senators also passed a bill that would amend parental notification requirements related to abortion.

LB690, introduced by Sen. Lydia Brasch of Bancroft, requires notarized written consent from a minor's par-



Sen. Tony Fulton

ent or guardian before the minor can have an abortion, except in cases of medical emergency. The bill replaces the previous requirement that the parent or guardian be notified of the procedure by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested.



Sen. Lydia Brasch

Under the bill, the consent requirement can be waived if a judge finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that a minor is both sufficiently mature and well informed to decide whether to have the abortion. The abortion may still be performed if a court finds by clear and convincing evidence that an abortion is in the best interest of the pregnant minor even in the absence of parental consent.

If the pregnant woman declares that she is a victim of abuse by either of her parents, the consent of a grandparent would suffice.

An unauthorized person providing consent would be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

LB690 passed on a 41-6 vote.

Criminal justice

Senators passed two bills that revise DUI-related provisions. LB667, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood:

- creates a new offense of motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child;
- makes motor vehicle homicide and DUI-serious bodily injury separate crimes from DUI;
- increases the 12-year look-back limitation to 15 years in the DUI enhancement statutes;
- creates penalties regarding boating while under the influence;
- creates the enhanced punishment of a Class IIIA



Sen. Mike Flood

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felony and a minimum of 30 days imprisonment for procuring when it proximately causes serious bodily injury or death;

- revises the administrative license revocation (ALR) process and make ignition interlock devices a condition of bond;
- makes ignition interlock devices mandatory for first and second DUI offenses; and
- creates penalties for tampering with an ignition interlock device if it is required under ALR.

Under the bill, a person who is driving under an ignition interlock permit and has no prior DUI convictions can operate a vehicle only for purposes of employment, education, substance abuse treatment, parole or probation supervision, health care for themselves or their dependents, court-ordered community service obligations and ignition interlock servicing.

LB667 passed on a 46-0 vote.

LB675, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch, increases penalties for DUI offenders with prior convictions and creates felony penalties for failing to stop after an accident that results in serious injury or death.

The bill, passed 46-0, also:

- increases a probation fine to \$2,000;
- increases the fine amount for Class W misdemeanors from the current range of \$400 to \$600 to a \$500 to \$1,000 range;
- changes the look-back period for sentence enhancement purposes to 15 years;
- creates a new offense of a prior DUI offender with a blood alcohol content level of .02 or higher, which will be a Class IIIA misdemeanor; and
- requires a person who has at least four prior convictions to serve a minimum of two years and complete a diagnostic evaluation before being eligible for parole.

Senators passed another bill that increases criminal penalties.

Under **LB61**, introduced by Elk Creek Sen. Lavon Heidemann, the penalty for viewing or recording a person in a state of undress without his or her knowledge in a place of solitude or seclusion increases from



Sen. Pete Pirsch



Sen. Lavon Heidemann

a Class III to a Class I misdemeanor.

The bill, passed 47-0, also increases to a Class IV felony the penalty for making a video or electronic recording of an unlawful intrusion. Distributing such a recording is a Class III felony.

In addition, the bill places a three-year statute of limitations on the crime beginning when a victim reaches the age of 21 or when a victim or law enforcement receives notice of the existence of a video or the distribution of images or video.

Finally, the bill requires a defendant over the age of 19 whose victim was under the age of 18 to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

LB665, introduced by Pirsch, prohibits attempts to solicit, coax, entice or lure a child under the age of 14 to enter a place intending to seclude him or her from a parent, guardian, legal custodian or the general public, whether or not the person knows the age of the child.

Violations will be a Class IIIA felony. If a perpetrator has been previously convicted of criminal child enticement, assault or sexual assault of a child, or kidnapping or false imprisonment of a victim younger than 18, he or she could be guilty of a Class III felony.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

Temporary insanity will no longer be an accepted defense for crimes committed while the offender is voluntarily under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Under **LB100**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, defendants charged with committing crimes while intoxicated may no longer use intoxication as a defense, unless they can prove by clear and convincing evidence that they did not know that a substance was a toxicant when they used it.

LB100 was approved on 42-2 vote.

Senators passed two bills that revise criminal penalty provisions.

Under **LB191**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brenda Council, the state Department of Correctional Services may reduce the time by three days each month during a 12 month period of incarceration during which the inmate has not been found guilty of a Class I



Sen. Colby Coash



Sen. Brenda Council

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or Class II offense or has not had more than three Class III offenses of the department's disciplinary code.

Passed 45-0, the bill directs the Parole Board to reduce a parolee's parole term by an additional 10 days for each month of his or her term for good conduct in conformity with the conditions of a parole. Parolees are currently eligible for a reduction of two days for each month.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB12, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman, strikes the phrase "without parole" in the sections of law for a Class I felony penalty.



Sen. John Wightman

LB137, introduced by Omaha Sen.

Scott Lautenbaugh, requires that a verified motion for post-conviction relief be filed within one year after the date a judgment of conviction becomes final.



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

The bill, passed 45-0, allows for some exceptions.

LB415, introduced by Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman, would make it a Class I misdemeanor to bring prohibited items into a detention facility, provide them to an inmate or for an inmate to possess them. Unlawful items would include weapons, tools or anything that could be useful for an inmate to use to escape.



Sen. Norm Wallman

The bill remains on general file.

Under a bill held in committee, a political subdivision could restrict sexual predators from living within 500 feet of a park that covers at least 2,500 square feet. **LB508**, introduced by Hoskins Sen. Dave Bloomfield, would not be retroactive.



Sen. Dave Bloomfield

Juveniles

Senators gave approval to a bill that revises juvenile truancy and excessive absenteeism policies and practices this session.

LB463, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford at the

request of the governor, requires school districts, in collaboration with the county attorney, to indicate in the district policy on excessive absenteeism how they will handle cases in which excessive absences are due to illness. The bill requires the metro area superintendents to develop and participate in a plan to reduce excessive absenteeism including a process to share information about at-risk youth.

The bill also authorizes the Learning Community Coordinating Council to provide funding to private or public juvenile justice entities offering diversion and early intervention programs to address truancy. The bill provides a grant program for Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Under the bill, passed 46-0, inspections of juveniles' sealed records will be allowed by:

- a person who is the subject of the record;
- the court, city attorney or county attorney for purposes of collection of any remaining parental support or obligations;
- a law enforcement agency if such a person applies for employment with an agency; and
- the state Department of Correctional Services, the Office of Juvenile Services, a juvenile assessment center or a criminal or juvenile detention facility where an individual is committed.

A bill that changes provisions for minors who are victims of sexual or domestic assault also was passed this session.

Under **LB479**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, a victim of sexual or domestic assault who is at least 18 years of age can be examined and treated by a physician without the consent or notification of a parents or guardian.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

LB479 passed on a 46-0 vote.

Controlled substances

Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy introduced two bills to prevent the use of certain controlled substances.

LB19 expands the Uniform Controlled Substances Act to ban the class of synthetic cannabinoids used to make the drug commonly known as K2 or Spice.



Sen. Beau McCoy

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Those found to be in possession of substances related to the drug will be guilty of:

- an infraction, receive a citation and a \$300 fine and could be assigned to attend a course as prescribed for the first offense;
- a Class IV misdemeanor, receive a citation and a \$400 fine and may be imprisoned no longer than five days for a second offense; and
- a Class III misdemeanor, receive a citation and a \$500 fine and be imprisoned no longer than seven days for the third and subsequent offenses.

The bill passed 49-0.

A statewide electronic tracking system will be implemented for purchases of methamphetamine precursor chemicals at the point of sale under **LB20**.

Under the bill, retailers will receive an immediate web-based notification when a person is attempting to purchase illegal amounts of pseudoephedrine, a drug found in over-the-counter cold medications that is used in meth-making.

Passed on a 44-0 vote, the bill also:

- ensures that no claim or cause of action shall arise against a seller based upon the electronic submission of information to the exchange;
- allows the retailer to store certain information obtained from the purchaser's license or identification card in case it is needed by law enforcement; and
- prohibits the sale of products containing more than 9 grams of pseudoephedrine base or 9 grams of phenylpropanolamine base during a 30-day period unless purchased pursuant to a medical order.

LB20 was approved on a 44-0 vote.

Courts

Senators passed two bills this session that revise court provisions.

Among other provisions, **LB669**, introduced by Flood, will:

- expand the state Supreme Court's options for funding sources to compensate court interpreters;
- provide for clerks and staff of the district and country courts to assist one another on court services;
- eliminate the requirement that divisions of a county court be located outside the county seat and that

certain cases be filed with the county court clerk in the county seat;

- create a new position of Judicial Hearing Officer and allow the court to appoint officers as needed;
- provide courts greater scheduling flexibility;
- authorize a court to order that a juvenile be placed directly with the state Department of Health and Human Services to obtain a pre-adjudication evaluation; and
- allow for a divorce decree to be entered without a hearing if both parties have certified that they have made every reasonable effort to reconcile.

The bill passed 47-0.

LB648, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, requires the state Department of Health and Human Services or contract agency to make a child's placement information available for courts to use when notifying foster parents of placement hearings. The notice must be mailed or personally delivered to the counsel or party at least five days before the review or hearing.



Sen. Mark Christensen

The bill, approved 44-0, also requires the court to ask a foster parent, preadoptive parent or relative caring for the child present at the hearing about the well-being of the child.

Adoption

Senators gave final approval to two bills that give adoptive parents more access to information about children being considered for adoption.

LB94, introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, requires that adoptive parents have access to a child's HHS file after filing a petition for adoption and before entry of an adoption decree.



Sen. Gwen Howard

Passed 38-0, the bill also requires that adoptive parents be informed that they may review a child's file at any time following finalization of an adoption by making a written request to the department.

LB124, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, amends

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Nebraska adoption placement law to include in a child's medical history the race, ethnicity, nationality, Indian tribe - when applicable and in compliance with the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act - or other cultural history of either or both biological parents.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.



Sen. Bill Avery

Firearms

Lawmakers passed a bill that makes mental health records accessible when conducting background checks for firearm purchases.

LB512, introduced by Christensen, removes a maximum five-year retention requirement for HHS mental health records. Records include whether a person is disqualified from purchasing or possessing a handgun and will be made available to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The Nebraska State Patrol can access the system when determining a person's eligibility to own a gun.

The bill, passed 43-0, enables a person who has been barred from buying or possessing a gun for mental health reasons to resubmit an application if he or she no longer suffers from the disqualifying condition.

Additionally, the bill allows valid handgun permits issued by previous states of new state residents to be recognized in Nebraska.

The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.

Other bills

Lawmakers gave final approval to a bill that seeks to strengthen the state's guardian and conservatorship system for vulnerable adults.

LB157, sponsored by Coash, requires that a potential guardian or conservator complete a criminal background check and file the results with the court 10 days prior to an appointment hearing.

Exceptions to the background check requirements include financial institutions serving as conservators and expedited, temporary and emergency guardian/conservator appointments.

Passed on a 49-0 vote, the bill allows a judge to intervene

when an interested person submits concerns, through an affidavit, that a ward's safety, health or financial welfare is at risk. An interested person who files an affidavit in bad faith with the court concerning a vulnerable adult will be required to pay the opposing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

The bill also allows the court to refer contested guardian/conservator cases to mediation or other dispute resolution.

LB157 passed 49-0.

A bill permitting mothers to breast-feed a child in public was approved by lawmakers.

Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, sponsor of **LB197**, said legislation was needed to codify that a woman is not breaking a law by breast-feeding in public.

The bill passed 46-0.

Senators voted to increase the minimum distance required for picketing funerals.

LB284, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, prohibits picketing of a funeral or memorial service within 500 feet of a cemetery, mortuary, church or other place of worship at the time of a funeral or memorial service. The previous limit was 300 feet.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

LB673, introduced by Flood, requires a court to order a judgment creditor to pay a judgment debtor's court costs and attorney fees when the judgment creditor has refused, without a good faith reason, to execute a release of the judgment for child support, spousal support or subordination of a lien.

Under the bill, passed 49-0, a showing that all support payments are current shall be evidence that the judgment creditor did not have a good faith reason to refuse to execute such release or subordination.

The bill also provides procedural protections in custody and visitation cases for military parents who are moving or deploying.

After a motion to invoke cloture fell three votes short, the bill was not rescheduled for debate. ■



Sen. Annette Dubas



Sen. Bob Krist

Natural Resources



Sen. Chris Langemeier, chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee

Water funding, oil pipelines and park fees were among the issues tackled by the Natural Resources Committee in 2011.

LB229, introduced by Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer and passed 39-5, requires the state Department of Natural Resources to submit an application to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund for a three-year, \$9.9 million grant for water management actions taken to reduce consumptive uses of water, enhance stream flows, recharge groundwater or support wildlife habitats in fully appropriated or overappropriated river basins.



Sen. Deb Fischer

The application will be awarded 50 points in the project ranking process if the Legislature provides matching \$3.3 million annual appropriations for three years. Funds will

be transferred to the Water Resources Cash Fund. The bill also directs the department to apply to the trust for another three-year grant if certain criteria are met.

A legislative resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to reduce funding to the trust was held in committee.

LR51CA, introduced by Elk Creek Sen. Lavon Heidemann, would discontinue the distribution of lottery money to the fund if approved by voters during the 2012 general election. Under the proposal, funds would be redirected to support Nebraska In-



Sen. Lavon Heidemann

novation Campus and the Water Resources Cash Fund.

The committee considered three bills dealing with oil pipelines this session.

The proposal that was advanced by the committee and approved by the Legislature 47-0 was introduced by Cedar Rapids Sen. Kate Sullivan.

LB629 requires pipeline companies to restore land disturbed during the construction or operation of an interstate oil pipeline. Restoration costs covered include those incurred to rehabilitate real and personal property, natural resources, wildlife and vegetation.



Sen. Kate Sullivan

The bill also permits local governments and state agencies to pursue compensation from a pipeline company to pay for maintenance and repair of roads, bridges or other infrastructure affected by pipeline construction and operation.

LB340, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas and held in committee, would require companies planning to operate a hazardous liquid pipeline to submit an application to the Public Service Commission (PSC). The application would include a description of the pipeline's route, the hazardous liquid transported and the number of employees needed to construct and operate the pipeline. The application also would require an environmental impact study and



Sen. Annette Dubas

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justification for the pipeline route.

The PSC would hold a public hearing within 30 days after receipt of an application. The PSC would evaluate whether the pipeline is in the public interest by examining the pipeline carrier's compliance with state laws and regulations, safety measures and the environmental, economic and social impacts of the pipeline. Projects receiving PSC approval would be granted eminent domain powers.

LB578, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar and also held in committee, would require a pipeline company to provide a surety or other form of financial assurance to cover the costs associated with a decommissioned pipeline or leak. The PSC would be granted regulatory authority to determine the amount of financial assurance. The bill also would permit local governments to require a greater surety or bond.

Park fees and boating education requirements were increased by legislation considered by the committee, effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Lawmakers overrode a veto 42-5 to enact a bill that authorizes the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to increase park entry permit fees. **LB421**, introduced by Louisville Sen. Dave Pankonin, will increase the maximum annual entry permit fee from \$20 to \$25 for resident motor vehicles and from \$25 to \$30 for nonresident motor vehicles. The maximum fee also will increase from \$4 to \$5 for temporary resident entry permits and from \$5 to \$6 for nonresidents.



Sen. Ken Schilz

Under **LB105**, introduced by Ogalala Sen. Ken Schilz and passed 41-2, individuals born after Dec. 31, 1985, will be required to complete a boating safety education course before operating a boat on state waters.

Senators also passed legislation to create a conservation program for at-risk youth. **LB549**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brenda Council and approved 44-0, creates the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program to be administered by Game and Parks. The program will employ at-risk



Sen. Ken Haar



Sen. Dave Pankonin

youth between the ages of 16 and 21 to contribute to projects that conserve or develop natural resources and enhance land and water under the commission's jurisdiction.

Special effort will be given to select youth who reside in rural and urban high-poverty areas. Program participants will be paid at least minimum wage.

Legislation introduced by Hastings Sen. Dennis Utter recognizes mid-sized electric generation facilities owned by municipalities as separate air pollution emitters. Under the Nebraska Clean Air Act, facilities that produce certain emissions are required to pay a per ton fee to the state Department of Environmental Quality. There are two caps on emission fees paid: 400 tons for mid-sized electric generating facilities and 4,000 tons for large facilities.

LB156, passed 46-0, expands the definition of mid-sized electric generating facility so facilities that are permitted with another general unit larger than 115 megawatts under separate ownership are considered a separate emission source for the purpose of paying emission fees.

Finally, the committee advanced a proposal to protect the right to hunt and fish in the state constitution. If approved by the Legislature, **LR40CA**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch, would submit to Nebraska voters during the 2012 general election an amendment to declare that the right to hunt and fish be subject only to laws, rules and regulations that preserve the future of hunting and fishing and promote wildlife conservation and management. The constitutional amendment also would declare public hunting and fishing as a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife and could not be construed to modify laws addressing trespassing or property rights.

The resolution remains on select file. ■



Sen. Brenda Council



Sen. Dennis Utter



Sen. Pete Pirsch

Redistricting



Sen. Chris Langemeier, chairperson of the Redistricting Committee.

Lawmakers completed their redistricting work this session, setting new governmental boundaries to reflect population changes throughout the state.

The Legislature is responsible for drawing new governmental boundaries every 10 years after the decennial census for districts pertaining to the U.S. House of Representatives, Legislature, Nebraska Supreme Court, University of Nebraska Board of Regents, Public Service Commission and state Board of Education.

Lawmaker's actions were guided by the provisions of **LR102**, a resolution adopted by the Legislature to ensure that redistricting plans met legal parameters and were constitutionally acceptable.

Among other provisions, the guidelines required that the Legislature:

- use population data and geographical information from the 2010 U.S. Census;
- create districts that are substantially equal in population;

- create districts that are easily identifiable, understandable and that preserve the core of existing districts;
- not favor a political party or consider the political affiliation of registered voters;
- not dilute the strength of any minority population; and
- follow county lines whenever practicable and follow traditional districting principles of compactness and contiguity.

Under the resolution, congressional districts were to be drawn with an overall population range of deviation of no more than 1 percent, with a goal of zero deviation. The remaining districts were to be drawn with an overall range of deviation of no more than 10 percent and no district was to deviate from the ideal population by more than plus or minus 5 percent.

Lawmakers adopted LR102 on a 40-0 vote.

Senators set new boundaries for the state's three congressional districts with the passage of **LB704**.

Introduced by the Redistricting Committee, the bill shifts a number of counties from Congressional District 1 to District 3 to account for population shifts from western to eastern Nebraska. District 3 now reaches from border to border across the northern and southern boundaries of the state.

The bill also shifts areas of eastern Sarpy County from District 2 to District 1, and western areas of the county from District 1 to District 2.

The bill passed on a vote of 35-11 and took effect immediately.

Senators also approved new boundaries for the state's 49 single-member legislative districts.

LB703, introduced by the committee, makes numerous boundary changes across the state to account for population shifts. Changes include making Scotts Bluff County a single district and moving District 49 from northwestern Nebraska to Sarpy County.

Among other changes, the bill also shifts Dawes, Sheridan and Grant counties from District 49 to District 43. Boyd and Rock counties move from District 43 to District 40, Custer County moves from District 43 to District 36 and Gosper County moves from District 38 to District 44.

LB703 passed on a vote of 37-9 and took effect im-

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mediately.

Finally, lawmakers approved four bills that drew new district boundaries for the Nebraska Supreme Court, Public Service Commission, University of Nebraska Board of Regents and the state Board of Education.

LB699 drew new boundaries for the six judicial districts of the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Among the changes are expanding District 3 into western Douglas and Sarpy counties and moving Garfield, Greeley and Howard counties from District 3 to District 6. In addition, Seward County shifts from District 5 to District 1 and Cass and Otoe counties move from District 1 to District 5.

The bill passed 45-0.

LB700 drew new boundary lines for the five districts of the Public Service Commission.

Changes include moving Antelope, Greeley, Howard, Knox and Wheeler counties from District 5 to District 4 and moving Burt, Cuming, Dodge and Thurston counties from District 3 to District 4.

LB701 and **LB702** drew new boundary lines for the

eight districts of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents and the state Board of Education. Maps for the two entities are identical.

Changes to both maps include moving Knox and Pierce counties from District 6 to District 3 and Custer County from District 6 to District 7. In addition, Butler County moves from District 3 to District 5 and Washington County from District 2 to District 3.

The three bills were approved on 47-0 votes.

The Redistricting Committee also heard testimony on two proposals to change the number of representatives in Nebraska's 49-member Legislature.

LB195, sponsored by Cedar Rapids Sen. Kate Sullivan, would increase the number of legislators to 50, while **LB233**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would reduce the number to 45.

Both proposals remain in committee. ■



Sen. Bob Krist

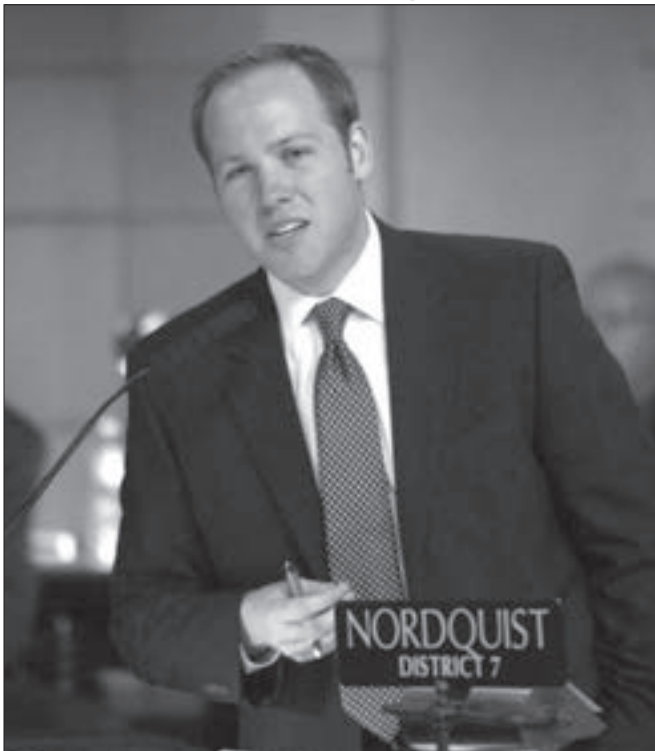


Sen. Kate Sullivan



A map of the new congressional districts which will go into effect under LB704. For larger versions of this and other redistricting maps, visit the Redistricting Committee's web page at: <http://news.legislature.ne.gov/red>

Retirement Systems



Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, chairperson of the Retirement Systems Committee

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

Among the changes were increases in retirement plan contribution rates for school employees, Class V school employees and state patrol.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist at the request of the governor, **LB382** was part of the governor's budget recommendation to the Legislature.

Under the bill, the employee contribution rate for the State Patrol Retirement System will increase 3 percent to 19 percent of an employee's monthly compensation on July 1, 2011. The state's contribution rate also will increase to 19 percent. On July 1, 2013, contribution rates for both employees and the state will decrease to 16 percent.

Beginning Sept. 1, 2011, the member contribution rate in the School Employees Retirement System will increase 0.6 percent to 8.88 percent. The rate then will increase to 9.78 percent on Sept. 1, 2012 and remain in effect through August 31, 2017, when the contribution rate will be reduced

to 7.28 percent.

In addition, the bill extends to fiscal year 2016-17 the 1 percent state contribution rate in the school employee plan and the Omaha Class V School Employee Retirement System, currently scheduled to sunset in FY2013-14. The rate will return to 0.7 percent on July 1, 2017.

State funding for the purchasing power cost-of-living allowance in the Class V school plan will sunset in FY2013-14.

Finally, the bill incorporates provisions of LB510, introduced by the Retirement Systems Committee, which will increase the contribution rate for members of the Class V school plan by 1 percent to 9.3 percent beginning Sept. 1, 2011.

LB382 passed on a 43-0 vote.

Senators also passed the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee's omnibus bill.

Introduced by the committee on behalf of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System, **LB509** makes several changes to the county, state and Class V school retirement plans and the duties of the Public Employees Retirement Board and the Nebraska Investment Council.

Among other changes, the bill:

- creates the County Employees Retirement Fund for deposit of county late filing penalties;
- allows permanent and part-time county and state employees to participate in retirement plans at age 18;
- changes the deadline from March 15 to March 31 for the Nebraska Investment Council to provide its annual report to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee;
- requires the Class V School Retirement Plan board to provide comprehensive preretirement planning programs to plan members;
- removes requirements for the Class V Retirement System to file annual plan summaries;
- requires the Class V Retirement System to file an actuarial report annually rather than every four years;
- clarifies transfer language regarding direct rollover benefit distribution into an employee's deferred compensation plan;
- removes a requirement that the retirement board

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provide notification if a political subdivision fails to file annual pension reports; and

- allows a terminated state or county employee to receive a distribution of up to \$25,000 or the balance of his or her portion of the account, whichever is less, after a grievance is filed. Following reinstatement, an employee will be required to repay any amount received.

The bill also incorporates provisions from the following three bills.

LB246, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, allows continuation of benefits to a surviving spouse of a deceased state patrol member if the surviving spouse remarries.



Sen. Russ Karpisek

LB532, also introduced by Karpisek, allows transfer of state Department of Labor independent retirement plan members to the State Employee Retirement System if the independent retirement plan is terminated. For vesting purposes, members will be credited for their years of service in the independent retirement plan.

LB486, introduced by Ellsworth Sen. LeRoy Loudon, increases from 7 to 9 percent the salary cap in the School Employees Retirement Plan beginning July 1, 2012, and eliminates current salary cap exemptions for purposes of calculating benefits on annual compensation during the last five years of employment prior



Sen. LeRoy Loudon

to actual retirement. The cap will be reduced to 8 percent beginning July 1, 2013.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Finally, lawmakers approved a bill that eliminates restrictions on investments in Northern Ireland by the state of Nebraska.

LB303, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy, repeals requirements that the Nebraska Investment Council:



Sen. Beau McCoy

- compile an annual list of corporations doing business in Northern Ireland in which the state investment officer has invested state funds;
- determine whether each corporation on the list has, during the preceding year, taken affirmative action to eliminate religious or ethnic discrimination in Northern Ireland; and
- invest in a way that encourages corporations that pursue a policy of affirmative action in Northern Ireland.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote. ■

Revenue



Sen. Abbie Cornett, chairperson of the Revenue Committee

The Revenue Committee made a number of changes to laws regarding taxation to provide additional funds and promote economic development.

State Aid

State aid programs to municipalities, counties and natural resources districts (NRDs) were discontinued under **LB383**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett at the request of the governor. The bill passed 36-9.

A retooled Local, Civic, Cultural and Convention Center Financing Fund will provide larger grants with reduced local match requirements under **LB297**, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas. Passed 46-0, the bill reduces the cash match required of local funds from 80 percent to 50 percent and adds libraries to the list of eligible projects.



Sen. Annette Dubas

The bill also will adjust the maximum grants awarded under the act if the balance of the fund reaches \$2.5 million.

The Legislature delayed until next year consideration of a bill providing state assistance for certain sewer projects. During select file debate, the bill's sponsor, Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, offered a motion to bracket **LB682** until Jan. 4, 2012. His motion was approved by unanimous consent.

LB682 would offer state assistance to finance the construction, acquisition or improvement of sewer infrastructure to address combined sewer overflows. Assistance would be calculated based on the amount of state sales tax collected from increased fees and charges to complete such projects.



Sen. Heath Mello

Roads

The committee advanced two bills that will affect revenues for roads projects.

LB84, introduced by Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer and passed 33-10, directs 0.25 cents of the state's 5.5-cent sales tax to roads projects from fiscal year 2013-14 through FY2032-33. Eighty-five percent of these funds will be deposited in a new State Highway Capital Improvement Fund. The remaining 15 percent of the new revenue will go to the Highway Allocation Fund.



Sen. Deb Fischer

At least 25 percent of the revenue directed to the State Highway Capital Improvement Fund must be used for the Nebraska Expressway system and federally designated high-priority corridors. The remainder of the fund will be dedicated to roads projects prioritized by the state Department of Roads.

LB81, introduced by Cornett and approved 37-4, prohibits municipalities from levying a motor vehicle fee on nonresidents. Nonresidents include those who use or store a vehicle no more than six months in a city or village and those who do not have a primary residence or own a place of business within city limits. Full-time college students attending school in a city other than the one in which their vehicle is registered also are considered nonresidents.

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The bill phases out motor vehicle taxes for those living in an extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction of a city or village on Jan. 1, 2013.

Sales tax

Additional uses for county sales tax revenues and a sales tax exemption for Lincoln's Wyuka Cemetery were passed by the Legislature this session.

Current law permits counties to enact sales taxes up to 1.5 percent to support public services provided by a public safety commission or an agreement executed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act or Joint Public Agency Act.

LB106, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz and passed 43-3, clarifies that public safety services may be funded with county option sales tax revenues. The bill defines public safety services to include firefighter, police, medical, ambulance or other emergency services.



Sen. Ken Schilz

LB252, introduced by Cornett and passed 42-4, exempts Wyuka Cemetery from sales and use tax and designates the state Auditor of Public Accounts as the state official who receives itemized reports of receipts and expenditures incurred by the cemetery board of trustees. The bill changes the deadline for such reports from the second Tuesday in March to the second Tuesday in June.

A bill remains on select file that would permit cities to ask for an additional 0.5 percent in local option sales tax. Cities currently are allowed to impose a local option sales tax of 0.5 percent, 1 percent or 1.5 percent with voter approval.

LB357, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford, would permit cities to levy a 2 percent local option sales tax. A description of the proposed use for local option sales tax revenues would be provided on the ballot if a rate increase were proposed.



Sen. Brad Ashford

Property taxes

Select NRDs will have more time to levy a special property tax.

LB400, passed on a 47-1 vote, contains provisions of **LB528**, introduced by Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson. The bill extends to FY2017-18 the expiration of a property tax offered to NRDs in overappropriated or fully appropriated basins. The 3-cent per \$100 of taxable value property tax is used for costs of administering and implementing ground water management activities and integrated management activities under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act that exceed the amount budgeted for such activities in FY2005-06.



Sen. Tom Carlson

LB400 was amended to include changes proposed by Cornett in **LB430** to state statute governing property tax levies and exceptions, specifically a subsection addressing bonds secured by a property tax levy. The bill replaces bonded indebtedness with a definition of bonds that includes any bonds, notes, interim certificates, evidences of bond ownership, bond anticipation notes, warrants or other evidence of indebtedness.

The Legislature also adopted changes to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC).

LB384, introduced by Cornett, eliminates the at-large commissioner of the four-member board. Commissioners' terms will expire on July 1, 2011, and the terms of the appointed commissioners will be staggered so that one ends every biennium. The governor will set commissioners' salaries.

The bill was amended to include provisions from **LB405**, a Cornett bill that authorizes single-commissioner hearings for appeals regarding parcels valued less than \$1 million. If the TERC chair designates an appeal for a single-commissioner hearing and both parties agree, an informal single-commissioner hearing may be held. The usual common-law or statutory rules of evidence do not apply at single-commissioner hearings. Either party may request a rehearing before the entire commission.

Finally, beginning Jan. 1, 2014, the bill requires counties with a population of at least 150,000 to mail or post on the county assessor's website a preliminary notice of valuation

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by Jan. 15 each year and provide an opportunity for real property tax protesters to meet in person with the assessor or staff. Taxpayers who do not request an in-person meeting with assessor staff by Feb. 1 waive their opportunity to do so. Real property tax protesters who protest their valuation must be given an opportunity to meet in person with the county board of equalization or a referee. These provisions were amended into LB384 from **LB457**, a bill introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell.



Sen. Kathy Campbell

Technical corrections provided by LB363, another Cornett bill, also were amended into the proposal.

LB384 passed 36-11.

Energy

Two proposals heard by the committee relating to wind energy taxation and renewable energy tax credits were combined and passed 45-0.

LB360, introduced by Cornett, clarifies that depreciable tangible personal property used to generate electricity from wind is exempt from property taxes, but real property is not exempt. The bill also limits nameplate capacity tax credits to property taxes paid on depreciable personal property that exceed what would have been required under the nameplate capacity tax. The provisions affecting wind energy taxation have a retroactive implementation date of Jan. 1, 2010.

LB360 also includes provisions of **LB359**, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar, which strikes language limiting renewable energy tax credits to zero-emission facilities, which are facilities whose operation results in no pollution or emissions certified as harmful to the environment by the state Department of Environmental Quality. Finally, the bill decreases the maximum amount of renewable energy tax credits from \$750,000 to \$50,000.



Sen. Ken Haar

The final energy-related bill advanced by the committee suspends a program that offers grants to public and nonprofit electric utilities that provide matching funds to complete energy conservation improvements for Nebraska homeowners whose income is at or below 150 percent of

the federal poverty level.

LB385, introduced by Hastings Sen. Dennis Utter at the request of the governor, suspends the Low-Income Home Energy Conservation Act until July 1, 2014, at which point the Legislature will appropriate \$250,000 to the program each biennium. Participating utilities may dedicate up to \$50,000 per fiscal year to be matched. The bill was passed 46-0 and will terminate the act on July 1, 2019.



Sen. Dennis Utter

Tax incentives

The Legislature approved refundable income tax credits for investments in high-tech business with the passage of **LB389** on a 49-0 vote.

Introduced by Cornett at the request of the governor, the bill provides up to \$3 million in annual tax credits for investments made in a business with at least 51 percent of its work force and payroll in Nebraska and 25 or fewer employees primarily engaged in researching, developing or using products and services in the high-tech field.

To qualify for tax credits, an individual must invest at least \$25,000 in a calendar year and qualified funds are required to invest at least \$50,000. Refundable credits equaling 35 percent of the investment are granted to investors with caps of \$350,000 for married couples filing joint returns and \$300,000 for all other filers. Refundable credits of 40 percent are offered for investments made in a business that is located in a distressed area. Credits may not exceed \$1 million per taxable year for any one business.

The bill funds the tax credits by reducing the amount of credits offered under the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act from \$4 million to \$1 million. The new limit will be imposed in 2012, and the angel investment program will expire after 2017.

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Other taxes

Senators voted 42-1 to approve a bill that will cap telecommunications occupation taxes.

LB165, introduced by Fischer, will restrict telecommunications occupation taxes to telecommunications services and cap the tax rate at 6.25 percent, unless city voters approve a 0.25 percent increase. The bill has an effective date of Jan. 1, 2013.

Senators passed a bill to authorize the state Department of Revenue to contract with businesses to identify uncollected revenue.

LB642, introduced by Cornett and approved 37-4, allows the department to use revenues identified by such businesses for fees associated with revenue identification services. Ten percent of revenues collected as a result of the revenue identification contracts will be deposited in the Department of Revenue Enforcement Fund for purposes of identifying nonfilers, underreporters, nonpayers and

improper or fraudulent payments.

LB590, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor and passed 48-0, changes laws regulating tobacco licenses, tobacco sales, cigarette taxes, the state directory of cigarettes, escrow deposits under the Master Settlement Agreement and reporting requirements.



Sen. Mike Gloor

In addition to several enforcement measures, the bill authorizes the state to negotiate a compact with Native American tribes regarding tobacco products. Agreements must include provisions to require that tribal taxes are imposed equally on all cigarettes and other tobacco products. Agreements also must require that all cigarette packages bear the state stamp or a tribal stamp and prohibit the sale of cigarettes not included in the state directory unless the cigarettes include a tribal stamp and the tribe makes escrow deposits. ■

Transportation and Telecommunications



Sen. Deb Fischer, chairperson of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee

The most prominent transportation-related bill passed this session commits 0.25 cents of the state’s 5.5-cent sales tax to roads projects, beginning in fiscal year 2013-14. Introduced by committee chairperson Sen. Deb Fischer of Valentine, LB84 was considered by the Revenue Committee and passed 33-10.

Other legislation related to motor vehicles, licensing and duties of the Public Service Commission (PSC) was considered by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

Motor vehicles

Agreements between motor vehicle manufacturers and dealers were affected with the passage of **LB477**, introduced by Fischer.

Passed 46-0, the bill prohibits motor vehicle manufactur-

ers from requiring new motor vehicle dealers in the state to retain parts or accessories that were not obtained through a specific order and not sold within 12 months; maintain exclusive sales facilities or display space, personnel, service, parts or administrative facilities for a line-make, unless it is justified by reasonable business considerations; or enter into any agreement with a manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, distributor branch or one of its affiliates that gives site control of the dealer premise and does not terminate under certain conditions.

The bill also requires manufacturers to compensate new dealers for warranty and recall obligations related to repair, service and installation. A dealer’s claim for warranty compensation may be denied only if certain criteria are met. The bill prohibits franchisors from sharing or selling private customer information obtained by dealers unless agreed to by the originating dealers. Franchisors also may not prohibit a dealer from acquiring a line-make of new vehicles solely because the dealer owns another dealership of the same line-make in a contiguous market.

The penalty for hanging objects in rearview mirrors was reduced with **LB500**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook and approved 46-0. The bill changed the penalty for placing objects in a vehicle that interfere with the driver’s view from a Class V misdemeanor to a traffic infraction. The bill also limits the violation to objects that “significantly and materially” obstruct or interfere with the view of a driver.



Sen. Tanya Cook

Violators will be charged one point on their driving records and fined \$50 for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense and \$150 for subsequent offenses. The bill also makes enforcement of the law a secondary action.

The Legislature passed legislation that will permit the operation of low-speed vehicles on state roads, beginning Jan. 1, 2012.



Sen. Heath Mello

LB289, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello and passed 49-0, will authorize the operation of low-speed vehicles with maximum speeds of no more than 25 mph on highways with a speed limit

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of 35 mph or less. Under the bill, local governments and the state Department of Roads will be able to restrict low-speed vehicle use further for public safety purposes.

Low-speed vehicle operators will be required to have a valid operator's license and liability insurance coverage. The vehicles will be subject to titling requirements, a registration fee of \$15 and a new alternative fuel fee of \$75 for vehicles using a source of energy not taxed under the motor fuel laws. The alternative fuel fee will replace the alternative fuel tax.

Owners of low-speed vehicles will be required to obtain license plates. A base fee of \$50 for the motor vehicle tax and \$10 for the motor vehicle fee associated with low-speed vehicles will be implemented.

Permits authorizing overweight and oversized loads and tows are expanded by **LB35**, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms and passed 46-0. The bill increases to 210 days the maximum life of a department overweight or overlength permit for hauling loads of grain, sugar beets and other seasonally harvested products.



Sen. John Harms

The bill also includes provisions of **LB353**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, regarding towing load restrictions. The bill exempts from standard length and weight limits tows of single vehicles to a place of repair or storage. It also exempts tows of multiple vehicles and permitted oversize vehicles as long as such vehicles are towed to the first and nearest location that can accommodate them. Afterwards, a special single trip permit may be acquired to transport an oversize vehicle.



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

Towing companies are held severally liable for injuries or damages resulting from the operation of tow trucks while exceeding length, width, height and weight requirements.

Another bill addressing towing was held in committee.

Under **LB295**, introduced by Sen. Steve Lathrop of Omaha, an individual who believes that the fees assessed for towing or storing a vehicle are unreasonable may file a written complaint with the PSC. The commission would notify the person assessing the charges and could



Sen. Steve Lathrop

hold a hearing on the complaint. The bill also would provide criteria for determining whether towing fees are reasonable.

A bill to exempt motorcyclists at least 21 years old from the state helmet law also was held in committee.

LB52, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would provide an additional exemption for younger riders. Motorcyclists aged 16 up to 21 who pass a motorcycle safety course and carry proof of course completion would not be required to wear a helmet. Class M operator's licenses would indicate whether the license holder was required to wear a helmet. Violations of the helmet law would be a secondary offense under the bill.



Sen. Bob Krist

The bill would require motorcyclists and their passengers to wear eye protection.

Finally, the committee held **LR3CA**, introduced by Fischer, which would submit to voters during the 2012 general election a constitutional amendment to permit the state to use sales and use tax revenues to finance highway bonds.

Public Service Commission

The Legislature created three new exemptions from PSC motor carrier regulations with the passage of **LB112** on a 46-0 vote.

Introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, the bill creates exemptions from PSC regulation for residential care transportation services, supported transportation services and licensed care transportation services. Escort services are renamed under the bill as attended services, and the exemption for such services is extended to motor carriers with a subcontract with the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or any agency organized under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act.



Sen. Colby Coash

The bill also requires motor carriers providing licensed care transportation services to meet PSC minimum driver standards, equipment standards and insurance requirements, which must be consistent with DHHS requirements for attended services, residential care transportation ser-

vices and supported transportation services.

A bill that would have eliminated the PSC railroad inspection program fell two votes short of final reading approval. **LB255**, introduced by the committee, would have deleted language in current law requiring the commission to investigate railroad accidents and enforce federal railroad safety standards.

Licenses and permits

A bill expanding eligibility for online driver's license renewals was approved by the Legislature 49-0.

LB158, introduced by Fischer, expands the upper age limit from 65 to 72 for online driver's license renewals and allows persons under 21 who have completed all required examinations to apply for their operator's licenses electronically using rules prescribed by the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

The bill also prohibits those who fail a driving test for a Class O driver's license or Class M motorcyclist license three times from retaking the test until they complete a driver's safety course or hold a learner's permit for at least 90 days.

LB163, also introduced by Fischer, directs the DMV to establish by Jan. 1, 2013, an electronic system for processing applications for handicapped or disabled parking permits. Renewals for handicapped parking permits may be made within 180 days of their expiration, instead of the previous 30-day limit.

The bill also extends the renewal period for permanent handicapped parking permits from three years to six years and changes a provision of law that prohibits a person from holding more than one permit tag to allow up to two tags. Finally, the bill calls for an additional medical certification if a permit holder requests more than two replacement tags in a six-year period.

The committee advanced one bill and held two others that would change the issuance of license plates.

LB216, introduced by Coash and advanced by the committee, would create special interest license plates that would be available to car club members who own motor vehicles that are unaltered from original specifications and are collected, preserved, restored or maintained for leisure. One special interest license plate would be issued to a qualified applicant to be affixed to the rear of a vehicle. The

additional fee for a special interest plate fee would be \$50.

The bill remains on general file.

Two other bills introduced this session were held in committee.



Sen. Tony Fulton

LB661, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, would decrease the additional fee for a specialty license plate from \$70 to \$50.

LB185, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, would eliminate the front license plate requirement effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Local governments and education

LB589, introduced by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith and passed 45-0, allows a county, city or village temporary use of the state highway system, other than a freeway, that is located within its jurisdiction for special events. Under the bill, the county, city or village will be liable if damages or injuries occur during the event.



Sen. Jim Smith

A \$75 state subsidy for motorcycle education providers is discontinued under **LB170**, introduced by Fischer. Approved 44-0, the bill will eliminate the Motorcycle Safety Education Fund on Jan. 1, 2012, and allocate 25 percent of its balance to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and 75 percent to the Highway Trust Fund. The fund is currently used to reimburse motorcycle safety course providers up to \$75 for each student who successfully completes a course.

The bill also broadens the DMV's regulatory authority over motorcycle safety courses and reduces from 48 months to 24 months the duration of the driving test waiver granted to those who complete courses.

The committee held a bill that would allow voters to require their county to mow weeds in all drainage districts.

Under **LB87**, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, a resolution from the county board or a petition would place the issue on the ballot. The bill also would provide



Sen. Mark Christensen

a means for revoking a mowing mandate and returning mowing responsibility to landowners. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Urban Affairs



Sen. Amanda McGill, chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee

Measures relating to revenue bonds and building codes topped the list of issues heard by the Urban Affairs Committee and addressed by the Legislature this session.

Lawmakers approved two bills that implement the provisions of recently approved constitutional amendments.

The 2010 Legislature passed LR295CA, which placed a proposed constitutional amendment on the May primary election ballot authorizing any county, city or village to acquire, own, develop and lease real and personal property for use by charitable nonprofit enterprises, and to issue revenue bonds to defray the cost of acquiring, developing or financing such property.

Voters approved the measure, and Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill introduced **LB159** to amend the Nebraska Industrial Development Act to reflect the language of the

constitutional change.

Any revenue bonds issued pursuant to the bill will not be the obligation of the issuing county or municipality and no taxes may be levied to pay for the bonds.

A nonprofit enterprise must be incorporated or authorized to do business in Nebraska to utilize the bill's provisions, and any portion of a nonprofit enterprise project used for sectarian instruction or study, or for devotional activities or religious worship, is excluded.

LB159 passed on a 48-0 vote.

Also during the 2010 general election, Nebraska voters approved a constitutional amendment to allow cities to use a greater number of revenue sources for economic or industrial development projects approved by city voters. Previously, property taxes and local option sales taxes were the only revenue sources authorized.

The approved constitutional amendment added to the list of suitable funding sources any general tax authorized by the municipality and revenue generated from municipal utilities, grants, donations, or state and federal funds.

LB471, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, incorporates the amendment into the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act. The bill also restricts uses for revenues generated from municipal utilities to utility-related projects or activities associated with a city council-approved economic development program, such as energy efficiency, load management and site development.

LB471 was approved on a 48-0 vote.

A bill intended to make the repayment time frame of a redevelopment bond more closely reflect the life of a project passed this session.

Currently, the 15-year repayment period of development bonds begins on the date that a municipality's redevelopment plan goes into effect.

Under **LB54**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, the repayment period will not begin until the date identified in the project redevelopment contract or



Sen. Russ Karpisek



Sen. Heath Mello

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in the resolution authorizing bond issuance.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Lawmakers passed two bills relating to the state's building codes.

LB329, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, adopts the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code as the Nebraska Energy Code. The bill also updates language regarding existing structures and historic buildings to conform to the 2009 code and provides for training for builders and inspectors.

The bill passed 44-0.



Sen. Tanya Cook

LB546, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, adopts the 2009 version of the International Residential Code as the state building code, with the exception of the mandatory sprinkler provision for new residences.

The bill also permits state agencies and local political subdivisions to amend their building codes to include a mandatory new-home sprinkler provision.

The bill passed on a 31-9 vote.

Finally, **LB335**, introduced by McGill, allows cities and villages in Nebraska to waive municipal bidding procedures when required to comply with a federal grant, loan or program.

Senators approved the bill on a 47-0 vote. ■



Sen. Mike Gloor

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute relating to the Republican River	
LB2	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete statutes relating to the Water Policy Task Force, ground water conservation districts, and certain provisional permits	
LB3	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute in the Nebraska Construction Lien Act governing the enforcement of liens that arose prior to January 1, 1982	
LB4	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute relating to the Small Business Development Authority and the Small Business Investment Fund	
LB5	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute relating to the Research and Development Authority	
LB6	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to eliminate obsolete language and reference to a repealed statute in the Judges Retirement Act relating to acting judges of the county court	
LB7	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute relating to workers' compensation	
LB8	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete statute relating to schools	
LB9	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to change erroneous reference to previous sections rather than chapter in civil procedure statutes	
LB10	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to clarify reference to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee	
LB11	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to correct an internal reference in the Employment Security Law	
LB12	Wightman	S	Eliminate "without parole" provisions relating to life imprisonment	3, 9
LB13	Wightman	IPP	Change provisions relating to life imprisonment without parole	3
LB14	Wightman	C	Change and eliminate fees received by registers of deeds and clerks	3
LB15	Wightman	S	Change district court execution of judgment provisions	
LB16	Wightman	C	Change composition of certain district court judicial districts	
LB17	Wightman	S	Change civil procedure complete court record provisions	
LB18	Adams	S	Provide for distribution of allocations from the federal Education Jobs Fund	
LB19	McCoy	S	Prohibit the use of certain drug substances as prescribed	3, 4, 7
LB20	McCoy	S (+668)	Regulate the sale of methamphetamine precursors	3, 5, 14
LB21	McCoy	C	Change provisions relating to ballots cast by presidential electors	8
LB22	McCoy	S	Adopt the Mandate Opt-Out and Insurance Coverage Clarification Act	7, 9, 18, 19
LB23	Langemeier	S	Change renewal and fee provisions of the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	
LB24	Langemeier	S	Provide training requirements under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	
LB25	Langemeier	S	Provide exemptions relating to real property for asset management companies	
LB26	Langemeier	S	Adopt the Private Transfer Fee Obligation Act	
LB27	Langemeier	S	Change appropriations for water power and water well registration fees	
LB28	Langemeier	S	Change provisions relating to chemigation	
LB29	Langemeier	S	Change provisions relating to the use of certain funds by the Department of Environmental Quality	
LB30	Langemeier	S	Change the Environmental Protection Act relating to composting sites and references to federal law	
LB31	Langemeier	S	Change supplemental agricultural appropriation of water provisions	
LB32	Langemeier	S	Change dam and appropriation application approval provisions	
LB33	Louden	C	Change valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	
LB34	Louden	S	Exempt religious residential facilities from certain provisions of the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	
LB35	Harms	S (+353)	Change oversize vehicle permit provisions and exceptions for towing disabled vehicles	13, 15, 16
LB36	Harms	S	Provide for a vote regarding adding fluoride to the drinking water supply	4, 7, 9
LB37	Harms	C	Provide requirements for access to information for government audits	
LB38	Haar	IPP	Change membership provisions relating to public power district boards	
LB39	Haar	C	Change licensure provisions for interpreters for deaf and hard of hearing persons	
LB40	Hadley	GF	Change a sales tax exemption for health clinics	
LB41	Hadley	S (+697)	Change fee, permit and stamp issuance, and possession of game provisions under the Game Law	
LB42	Hadley	C	Update references to the 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code	
LB43	McCoy	S	Change provisions relating to trust deeds	
LB44	McCoy	C	Change provisions relating to power of sale conferred upon a trustee	
LB45	Fulton	S	Change the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	
LB46	Fulton	S	Define the term "barber pole" for purposes of the Barber Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB47	Fischer	S	Include certain third parties as railroad carriers	
LB48	Janssen	C	Adopt the Illegal Immigration Enforcement Act	9
LB49	Krist	C	Provide certain requirements relating to filing of nonconsensual liens	
LB50	Krist	C	Adopt the Elementary and Secondary Educational Opportunity Act and provide for income tax credits	
LB51	Krist	GF	Require health clinics to have patient transfer agreements	
LB52	Krist	C	Change motorcycle helmet provisions and require eye protection	7
LB53	Krist	C	Change free transportation provisions relating to learning community students	9
LB54	Mello	S	Change provisions relating to the Community Development Law	14, 17
LB55	Mello	C	Update references to the International Energy Conservation Code	
LB56	Mello	S	Amend the State Electrical Act and update references to the National Electrical Code	
LB57	Mello	IPP (>471)	Change the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act	
LB58	Adams	C (>637)	Provide for a study of dual-enrollment courses and career academies	14
LB59	Adams	S	Change property tax authority of and aid to community colleges	3, 7
LB60	Krist	GF	Change provisions relating to compliance checks for sales of alcoholic liquor	
LB61	Heidemann	P	Change provisions and penalties relating to unlawful intrusion	3, 7, 9
LB62	Heidemann	S	Change provisions regarding county officers and prohibit elimination or undue hindrance of a county officer by a county board	
LB63	Cornett	C (>575)	Ratify the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	10
LB64	Cornett	C	Change provisions relating to wildlife in captivity	
LB65	Cornett	C	Change provisions relating to C-BED projects sales tax exemptions	
LB66	Cornett	GF	Change provisions relating to DNA collection	
LB67	Fischer	S	Clarify required use and enforcement provisions regarding seat belts and other occupant protection systems	
LB68	Fulton	S	Permit certified nurse midwives to have clinical privileges	3, 5, 7
LB69	Louden	C	Change provisions relating to use of comparable sales for tax valuation	
LB70	Pahls	S	Change the Surplus Lines Insurance Act	13, 16
LB71	Pahls	C	Change the definition of trustee under the Burial Pre-Need Sale Act	
LB72	Pahls	S	Change insurance provisions	
LB73	Pahls	S	Change the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act	
LB74	Pahls	S	Change provisions relating to banks and banking	
LB75	Pahls	S	Change provisions relating to loan brokers, mortgage loan originators, and residential mortgage licensing	
LB76	Pahls	S	Adopt updated federal laws for securities, commodities, and consumer rental purchase agreements	
LB77	Pahls	S	Change debt cancellation contract and debt suspension contract provisions	
LB78	Pahls	S	Define a term in the Public Funds Deposit Security Act	
LB79	McGill	C (>463)	Provide grants for court appointed special advocate programs	
LB80	McGill	IPP (>648)	Change Nebraska Juvenile Code provisions relating to juvenile care plans	
LB81	Cornett	S	Change city and village powers relating to occupation taxes and motor vehicle registration	3, 4, 5, 10
LB82	Coash	C	Change revenue and taxation provisions to redefine contractor or repairperson and gross receipts to exclude sod as prescribed	
LB83	Coash	IPP	Rename and repurpose the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act	
LB84	Fischer	P	Adopt the Build Nebraska Act and provide for distribution of sales and use tax revenue for road construction	6, 12, 16, 19, 21
LB85	Karpisek	IPP (>157)	Adopt the Nebraska Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act	
LB86	Christensen	C	Eliminate the legislative reference library	
LB87	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to mowing weeds in ditches	10
LB88	Christensen	C	Provide signage requirements and duties for the Nebraska State Patrol regarding concealed handguns	
LB89	Christensen	IPP	Change qualifications of the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety	
LB90	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to secured transactions under Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code	
LB90A	Harr	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB91	Price	C	Increase the minimum horsepower of a tractor that is required to be tested	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB92	Howard	C	Change caseload provisions for public child welfare service caseworkers	
LB93	Howard	C	State legislative intent with respect to administrators' salaries within the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB94	Howard	S	Allow petitioners for adoption of a state ward to read the child's case file	3, 6, 9
LB95	Howard	SF	Require accreditation by lead agencies and a moratorium on agencies contracting with the Department of Health and Human Services and change requirements for child-caring agencies	13, 15
LB96	Revenue	C	Change state aid to counties	4
LB97	Karpisek	C	Require Secretary of State to provide uniform guidelines for election workers	3
LB98	Fischer	S	Provide powers relating to federal-aid transportation funds	
LB99	Coash	IPP	Adopt the Nebraska Film Advantage Act	
LB100	Coash	S	Change provisions relating to the criminal responsibility of intoxicated persons and the insanity defense	3, 11, 14
LB101	Schilz	IPP	Eliminate daylight savings time	3
LB102	Schilz	C	Change provisions relating to vehicle loads	
LB103	Schilz	C	Change instream appropriation provisions	
LB104	Schilz	C	Change certain vehicle weight provisions	
LB105	Schilz	S	Change restrictions on operation of motorboats and personal watercraft	14
LB106	Schilz	S	Authorize the use of county sales and use taxes for public safety services as prescribed	4, 17, 20
LB107	Carlson	S	Change Grain Sorghum Development, Utilization, and Marketing Board provisions	
LB108	Carlson	S	Change provisions relating to division fences	4, 6, 9
LB109	Carlson	IPP	Eliminate certain registrations under the Agricultural Liming Materials Act	
LB110	Carlson	IPP	Eliminate soil conditioner registration under the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act	
LB111	Gloor	S	Change membership on mental health boards	3, 4, 7
LB112	Coash	S	Provide exemptions from motor carrier regulations for certain transportation service providers	13, 15, 16
LB113	Dubas	C	Prohibit job discrimination based upon credit history	5
LB114	Dubas	S	Provide a standard and labeling restrictions for honey	4, 7, 9
LB115	Council	C	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	
LB116	Avery	C	Provide for use of Veterans' Aid Income Fund for the state veteran cemetery system	3
LB117	Avery	C	Change publication requirements for constitutional amendments and initiative and referendum measures	3
LB118	Avery	C	Eliminate provisions relating to state aid to natural resources districts	
LB119	Avery	C	Change provisions relating to state aid to incorporated municipalities	4
LB120	Avery	C (>378)	Designate use of certain funds to administer the Risk Management Program	
LB121	Avery	S	Eliminate provisions relating to the State Fire Marshal from the Volunteer Emergency Responders Recruitment and Retention Act	
LB122	Harms	S	Rename an educational telecommunications building	
LB123	Heidemann	C	Provide for disciplinary actions and policies relating to cyber-bullying	3
LB124	Avery	S	Provide for cultural history information in adoption records	3, 19
LB125	Avery	C	Create the Children's Health Advisory Committee	
LB126	Avery	IPP	Adopt the Children's Health and Responsible Corporate Marketing Act that regulates advertising and marketing to children in restaurants, food establishments, and convenience stores, and provides duties for the Department of Agriculture	5
LB127	Avery	C	Change input into determinations and management plans for regulation of water	
LB128	Avery	IPP	Change DNA collection provisions	
LB129	Avery	C	Eliminate the statute of limitation for certain felonies	
LB130	Heidemann	IPP	Provide for adjustment of formula need in calculation of state aid to schools	
LB131	Heidemann	C (>379)	Change provisions relating to the Cash Reserve Fund	
LB132	Dubas	C	Adopt the Abortion Mandate Opt-Out Act so no abortion coverage is provided by a qualified health plan offered through a health insurance exchange created pursuant to federal law	7
LB133	Ashford	C	Require inclusion of sentencing costs in presentence reports	
LB134	Cornett	S	Update references to the Internal Revenue Code	
LB135	Smith	S	Change remittance requirements for motor vehicle and boat certificate of title fees	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB136	Lautenbaugh	C	Change number of years between appearances before Board of Pardons	
LB137	Lautenbaugh	S	Change provisions relating to postconviction relief	16, 18
LB138	Lautenbaugh	C (>512)	Change residency requirements under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	
LB139	Lautenbaugh	IPP (>628)	Change surplus property sale provisions of the County Purchasing Act	13
LB140	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to criminal background checks required for health and human services transportation services	
LB141	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide for public records that may be withheld	
LB142	Lautenbaugh	S	Change a contribution limitation under the Campaign Finance Limitation Act	11, 18, 19, 20
LB143	Haar	IPP	Require public education institutions to file certain contracts of employment with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission	
LB144	Haar	C	Require mobile home parks to have shelter and evacuation plans	
LB145	Haar	C	Provide for school transportation safety committees	
LB146	McGill	S	Authorize cities and villages to regulate planned unit developments	
LB147	Hadley	C	Change family law provisions relating to court orders, forum, child support, and visitation	
LB148	Avery	C (>235)	Exclude lobbying expenses from the definition of general fund operating expenditures for state aid to education purposes	14
LB149	Avery	C	Adopt the Blind Persons Literacy Rights and Education Act	
LB150	Lathrop	IPP	Require Internet notice of public meetings by state entities	
LB151	Lathrop	S (+238, 346)	Provide, change, and eliminate powers and duties of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court	18, 19, 20
LB152	Lathrop	S	Provide for a trauma fee schedule for workers' compensation claim reimbursement	20, 21
LB153	Lathrop	C	Change reimbursement for medical services under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB154	Janssen	S	Change procedures for filling vacancies on natural resources districts boards	
LB155	Utter	S	Change sealed bid requirements relating to electric generating facility contracts	
LB156	Utter	S	Change air pollution emission fee provisions	13, 16
LB157	Coash	S (+85)	Change guardianship and conservatorship provisions and adopt the Nebraska Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act	4, 6, 7
LB157A	Coash	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB158	Fischer	S	Change driver's license examination and issuance provisions	3, 5
LB159	Urban Affairs	S	Authorize bond powers for cities, villages, and counties for nonprofit enterprises	3, 8, 10
LB160	Campbell	S	Eliminate a duty of the county assessor relating to information on trusts that own agricultural land	
LB161	Karpisek	GF	Change provisions relating to recounting votes	7
LB162	Campbell	S	Change provisions relating to abstracts of property assessment rolls	
LB163	Fischer	S	Change provisions relating to parking permits and license plates for handicapped or disabled persons and authorize a state electronic application system	4, 5, 7
LB163A	Fischer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB164	Louden	S	Provide notification requirements before moving buildings or other large objects on a county or township road	
LB165	Fischer	S	Change municipal occupation tax provisions relating to telecommunications companies	5, 8, 9, 19
LB166	Coash	C	Change the Developmental Disabilities Services Act to authorize a private preemployment screening service to conduct criminal background checks as prescribed	
LB167	Fischer	S	Change the Relocation Assistance Act	
LB168	Avery	C	Provide for voter registration on the Secretary of State's website	3
LB169	Avery	C	Authorize provisional ballots for registered voters changing residence within Nebraska	8
LB170	Fischer	S	Change motorcycle safety education provisions	3, 4, 19
LB171	Avery	IPP	Provide for the establishment of fees paid to the Secretary of State	
LB172	Avery	C	Create the Commission on Indian and Multicultural Affairs and eliminate the Commission on Latino-Americans and the Commission on Indian Affairs	4
LB173	Avery	C	Prohibit natural resources district board members from running for or holding more than one office	
LB174	Avery	C	Change provisions relating to certain contributions designated on income tax forms	
LB175	Avery	GF	Provide for transfers from the Campaign Finance Limitation Cash Fund	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB176	Avery	S	Authorize the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission to order violators to pay hearing costs	13, 19
LB177	Campbell	S	Change foster care provisions	7, 14, 17
LB178	Transportation & Telecommunications	S	Change commercial drivers' licenses provisions	
LB178A	Fischer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB179	Krist	S	Change pharmacy provisions	
LB180	Fischer	C	Provide for gubernatorial appointment of the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery	
LB181	Hansen	S	Establish a surcharge under the Livestock Brand Act	6, 18
LB181A	Hansen	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB182	Hansen	C	Change provisions relating to the issuance of one license plate	
LB183	Wightman	C	Change abandoned motorboat and trailer provisions	
LB184	Smith	C	Change interest rate provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB185	Fulton	C	Provide for one vehicle license plate	10
LB186	Sullivan	C	Require nonpartisan ballots for county officers	
LB187	Council	IPP	Change the number of required recall petition signatures	4
LB188	Council	IPP	Change requirements for recall petition signatures	4
LB189	Council	C	Adopt the Criminal Offender Employment Act	
LB190	Council	GF	Provide for district elections for board members of metropolitan utilities districts and public power districts serving cities of the metropolitan class	
LB191	Council	S	Change provisions relating to sentence reductions	8, 10
LB192	Council	C	Require school districts to offer instruction in sexual health education	6
LB193	Howard	IPP	Change cost provisions for proceedings before the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LB194	Howard	C	Change salary and benefit provisions of members of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LB195	Sullivan	C	Change the number of members of the Legislature to fifty	7
LB196	Lathrop	C	Change liability insurance and financial responsibility requirements for motor vehicles	5
LB197	Dubas	S	Allow breast-feeding as prescribed	7, 9
LB198	Mello	C	Change provisions relating to the purchase or lease of state-owned passenger cars	
LB199	Dubas	C	Require adequate financial support for foster parents to support foster children	
LB200	Council	V	Adopt the Nebraska Healthy Food Financing Initiative Act	13, 19, 20, 21
LB200A	Council	V	Appropriation Bill	
LB201	Council	C	Change probation fees	
LB202	Council	GF (>251)	Authorize petitions for recall and resentencing for certain minors sentenced to life imprisonment	4
LB203	Council	C	Change sentencing requirements with respect to certain minors	4
LB204	Council	V	Require blood-lead testing prior to school enrollment and parental notification regarding elevated blood-lead levels	13, 15, 16, 17, 18
LB204A	Council	V	Appropriation Bill	
LB205	Mello	C	Create the Next Generation Nebraska Commission within the Department of Economic Development	
LB206	Wightman	C	Provide for disposition of abandoned camper units and cabin trailers	
LB207	Sullivan	S	Authorize the Game and Parks Commission to convey real property to Sherman County for park purposes	
LB208	Langemeier	S	Provide waiver and injunctive relief powers to the Nebraska Power Review Board	
LB209	Cornett	C	Change a provision relating to proceeds of local option sales and use taxes	
LB210	Cornett	S	Change revenue and taxation provisions	
LB210A	Cornett	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB211	Cornett	S	Change sales and use tax provisions	
LB212	Transportation & Telecommunications	S	Adopt revisions of federal motor vehicle laws and regulations and change provisions relating to towing and certificates of title	
LB213	Pankonin	C (>374)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development for the Heritage Nebraska Main Street Program	
LB214	Pankonin	C	Require nonpartisan election of county and city officials	7
LB215	Fischer	S	Change state identification card and motor vehicle operator's license provisions	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB216	Coash	GF	Provide for special interest motor vehicle plates	10
LB216A	Coash	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB217	Fischer	C	Change the Telecommunication Relay System Act	
LB218	Karpisek	S	Change provisions relating to personnel exempt from the State Personnel System	
LB219	McCoy	C	Adopt the Health Care Freedom Act	
LB220	Fischer	IPP	Change appeal procedures of the Public Service Commission	
LB221	Janssen	C	Provide for drug screening of public assistance applicants and recipients	10
LB222	Gloor	C	Change scope of practice considerations under the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act	
LB223	Karpisek	C	Require insurance coverage for cochlear implants	
LB224	Avery	C	Change provisions relating to recall of certain political subdivision officials	4
LB225	Campbell	S	Change provisions relating to issuance of credentials under the Uniform Credentialing Act	
LB226	Gloor	S	Create the offense of assault with a bodily fluid against a public safety officer	18, 20
LB227	Mello	C	Require the State Energy Office to perform a state energy assessment	
LB228	Mello	S	Provide for energy audits under the Deferred Building Renewal Act	
LB229	Fischer	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the Water Resources Cash Fund and the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund and provide an additional consideration for grants from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund	3, 13, 15, 19
LB229A	Fischer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB230	Sullivan	S	Change access to public records	11, 14
LB231	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to issuing a bad check	
LB232	Christensen	C	Change use of force provisions to include protection of an unborn child as prescribed	
LB233	Krist	C	Decrease the number of members of the Legislature to forty-five	7
LB234	Fischer	S	Change provisions relating to county office and service facilities of the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB235	Adams	S (+148, 273, 287)	Change provisions relating to state aid to schools	4, 14, 16
LB236	Adams	C	Change provisions relating to state aid to schools	4
LB237	Howard	S	Provide for creation of a prescription drug monitoring program	6, 8, 14
LB238	Conrad	C (>151)	Eliminate workers' compensation three-judge review and change certain procedural provisions	18
LB239	Janssen	GF	Require presentation of government-issued photographic identification to vote in elections	8
LB240	Nordquist	C	Create the Nebraska Insurance Choices Exchange Task Force	
LB241	Hadley	S	Redefine parts vehicle and require a bill of sale for transfer of a parts vehicle	
LB242	Hadley	C	Change provisions relating to assault, assault on an officer, and offenses by a confined person	
LB243	Carlson	S	Change membership on the Republican River Basin Water Sustainability Task Force	
LB244	Carlson	C	Allow certain signs along scenic byways as prescribed	
LB245	Carlson	C	Provide for release of employee medical records as prescribed under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB246	Karpisek	IPP (>509)	Provide Nebraska State Patrol retirement benefits to a spouse who remarries	12, 14
LB247	Pahls	C	Adopt the Classrooms First Act	
LB248	Dubas	S	Change provisions relating to burning permits and range-management burning	
LB249	Karpisek	IPP (>407)	Provide for waiver of restrictions on alcohol sales near postsecondary campuses	12, 16
LB250	Transportation & Telecommunications	C	Exempt limousine service from Public Service Commission regulation	
LB251	Council	GF (+202)	Change court fees	14
LB252	Cornett	S (+570)	Change powers and duties and provide a sales tax exemption relating to Wyuka Cemetery	17, 20
LB253	Larson	C	Eliminate provisions relating to a tax credit for wind energy generating facilities	8
LB254	Campbell	P	Provide and change requirements for instruments recorded by the register of deeds	
LB255	Transportation & Telecommunications	FR	Eliminate investigation and regulation duties of the Public Service Commission relating to railroads	10, 16, 18
LB256	Karpisek	V (+299)	Change State Racing Commission members' terms and permit horseracing licensees to contract to conduct live horseracing for other licensees	19, 20 21
LB257	Fischer	S	Change filing requirements for telecommunications companies	
LB258	Krist	C	Provide that entry onto land by land surveyor is not criminal trespass	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB259	Fischer	S	Change provisions relating to railroads	
LB260	Lathrop	S	Adopt the Concussion Awareness Act	4, 10, 14
LB261	Lathrop	S	Provide a direct seller exemption to the Employment Security Law	
LB262	Lathrop	GF	Eliminate certain labor provisions regarding health and safety	
LB263	Lathrop	C	Eliminate the Nebraska Worker Training Board	
LB264	Heidemann	S	Provide requirements for acquisition of certain real property by the state	
LB265	Coash	S	Change Department of Health and Human Services petty cash fund provisions	
LB266	Sullivan	C	Change the Open Meetings Act relating to closed sessions	
LB267	Howard	C	Require application for a waiver to limit the types of beverages which may be purchased with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits	6
LB268	Howard	C	Require return to the payee of insufficient funds checks	
LB269	Conrad	C	Change provisions relating to delayed deposit services	
LB270	Executive Board	C	Eliminate duties and positions in the Public Counsel's office	
LB271	Executive Board	C	Eliminate the office of Legislative Research	
LB272	Fulton	C	Provide for confidentiality and limited access to first-injury reports under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB273	Dubas	C (>235)	Change the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act to provide for converted contracts and converted contract option students	14
LB274	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to the return of dispensed drugs and devices	4, 7, 9
LB275	Fulton	C	Change provisions relating to the offense of escape	
LB276	Council	GF	Change a penalty from death to life imprisonment without possibility of parole and change other penalties as prescribed	9
LB277	Coash	S	Change the Nebraska Visitors Development Act to provide for the advice of a visitors committee to a county board	
LB278	Coash	S	Authorize payment to county officers and employees by electronic funds transfer	
LB279	Karpisek	S	Change provisions regarding an interest in licensed wholesalers under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	14, 16
LB280	Lathrop	C	Adopt the Discretionary Clause Prohibition Act and create an unfair insurance trade practice	
LB281	Karpisek	S	Allow consumption of alcohol in chartered limousines and buses	7, 10
LB282	Louden	C (>374)	Appropriate funds to the Designated Collection Fund for use by the Commission on Indian Affairs	
LB283	Haar	V (+430, 522)	Change provisions relating to property tax levy limits and provide school boards with tax levy and bond authority relating to energy efficiency projects	12, 17, 18, 19
LB284	Krist	S	Change provisions relating to unlawful picketing of a funeral	8, 10
LB285	Krist	C	Change provisions relating to veterans homes and veterans aid	
LB286	Krist	S	Change provisions relating to a direct sales shipping license fee under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	13, 19
LB287	Adams	C (>235)	Change provisions relating to summer school and early childhood summer sessions	14
LB288	Mello	C	Adopt the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act	
LB289	Mello	S	Authorize operation of low-speed vehicles on certain public roads, provide registration fees for vehicles using alternative fuels, and eliminate alternative fuel permits and fees	16, 20
LB289A	Mello	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB290	Pankonin	C	Change health care information required to be given to a patient upon request	
LB291	Nelson	C	Change periodic payment modification provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB292	Avery	S	Eliminate per diems for members of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission	
LB293	Avery	C	Change provisions relating to reclaiming of property from a pawnbroker or junk dealer	
LB294	Karpisek	C	Prohibit alcohol sales during certain hours to persons who are twenty-one years old	4
LB295	Lathrop	C	Provide a complaint procedure with the Public Service Commission regarding towing and storage fees	6
LB296	Coash	IPP (>669)	Eliminate oath requirements for filing of a criminal complaint and for verifying information	20
LB297	Dubas	S	Change the Local, Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Act	11, 15, 16
LB298	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to self-protection	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB299	Karpisek	IPP (>256)	Change horseracing provisions to authorize contracts for live race meetings and change licensing requirements	19, 20, 21
LB300	Ashford	C (>390)	Change provisions relating to the Community Trust	
LB301	Ashford	C (>463)	Change provisions for sealing records under the Nebraska Juvenile Code	17
LB302	Ashford	GF	Provide for a restructuring plan for the court system	
LB303	McCoy	S	Eliminate restriction on investment in certain corporations doing business in Northern Ireland	6, 9
LB304	McGill	GF	Provide for treatment of sexually transmitted diseases as prescribed	8
LB305	Larson	S	Change permitted uses of the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund and require the Director of Agriculture to report regarding implementation of a state meat and poultry inspection program	6, 13, 18
LB305A	Larson	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB306	Larson	C	Require certain entities to provide care and shelter to equine animals	
LB307	Karpisek	IPP	Require continued DROP contributions under the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act	
LB308	Urban Affairs	S	Provide terms of office for certain municipal officers	
LB309	Urban Affairs	S	Provide for reapportionment of special assessments made by a city of the first class, city of the second class, or village as prescribed	
LB310	McGill	GF	Change provisions relating to protection orders	4
LB311	Karpisek	S	Change penalties of out-of-state licensees under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB312	Coash	C	Adopt the Brain Injury Act to provide ongoing support for veterans with brain injury	9
LB313	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Tobacco-Free Schools Act and change school accreditation provisions	6
LB314	Karpisek	S	Provide an exception for wine retailers relating to certain sales practices	
LB315	Langemeier	S	Permit organization as a corporation or professional corporation by a designated broker under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	11, 19
LB316	Heidemann	C	Change provisions relating to the practice of optometry	
LB317	Conrad	C	Adopt the Nebraska Revised Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act	
LB318	Cornett	C	Redefine qualified claimant for homestead exemption purposes	
LB319	Cornett	C	Change reimbursement for homestead exemptions	
LB320	Cornett	C	Change homestead exemption income limitations	
LB321	Cornett	C	Change calculations relating to homestead exemptions	
LB322	Cornett	C	Provide requirements for prescription drug insurance	
LB323	Cornett	C	Change the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LB324	Howard	C	Require fetal alcohol determination prior to adoption of a state ward	7
LB325	Howard	C	Appropriate funds for behavioral health care in Region 6 as prescribed	11
LB326	Janssen	S	Eliminate committees on intergovernmental cooperation	
LB327	Campbell	C	Change motor vehicle fees and distribution of the proceeds	
LB328	Fischer	C	Provide for amendment of hydropower appropriations as prescribed	
LB329	Cook	S	Update the International Energy Conservation Code and change Nebraska Energy Code provisions	7, 11, 14
LB330	Cook	C	Change requirements for dental hygienists in public health-related settings	
LB331	Education	S	Change provisions relating to an educational telecommunications network	4, 6, 9
LB332	Education	S	Change compensation provisions for the Board of Educational Lands and Funds	4, 6, 9
LB333	Education	S (+445)	Change allocation provisions relating to the Education Innovation Fund	4, 7, 9, 10
LB334	Education	S	Change and eliminate certain postsecondary education positions and programs	4, 9
LB335	McGill	S	Provide for the waiver of municipal bidding procedures	4, 7, 9
LB336	Karpisek	IPP (>407)	Authorize outside employment for Nebraska Liquor Control Commission employees	12, 16
LB337	Fulton	S	Change timeframes for audits by the Auditor of Public Accounts	13, 16
LB338	Howard	IPP	Provide preference requirements for state service and personal property contracts	
LB339	Ashford	C (>669)	Change Nebraska Juvenile Code predisposition evaluation procedures	19
LB340	Dubas	C	Adopt the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Notification Act	6
LB341	Smith	C	Include benefits under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act as income for support payments	10
LB342	Brasch	S	Change election hours for drainage districts	
LB343	Brasch	GF	Change land surveyor registration requirements	
LB344	Ashford	GF	Change provisions relating to municipal counties and merger of governmental services	8
LB345	Conrad	S	Adopt the Small Business Innovation Act	17, 20, 21

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB345A	Conrad	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB346	Conrad	C (>151)	Authorize contempt powers for Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court	18
LB347	McCoy	S	Authorize interest-bearing trust accounts under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	
LB348	Lautenbaugh	C	Change employer liability provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	11
LB349	Lautenbaugh	C (>669)	Change demand for trial by jury provisions	19
LB350	Lautenbaugh	C	Change medical lien and personal injury damage suit provisions	
LB351	Lautenbaugh	C	Change court procedure relating to substitution of parties	
LB352	Lautenbaugh	GF	Provide airport hazard area dimensions under the Airport Zoning Act	
LB353	Lautenbaugh	IPP (>35)	Change provisions relating to towing of vehicles and exemptions from size, weight, and load restrictions	15
LB354	Carlson	C	Change funding provisions for the Weight and Measures Act	
LB355	Carlson	C	Provide for an agricultural trade representative and funding intent	
LB356	Carlson	C	Authorize funding for administration of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	8
LB357	Ashford	SF	Authorize an increase in local option sales and use tax	10, 15
LB358	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to sales taxation of net metering	
LB359	Haar	IPP (>360)	Change a renewable energy tax credit	17
LB360	Cornett	S (+359)	Change provisions governing tax credits for energy generation facilities and property taxation	16, 17, 18
LB361	Cornett	C	Set the salary of members of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	
LB362	Cornett	C	Provide tax incentives for renewable energy projects under the Nebraska Advantage Act	8
LB363	Cornett	C (>384)	Change provisions relating to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission and property taxes and provide a duty for the Secretary of State	
LB364	Fischer	C	Change provisions relating to calculation of state aid to schools	5
LB365	Sullivan	C	Change access provisions for voter information and voter registration registers	
LB366	McCoy	S	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board	
LB367	McCoy	C	Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors	
LB368	Brasch	S	Change nomination provisions for partisan offices	7, 10
LB369	Howard	IPP	Require state agencies to develop and implement energy conservation plans	
LB370	Wightman	GF	Eliminate provisions relating to issuance of tax deeds	
LB371	Schumacher	C	Provide for an unfair insurance trade practice relating to public officials	
LB372	Adams	IPP (>637)	Change provisions relating to postsecondary course and program offerings	14
LB373	Speaker Flood	S	Provide for deficit appropriations	18, 19
LB374	Speaker Flood	S (+213, 282)	Appropriate funds for state government expenses	18, 19
LB375	Speaker Flood	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of members of the Legislature	18, 19
LB376	Speaker Flood	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of constitutional officers	18, 19
LB377	Speaker Flood	S	Appropriate funds for capital construction	18, 19, 21
LB378	Speaker Flood	S (+120, 414, 450, 485)	Provide for fund transfers and change provisions relating to various funds	18, 19
LB379	Speaker Flood	S (+131)	Transfer funds from the Cash Reserve Fund	18, 19
LB380	Speaker Flood	S	Change and eliminate assessment and distribution of depreciation charges relating to state buildings	18, 19
LB381	Speaker Flood	C	Change provisions relating to educational service units, withdraw from the Compact for Education, and eliminate a student achievement coordinator	7
LB382	Nordquist	S (+510)	Change deposit and contribution rates for certain retirement systems and calculation of state aid for schools	16, 17
LB382A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB383	Cornett	S	Eliminate state aid for municipalities, counties, and natural resources districts	4, 6, 8, 9, 18
LB384	Cornett	S (+363, 405, 457)	Change property tax provisions and membership, powers, and duties of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	14, 18
LB384A	Cornett	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB385	Utter	S	Change and terminate provisions of the Low-Income Home Energy Conservation Act	10, 11, 15, 16
LB386	Heidemann	S	Provide job training grants for interns	5, 16, 19

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB387	Hadley	S	Adopt the Business Innovation Act and eliminate economic development programs	11, 20
LB387A	Hadley	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB388	Wightman	S	Adopt the Site and Building Development Act and change provisions relating to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund	12, 15, 16
LB388A	Wightman	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB389	Cornett	S	Adopt the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act	5, 10, 20, 21
LB389A	Cornett	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB390	Ashford	S (+300)	Change provisions relating to jails, community corrections, and the Community Trust	4, 21
LB390A	Ashford	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB391	Schilz	GF	Create the Nebraska Invasive Species Council	
LB392	Schilz	C	Provide powers and duties relating to aquatic invasive species	7
LB393	Schilz	C	Require state agencies to develop plans to use Nebraska biodiesel fuel	
LB394	Schilz	S	Change Dry Bean Commission membership provisions	
LB395	Schilz	C	Change voting provisions for members of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board	
LB396	Pahls	S	Change bond provisions relating to the deposit and investment of certain county funds	
LB397	Lathrop	S (+555)	Change and eliminate provisions of the Industrial Relations Act and the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act	15, 18, 20, 21
LB397A	Lathrop	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB398	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to notaries public	
LB399	Avery	S	Change the number of signatures needed for nomination petitions	7, 10
LB400	Janssen	S (+430, 528)	Change property tax levy authority for natural resources districts and exceptions from property tax levy limits	21
LB401	Howard	S	Require assisted-living facilities to provide written information to applicants for admission	
LB402	Howard	C	Change penalties relating to third-degree assault on a social worker and provide for social worker safety training	5
LB403	Council	C	Change allocation of the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund	
LB404	Pirsch	S	Change reporting provisions relating to the Department of Economic Development	17, 19
LB405	Cornett	C (>384)	Authorize hearings by a single commissioner of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	7
LB406	Cook	S	Provide for reentry licenses under the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act	
LB407	Karpisek	S (+249, 336)	Change employment provisions, notice requirements, and license restrictions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	12, 16
LB408	Fulton	C	Change provisions relating to divorce	
LB409	Utter	GF	Provide for the retention of insurance proceeds by a county or municipality to repair or demolish damaged property	
LB410	Utter	S	Adopt the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act	
LB410A	Utter	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB411	Karpisek	C	Change fees under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	5
LB412	Karpisek	C	Change provisions regarding contributions and expenditures under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	
LB413	Conrad	S	Authorize use of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for programs benefiting homeless youth	
LB414	Conrad	C (>378)	Provide that University of Nebraska funds not lapse and change cash funds	
LB415	Wallman	GF	Change provisions relating to contraband in a detention facility or providing an inmate with contraband	6
LB416	Wallman	C	Change firefighter hour and schedule provisions	
LB417	Wallman	GF	Change the Civil Service Act to extend probationary service for firefighters	
LB418	Nelson	GF	Exclude certain automatic dialing-announcing devices from registration	
LB419	Nelson	IPP	Change restrictions on certain expenditures under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	
LB420	Dubas	C	Provide an exception for farm tractor-farm wagon combinations from vehicle load limits	
LB421	Pankonin	V	Change fees and display requirements for motor vehicle park entry permits	10, 18, 20
LB422	Nordquist	C	Change eligibility provisions under the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act	
LB423	Krist	S	Change tax foreclosure provisions relating to liens of sanitary and improvement districts	
LB424	Lautenbaugh	S	Change bond liability provisions under the Nebraska Educational Finance Authority Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB425	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to real estate tracts and the designation of industrial areas	
LB426	Cornett	GF	Change grant provisions under the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act	
LB427	Cornett	GF	Provide enhanced requirements for commercial dog breeders	6
LB428	Cornett	C	Adopt the Agricultural Tax Credit Act	9
LB429	Cornett	C	Change motor fuel tax collection commissions	
LB430	Cornett	IPP (>283, 400)	Change property tax levy limitations	
LB431	Hadley	S	Adopt the Health Care Quality Improvement Act	13, 16
LB432	Hadley	C	Create sales and use tax credits for certified renewable export facilities	
LB433	Campbell	C	Provide requirements for contracts for child welfare services between private agencies and the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB434	Pahls	C	Terminate the Business Development Partnership Act and change funding	
LB435	Pahls	C	Create the Business Ombudsman Division of the Department of Economic Development	
LB436	Gloor	C	Change provisions relating to taxation of cigarettes and tobacco products	9
LB437	Urban Affairs	C (>546)	Change state building code provisions	
LB438	Howard	C	Increase fines for handicapped parking infractions	5
LB439	Heidemann	C	Change valuation of agricultural and horticultural land for school tax purposes	9
LB440	Heidemann	IPP	Change adjusted-valuation provisions within the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB441	Heidemann	C	Change levy provisions for rural and suburban fire protection districts	
LB442	Avery	IPP	Adopt the Outdoor Outfitters and Guides Licensure Act	
LB443	Avery	C	Increase certain fees assessed by the State Fire Marshal	
LB444	Avery	C	Provide methods for notice under the Open Meetings Act	
LB445	Adams	IPP (>333)	Change duties of the Commissioner of Education	
LB446	Adams	C	Change duties and funding provisions relating to educational service units	7
LB447	Fulton	C	Change provisions relating to vehicular pursuit	
LB448	Pahls	C	Change funding for the Nebraska Visitors Development Act	
LB449	Nelson	S	Change the Election Act	7, 16, 17, 18
LB450	Ashford	C (>378)	Extend Supreme Court cash fund authority	
LB451	Ashford	C (>669)	Change court fees, procedures, offices, and judgeships	19
LB452	Ashford	C	Provide for lottery winnings and tax refund intercept for debts owed to courts	
LB453	Pahls	S	Eliminate the Tourist Promotion Fund	
LB454	Pahls	S	Eliminate obsolete provisions relating to certain property controlled by the Department of Economic Development	
LB455	Pahls	S	Repeal the Venture Capital Network Act	
LB456	Health & Human Services	GF	Change provisions relating to health and human services	
LB457	Campbell	C (>384)	Provide for notice of preliminary valuations and in-person meeting relating to property taxes and change certain dates	
LB458	Schilz	S	Change expense recovery provisions relating to oil and gas wells	
LB459	Schilz	GF	Limit the adoption of any law by a political subdivision regarding the ownership of an animal	
LB460	Ashford	C	Change the Sex Offender Registration Act	14
LB461	Pirsch	C	Adopt the Freedom of Conscience Act	10
LB462	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to trade names	
LB463	Ashford	S (+79, 301, 669)	Change juvenile penalty, records, service plan, probation sanctions, and truancy provisions	15, 17, 18
LB463A	Ashford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB464	Campbell	S	Change child care reimbursement	11, 16, 17
LB465	Campbell	S	Eliminate provisions relating to eligibility of non-United-States citizens for public assistance	5, 11, 14
LB466	Gloor	C	Change provisions relating to a preferred drug list under the Medicaid Prescription Drug Act	5
LB467	Campbell	C	Change eligibility provisions relating to the medical assistance program	5
LB468	Campbell	S	Change reporting provisions relating to the medical assistance program	5
LB469	Karpisek	C	Prohibit retail sale of novelty lighters and provide a penalty	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB470	Karpisek	C	Provide requirements for approval of library personnel policies and procedures	
LB471	Karpisek	S (+57)	Change local sources of revenue and qualifying businesses under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act	8, 9, 10
LB472	Karpisek	C	Adopt the Nebraska Workers Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act	
LB473	Louden	GF	Adopt the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act	7
LB474	Nebraska Retirement Systems	S	Require certain retirement reports be submitted to the Auditor of Public Accounts	
LB475	Lautenbaugh	C	Change garnishment provisions to include independent contractors providing services to government entities	
LB476	Lautenbaugh	C (>669)	Change civil procedure service and return of summons provisions	19
LB477	Fischer	S	Change regulation provisions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act	13, 16
LB478	McCoy	C	Adopt the Nebraska Insurance Claims Fraud Prevention Act	
LB479	Lathrop	S	Authorize a person eighteen years of age to give consent to evidence collection and examination and treatment in cases of sexual assault and domestic violence	13, 16
LB480	Krist	S	Provide for agreements relating to public building commissions	
LB481	Krist	C	Provide exemption from medical radiography licensure for auxiliary personnel and cardiovascular technologists	
LB482	Utter	IPP	Change provisions governing industrial disputes involving municipal corporations under the Industrial Relations Act	6
LB483	Hadley	C	Change provisions relating to deductions for net operating losses and capital losses	
LB484	Hadley	C	Exclude certain activities from the definition of excavation under the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB485	Karpisek	C (>378)	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	8
LB486	Louden	IPP (>509)	Change provisions relating to compensation and contributions under the School Employees Retirement Act	6, 12, 14
LB487	Karpisek	C	Provide for resolution and ordinance power relating to flood protection and water quality enhancement projects	
LB488	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Child Support Transparency Act	5
LB489	Cornett	C	Authorize municipalities to receive sales tax information	
LB490	Karpisek	S	Change restrictions on keno	6, 19, 20
LB491	Mello	C	Change state budget preparation provisions	
LB492	Mello	C	Change the use of certain unobligated American Recovery and Reinvestment Act State Energy Program funds	
LB493	Pahls	C	Provide dependent health insurance up to age twenty-six	
LB494	Nordquist	S	Require timely review of medicaid eligibility	
LB495	Pankonin	C	Adopt the Boat Dealers Licensing Act and add a member to the Nebraska Motor Vehicle Industry Licensing Board	
LB496	Avery	IPP	Create the Centennial Mall Project Fund	
LB497	Howard	C	Suspend requirements for percentage of appropriations for works of art in public buildings as prescribed	
LB498	Louden	GF	Change water resources provisions relating to in situ uranium mining	
LB499	Price	S	Change provisions relating to filing for office, petitions for nomination, registering to vote, and voting under the Election Act	13, 16
LB500	Cook	S	Change penalties relating to unlawful obstruction or interference of the view of an operator of a motor vehicle	15, 18
LB501	Cook	IPP	Change ballot status procedures for Presidential and vice-presidential candidates	
LB502	Cook	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Workforce Investment Act	
LB503	Pirsch	GF	Change provisions for filling a vacancy on a ballot	
LB504	Campbell	C	Change motor fuel tax rates	6
LB505	Karpisek	C	Change motor vehicle taxes and distribution of proceeds	6
LB506	Wallman	C	Change definitions of wages for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB507	Harms	GF	Change Welfare Reform Act requirements relating to education for recipients of assistance	
LB508	Bloomfield	C	Authorize certain residency restrictions near parks for sexual predators	11

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB509	Nebraska Retirement Systems	S (+246, 486, 532)	Change provisions relating to retirement	6, 12, 14
LB510	Nebraska Retirement Systems	IPP (>382)	Change the Class V school employee retirement contribution rate	17
LB511	Christensen	C	Restrict the use and sale of blunt wrap tobacco wrappers as prescribed	
LB512	Christensen	S (+138, 618)	Change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school and mental health determinations and residency requirements regarding handgun purchase and possession	8, 13, 15, 16
LB513	Christensen	C	Adopt the Escort Services Accountability and Permit Act	8
LB514	Christensen	C	Provide for recovery for unreasonable delay or denial of an insurance claim	
LB515	Christensen	C	Adopt the Federal Health Care Nullification Act and provide a civil right of action and criminal penalties relating to enforcement	
LB516	Christensen	C	Authorize carrying of concealed handguns in educational institutions by security personnel, administrators, or teaching staff	7
LB517	Christensen	C	Repeal the Conveyance Safety Act and adopt the Elevator Inspection Act	
LB518	Christensen	C	Change certain penalty and violation provisions of the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	
LB519	Pirsch	C	Change the priority of liens for special assessments	
LB520	Howard	C	Change provisions relating to student transportation	
LB521	Fulton	S	Require the physical presence of a physician who performs, induces, or attempts an abortion	10, 19, 21
LB522	Haar	C (>283)	Adopt the High Performance Green Schools Transparency Act	
LB523	Pahls	C	Require identification for petition circulators	10
LB524	McGill	S	Authorize credit unions to conduct savings promotion raffles	6, 11, 16
LB525	Lathrop	S	Provide for a medicaid plan amendment or waiver and transfer of funds relating to the Nebraska Regional Poison Center	
LB525A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB526	Carlson	C	Change provisions relating to water transfers	
LB527	Carlson	C	Change tax levy authority of natural resources districts	5
LB528	Carlson	IPP (>400)	Change tax levy authority of natural resources districts	5
LB529	Carlson	C	Change provisions relating to conservation and preservation easements and the Nebraska Environmental Trust	
LB530	Council	C	Adopt the Employee Credit Privacy Act	5
LB531	Fulton	C	Change permissible budget reserves for schools	
LB532	Karpisek	IPP (>509)	Provide for potential transfer of certain Department of Labor employees to the state retirement system	12, 14
LB533	Fischer	C	Change membership of the Niobrara Council	
LB534	Smith	IPP	Adopt the Phototherapy Practice Act	
LB535	Utter	S	Adopt the Portable Electronics Insurance Act and redefine service contract	5, 16, 18
LB536	Wightman	C	Adopt the Nebraska Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act	
LB537	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to budget limitations and property tax levy limitations	
LB538	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to the disposition of seized firearms	
LB539	Health & Human Services	C	Require a medicaid state plan amendment or waiver relating to adult emergency room visits	6
LB540	Health & Human Services	C	Require a medicaid waiver relating to family planning services	6
LB541	Health & Human Services	FR	Provide for third-party contracts to promote medicaid integrity and cost containment	11
LB542	Howard	S	Require hospitals to offer and require employee influenza vaccinations as prescribed	
LB543	Cook	S (+663)	Provide for a state outreach plan and change asset limits relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	9, 12, 14
LB544	Pahls	S	Change provisions relating to civics education for students	7, 11, 16
LB545	Pahls	C	Establish a copay for medical services provided at a correctional facility	
LB546	Gloor	S (+437)	Change provisions relating to the state building code and local building or construction codes	10, 14

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB547	Cook	C	Provide for a study of state aid to community colleges	
LB548	McCoy	IPP	Change, transfer, and eliminate provisions relating to learning communities	8
LB549	Council	S	Create Nebraska Youth Conservation Program and provide duties for the Game and Parks Commission	17, 19
LB549A	Council	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB550	Wightman	S	Clarify incumbent filing deadline provisions	
LB551	Schilz	C	Change the Burial Pre-Need Sale Act	
LB552	Nordquist	C	Prohibit impersonation by electronic means and provide penalties	
LB553	McGill	C	Change provisions relating to delayed deposit services	
LB554	Harms	IPP	Prohibit open containers of alcohol in or on a vessel, motorboat, or personal watercraft	
LB555	Harms	IPP (>397)	Eliminate Special Masters and other provisions of the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act	6, 18
LB556	Dubas	S	Change the boundaries of Hamilton County and Merrick County	5, 7, 10
LB557	Dubas	C	Provide requirements regarding health care facilities employing surgical technologists	
LB558	Nordquist	S	Change provisions relating to focus schools, focus programs, and magnet schools	13, 16
LB559	Cornett	C	Change the income tax rate	
LB560	Cornett	C	Provide for sales and use taxes on certain services	10
LB561	Cornett	C	Change the sales tax rate	
LB562	Cornett	C	Change provisions relating to license and occupation taxes imposed by municipalities	
LB563	Utter	S	Authorize Game and Parks Commission to convey Crystal Lake State Recreation Area to the village of Ayr	
LB564	Fulton	IPP	Change and eliminate provisions of the Industrial Relations Act and the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act	
LB565	Ashford	C	Require secure storage of firearms and notice of such requirement by retailers upon sale and create the offense of improper storage of a firearm	
LB566	Schumacher	C	Provide for online petition signatures for recall, initiative, and referendum petitions	9
LB567	Schumacher	C	Change provisions relating to liquor licensee violations	
LB568	Schumacher	C	Provide duties for the State Treasurer relating to state employee benefits	
LB569	Coash	C	Require employers to e-verify the immigration status of new employees	
LB570	Coash	IPP (>252)	Change provisions relating to Wyuka Cemetery and exempt certain cemetery purchases from sales and use taxes	
LB571	Price	C	Change provisions relating to homeowners' association and condominium association liens	8
LB572	Price	C	Limit transfers of students between learning community member school districts	
LB573	Price	S	Authorize use of rotating or flashing amber lights on any motor vehicle operated by or for an emergency management worker or a storm spotter	
LB574	Price	C	Adopt the Electronic Prescription Transmission Act	16
LB575	Price	P (+63)	Adopt the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	19
LB575A	Price	P	Appropriation Bill	
LB576	Wightman	GF	Create the Nebraska Statutes Cash Fund	
LB577	Wightman	C	Provide an application fee for a structure building permit issued by the Department of Aeronautics	
LB578	Haar	C	Require proof of financial responsibility from persons operating pipelines	6
LB579	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to power supply plan contents	
LB580	Haar	IPP	Create the Energy Auditor Advisory Board	
LB581	Haar	C	Change provisions regarding certified nurse midwives	
LB582	Haar	C	Adopt the Student Expression Act	10
LB583	Haar	C	Adopt the Interstate Compact on the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote	8
LB584	Fulton	C	Exempt deployed military personnel from motor vehicle registration fees	
LB585	Business & Labor	S	Provide for payment of claims against the state	11, 18, 19
LB586	Business & Labor	C	Deny payment of certain claims against the state	
LB587	Nordquist	C	Provide grants for compressed natural gas innovation projects and funding	
LB588	Nordquist	C	Change the Conveyance Safety Act	
LB589	Smith	S	Allow for temporary use of state highways for special events as prescribed	17, 20
LB590	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to regulation and taxation of tobacco products	9, 17, 21

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB590A	Gloor	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB591	Gloor	S	Provide for a syndromic surveillance program and change immunization information exchange provisions	8, 19
LB592	Carlson	C	Adopt the Nebraska Commodity Industry Development Act	
LB593	Carlson	C	Change provisions of the Boiler Inspection Act	
LB594	Carlson	C	Change the Nebraska Amusement Ride Act and the Conveyance Safety Act and outright repeal the acts in 2013	9
LB595	Carlson	C	Adopt the Water Resources Revolving Loan Fund Act and change provisions regarding certain revenue	
LB596	Carlson	C	Provide for standing with respect to integrated management plan proceedings	
LB597	Pahls	C	Require consolidation of county offices	
LB598	Fulton	C	Change timing of certain foster care permanency hearings	6
LB599	Campbell	C	Provide coverage for certain children as prescribed pursuant to the Medical Assistance Act	
LB600	Campbell	V	Adopt the Nursing Facility Quality Assurance Assessment Act	14, 16, 17
LB600A	Campbell	V	Appropriation Bill	
LB601	Campbell	C	Change provisions relating to child care reimbursement	
LB602	Campbell	C	Require the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for medicaid amendments, options, and waivers	
LB603	Conrad	C	Exempt fees and admissions charged by student organizations at institutions of higher education from sales tax	11
LB604	Conrad	IPP	Adopt the Private Attorney Retention Sunshine Act	7
LB605	Conrad	C	Provide for voter registration on election day and require identification to vote	8
LB606	Avery	SF	Require reporting of electioneering communication under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	12, 15
LB607	Avery	C	Provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services and the Tax Commissioner regarding Kids Connection	
LB608	Pirsch	C	Adopt the Local Innovation Economic Development Act and change grant and fund provisions	
LB609	Pirsch	C	Adopt the Correctional Facility Reimbursement Act	11
LB610	Pirsch	IPP	Provide procedures for recall of state elective officers	
LB611	Pirsch	IPP	Provide for a biennial review of state agencies by legislative committees	
LB612	Pirsch	GF	Increase statute of limitations for plaintiffs suffering injury from sexual assault as a child	11
LB613	Pirsch	C	Change certain lien provisions relating to homeowner's associations and condominiums	
LB614	Pirsch	C	Change provisions relating to homeowners' association and condominium association liens	8
LB615	Krist	C	Change provisions relating to access to student records and learning community reporting and diversity plans	
LB616	Mello	C	Require the Department of Administrative Services to submit a report on the privatization of the management of the state's real property	
LB617	Mello	S	Provide requirements and duties relating to adoption of rules and regulations	14, 19, 20
LB618	Harr	IPP (>512)	Authorize possession of firearms as prescribed for school or school event security	
LB619	Larson	IPP	Remove school districts, learning communities, and educational service units from the Industrial Relations Act	
LB620	Larson	C	Change income tax rates and calculations	9
LB621	Heidemann	S	Authorize the Game and Parks Commission to convey certain property to the city of Brownville	
LB622	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to confiscation and destruction of firearms	
LB623	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change effect of Industrial Relation Act petitions and provide provisions for counties encompassing a city of the metropolitan class	
LB624	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change bargaining unit provisions of the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act	
LB625	Fulton	C (>667)	Change certain penalties relating to driving under the influence	9
LB626	Mello	C	Adopt the Electronics Recycling and Job Creation Act	
LB627	Mello	C	Adopt the Remanufacturing and Job Creation Act and provide tax credits	
LB628	Cook	S (+139)	Change provisions relating to sale and permit donation of certain personal property of political subdivisions	13, 15, 20

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB629	Sullivan	S	Adopt the Oil Pipeline Reclamation Act	6, 20, 21
LB630	McGill	C	Adopt the Applied Behavior Analysis Practice Act	
LB631	Cook	C	Provide for a permanent early voting request list	
LB632	Avery	IPP	Provide an adjustment to income for certain depreciation	
LB633	Adams	GF	Change provisions relating to certain tax levies and certain bonds of school districts and authorize refunding bonds	9
LB634	Adams	C	Change provisions relating to the tax levy authority of school districts relating to certain bonds	9
LB635	Adams	C (>637)	Change the Quality Education Accountability Act	11
LB636	Adams	C	Change provisions relating to access to student records and learning community reporting and diversity plans	
LB637	Adams	S (+58, 372, 635)	Adopt the Postsecondary Institution Act and change provisions relating to higher education	14, 17
LB637A	Adams	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB638	Karpisek	C	Provide restrictions relating to sale of county records for commercial purposes	
LB639	Schumacher	C	Change provisions relating to articles of organization and charging orders relating to limited liability companies	
LB640	Cornett	C	Clarify that a city of the first class may negotiate with its firefighters regarding retirement benefits	
LB641	Cornett	S	Require law enforcement officers to report liquor law violations to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LB642	Cornett	S	Authorize the Department of Revenue to enter into contracts for products and services	19, 21
LB643	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide additional public records that may be withheld	
LB644	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions applicable to attorney licensure requirements	
LB645	Christensen	C	Require inclusion of established surface water and ground water uses in certain agreements as prescribed	
LB646	Christensen	C	Redefine emergency medical service	
LB647	Christensen	C	Prohibit the use of certain foreign laws in Nebraska courts	
LB648	Christensen	S (+80)	Change provisions relating to foster care and juvenile placement	14, 17
LB649	Christensen	C	Require the Judiciary Committee to develop legislative recommendations for guardians ad litem for children and youth	
LB650	Christensen	C	Provide for a statement of rights and responsibilities for foster parents	
LB651	Christensen	C	Authorize a program audit and survey of the foster care system	
LB652	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to theft penalties	
LB653	Christensen	C	Provide for interbasin transfers during times of flooding as prescribed	
LB654	Christensen	C	Provide filing requirements for presidential and vice-presidential candidates and prohibit presidential electors from voting for uncertified candidates	
LB655	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to an occupation tax imposed by natural resources districts	
LB656	Janssen	C	Change provisions relating to flood protection and water quality enhancement bonds	
LB657	Janssen	IPP	Change and eliminate postsecondary education student residency provisions	6
LB658	Karpisek	C	Change the fee for obtaining a handgun certificate	8
LB659	Karpisek	IPP	Prohibit driving with controlled substances in bodily fluids	
LB660	Karpisek	C	Create the offense of providing a bodily fluid sample containing a controlled substance	
LB661	Karpisek	C	Change specialty license plate fees	10
LB662	Cook	C	Provide for a demonstration project regarding bundling payments under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB663	Nordquist	IPP (>543)	Provide for a categorical eligibility policy relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	
LB664	Nelson	IPP	Repeal the Industrial Relations Act and the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act and prohibit public collective bargaining and work stoppage	
LB665	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to criminal child enticement	10, 16, 18
LB666	Pirsch	C	Change use of the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Fund	
LB667	Flood	S (+625)	Change provisions governing motor vehicle homicide, alcohol violations involving minors, operating watercraft or motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol or drugs, administrative license revocation, and ignition interlock devices	19, 21
LB667A	Flood	S	Appropriation Bill	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB668	Flood	IPP (>20)	Change penalties relating to the purchase, receipt, or acquisition of pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine	
LB669	Flood	S (+296, 339, 349, 451, 476, >463)	Change Small Claims Court, county court, district court, and juvenile court provisions	17, 19, 20, 21
LB670	Flood	SF	Authorize court-ordered conditions for dispositions under the Nebraska Juvenile Code	8, 20
LB671	Flood	C	Prohibit a sex offender from changing his or her name	11
LB672	Flood	C	Provide an exemption from the documentary stamp tax	
LB673	Flood	S	Change support liens and provide for military parents and children in cases of divorce	18, 20
LB674	Harr	C	Prohibit or restrict certain electronic monitoring of employees by employers	10
LB675	Pirsch	S	Provide and change penalty, enforcement, and incarceration provisions relating to driving under the influence and the duty to stop at a motor vehicle accident	19, 20
LB676	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to emergency protective custody under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act	
LB677	Lathrop	C	Provide criminal penalties for assault on a health care provider in the first, second, and third degrees	
LB678	Lathrop	C	Prohibit insurance discrimination based on race, creed, national origin, or religion	
LB679	Heidemann	C	Provide for new judges and members of the Nebraska State Patrol to become members of the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska	
LB680	Heidemann	C	Adopt the School Employees Cash Balance Retirement Act	
LB681	Karpisek	C	Provide for distribution of a portion of keno tax proceeds for thoroughbred horseracing purses	6
LB682	Mello	SF	Adopt the Sewer Infrastructure Assistance Act	8, 14, 17
LB683	Mello	C	Create the Storm Water Management Commission	
LB684	Schilz	S	Change provisions relating to an advisory committee for travel and tourism	17, 20
LB684A	Schilz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB685	Schilz	C	Change provisions of the Nebraska Visitors Development Act relating to the use of funds and the members of committees	
LB686	Schilz	C	Provide an exception from the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Practice Act for transplantation of bovine embryos	
LB687	Schilz	S	Provide for issuance of a veterinarian locum tenens	
LB688	Smith	C	Require certain law enforcement officers and firefighters to work until age fifty-five to receive full benefits and prohibit elective officers from receiving retirement benefits	
LB689	Christensen	C	Change provisions relating to human trafficking	
LB690	Brasch	S	Change consent and parental notification provisions regarding abortion	10, 20, 21
LB691	Brasch	C	Provide requirements relating to purchasing biobased products by state government	
LB692	Schilz	C	Change reimbursement requirements for the Department of Administrative Services	
LB693	Carlson	C	Adopt the Alcoholic Liquor Liability Act	9
LB694	Conrad	C	Change provisions relating to certain medical evidence	
LB695	Pirsch	C	Change the income tax rate	
LB696	Nordquist	C	Change provisions relating to children's medical assistance	
LB697	Coash	IPP (>41)	Change permit issuance provisions under the Game Law	
LB698	Christensen	SF	Change labeling requirements for alcohol-blended fuel	12, 15
LB699	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of Supreme Court judicial districts	19, 20
LB700	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of public service commissioner districts	19, 20, 21
LB701	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska districts	19, 20, 21
LB702	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of State Board of Education districts	19, 20, 21
LB703	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of legislative districts	19, 20, 21
LB704	Redistricting	S	Change boundaries of the Representatives in the Congress of the United States districts	19, 20, 21
LR2CA	Harms	C	Constitutional amendment to authorize county manager form of county government	
LR3CA	Fischer	C	Constitutional amendment to authorize pledge of state sales and use taxes for highway bonds	5
LR5CA	Krist	IPP	Constitutional amendment to reduce the maximum number of days for regular legislative sessions	5

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LR9CA	Schilz	C	Constitutional amendment to change agricultural and horticultural land valuation	9
LR19CA	Avery	GF	Constitutional amendment to provide that misdemeanors related to election to office are grounds for impeachment	9
LR20	Dubas	C	Encourage the school boards, in conjunction with the Game and Parks Commission, to voluntarily promote and include trap shooting as a high school sport	
LR21	Janssen	C	Provide the Legislature reject the Affordable Care Act and call for repeal of the act by Congress	
LR22	Fulton	IPP	Resolution for an amendment to the United States Constitution providing for repeal of federal law or regulation by vote of two-thirds of state legislatures	
LR28	Fulton	C	Encourage all municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies to participate in the Secure Communities program by the year 2012	
LR29CA	Nelson	IPP	Constitutional amendment to prohibit government from engaging in collective bargaining	
LR30	Campbell	C	Provide for continuation of the Health Care Reform Implementation and Oversight Committee	7
LR37	Health & Human Services	C	Provide the Health and Human Services Committee be designated to review, investigate, and assess the effect of the child welfare reform initiative implemented by the Dept. of Health and Human Services	4, 6
LR39	Council	C	Provide the Nebraska Legislature recommends certain basic principles as a guide for state and federal immigration policy and call upon Congress to enact reforms	
LR40CA	Pirsch	SF	Constitutional amendment to establish the right to hunt, to fish, and to harvest wildlife and to state that public hunting and fishing shall be a preferred means of managing wildlife	14, 16
LR44CA	Pirsch	IPP	Constitutional amendment changing regular legislative sessions to odd-numbered years	5
LR45CA	Pirsch	IPP	Constitutional amendment authorizing recall of state elective officers	9
LR46CA	Pirsch	C	Constitutional amendment to require bills that impose a tax or license fee to have a two-thirds vote to pass	10
LR47	Lathrop	C	Provide for continuation of the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee	7, 10
LR51CA	Heidemann	C	Constitutional amendment to change allocation of state lottery proceeds	5
LR85	Pahls	C	Interim study to determine how insurance laws should be amended by the Legislature to respond to the provisions of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	
LR102	Redistricting	C	Adopt criteria for the 2011 redistricting process	11, 14, 19
LR121	Larson	C	Express support for the University of Nebraska at Omaha wrestling program and its continuation as a varsity sport	
LR123	Cornett	C	Endorse the proposition that Taiwan participate in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer	
LR138	Nordquist	C	Interim study to find a solution to the exit of insurers from the health insurance marketplace for stand-alone health insurance policies for children	
LR141	Price	C	Designate the Honor and Remember Flag as the State of Nebraska's emblem of service and sacrifice by members of the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty and urge Congress to pass H.R. 546	
LR174	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine what impediments exist in state statute to attracting national agricultural and business conventions and trade shows to facilities in Nebraska	
LR197	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the implementation of an all-payer claims database in Nebraska	
LR198	Adams	C	Interim study to examine the governance and coordination of postsecondary education in Nebraska	
LR200	Pahls	C	Interim study to determine whether insurance laws should be amended to provide that insurance providing coverage to an operator of a motor vehicle not owned by the operator shall be primary to any insurance or self-insurance providing coverage to the motor vehicle	
LR202	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine public assistance programs with income-based eligibility criteria and the program rules that contribute or detract from asset building and economic stability for participating families	
LR203	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding vacant residential and commercial properties	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR205	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the potential establishment of a statewide electronics recycling program	
LR206	Mello	C	Interim study to examine funding streams available to adult education programs to better transition adults into postsecondary education through bridge programs	
LR207	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine the formation and governance of sanitary and improvement districts	
LR208	McGill	C	Interim study to determine the best manner in which to license certified applied behavioral analysts	
LR209	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine all of the building codes in Nebraska	
LR210	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR211	Education	C	Interim study to examine the offering of elementary and secondary courses and high school diplomas through electronic means	
LR212	Gloor	C	Interim study to review the operations and usefulness of the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act	
LR214	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding graffiti, vandalism, the sale of spray paint or markers, destruction of property, and graffiti abatement	
LR215	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to defined benefit plans of political subdivisions	
LR216	Smith	C	Interim study to examine public employee contracts entered into pursuant to collective bargaining and benefits for public officials	
LR217	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to creating a regional transportation commission or authority for purposes of helping to fund political subdivisions' transportation infrastructure projects	
LR218	Natural Resources	C	Create the Water Sustainability Funding Task Force to study all possible sources of revenue that could be used to establish a dedicated funding source for water management activities	
LR219	Pahls	C	Interim study to examine insurance coverage of services to treat individuals with autism	
LR220	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to the imposition of occupation taxes by local governments	
LR221	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to Nebraska's property tax homestead exemption program	
LR222	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to changing and adjusting individual and corporate income tax rate brackets	
LR223	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to Nebraska's special capital gains income tax deduction, the dividend income tax deduction, and issues pertaining to codification of the economic substance doctrine	
LR224	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding energy financing contracts, also known as energy savings performance contracts	
LR225	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the conversion of municipal street lighting systems to light-emitting diode (LED) lighting systems	
LR226	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a pilot program to incentivize individuals to move to rural counties which has experienced population loss	
LR227	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine adopting a comprehensive plumbing code applicable to all jurisdictions that could enforce the comprehensive plumbing code	
LR228	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine the safety of staff members at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers at Geneva and Kearney	
LR229	Hadley	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of requiring all law enforcement personnel to complete continuing education courses on an annual basis	
LR230	Brasch	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to development and implementation of a biobased product program for government procurement	
LR231	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine any aspect of the state tax structure and tax policy	
LR232	Cornett	C	Interim study to examine the fiscal impact of tax increment financing on taxpayers and governments throughout the state	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR233	Hadley	C	Interim study to review the scope of the agricultural exemption from the One-Call Notification System Act	
LR234	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine policy options and develop a long-term plan to support infrastructure development for the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel	
LR235	Conrad	C	Interim study to determine whether Nebraska should enact the Revised Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act (2008)	
LR236	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine maintenance payments for foster children by the Dept. of Health and Human Services and their subcontracting agencies	
LR237	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the potential consolidation of the Dept. of Labor and the Dept. of Economic Development into a newly created Dept. of Economic and Workforce Development	
LR238	Langemeier	C	Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should update its statutory provisions regarding the regulation and business organization of firms and individuals rendering professional services	
LR239	Fischer	C	Interim study to examine public school finance, particularly the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA)	
LR240	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding direct repair programs operated by insurers	
LR241	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Redevelopment Act	
LR242	Fischer	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee	
LR243	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the extent of human trafficking in Nebraska in connection with labor and sex trafficking	
LR244	Avery	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee	
LR245	Avery	C	Interim study to examine how technology may be used in elections to make the process more efficient and user-friendly for voters	
LR246	Avery	C	Interim study to review an interagency agreement between the Dept. of Health and Human Services and the Dept. of Revenue for the purpose of examining possible tax form revisions for identification of children eligible for the medical assistance program and medicaid	
LR247	Haar	C	Interim study to examine development of a comprehensive approach to reducing the environmental and health risks posed by the use or disposal of selected consumer products	
LR248	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the accessibility of health care providers for persons on medicaid	
LR249	Harr	C	Interim study to examine the impact of recidivism rates of persons convicted of driving under the influence	
LR250	Janssen	C	Interim study to examine human trafficking in Nebraska	
LR251	Janssen	C	Interim study to examine immigration-related marriage fraud	
LR252	Janssen	C	Interim study to examine the impact of illegal immigration on the state's budget	
LR253	Janssen	C	Interim study to investigate the merits and costs of drug testing recipients and applicants of cash assistance benefits offered under the Welfare Reform Act	
LR254	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 and Nebraska's Sex Offender Registration Act	
LR255	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee	
LR257	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the flood control needs of Omaha and the greater Omaha metropolitan area	
LR258	Price	C	Interim study to examine the availability of technology to provide the electronic request and approval of prior authorization requests for medical and pharmacy interventions	
LR260	Haar	C	Interim study to examine statutes and regulations on in-situ mining and hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking	
LR261	Haar	C	Interim study to examine how Nebraska's public power utilities can partner with private energy efficiency companies to offer "On Bill Pay"	
LR262	Louden	C	Interim study to examine the effects of imposing an earning cap on the calculation of a final pensionable salary for school employees	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR263	Mello	C	Interim study to examine municipal, state, and federal programs available to assist with job creation in the manufacturing sector	
LR264	Mello	C	Interim study to examine ways to encourage recycling and the use of recycling materials in manufacturing by Nebraska businesses	
LR265	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a Career Readiness Certificate program	
LR266	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of creating regional skills alliances, in which employers, government agencies, educational institutions, and labor unions pool resources to train workers for emerging region-wide job opportunities	
LR267	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to regulatory flexibility policies	
LR268	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the potential for privatization of the State of Nebraska's property management system	
LR269	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the use of strategic plans and performance benchmarks by state agencies	
LR270	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the current state of health insurance coverage in the State of Nebraska	
LR271	Harr	C	Interim study to analyze the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LR272	Fulton	C	Interim study to examine the fiscal impact that the criminal law has on counties, especially new criminal offenses and procedures	
LR273	Langemeier	C	Interim study to examine the criteria for developing integrated management plans required under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act	
LR274	Flood	C	Interim study to examine the statutory protections for guide dogs	
LR275	Flood	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's behavioral health model concerning transport service of persons who have been placed in emergency protective custody	
LR276	Carlson	C	Interim study to examine the methods and level of effort of the Division of Weights and Measures of the Dept. of Agriculture to monitor and enforce fuel dispenser labeling requirements relating to ethanol-blended fuel products	
LR277	Carlson	C	Interim study to review the Dept. of Agriculture's inspection program under the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act	
LR278	Carlson	C	Interim study to examine the implications of the emerging livestock disease traceability framework governing movements of animals in interstate commerce described in the Animal Disease Traceability Comprehensive Report	
LR279	Howard	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the compensation and benefits of the commissioners of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LR280	McCoy	C	Interim study to examine whether insurance laws should be amended to protect homeowners from home improvement or home repair contractor fraud as it relates to insurance claims	
LR281	Cook	C	Interim study to conduct research and provide recommendations on how Nebraska is currently providing home and community-based health care services to Nebraska seniors	
LR282	Campbell	C	Interim study to provide for review, assessment, and recommendations relating to the implementation of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	
LR283	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's judicial system, specifically issues affecting judicial effectiveness and independence	
LR284	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine current law with respect to the changing of surnames as a result of marriage	
LR285	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine the nursing shortage in Nebraska	
LR286	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine the Legislature's use of resources from designated cash funds for purposes of funding legislation independent of the budget process	
LR287	Fischer	C	Interim study to analyze the in transit system in Nebraska for motor vehicle dealer sales and private transactions	
LR288	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to standing for foster parents in removal proceedings	
LR289	Ashford	C	Interim study to address the undocumented immigrant population that have been initiated at both the state and local level around the country since the Judiciary Committee completed its report in December 2008	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR290	Howard	C	Interim study to examine the procedures of the Dept. of Health and Human Services relating to the evaluation of state wards for fetal alcohol spectrum disorders prior to adoption	
LR291	Howard	C	Interim study to evaluate methods of reporting and preventing hospital-acquired infections (HAIs)	
LR292	Howard	C	Interim study to examine cellular phone related safety issues in construction and school zones	
LR293	Campbell	C	Interim study to continue the work of the select committee appointed pursuant to LR467, 2010, to conduct research regarding the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	
LR294	Avery	C	Interim study to examine the formation and mission of outdoor outfitters and guides in the State of Nebraska	
LR295	Carlson	C	Interim study to compile research relating to food safety, animal welfare, resource stewardship, and farm economy welfare, associated with restrictions of livestock husbandry practices promoted by animal welfare advocacy groups	
LR296	Carlson	C	Interim study to examine potential structural models for commodity development programs to enhance flexibility, resources, and accountability to producers	
LR297	Carlson	C	Interim study to review the report of the Dept. of Agriculture pursuant to LB305, identifying authorities and resources necessary to carry out a cooperative program of state meat and poultry inspection	
LR298	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the usage of models of collaborative management of multiagency services provided to children and families in Nebraska and other states	
LR299	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues regarding gaming revenue that leaves Nebraska	
LR300	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to horseracing	
LR301	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to alcohol impact zones	
LR302	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee	
LR303	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to whether Nebraska State Patrol inspectors of violations under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act should be under the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's jurisdiction	
LR304	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine legislative intent under the Nebr. Ground Water Management and Protection Act regarding water use on "commingled acres"	
LR305	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the public benefits and supportive services available to older foster youth transitioning or "aging" out of the foster care system	
LR306	Conrad	C	Interim study to assess the effectiveness of the ACCESS Nebraska system in building partnerships with community-based organizations and serving clients via the new system	
LR307	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the process of decreasing the number of county commissioners	
LR308	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the intent of LB102, 2011, regarding vehicle loads	
LR309	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine ways to manage water and provide benefits to landowners and other entities for their ability to store and manage water in recharge areas	
LR310	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the intent of LB692, 2011, regarding the reimbursement of expenses by the Dept. of Administrative Services	
LR311	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the concept of a philanthropic entity investing in an area of state government instead of investing in the capital market	
LR312	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the intent of LB392, 2011, including duties provided to the Game and Parks Commission for inspection, impoundment, and decontamination relating to aquatic invasive species	
LR313	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the intent of LR9CA, 2011, regarding agricultural and horticultural land valuation	
LR314	Natural Resources	C	Interim study to examine all possible sources of revenue that could be used to establish a dedicated funding source for water management activities in Nebraska	
LR315	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine simulcast horseracing in Nebraska	
LR316	Krist	C	Interim study to examine the timing issues relating to the construction, permitting, and coordination processes of state and federal agencies regarding roads and transportation projects	

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LR317	Heidemann	C	Interim study to examine the funding formulas for the federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)	
LR318	Fulton	C	Interim study to examine the costs incurred when state government and political subdivisions provide services readily available in the private sector	
LR319	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine the tax exemptions that pertain to the horseracing industry in Nebraska	
LR320	Adams	C	Interim study to examine the funding of public elementary and secondary education	
LR321	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine the experiences of child victims and child witnesses with respect to their interaction with the criminal justice system	
LR322	Bloomfield	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the operation of the Nebraska Tractor Testing Laboratory	
LR323	Mello	C	Interim study to examine combined sewer overflow projects affecting municipalities	
LR324	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine ways for the State of Nebraska to help facilitate an increase in the export of Nebraska's agricultural products	
LR332	Natural Resources	C	Interim study to determine the fairness of permanent wildlife conservation easements in today's economic and agricultural climates	
LR338	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine the boundaries and taxing authority of transit authorities	
LR350	Revenue	C	Interim study to examine issues pertaining to the process and procedures used to value and equalize real property	

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCES

Visit www.NebraskaLegislature.gov to:

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- browse the Nebraska Blue Book
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Legislative Hot Line (V/TTY) - Lincoln: (402) 471-2709
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To write a letter to a senator, include the senator's name and district number in the address:

(SENATOR'S NAME)
(DISTRICT #)
NEBRASKA STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 94604
LINCOLN, NE 68509-4604

ABOUT THE UPDATE

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