

THE 103RD NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE



Unicameral Update
Session Review

2013

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

VOLUME XXXVI, No. 23 2013 SESSION REVIEW

Contents

Agriculture	3
Appropriations	6
Banking, Commerce and Insurance	8
Business and Labor	10
Education.....	12
Executive Board	15
General Affairs	17
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs.....	19
Health and Human Services	23
Judiciary	26
Natural Resources	29
Retirement Systems	32
Revenue	34
Transportation and Telecommunications	37
Urban Affairs.....	40
Bill Status.....	42
Legislative Resources	63
About the Unicameral Update	63

Published July 2013
Unicameral Information Office
Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509
(402) 471-2788
www.NebraskaLegislature.gov

Cover: Located at the west entrance to the Nebraska State Capitol, the Lincoln Monument was created by architect Henry Bacon and sculptor Daniel Chester French in 1912. (The pair went on to create the iconic Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.) The monument predates the current Capitol and is a symbol of Nebraska's pride in having its capital city named after the 16th president of the United States.

Agriculture



Sen. Ken Schilz, Agriculture Committee chairperson

Lawmakers considered many agricultural issues this session including livestock branding and management, climate change, livestock management and regulatory requirements.

North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen introduced **LB435**, passed 45-0, which allows out-of-state brand permits that authorize a one-time use of a brand registered with a state other than Nebraska to brand cattle for immediate exportation out of state.



Sen. Tom Hansen

The bill authorizes the branding of cattle with an out-of-state brand if:

- the cattle are purchased at a livestock auction market licensed under the Livestock Auction Market Act or another location approved by the Nebraska Brand Committee;
- the cattle will be exported immediately from Nebraska;

- the cattle are branded at the livestock auction market or other approved location; and
- an out-of-state brand permit has been obtained prior to branding the cattle.

Producers can obtain an out-of-state brand permit by submitting an application and corresponding fee to a brand inspector.

Hyannis Sen. Al Davis introduced **LB647**, which allows cattle to be imported into Nebraska without individual animal identification if they are:



Sen. Al Davis

- identified by a registered brand;
- accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate issued by the recognized brand inspection authority of the state of origin; and
- imported directly from a mandatory brand inspection area of any state.

The state Department of Agriculture can require imported cattle to have individual identification under **LB647** if the director determines that:

- the state of origin recognized brand registration or brand inspection procedures and documentation are insufficient to trace an individual animal to its herd of origin;
- identification by brand alone is in conflict with a standard of federal law or regulation regarding identification of cattle moved into Nebraska; or
- the cattle originates from a location that is not an accredited tuberculosis-free state or zone or is not designated a brucellosis-free state or zone.

The bill continues to allow the state veterinarian to issue import orders imposing additional requirements, including identification requirements, for animals imported into Nebraska from any state, country, zone or other area.

Senators passed the bill on a 45-0 vote.

LB423, introduced by the Agriculture Committee, authorizes law enforcement officials to enter into an agreement with animal owners and custodians outlining interventions to be undertaken to avoid seizure of neglected animals. The bill allows for keeping seized animals on the premises of the owner or custodian.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

The bill also expressly authorizes law enforcement to euthanize severely emaciated, injured, disabled, or diseased animals but would require officials to accommodate an owner's request to have his or her veterinarian present when animals are assessed. Upon seizure of the animals, the law enforcement agency taking custody will have seven days to petition for a hearing before the district court, which will be scheduled within 10 days of the date of petition.

If a court determines that abandonment or cruel neglect has occurred, it may:

- order immediate forfeiture of animals and authorize appropriate disposition of the animals, including euthanasia;
- detail conditions that must be met to restore custody to the owner; or
- order a bond or other security, or direct installment payments to pay for the seizing agency's cost for care of the animals.

If the owner or custodian is found not guilty, all funds paid by the owner remaining after actual expenses incurred by the seizing agency associated with the seizure and care of animals will be refunded.

The provisions of the bill cannot preempt any animal welfare ordinances of a city of the metropolitan or primary class. Currently, Omaha is the only metropolitan class city and Lincoln is the only primary class city.

Provisions of **LB544**, a bill originally introduced by Hansen, were amended into LB423 and prohibit an owner of a beef or dairy breeding bull infected with bovine trichomoniasis from selling or transporting the animal except for slaughter.

The owner also is required to report the diagnosis to the state Department of Agriculture within five business days of laboratory confirmation of the diagnosis and must notify all neighboring landowners of the infection within 14 days. The bill passed on a 41-0 vote.

Two bills related to the dairy industry passed this session. Both were introduced by Sen. Ken Schilz of Ogallala.

LB70, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz and passed 45-0, prevents a decrease in the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development board's membership below its current level.

Currently, membership on the board is proportional to

the number of milk producers in the state. The formula in place designates one board member for every 40 milk production units.

Under **LB70**, if the formula results in fewer than seven members, the governor will appoint a member or members from nominees submitted by the board.

LB67 amends the Nebraska Milk Act by adopting the majority of the 2011 Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance. Under the bill, all milk production facilities will be required to comply with Grade A dairy standards except that existing manufacturing grade dairies will be exempted provided they continue to meet manufacturing grade standards.

Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar introduced **LB583**, passed 32-12, which requires the state's Climate Assessment Response Committee to prepare a report on cyclical climate change in Nebraska by Dec. 1, 2014. The report will include possible impacts on the state's agriculture, water, recreation and other economic sectors and provide conclusions and recommendations.



Sen. Ken Haar

LB68, introduced by Schilz, updates provisions in the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act.

Currently, commercial nursery licenses are divided into three categories under the act: growers, dealers and brokers. The bill consolidates all three types of licenses into a single nursery stock distributor license.

LB68 also changes existing fee schedules due to the creation of the new license. Applicants seeking a Nursery Stock Distributor license will be charged \$115 for the first acre and \$5 for each additional acre. The state Department of Agriculture is authorized to adjust fees to a maximum of \$140 for the first acre and \$6 for each additional acre. This is an increase from a \$100 fee, regardless of size.

Senators passed the bill on a 41-0 vote.

Schilz also introduced **LB69**, passed 40-0, which removes the specialty pesticide designation from pesticide product registration.

Currently, pesticides classified as specialty are charged a registration fee of \$160 per product while nonspecialty pesticides are charged a fee of \$200. **LB69** removes the specialty classification and establishes an annual registration fee of \$160 for all pesticide products.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

The bill makes several additional changes, some of which include:

- updating contaminant levels in drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act;
- updating a reference relating to the state Department of Agriculture's authority with regard to designating pesticide applicator categories; and
- requiring that the renewal of an aerial pesticide business license is completed before the start of spraying operations each season rather than on January 1st as required under current law. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Appropriations



Appropriations Committee chairperson Sen. Heath Mello

Senators passed a \$7.8 billion, two-year budget package this session.

Budget growth in the Appropriations Committee's proposal is 5.7 percent in fiscal year 2013-14 and 4.8 percent in FY2014-15, for a two-year average of 5.2 percent.

Provisions of several bills heard by the committee were incorporated into the budget proposal, including:

- **LB126**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, which transfers \$500,000 annually to the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund;
- **LB193**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Nelson, which modified the schedule of general fund transfers to the state's cultural preservation fund;
- **LB285**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, which eliminated scheduled reductions in transfers from the state's Health Care Cash Fund;
- **LB519**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, which appropriates funds to upgrade the Nebraska History Museum; and
- **LB486**, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas,

which appropriated funds to pay Nebraska's annual dues to the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact.

The rail compact dues later were line-item vetoed by Gov. Dave Heineman and an attempt by Dubas to override the veto failed on a 13-19 vote. Thirty votes were needed.

Senators made few changes to the committee's recommendations during debate on the budget package. Among the adjustments were an additional \$53 million transfer to the state's Cash Reserve Fund and a \$36,000 increase in funding to the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs to fund an administrative assistant position.

LB195, the mainline budget bill, passed on a vote of 46-3.

Lawmakers also voted to incorporate **LB504**, originally introduced to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, into **LB199**, which makes various cash fund transfers. The provisions expand the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs' ability to utilize the agency's Designated Collection Fund.

LB199 passed 49-0.

Additional bills included in the budget package were:

- **LB194**, which provides for deficit appropriations, passed 49-0;
- **LB196**, which provides for the salaries of Nebraska state senators, passed 48-0;
- **LB197**, which funds salaries and benefits for judges and constitutional officers, passed 48-0;
- **LB198**, which funds capital construction projects and property acquisition, passed 42-3;
- **LB200**, which provides transfers from the cash reserve, passed 49-0; and
- **LB536**, which approves claims against the state, passed 46-0.

The governor returned the budget package with 21 line-item vetoes, including approximately \$40 million in cuts from **LB195** to general, federal and cash funds over the next two years. Senators voted 32-5 to override a little more than half of those vetoes. These included:

- \$4 million from the Securities Act cash fund for appropriations for the Homeless Shelter Assistance, the Affordable Housing Trust and Legal Aid and Services;
- \$4 million to the state Department of Roads for assistance to local transit authorities for mass transit aid;
- \$775,000 for the state's Court Appointed Special

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

Advocate (CASA) program and salary increases for County Court employees;

- \$600,000 to the state's Federally Qualified Health Centers;
- \$450,000 to the Omaha Learning Community;
- \$300,000 to fund a Dental Health Director; and
- \$140,000 to the Postsecondary Education Commission for a data analyst position.

Additional override motions that were unsuccessful would have restored funds to the Auditor of Public Accounts for baseline funding and salary increases, the Public Service Commission to fund a railroad inspector position and payment of state dues to the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact.

Vetoed items in LB195 that were not challenged included:

- \$90,880 to fund a retirement specialist position with the Public Employees Retirement Board;
- \$100,000 to the University of Nebraska to fund a DUI recidivism study;
- \$128,547 to fund increased staffing at the Foster Care Review Office;
- \$300,000 to increase staffing at the Nebraska Tourism Commission;
- \$369,001 to fund salary increases for probation officers; and
- \$2.84 million that will delay replacement of the state's Medicaid data management system for one year.

Lawmakers also voted to override three line-item vetoes in LB198, which appropriates funds for capital construction and property acquisition. These included:

- \$2.95 million to construct a University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing building in Lincoln;
- \$1.4 million from the \$6 million allocated for renovation of the Nebraska History Museum; and
- \$544,000 from the Capitol Commission to fund improvements to the State Capitol.

The motion to override the governor's vetoes in LB198 was adopted on a 34-5 vote.

Other bills

Several bills had public hearings but remain in committee. Among them are:

- **LB375**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, which would allocate \$41 million annually for services to people on the state's developmental dis-

abilities waiting list;

- **LB190**, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, which would appropriate \$10 million annually from the state's general fund to the Early Childhood Education Endowment Cash Fund;
- **LB119**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, which would appropriate \$3.6 million annually for distribution to each of the state's 18 local public health departments to improve preventive health programs;
- **LB122**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, which would provide \$2 million to conduct a comprehensive study of the feasibility of building a hydroelectric dam on the Platte River;
- **LB20**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, which would appropriate annually \$600,000 in general funds and \$600,000 in cash funds to the Rural Health Provider Incentive Program.
- **LB184**, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar, which would appropriate \$50,000 annually to the University of Nebraska Board of Regents for the Nebraska Wind Application Center;
- **LB4**, introduced by Krist, which would postpone for two years the implementation of reductions to fund transfers from the state's Health Care Cash Fund; and
- **LB185**, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, which would authorize \$40 million in loans to Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) with an integrated management plan that have entered into contracts to construct or implement streamflow enhancement projects.

Finally, **LB286**, introduced by Conrad, would have directed Nebraska's share of funds from a national mortgage settlement toward housing assistance. The bill would have made the following transfers:

- \$5.4 million to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund;
 - \$1 million to the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund; and
 - \$1 million to the Legal Aid and Services Fund.
- The committee's budget proposal instead allocated the following annual amounts:
- \$1.25 million to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund;
 - \$250,000 to the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund; and
 - \$500,000 to the Legal Aid and Services Fund. ■



Sen. Danielle Conrad

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Banking, Commerce and Insurance



Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee chairperson Sen. Mike Gloor

Legislation pertaining to federal health care reform and the state's new health benefit exchange topped the list of insurance issues addressed by senators this session.

Under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), Nebraska is required to have an operational health benefit exchange by Jan. 1, 2014. Nebraska will have a federally facilitated exchange.

LB384, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, creates the Nebraska Exchange Stakeholder Commission.

Under the bill, the commission will:

- work with state and federal agencies and policymakers to provide recommendations regarding implementation and operation of the exchange;
- create technical and advisory groups as needed to discuss issues regarding the exchange and to make recommendations to the commission, state or federal agencies and the Legislature;
- assist the exchange in meeting the stakeholder consulta-



Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

tion requirements as provided in federal regulations; and

- identify challenges and problems in the implementation and operation of the exchange and prepare recommendations to alleviate the problems identified.

The commission will report to the Legislature by Dec. 1.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

Also approved was **LB568**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr, which requires registration of individuals and entities applying for and acting as navigators for the state's health benefit exchange.

The state Department of Insurance will run the program and may charge a maximum registration fee of \$25 for an individual and \$50 for an entity. Registration will be valid for one year and may be renewed for a fee.



Sen. Burke Harr

Navigators must be at least 18 years old and will be required to pass an examination and be authorized to act as a navigator. Navigators will be prohibited from:

- engaging in any activities that would require an insurance producer license;
- violating Nebraska insurance licensure law;
- recommending or endorsing a particular health plan;
- advising consumers about which health plan to choose;
- accepting compensation dependent on whether a person enrolls in or purchases a qualified health plan; or
- failing to respond to an inquiry from the director.

The bill passed 49-0.

LB147, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Mike Gloor, fulfills a mandate required under the federal ACA that states adopt a process for external review of internal decision-making by health insurance carriers.

An independent review organization will be required to make a determination within 45 days, or within 72 hours in the case of an expedited review. The bill outlines a separate process for external review of decisions denying coverage on the grounds that the health care service is investigational or experimental.

LB147 applies to any claim submitted on or after Jan. 1, 2014. The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

LB336, sponsored by Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson, ensures Nebraska compliance with the ACA as a prior approval state. The bill requires state regulation of all health

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

insurance rates for policies issued in Nebraska and subject to the ACA. LB336 passed 46-0.

LB279, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch at the request of the state Department of Banking and Finance, made changes to state law regarding delayed deposit services, loan brokers and installment loans. The bill authorizes the department to share examination reports and other confidential information with the Consumer Protection Bureau and outside regulators with authority over delayed deposit services businesses, payday lenders and similar entities. The bill also clarifies the definition of a loan broker and repeals obsolete statutory references relating to installment loans.



Sen. Pete Pirsch

LB279 passed on a 47-0 vote.

Three insurance bills considered by Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee were not acted upon this session.

LB92, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek would prohibit an insurer from using credit information in connection with the issuance, underwriting, renewal, cancellation or denial of insurance.

LB218, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, would require insurance coverage for some amino-acid formula treatments for short bowel syndrome or eosinophilic disorders.

LB505, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, would require insurance plans in Nebraska to provide coverage for autism screening, diagnosis and treatment provided by a board-certified behavior analyst or licensed psychologist.

Other bills

Also approved this session were several banking proposals, including a bill that brings state law into conformity with federal law relating to automatic teller machine (ATM) fee disclosure requirements.

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

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



Sen. Dan Watermeier

vocably committed to complete the transaction.

LB100 passed on a 47-0 vote.

Introduced by Gloor, **LB155** clarifies that both mortgage-backed securities and collateralized mortgage obligations qualify to be pledged for purposes of securing public funds as mortgage-backed obligations.

The bill also allows the pledging for public funds requirements to be satisfied by letters of credit issued by any Federal Home Loan Bank. LB155 passed 48-0.

LB205, sponsored by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, amends the Securities Act of Nebraska to exempt certain small offers and sales of securities.

The bill exempts from registration a transaction by a Nebraska issuer selling solely to Nebraska residents when:



Sen. Paul Schumacher

- the proceeds in any three-year period do not exceed \$250,000;
- no commission is paid except to a registered agent of a registered broker-dealer;
- the issuer or a connected individual has not engaged in a state or federal securities law violation;
- the issuer files a notice with the director of Banking and Finance;
- the offeree receives a disclosure statement;
- the purchaser signs a subscription agreement; and
- the issuer files a statement with the director.

No fine shall be imposed for a statement or omission of material fact related to an exempted transaction unless made with the intent to defraud or mislead.

In addition, a person who sells a qualifying security by means of an untrue statement of material fact, made with intent to defraud or mislead, may be held liable to a buyer in a civil action to recover the consideration, interest and attorney fees. The burden of proof is on the claimant.

LB205 passed on a 41-0 vote.

LB628, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad, alters and extends the Small Business Innovation Act pilot program. The bill reduces the number of full-time equivalent employees required to qualify for the pilot program from five to two. It also extends the sunset date for one year to Dec. 31, 2014.



Sen. Danielle Conrad

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Business and Labor



Sen. Steve Lathrop, Business and Labor Committee chairperson

Workers' compensation, internship grants and employer access to social networking accounts were some of the business and labor concerns addressed this session.

LB21, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, repeals the 2014 sunset provision of a bill passed in 2010 allowing first responders to receive workers' compensation benefits for solely mental injuries. The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Three bills also relating to workers' compensation were held by the committee.

LB324, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, would revise the interest rate applicable to a workers' compensation benefit award in cases in which an attorney's fee is allowed from the rate provided in statute - currently 14 percent - to the judgment rate.

The bill also would allow employees, prior to the time of sustaining an



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

injury, to "opt out" of having first injury reports relating to their workplace injuries made available for public inspection or copying except under specified circumstances.

In addition, the bill stipulates that no compensation would be allowed if an employee falsely represented his or her medical condition at the time of hiring and a causal connection existed between the false representation and an injury.

LB291, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, would require that medical payments be paid within 30 days after notice is given to the employer or after a final order of the compensation court. Under the bill, 50 percent of the amount payable would be added to the charge and paid to the employee if the medical payment is not paid within 30 days.

LB302, introduced by Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman, would annually adjust a worker's weekly income benefits for total disability in proportion to the average weekly wage increase.

Papillion Sen. Jim Smith introduced two bills that also were held by the committee.

LB584 would require the scope and duration of medical, surgical and hospital services to be provided in accordance with the official disability guidelines published by the Work Loss Data Institute.

Under the bill, no insurer, risk-management pool or self-insured employer would be responsible for charges for medical, surgical or hospital services not provided in accordance with the official disability guidelines unless such services were:

- provided in a medical emergency;
- preauthorized by the insurer, risk-management pool or self-insured employer; or
- approved by an independent medical examiner.

If the parties to a dispute agreed to use an independent medical examiner, the medical findings of the independent medical examiner would be binding on the parties and constitute a final resolution.

Smith also introduced **LB177**, which would authorize the state labor commissioner to investigate cases in which



Sen. Norm Wallman



Sen. Jim Smith

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

employers fail to pay their employees wages under the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act.

Under the bill, the commissioner could assess civil penalties up to \$1,000 per violation of the act and determine whether an employer is liable for waiting time damages of 50 percent of the wages that are owed to the employee. Violations would be a Class IV misdemeanor.

Also relating to wage payment collection was **LB560**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello, which would require employers to:

- provide employees with 30 days' written notice before altering the employees' wages;
- provide employees with an itemized statement listing their wages and deductions on each payday; and
- keep employment records for at least five years if they fall under the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act or longer if required by the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission.



Sen. Heath Mello

Additionally, the bill would prohibit retaliation against individuals who oppose an unlawful employer practice or who testify, assist or participate in an investigation, proceeding or hearing. The labor commissioner could subpoena records and witnesses in such cases. Violations would be considered a Class IV misdemeanor.

LB559, also introduced by Mello, would create a voluntary program that would allow employers to temporarily reduce normal work hours in lieu of temporary layoffs for designated employees. Employees under a short-time compensation plan would be eligible for partial unemployment insurance benefits.

Both of the Mello bills were held by the committee.

Senators passed **LB476**, which makes changes to a recently created internship grant program.

Under the bill, sponsored by Holdrege Sen. Tom

Carlson, a resident student enrolled full time in a college, university or other institution of higher education in Nebraska is eligible for an internship. Minimum weekly and hourly internship requirements will be replaced with a requirement that the internship be of a sufficient duration to allow the student to gain significant, valuable work experience and knowledge.



Sen. Tom Carlson

The bill also increases grant amounts for distressed areas with a maximum reimbursement of \$7,500 or 75 percent of the cost of the internship if an employer shows that an intern was a Federal Pell Grant recipient at the time of the internship grant application.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Under a bill introduced by O'Neill Sen. Tyson Larson, employers would be prohibited from requiring employees or applicants to disclose their social network account information or log on to their social networking sites in the employer's presence.

LB58 also would prohibit employers from accessing employees' or applicants' social networking accounts indirectly through third party contacts. A civil action could be brought against an employer one year after the date of an alleged violation.

The bill was held in committee.

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

LB536, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, approved \$1.65 million in tort claims, \$150,000 in workers' compensation claims and \$72,800 for miscellaneous claims. The bill also includes \$2.09 million in write-offs for fiscal year 2012-13.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote. ■



Sen. Tyson Larson

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Education



Sen. Kate Sullivan, Education Committee chairperson

Senators approved significant changes to state aid to public schools under legislation considered by the Education Committee.

Aid to schools

Cedar Rapids Sen. Kate Sullivan, chair of the Education Committee, introduced **LB407**, which makes several adjustments to the state aid funding formula for public schools under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA).

The bill, passed 47-0, reduces the base limitation rate for school districts from 2.5 percent to 1.5 percent for the 2013-14 school year. The rate will revert to 2.5 percent for each subsequent school year.

LB407 includes additional changes to the funding formula, including:

- a base limitation rate of 1.5 percent for fiscal year

- 2013-14 and 2.5 percent thereafter;
- a local effort rate of \$1.03 for FY2013-14 and FY2014-15 and \$1.00 thereafter;
- an averaging adjustment threshold equivalent to the average basic funding for all school districts with 900 or more formula students;
- a teacher education allowance of \$30 million with distribution based on teacher education points;
- 50 percent of teacher education allowance paid as teacher education aid;
- an instructional time allowance of \$20 million with distribution based on the average days in session in excess of 175 days multiplied by formula students;
- 50 percent of instructional time allowance paid as instructional time aid; and
- 2 percent additional budget growth with 75 percent board approval with the expenditures included in the general fund operating expenditures for FY2013-14 only.

The bill eliminates the local choice adjustment beginning in FY2013-14 and limits the summer school allowance to reported summer school expenditures that are not included in other allowances. It also clarifies that expenditures included in the poverty and limited English proficiency allowances cannot be included in other allowances.

Additional budget authority for early childhood education will be included in the calculation of TEEOSA aid when programs move away from grant funding. Voluntary termination agreements will be excluded from the budget, but only when districts can prove a net savings in salary and benefits over a five-year period.

Sullivan also introduced **LB408**, which delays the certification deadline for state aid and budget authority under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act from March 1 to June 1 for the 2013-14 school year. The certification date reverts back to March 1 for the 2014-15 school year. Senators passed the bill on a 48-0 vote.

LB495, introduced by Sullivan, transfers funds from the Education Innovation Fund to the early childhood education grant program administered by the state Department of Education. Scheduled distributions include \$1.75 million in FY2013-14, \$1.85 million in FY2014-15 and \$1.95 million in FY2015-16.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

An additional \$1 million from the Education Innovation Fund will be directed to the Early Childhood Endowment Cash Fund annually for the next three fiscal years for grants to public school programs that serve at-risk children from birth to age three.

The bill changes a funding source for programs currently supported by the Education Innovation Fund. General fund dollars will be used to fund:

- an integrated student information system;
- the Center for Student Leadership and Extending Learning Act;
- multicultural education; and
- employment costs for individuals investigating and prosecuting alleged teacher and administrator certificate violations.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Omaha Sen. Rick Kolowski introduced **LB416**, which would have placed a sunset date on the teacher education allowance provided under TEEOSA. The current teacher education allowance would have remained in effect until a new solution is adopted. The bill was indefinitely postponed.



Sen. Rick Kolowski

Omaha Learning Community

Papillion Sen. Jim Smith introduced **LB585**, passed 41-0, which changes numerous responsibilities of the Omaha Learning Community coordinating council, including the prioritization of early childhood education.

Currently, the coordinating council has a 2-cent levy authority for elementary learning center facility leases and focus school capital projects. An additional 1-cent levy is dedicated to learning community pilot projects and elementary learning center employees and contracts.

LB585 reduces the 2-cent levy authority to one-half cent. The 1-cent levy will be increased by one-half cent to fund early childhood education programs for children in poverty. This will result in a net decrease of 1-cent in levy authority.

Free transportation requirements will no longer apply for open enrollment students who have not previously been accepted if the student is transferring to another school



Sen. Jim Smith

within the home district or to a school district that does not share a border with the home district.

The bill requires learning community advisory committees — comprising superintendents of member districts — to:

- submit a plan to the coordinating council providing for the implementation and administration of early childhood education programs for children in poverty;
- provide recommendations for improving the learning community diversity plan;
- review issues related to open enrollment;
- review proposals for focus programs, focus schools, magnet schools and pathways;
- provide recommendations for improving academic achievement across the learning community; and
- provide input to the coordinating council on other issues as requested.

The advisory committees will seek input from member school districts and community resources in order to maximize opportunities and resources. The committees also will make a special effort to establish programs that are readily available and accessible to children located in high poverty areas.

Papillion Sen. Bill Kintner introduced **LB179**, which would have terminated the Learning Community and coordinating council. The bill was indefinitely postponed.



Sen. Bill Kintner

Other bills

York Sen. Greg Adams introduced **LB211**, passed 47-0, which removes provisions pertaining to coordination of community college areas through an association of the boards. Under the bill, joining an association of community colleges will be voluntary. The bill also strikes an existing statute requiring that any meeting by a community college association be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Additionally the bill authorizes the board of governors of any community college to use college funds to pay for association membership.



Sen. Greg Adams

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

LB331, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms and passed 47-0, changes the income qualifications for receiving need-based aid for undergraduate students under the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act.

Currently, a person's eligibility is based on either their eligibility to receive a federal Pell grant or an expected family contribution of no more than the qualifying maximum. Pell grant eligibility and the expected family contribution are determined based on an individual's Free Application for Federal Student Aid application. The qualifying maximum equals the prior award year qualifying maximum increased by 2.5 percent.

Due to **LB331**, the income qualification will be an expected family contribution equal to or less than 110 percent of the maximum expected family contribution to qualify for a Pell grant in that award year.

Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook introduced **LB366**, passed 42-0, which provides assistance to institutions that offer high school equivalency programs. The bill provides assistance to eligible institutions for:

- each participant who enrolls in its high school equivalency program;
- each enrolled participant who takes an initial examination for a diploma of high school equivalency; and
- each participant not enrolled in the high school equivalency program who takes the examination for a diploma or high school equivalency.

An institution will not receive assistance for any participant who fails the examination for a diploma or high school equivalency.

The bill also authorizes a one-time allocation of \$85,550 from the Education Innovation Fund to the department for FY2013-14. The money will be distributed to each eligible institution for the acquisition and upgrade of equipment and software necessary to administer GED examinations.

LB410, introduced by Sullivan, makes various technical changes to current educational statutes as requested by the state Department of Education. The bill harmonizes language and eliminates obsolete language currently in statute.

Among other provisions, the bill:

- requires school districts to admit children who turn



Sen. John Harms



Sen. Tanya Cook



Sen. Jim Scheer

five between Aug. 1 and Oct. 15 who meet current eligibility requirements;

- allows students who move after Feb. 1 or those whose districts merge after Feb. 1 to apply for option enrollment without being released from the resident district for the following school year;
- clarifies that the enrollment option program does not relieve parents of compulsory attendance obligations, particularly while waiting for acceptance of an application;
- clarifies that an allowance paid to the parents may not substitute for transportation for open enrollment students who qualify for free or reduced-priced lunches; and
- adds tuition paid and transportation fees paid to other districts into general fund operating expenditures for calculating state aid.

Senators passed the bill on a 42-0 vote.

Two bills were advanced from committee and remained on general file.

LB438, introduced by Adams, would establish an intervention team appointed by the state Board of Education to assist the state's five lowest-performing schools in diagnosing issues and designing strategies to address them. A school would retain the priority designation until the state Board of Education determines it is no longer necessary.

The bill also would create a community school designation and a process to establish an operating council, which would advise the superintendent, the school board and the principal of the community school.

LB470, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer, would require that a superintendent's contract — including all current and future costs to the school district — be publicly posted at least five days before it can be considered for approval by a school board.

After approval of a superintendent's contract, the bill would require the school board to file a copy of the contract and any amendments with the state Department of Education by Aug. 1. If a school board fails to meet this requirement, all state aid granted under TEEOSA would be withheld until the school board is compliant.

Additionally, the county treasurer would be directed to withhold all school money until the contract has been filed with the department. ■

Executive Board



Sen. John Wightman, Executive Board chairperson

A special legislative committee will conduct a thorough study of Nebraska’s tax code as a result of legislation considered by the Legislature’s Executive Board.

LR155, introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, authorizes the newly-formed Tax Modernization Committee to provide a final report to the Legislature and the governor by Dec. 15, 2014.

The committee will consider fairness, competitiveness, simplicity and compliance, stability, adequacy and complementary tax systems as it evaluates Nebraska’s current tax code.

The committee comprises the members of the Revenue Committee and the chairperson of the following committees: Appropriations, Health and Human Services, Educa-



Sen. Ernie Chambers

tion, Agriculture and Planning. Two other members of the Legislature will be selected to serve on the committee by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

Omaha Sen. Sara Howard introduced **LB242**, passed 48-0, which requires that state agencies adopt new rules and regulations in a timely manner. After a new rule or regulation is passed by the Legislature, the relevant state agency currently is required to hold a public hearing. The agency then must adopt and promulgate the rule or regulation within one year of the public hearing date.



Sen. Sara Howard

Under the bill, if an agency has not adopted and promulgated a rule or regulation within three years of the operative date, the standing committee with subject matter jurisdiction shall hold a public hearing. It also ensures that no state agency could enforce a rule or regulation without a public hearing and final approval of either the governor or secretary of state.

The requirements in **LB242** apply to legislation enacted before, on or after the effective date of the bill.

LB612, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, requires the state Department of Revenue to present economic development incentive reports to two legislative committees.

The bill requires the department to appear once every two years before a joint hearing of the Legislature’s Appropriations and Revenue committees to present the reports. Supplemental information requested by three or more committee members must be provided within 30 days after the request.

Senators passed the bill on a 47-0 vote.

Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell introduced **LR31**, considered and adopted by the Executive Board, which reauthorized the appointment of senators to the Children’s Behavioral Health Oversight Committee. The committee was created in 2009 to provide oversight of programs created in the wake of the



Sen. Paul Schumacher



Sen. Kathy Campbell

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

state's safe haven crisis to assist families and children in need of behavioral health services.

The following senators were appointed:

- Sens. Jeremy Nordquist and Kate Bolz from the Appropriations Committee;
- Sens. Kathy Campbell and Sue Crawford from the Health and Human Services Committee;
- Sens. Colby Coash and Amanda McGill from the Judiciary Committee; and
- Sens. Bill Avery, Annette Dubas and Pete Pirsch.

The committee is authorized to meet with representatives of the state Department of Health and Human Services, the Nebraska Children's Commission and other interested parties and may hold public hearings and issue

reports as warranted.

Oversight functions will be transferred to the Nebraska Children's Commission when the Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee's authorization expires in January 2014.

Finally, **LR20**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop and passed 39-0, reconstitutes the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature through the current biennium. The committee first was assembled in 2008 to address a number of issues at the Beatrice State Developmental Center that led to a loss of federal funding. ■



Sen. Steve Lathrop

General Affairs



Sen. Russ Karpisek, General Affairs Committee chairperson

Senators made several changes to the state's gaming and liquor laws this session.

Among the bills passed was a measure that makes several changes to the utilization of gaming funds for services to the state's problem gamblers.

LB6, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, establishes the Nebraska Commission on Problem Gambling within the state Department of Revenue. The nine-member commission will be required to develop operational standards for a Gamblers Assistance Program – also created by the bill – and will oversee the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund.



Sen. Bob Krist

Members, appointed by the governor from lists supplied by the General Affairs Committee, will include members

of the medical and mental health care fields, as well as representatives from the banking and finance industry, education and consumers of problem gambling services.

Members will serve three-year terms and will be reimbursed for expenses.

The commission will:

- appoint the director of the Gamblers Assistance Program;
- evaluate the scope of problem gambling in Nebraska;
- contract with treatment providers for services; and
- create public awareness and outreach programs.

LB6 passed on a 48-0 vote.

A measure intended to pave the way for historic horse racing in Nebraska survived a filibuster on general file but was not scheduled for select file debate this session.

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



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

Two additional bills dealing with historic horse racing were heard by the committee.

LB73, introduced by Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy, which would remove the current formula used to determine the number of required live race days at tracks across the state to qualify for interstate simulcasting. The bill instead would require a statewide total of 49 live race days, with at least one live race day scheduled at each track. The bill remains in committee.



Sen. Beau McCoy

LB590, introduced by Lautenbaugh, would authorize the state Racing Commission to license and regulate pari-mutuel wagering on historic horse races. The bill was advanced by the committee to general file 6-2 but was not scheduled for debate. A Lautenbaugh motion to indefinitely postpone LB590 is pending.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

A bill that would amend the current five-minute time limit required between Keno games received first-round approval from lawmakers but was not scheduled for select file debate.

LB273, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, would reduce the time that Keno operators must wait between games to three minutes.

A measure seeking a proposed change to the Nebraska Constitution that would allow the Legislature to authorize and regulate new forms of gaming in the state with voter approval also remains in committee.

LR34CA, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, would place a proposed constitutional amendment on the general election ballot that would allow the Legislature to authorize and regulate any game of chance, lottery or gift enterprise.

Several changes to the state's liquor laws also were considered this session, including a measure that creates six new State Patrol positions to improve enforcement of liquor laws.

LB579, introduced by Karpisek, makes available several State Patrol investigators to spend the majority of their time on liquor law enforcement. The funding in LB579 ensures that six patrol positions will be designated for liquor enforcement.

The bill passed on a 42-1 vote.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that allows nonresidents to use a state-issued identification card to purchase alcohol.



Sen. Paul Schumacher

To purchase alcohol a customer currently must provide one of the following accepted forms of identification:

- a valid driver's or operator's license;
- a military identification card;
- an alien registration card;
- a passport; or
- a Nebraska state identification card.

LB173, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, adds to that list a state identification card from any state. The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

LB230, introduced by Karpisek, allows the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission to issue alcoholic liquor shipping licenses only to alcohol manufacturers and licensed retailers. Craft breweries, distilleries and farm wineries will be required to notify any Nebraska wholesaler if they intend to ship products already sold in the state and must not ship products that state manufacturers or wholesalers have agreed not to carry.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Two bills related to the state's liquor laws failed to advance from committee.

Hyannis Sen. Al Davis introduced **LB653**, which would increase the beer tax from 31 cents to 36 cents per gallon. The committee voted 8-0 to indefinitely postpone the bill.

LB444, introduced by Krist, would require that retail liquor license holders employ only individuals who are certified to sell or serve alcohol. The bill also would require that an employee or authorized representative of the licensee who is 21 years or older be on the premises at all times. LB444 remains in committee. ■

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs



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

Election law and state contracts dominated government issues addressed by lawmakers this session.

Elections

Among the election provisions passed was a bill that repeals the Campaign Finance Limitation Act, which recently was declared unconstitutional by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

LB79, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, also requires the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission to develop, implement and maintain an electronic filing system for campaign statements and other required reports as soon as practicable. Further, it adds limited liability company or partnership to the list of entities that must establish a separate, segregated political fund in order to receive contributions. The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that shortens the in-person early voting period in Nebraska. Under **LB271**, introduced

by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, any registered voter could appear in person before the election commissioner or county clerk to obtain his or her ballot not more than 30 days prior to an election.



Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

Current law provides that ballots for in-person early voting will be available at least 35 days prior to an election. **LB271** passed on a vote of 33-8.

Among the proposed changes to Nebraska election law considered this session was a measure that would change presidential election procedures.

Currently, the winner of Nebraska's popular vote receives two electoral votes. The three congressional districts also award one electoral vote each based on its popular vote winner. Maine is the only other state to use this system.

LB382, introduced by Fremont Sen. Charlie Janssen, would reinstate a winner-take-all system that would award all five electoral votes to the winner of the state's popular vote.



Sen. Charlie Janssen

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee advanced the bill to general file on a 5-3 vote, but it was not scheduled for debate.

LB381, also introduced by Janssen, would require voters to provide photographic identification before casting their ballot. The bill remains in committee, along with **LB127**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, which would provide a process for 16- and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote in Nebraska.

The committee held hearings on four bills regarding election commissioners.

LB188, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, would require legislative approval of election commissioner appointments made by the governor. The bill was advanced to general file on a 6-1 vote but was not scheduled for debate.



Sen. Russ Karpisek

Also introduced by Karpisek was **LB183**, which would require that elec-

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

tion commissioners be appointed by the county board in counties with populations of more than 100,000. The bill remains in committee.

Under **LB41**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, county election commissioners and clerks would be required to maintain a permanent early voting request list, outline procedures for the permanent early voting request list and establish that a ballot received for early voting by mail may be returned by hand to the registered voter's designated polling place on the day of the election. The bill remains in committee.



Sen. Tanya Cook

Also in committee is **LB160**, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, which would allow the electronic collection of signatures for initiative petitions and referendums.

Contracts

Among measures considered regarding public contracts was a bill intended to increase transparency in the expenditure of state funds.

LB429, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, requires the state to provide access to contract information via the Internet.

The bill requires that the state treasurer's website include a link to the state Department of Administrative Services website, beginning July 1, 2014, which will contain a searchable database of all active contracts that are the basis for an expenditure of state funds.



Sen. Sue Crawford

All agencies and departments of the state will be required to provide DAS an electronic copy of contracts that are active on or after Jan. 1, 2014.

Exempted from the bill are references to all subcontracts and contracts entered into by the following agencies as letters of agreement for services to a specifically named individual:

- the state Department of Health and Human Services;
- the University of Nebraska or any state college; and
- the state Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Also exempt are contracts entered into by the state Energy Office to provide financing from the Dollar and

Energy Saving Loan program and for employment contracts with any agency, board, commission or department of the state. The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.

LB224, introduced by Janssen and passed 49-0, provides a preference for a resident disabled veteran or a business located in a designated enterprise zone when awarding a state contract if all other factors are equal.

The bill defines a resident disabled veteran as an individual who:

- resides in Nebraska;
- was honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces, including reserve or National Guard;
- possesses a disability letter establishing a service-connected disability;
- owns a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, owns more than 50 percent of the stock; and
- controls the management and daily operation of a qualifying business.

Senators also changed a law passed last year that requires state agencies to submit a copy of the contract and a proof-of-need analysis on all contracts in excess of \$15 million.

LB563, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, applies the approval requirement only to new state contracts. The bill passed on a 42-0 vote.

Governing structure

Senators considered several bills this session that impact the governing structure and authority of various political subdivisions. Among them was a measure that changes the size and structure of the Omaha Public School (OPS) board.

LB125, introduced by Lautenbaugh, reduces board membership from 12 to nine members. A special election — coinciding with the Omaha citywide election this spring — will fill all nine board member positions.

Going forward, the elections will be staggered. Board members from even-numbered districts will be up for election in Fall 2014; members from odd-numbered districts will be up for election in Fall 2016. Senators passed the bill on a 44-4 vote.

LB299, sponsored by Hastings Sen. Les Seiler, increases from three to four the number of council members who can be elected at large in a first class city when at least four

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

council members are elected by ward. The change does not apply to a city with a commissioner or city manager form of government.

State law classifies a city of the first class as having a population between 5,001 and 100,000.

The bill also clarifies procedures for how certain cities, villages, counties or school districts may place the question of nominating and electing members to their governing boards on a general election ballot. The question of nominating and electing members by ward or at large could be placed on a general election ballot either by majority vote of the governing body or by petition of registered voters.

Additionally, the bill requires the secretary of state to develop and publish instructional guidelines for appointed election workers. The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

LB646, introduced by Gretna Sen. John Murante, allows the board of directors of a public power district with a service area containing a city of the metropolitan class to be divided into election subdivisions. Omaha currently is the only metropolitan class city in Nebraska.

The bill requires the subdivisions to be composed of substantially equal population, compact and contiguous territory and numbered consecutively.

LB646 takes effect Jan. 1, 2014 and was approved 40-0.

Senators also passed a bill that changes provisions of the Airport Zoning Act.

Political subdivisions that have established development plans and zoning regulations currently are required to adopt airport zoning regulations if they have an airport hazard in their zoning jurisdiction.

Under **LB140**, introduced by Krist, the authority of a political subdivision to adopt airport zoning regulations will not be conditional upon a prior comprehensive development plan or a zoning ordinance.

Among other zoning regulations, the bill establishes Airport Zoning Board of Adjustment appeal procedures and requires the



Sen. Les Seiler

board to allow a reasonable time for the appeals hearing, give due notice to the interested parties and determine the appeal within 60 days after it is filed.

Additionally, the bill redefines airport hazard to include “any structure, tree or use of land that penetrates any approach, operation, transition or turning zone.” The bill passed on a 39-1 vote.

Other bills

Senators approved a bill this session intended to facilitate assistance to people with functional needs in emergency situations.

LB434, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Scott Price, allows emergency management and other public agencies to create registries for the purpose of planning assistance for people with functional needs before, during and after a disaster or emergency.

Information obtained for such purposes will not be considered a public record and participation is voluntary. Improper release of registry information will be a Class III misdemeanor. The bill passed on a 43-0 vote.

Provisions of **LB504**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, were amended into **LB199**, which was passed as part of the state budget package. The amendment expands the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs’ ability to utilize the agency’s Designated Collection Fund.

The amendment redefines a political subdivision as a city, village or county within a 60-mile radius of an Indian reservation or a tribal government that owns land within the 60-mile radius. Current law defines a political subdivision as a city, village or county within 30 miles of a census designated place.

The amendment also:

- expanded grant eligibility to include nonprofit corporations;
- removed the requirement that a political subdivision’s application receive a public hearing;
- added education to the list of items for which a political subdivision may use the funds; and
- allowed the commission to use funds directly for



Sen. John Murante



Sen. Scott Price



Sen. Colby Coash



Sen. Bob Krist

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

economic development, education, health care and law enforcement if no applicants are approved.

Lawmakers also voted 44-3 to eliminate several boards and commissions.

LB78, introduced by Avery, eliminated the:

- Affirmative Action Committee;
- State Airline Authority;
- Athletic Advisory Committee;
- Livestock Advisory Committee;
- Economic Development Commission; and
- Rural Development Commission. ■

Health and Human Services



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

Senators continued to overhaul the state's child welfare system this session. Other aspects of health and human service provision addressed included changes to public benefit programs and licensure requirements and consideration of Medicaid expansion.

Child welfare

Certain state wards who have aged out of the foster care system may continue to receive services until age 21 under a bill passed 44-2.

LB216, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, allows eligible youth to enter into a voluntary foster care agreement with the state Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for extended services, including:

- Medicaid;
- postsecondary education assistance;
- continued foster care maintenance payments;



Sen. Amanda McGill

- placement in a foster home, institution or independent living; and
 - continued case management to help access additional supports.
- Lawmakers passed a bill seeking changes to oversight of the state's child welfare system.

LB269, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kathy Campbell, adds a tribal representative to the Nebraska Children's Commission, adds the Inspector General for Nebraska Child Welfare as an ex officio member and moves the commission to the Foster Care Review Office.

Among other provisions, the bill also requires DHHS to establish new foster home licensing requirements to expand the use of child-specific, relative and kinship placements and secure evidence of financial stability from entities that subcontract with the department to provide child welfare services.

The bill passed 48-0 and takes effect immediately.

LB530, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, overhauls Nebraska's foster care reimbursement rate system. The bill requires DHHS to implement by July 1, 2014, the following reimbursement rates:

\$20 per day for children younger than five;

\$23 per day for ages six to 11; and

\$25 per day for ages 12 to 18.



Sen. Annette Dubas

The bill passed 44-0 and takes effect immediately.

LB265, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, exempts kinship and relative homes from the state's foster home licensure requirement. In addition, the bill allows DHHS to issue a waiver for any nonsafety licensing standard for a kinship or relative home seeking licensure.

The bill also includes provisions of **LB443**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Tanya Cook, which requires a residential child care agency or placement agency to obtain licensure from DHHS before opening.



Sen. Colby Coash

LB265 passed on a 48-0 vote and takes effect immediately.

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Public benefits

Lawmakers approved a bill this session aimed at creating a comprehensive system for assessing and promoting quality care among the state's publicly subsidized child care providers.

LB507, introduced by Campbell, adopts the Step Up to Quality Act, which will put in a place a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for child care providers. The QRIS will be available to all child care providers and early childhood education programs in the state, but will be required for programs that receive significant public funds.

The bill also includes provisions originally introduced by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Conrad as **LB625**, which will expand eligibility for the state's subsidized child care program.

Currently, eligibility is capped at 120 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). **LB507** increases the rate to 125 percent of FPL in FY 2013-14 and 130 percent of FPL in FY2014-15 and thereafter. The bill passed 42-1 and takes effect immediately.

LB368, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, is intended to provide opportunities for employers and participants in the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program, known at the federal level as Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF).

The bill creates a wage subsidy pilot program for low-income, TANF recipients using existing "rainy day" TANF funds. Participating employees will receive a prevailing wage for 40 hours per week, not to exceed six months. The subsidies will be 100 percent in the first two months, 75 percent in month three, 50 percent in months four and five and 25 percent in month six.

LB368 passed on a 34-7 vote.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that expands eligibility for education to satisfy work requirements in order to qualify for certain public benefits.

Currently, the Welfare Reform Act allows participants younger than 24 to pursue a high school diploma or Gen-

eral Educational Development Test (GED) and remain in compliance with ADC's work requirements.

LB240, introduced by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, removes the age restriction. The bill was approved on a 41-0 vote.

Debate stalled after lawmakers spent two days discussing a bill that would require Nebraska to opt in to expanded Medicaid coverage available under federal health care reform.

LB577, introduced by Campbell, would require DHHS to add the adult population newly eligible under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) to the state's Medicaid state plan amendment.

The bill was subjected to a filibuster. After more than 10 hours of debate, senators moved on to another agenda item and **LB577** was not rescheduled for debate this session.



Sen. John Harms



Sen. Danielle Conrad



Sen. Sue Crawford

Licensure and credentialing

Senators adopted the Nebraska Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening Act this session.

Under **LB225**, introduced by Papillion Sen. Jim Smith, all newborns in Nebraska will be required to undergo screening for critical congenital heart disease (CCHD) in accordance with standards adopted by DHHS. The bill also requires DHHS to apply for federal funds for the program. **LB225** passed on a 47-0 vote.



Sen. Jim Smith

LB556, introduced by McGill, requires DHHS to develop rules and regulations for utilizing telehealth services for children's behavioral health. The bill establishes a pilot program for telehealth behavioral services that will include three clinics, with at least one urban and one rural clinic. Parents of children in pediatric practices within the pilot clinics will be offered routine mental and behavioral health screenings for their child during regular physical exams or at the request of a parent.

Children identified through screening as being at risk may be referred for further evaluation and treatment, and faculty and staff of several programs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center will be available via telehealth to the primary care practice. Senators approved the bill on a 42-0 vote.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

Under **LB528**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, certain health practitioners who diagnose gonorrhea or Chlamydia in a patient are allowed to prescribe, provide or dispense oral antibiotics within their scope of practice to the patient's sexual partner or partners without an examination. The bill passed on a 37-9 vote.



Sen. Sara Howard

Under **LB326**, also introduced by Howard, a Nebraska-licensed pharmacist can install and operate pharmacies in long-term care facilities. The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

LB487, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman, amends the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act that governs the establishment, transfer or increase in the number of rehabilitation beds in the state. The bill clarifies that a hospital may transfer rehabilitation beds between locations owned and operated by the same hospital without a certificate of need. The bill passed on a 40-0 vote.



Sen. John Wightman

LB484, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, allows dental hygienists to treat children in a public health care setting. The treatment is limited to include oral prophylaxis, pulp vitality testing and preventive measures, including the application of fluoride, sealants and other agents that prevent oral disease. The bill also allows a licensed dental hygienist with 3,000 hours of clinical experience to provide such treatments to adults in a health care facility.



Sen. Russ Karpisek

LB484 passed on a 45-0 vote.

Other measures

Lawmakers adopted a resolution this session that creates a partnership to examine how best to control costs and improve quality in Nebraska's health care system.

LR22, introduced by Campbell, designates the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, to bring together policymakers and stakeholders at all levels to work

toward the following goals:

- providing a comprehensive review of Nebraska's health care delivery, cost and coverage demands;
- engaging partners in dialogue, roundtable discussions and public policy discourse;
- developing a framework for health care system transformation to meet public health, workforce, delivery and budgetary responsibilities; and
- developing cooperative strategies and initiatives for the design, implementation and accountability of services to improve care, quality and value while advancing the overall health of Nebraskans.

The Health and Human Services Committee may conduct public hearings and, in conjunction with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, undertake communication, outreach and educational activities. A joint hearing will be held prior to Nov. 1, to brief the committees on information obtained by the partnership.

The resolution was adopted 41-0.

Lawmakers also approved a bill seeking to clarify authorization of disposition of a military member's remains.

LB420, introduced by McGill, specifies that the federal DD Form 93 be recognized as the legal instrument authorizing an individual to direct disposition of military remains. If a service member dies during active military service, the bill gives priority to direct disposition to the individual authorized by the decedent in his or her federal form.

The bill passed 43-2 and takes effect immediately.

LB23, introduced by Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley, changes allocation of the state's ICF/MR Reimbursement Protection Fund.

The bill requires DHHS, beginning July 1, 2014, to use the ICF/MR Reimbursement Protection Fund - including the matching federal participation funds - to enhance rates paid under Medicaid to ICF/MR and for annual



Sen. Galen Hadley

contributions to community-based programs for persons with developmental disabilities.

The bill also incorporates **LB343**, originally introduced by Coash, which replaces the term "mental retardation" in state law with the term "intellectual disability."

The bill passed 46-0. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Judiciary



Sen. Brad Ashford, chairperson of the Judiciary Committee

Measures relating to human trafficking, sentencing options for juveniles and parenting programs for incarcerated parents were passed by lawmakers this session. Senators also approved significant reforms to the juvenile justice system.

Juvenile justice

Senators approved two bills this session dealing with juvenile justice.

LB561, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford, expands the Nebraska Juvenile Service Delivery Project statewide through a three-step process beginning July 1, 2013.

Under the bill, the Office of Probation Administration will take over the community supervision, juvenile parole and evaluation duties currently held by the Office of Juvenile Services.

The bill will require the state Department of Health and Human Services to develop a model alternative response to reports of child abuse or neglect under the Child Protection Act. Alternative response is a practice that handles low-

risk child welfare cases by empowering families to build on their strengths, rather than criminally investigating them or placing them on the Child Abuse and Neglect Register.

Under the bill, the model must include costs, eligibility, procedures and assessment protocols necessary for the implementation of alternative response. The department is required to provide the model in a report to the Nebraska Children's Commission by Nov. 1 and the commission is required to electronically submit the report to the Legislature by Dec. 15.

The bill includes provisions from three other bills.

LB562, introduced by Ashford, would provide probation of officers information to make decisions regarding crossover youth.

LB86, originally introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, would place the supervision of staff-secure juvenile detention facilities with the Jail Standards Board of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement.

And **LB471**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Colby Coash, provides that a juvenile would not be required to undergo an evaluation prior to his or her commitment to the Office of Juvenile Services if one already has been completed in the past 12 months or if an addendum to a previous evaluation would be appropriate.

The bill was passed with an emergency clause on a 44-1 vote.

Ashford also introduced a bill that establishes a new 40-year minimum sentencing option for a juvenile convicted of a Class IA felony.

LB44 establishes that offenders younger than 18 years old at the time that an offense was committed who were denied parole will be eligible for a parole hearing each year thereafter. The parole board must review and consider the juvenile's:

- educational and court documents;
- level of participation in the offense;
- age at the time of the offense, level of maturity and intellectual capacity;
- ability to appreciate the risks and consequences of his or her conduct;
- efforts toward rehabilitation and participation in available rehabilitative and educational programs while incarcerated; and
- any other mitigating circumstance submitted by the juvenile.

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

The bill passed on a 38-1 vote.

Another bill introduced by Ashford that would result in fewer juvenile offenders being tried in adult court remains on select file.

Under **LB464** as amended, all charges against juveniles younger than 18 years old would be filed in juvenile court. Cases could be transferred to adult court upon a motion by the prosecutor and be heard before the juvenile court if the alleged law violation is either a felony or a misdemeanor and the juvenile was 16 or 17 years old at the time the crime was committed.

The bill would no longer require juveniles who are committed to the Office of Juvenile Services to remain committed until they are 21 years old or legally discharged.

Criminal justice

A bill that enhances penalties for pandering, soliciting and harboring people for prostitution was passed this session on a 47-0 vote.

LB255, introduced by McGill, makes a person under 18 years old immune from charges of prostitution. A law enforcement officer who takes a person under 18 years of age into custody is required to report an allegation of prostitution immediately to the state Department of Health and Human Services, which will commence an investigation within 24 hours under the Child Protection Act. A person under the age of 18 who is involved in prostitution will be placed in the juvenile court's jurisdiction.

The bill also increases the penalty for soliciting a minor for prostitution, currently a Class I misdemeanor carrying a maximum one year in jail and \$1,000 fine, to a Class IV felony, which carries a maximum five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. Keeping a place of prostitution, currently a Class I misdemeanor, would be a Class IV felony when those kept as prostitutes are under the age of 18. In cases involving a trafficking victim between the ages of 15 and 18 years old, the offender will be guilty of a Class III felony.

Finally, **LB255** requires a trafficking task force formed last year to use information and research that is available from the Innocence Lost National Initiative to recommend a model of rehabilitative services for victims of human trafficking.

Senators passed a bill 46-0 regarding the collection of

racial profiling information.

Omaha Sen. Heath Mello introduced **LB99**, which removes the sunset date for the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice to collect racial profiling data and adds requirements for the commission and law enforcement.

The bill also eliminates requirements that a victim suffer at least a 10 percent loss of financial resources to qualify for compensation from the Nebraska Crime Victims Reparations Fund and that the Crime Victims Reparations Committee include in its biennial report a listing of the names, description of facts and the amount of compensation awarded to applicants. The committee will be required to electronically submit the biennial report to the Clerk of the Legislature.

A pilot program for the state Department of Correctional Services to improve parenting skills of incarcerated parents also was approved this session on a 41-1 vote.

LB483, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, appropriates \$250,000 to the department to implement a two-year pilot program that provides incarcerated parents of children up to five years old evidence-based parent education, early literacy, relationship skills development and re-entry planning prior to their release.

Additionally, the bill allows the department to award competitive bid contracts to operate the pilot program and requires them to gather program participation and recidivism data.

A bill that would repeal Nebraska's death penalty failed to pass this session.

LB543, as introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, would replace death penalty provisions with the sentence of life without the possibility of parole. The provisions of the bill would apply retroactively to inmates currently serving capital punishment sentences.

Chambers offered a motion to invoke cloture and force a vote on the bill. The motion failed 28-21, falling five votes short of the number required for adoption.

The bill remains on general file.



Sen. Heath Mello



Sen. Amanda McGill



Sen. Kate Bolz



Sen. Ernie Chambers

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

A bill that would permit nonprofit corporations to enter into work arrangements with inmates of the Work Ethic Camp (WEC) was laid over this session.

LB52, introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen, would permit WEC inmates to enter into working arrangements with any charitable, fraternal or nonprofit corporation that provides a public benefit. WEC inmates currently may enter into work arrangements with political subdivisions and state boards and agencies.



Sen. Mark Christensen

A bill that adds substances and compounds to the Schedule I controlled substances list passed this session.

In order to be classified as a Schedule I drug under federal law, a drug or substance must have a high potential for abuse, lack an accepted safe use under medical supervision and have no currently accepted medical treatment use in the United States. No prescriptions may be written for Schedule I controlled substances and they are subject to production quotas by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

LB298, introduced by Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy, makes adamantoylindoles, tetramethylcyclopropanoylindoles, adamantylindole carboxamides, phenethylamine, tryptamine and their compounds Schedule I controlled substances.



Sen. Beau McCoy

The bill passed with an emergency clause on a 44-2 vote.

Judges and law enforcement

A bill was passed this session that clarifies the revocation and suspension provisions for law enforcement training certificates and diplomas.

LB538, introduced by Chambers, defines incapacity relating to a law enforcement officer as “incapable of or lacking the ability to perform or carry out the usual duties of a law enforcement officer in accordance with the standards established by the commission due to physical, mental or emotional factors.”

The bill also clarifies that a law enforcement officer will not be deemed incapacitated if he or she remains employed as a law enforcement officer in a restricted or limited duty status.

Law enforcement agencies will be required to report to the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council an officer who is separated from the agency due to a physical, mental or emotional incapacity. The officer’s law enforcement certificate will be suspended until such incapacity no longer prevents him or her from performing essential duties.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB232 was introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop to increase Nebraska judges’ salaries. The bill was indefinitely postponed on select file and instead its provisions were included in **LB306**, which extends an increase in Nebraska judges’ retirement contribution rates.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

The current judges’ salary is \$145,614. Under the amended bill, the salary increases 5 percent annually over the next two fiscal years to \$152,895 on July 1, 2013, and to \$165,040 on July 1, 2014.

LB306 passed on a 41-6 vote.

A bill that changes nonconsensual lien filing provisions also was passed.

Omaha Sen. Bob Krist introduced **LB3**, which requires a claimant to notify the sheriff in order to serve a copy of the recorded lien to the property owner and file proof of service with the register of deeds. The claimant will be required to file a judicial proceeding to enforce the nonconsensual lien within 10 days after recording it or such lien will lapse and be legally void and unenforceable.



Sen. Bob Krist

The bill also clarifies that a nonconsensual common-law lien is not binding or enforceable at law or in equity and, if recorded, is void and unenforceable. Those who fraudulently file a nonconsensual lien, financing statement or document that attempts to harass an entity, individual or public official or obstruct a government operation or judicial proceeding will be guilty of a Class IV felony.

Additionally, the bill establishes filing and notification provisions for commercial real estate liens and requires a real estate broker to have a lien in the commission amount on commercial real estate or any real estate in which a buyer is interested in leasing, purchasing or conveying.

The bill passed with an emergency clause on a 46-0 vote. ■

Natural Resources



Sen. Tom Carlson, chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee

Ensuring the long-term sustainability of state water resources topped the list of natural resources issues considered by senators this session.

Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson introduced **LB517**, passed 45-0, which creates a task force to work on the state's water issues. The Water Funding Task Force will comprise the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, the director of Natural Resources, the chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee and 10 additional members to be appointed by the governor.

The bill allocates \$1 million for research, data collection and production of a final report, which the task force will submit to the Legislature by December 31. The report will identify water resources programs, projects and activities in need of funding to meet the long-term statewide goals of water sustainability, efficiency and productivity. These include:

- research, data and modeling needed to assist the state in meeting its water management goals;
- rehabilitation or restoration of existing and new water supply infrastructure;
- conjunctive management, storage and integrated management of ground and surface water; and
- compliance with interstate compacts or agreements.

LB634, introduced by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, establishes new procedures for fighting and preventing wildfires. The bill directs the Nebraska Forest Service to:



Sen. Al Davis

- contract with private aviation companies to place two single-engine air tankers at airports during fire season;
- thin forests to reduce fuel loads, substantially reducing risk to residents, communities and emergency personnel;
- provide expanded training programs for volunteer firefighters, private landowners and communities in order to increase fire suppression effectiveness and safety;
- develop a Nebraska-based Type 3 incident management team that would serve as a comprehensive resource to augment and help manage large wildfire operations;
- expand the federal excess property programs managed by the Nebraska Forest Service to provide volunteer fire districts with fire suppression equipment; and
- rehabilitate forest lands that have been destroyed by wildfires.

Additionally, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for placing one single-engine air tanker in the state. The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB402, introduced by Omaha Sen. Heath Mello and remaining on select file, would allow more wind projects to qualify for a wind energy sales tax exemption.



Sen. Heath Mello

Private wind energy projects currently qualify for a sales tax exemption on the equipment and supplies used in construction if at least 33 percent of the revenue from the project for the first 20

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

years is directed back to Nebraska residents or companies.

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

The bill would amend the current statute by:

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

LB388, introduced by the Natural Resources Committee, changes the selection process for state electric transmission projects approved by a regional transmission organization (RTO). The bill provides incumbent RTO members the right of first refusal for such projects. Incumbent facilities will have 90 days to notify the Power Review Board of their intention to construct, own or maintain the RTO-approved transmission line.

If no such notice is provided to the board, the right of refusal will be surrendered and any other incumbent transmission owner will be allowed to file for the right within 24 months after the first right notice is provided.

Senators passed the bill on a 44-0 vote.

Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen introduced **LB522**, which would provide compensation to members of irrigation districts and remains on select file.

The state Department of Natural Resources adopted a regulation in 2006 to prohibit surface water appropriators from storing or diverting in-stream flows in order to comply with an interstate compact. A 2007 negotiation between the department and landowners established a compensation schedule for those unable to access surface water for irrigation.

The bill would require the department to provide compensation to affected water users equal to the current



Sen. Mark Christensen

compensation for dry-year leases used by natural resources districts. The bill was amended to place a \$10 million limit on compensation provided to landowners under the bill.

Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer introduced **LB203**, passed 45-0, which excludes slag from being considered solid waste under Nebraska’s Environmental Protection Act.

Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery introduced **LB362**, which remains on general file and would eliminate the current park entry permit for Nebraska residents and instead place a \$7 registration fee on motor vehicle registrations. The money generated from the new fee would be used to fund maintenance repairs and updates of state park facilities.



Sen. Bill Avery

A pending Natural Resources Committee amendment would exempt certain vehicles from the fee, including school buses, farm trucks, soil and water conservation vehicles, government vehicles and those exempt from motor vehicle taxes. Vehicles with certain license plates also would be exempted, including those with Pearl Harbor, Gold Star, Prisoner of War, Disabled Veteran, Purple Heart and historical antique or vintage plates.

O’Neill Sen. Tyson Larson introduced **LB57**, which would require that any applicant using Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) funds to purchase land include a contract provision for the replacement of lost property taxes if the land would then be sold, leased, transferred to, exchanged or encumbered by a federal agency.



Sen. Tyson Larson

The trust is supported by state lottery dollars, receiving 44.5 percent of dollars appropriated to the state Lottery Operation Trust Fund. Grants are awarded to applicants seeking to promote established environmental goals, including the protection of air, land, ground and surface water, flora and fauna, prairies and forests, wildlife and wildlife habitat and areas of aesthetic or scenic values.

The bill was bracketed until next session and remains on select file.

LB94, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas and passed 42-0, allows nonresidents to apply for state hunting permits. The bill authorizes the state Game and Parks Commission to issue deer permits to nonresidents only after 85 percent of the available permits have been

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

issued to residents.

The bill also allows the issuance of a resident elk permit once every five years. The one limit per lifetime policy is changed to a one harvest per lifetime policy.

A third provision allows the commission to issue limited deer, antelope, wild turkey or elk permits to individuals or members of a partnership, corporation or trust that owns at least 80 acres of land for agricultural purposes.

Bancroft Sen. Lydia Brasch introduced **LB499**, passed 44-0, which establishes a new set of administrative procedures under which state Game and Parks Commission orders can be passed.

The bill categorizes several issues including conservation orders, seasons, open and closed areas and bag limits under the new administrative procedures. This will allow the commission to make changes to the orders at the same meeting in response to public input



Sen. Annette Dubas



Sen. Lydia Brasch

before publishing final orders. An additional provision enables the commission to close game seasons due to disease epidemics or other extenuating circumstances on an emergency, case-by-case basis.

Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar introduced **LB91**, which establishes stronger licensure requirements for geologists practicing in the state. Under the bill, the state Board of Geologists can:

- deny a license to any applicant deemed to have an issue of moral turpitude, a felony conviction, or suspension or revocation of an existing license;
- grant licensure to any out of state geologist with at least 15 years of relevant experience under a reciprocity agreement;
- require continuing education of all license-holders; and
- admit members to the board from any Nebraska college or university.

Senators passed the bill on a 49-0 vote. ■



Sen. Ken Haar

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Retirement Systems



Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, chairperson of the Retirement Systems Committee

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

LB306, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, extends an increase in Nebraska judges' retirement contribution rates by removing a pending July 1, 2014 sunset on a 1 percent employee contribution rate increase that was established in 2009.

The bill incorporates provisions of **LB229**, also introduced by Nordquist, which remove a scheduled July 1, 2014 sunset of an additional \$1 fee on various court filings that was added in 2009. The fee increase is directed to the Judges Retirement Plan and will help offset any unfunded liabilities.

The bill also incorporates provisions of **LB232**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, which provides a 5 percent salary increase for Supreme Court judges beginning July 1, 2013.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

An additional 5 percent increase takes effect July 1, 2014.

LB306 passed on a 41-6 vote.

Nordquist also sponsored **LB553**, which creates a new tier of reduced benefits for employees under the School Employees Retirement System (SERS) who begin work for the first time on or after July 1, 2013.

The new benefits tier will take into account a five-year salary average to determine benefits instead of the three-year average used currently. The maximum cost-of-living adjustment will be 1 percent instead of the current 2.5 percent adjustment figure. The changes will not apply to members of SERS prior to July 1, 2013.

The bill makes a series of other changes to the plans, some of which include:

- the state statutory contribution rate will be increased from 1 percent to 2 percent of total compensation of all school employees beginning July 1, 2014;
- the amortization method in the School Employees Retirement Act will be changed from level dollar to level percentage of salary beginning July 1, 2013;
- eligibility for membership in the school retirement plan will be changed from 15 hours per week to 20 hours; and
- the sunset will be eliminated from the school budget and lid exclusions for expenditures above the Class V employer contribution rate of 7.37 percent and the school employer contribution of 7.35 percent.

Finally, the bill incorporates provisions from three additional bills sponsored by Nordquist:

- **LB554** applies the provisions of **LB553** to all Class V school employees hired after July 1, 2013;
- **LB305** changes the amortization method in the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act from level dollar to level percentage of salary beginning July 1, 2013; and
- **LB306** changes the amortization method in the Judges Retirement Act from level dollar to level percentage of salary beginning July 1, 2013.

Senators initially voted 27-8 to approve **LB553**, which was insufficient for passage of a bill with an emergency clause. Nordquist filed a motion to reconsider the vote, which was adopted, and the bill passed with the emergency

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

clause 34-0.

LB553 subsequently was vetoed by Gov. Dave Heinemann. Senators voted 32-1 to override the veto.

Also approved this session was a bill that makes technical changes to various state retirement plans.

The Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee sponsored **LB263** on behalf of the Nebraska Public

Employees Retirement System. The bill includes clarifications to the state Public Employees

Retirement Board governing statutes and updates Internal Revenue Code and other provisions for judges, state patrol officers, counties, school and state employees.

Among other changes, the bill:

- amends the definition of employee in the county plan;
- requires elected county officials to participate in the county plan within 30 of days of taking office;
- clarifies in the school plan that only per diems paid as expenses are not considered compensation; and
- makes it permissive to charge a fee for retirement education and financial planning programs.

The bill also incorporates provisions from two other bills:

- **LB594**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Scott Price, directs the Nebraska Investment Council, rather than the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, to manage and invest the Nebraska Veterans' Aid Fund; and



Sen. Scott Price

- **LB321**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, clarifies that only permanently disabled police officers are required to spend down their unused annual or sick leave credits to receive disability salary or pension.



Sen. Sue Crawford

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote and takes effect immediately.

Among the bills heard by the committee were three that did not advance.

LB138, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, would transfer all existing funds in the University of Nebraska's health benefits trust fund to a new fund held by the Nebraska Investment Council. The bill remains in committee.



Sen. Bob Krist

Omaha Sen. John Nelson introduced **LB638**, which would create a cash balance benefit plan for school employees hired after July 1, 2014. Currently, school employees participate in a defined benefit plan.

LB639, also introduced by Nelson, would switch state patrol officers and judges employed after July 1, 2014 from a defined benefit plan to a cash balance plan.



Sen. John Nelson

The committee voted 6-0 to indefinitely postpone both bills. ■

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Revenue



Sen. Galen Hadley, chairperson of the Revenue Committee

Senators passed legislation this year that authorizes a comprehensive study of Nebraska's tax code.

Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers introduced **LR155**, passed 40-0, which establishes the Tax Modernization Committee. The committee is directed to consider fairness, competitiveness, simplicity and compliance, stability, adequacy and complementary tax systems as it evaluates and recommends updates to Nebraska's current tax code.



Sen. Ernie Chambers

The committee comprises the members of the Revenue Committee and the chairperson of the following committees: Appropriations, Health and Human Services, Education, Agriculture and Planning. Two other members of the Legislature will be selected to serve on the committee by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

A preliminary report to the Legislature and the gover-

nor is due by Dec. 15 and a final report is due by Nov. 15, 2014. The committee will continue to meet at least once annually to review and evaluate the tax code.

Omaha Sen. Heath Mello introduced **LB97**, passed 47-0, which allows the establishment of land banks in metropolitan class cities or counties that have at least three first class cities – currently only Douglas and Sarpy. Land banks are tax-exempt political subdivisions that acquire, manage and develop vacant and tax-delinquent properties.



Sen. Heath Mello

Under the bill, land banks can be created by passing a city ordinance or by way of interlocal agreements. Each land bank is required to have a seven-member board of directors appointed by the mayor and confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.

The bill also allows land banks to borrow money, issue bonds, procure insurance, enter into both private and public contracts, have priority over other bidders in tax foreclosure proceedings and sell property to private entities in which they will receive 50 percent of the collected property tax amount for five years after the sale.

Additionally, the bill caps a land bank's legal title holdings at 7 percent of the total number of parcels of real property located in the municipality. Land banks are prohibited from exercising eminent domain rights to acquire private property and from collecting property taxes on a property that has been redeveloped under the Community Development Law, unless the authority enters into an agreement for the remittance of such funds to the land bank.

Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop introduced **LB104**, passed 38-2, which incentivizes companies that create sources of renewable energy to locate in Nebraska. The bill expands the definition of qualified business to include renewable energy producers in the existing incentive tiers. It also defines sources of renewable energy to include wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, biomass and transmutation of elements. Prospective wind energy developers will be required to invest a minimum of \$20 million in qualified property.



Sen. Steve Lathrop

The bill incorporates provisions from **LB266**, a bill

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

introduced by Chambers, which would repeal a bill passed in 2012 allowing an increase in local option sales taxes. As amended into LB104, the provisions repealed the local option sales tax increase only in metropolitan class cities. Omaha is the only metropolitan class city in the state.

Malcolm Sen. Ken Haar introduced **LB90**, passed 47-1, which provides a tax credit to customers who generate electricity. It allows an offset of a customer-generator's electricity production against their consumption. A customer-generator is defined as an end-use electricity customer that generates electricity on the customer's side of the meter from a qualified facility.



Sen. Ken Haar

Kearney Sen. Galen Hadley introduced **LB296**, passed 48-0, which provides higher tax deductions to persons making contributions to a Nebraska College Savings Program (NCSP) account. Current contributions to a NCSP account are exempt from state income tax up to \$2,500 for a married person filing separately and \$5,000 for a married couple filing jointly.

Under the bill, the amount of contributions exempt from income taxes will increase to \$5,000 for a married person filing separately and \$10,000 for a married couple filing jointly. An adult making contributions to an account established under either the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act or the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act—as well as rollover contributions from another state's savings program—will be exempt under the bill.

The bill also establishes transfer of ownership procedures. In the case of the account owner's death and there is no successor named, ownership of the account will transfer to the beneficiary.

Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher introduced **LB308**, passed 48-0, which makes changes to the computation of income taxes. It eliminates the federal alternative minimum tax (AMT) calculation for individual state income tax purposes for taxable years beginning Jan. 1, 2014.



Sen. Paul Schumacher

The proposed changes apply to estates and trusts required to pay state income taxes. The federal credit for prior year AMT for taxable years beginning in 2014 also is eliminated.

LB573, introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr, creates a state definition of shareholder for purposes of employee stock ownership plans (ESOP).

Currently, individual stockholders in a qualified corporation can exclude from taxable income all extraordinary dividends paid on and the capital gain from the sale or exchange of capital stock of a corporation acquired through employment.

The bill designates an ESOP as a qualified corporation, allowing its individual shareholders to exclude dividends and capital gains from their taxable incomes. It also clarifies that an ESOP should not be treated as a single shareholder, but that each participant in an ESOP constitutes a separate shareholder.

Senators passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.

LB341, introduced by Lexington Sen. John Wightman, alters the procedure for purchasing tax sales certificates.

Currently, property owners who become delinquent on their taxes are subject to a tax sales process. Individuals can pay the delinquent property taxes and receive a lien on the property in return.

Investors can purchase the certificates at an annual tax sale.

Among other changes, the bill eliminates the current bid down process used in selling tax certificates and instead implements a round robin format. Bidders will be required to register and pay a \$25 fee to participate in the sale.

Senators passed the bill on a 42-0 vote.

Wightman introduced **LB55**, passed 45-0, which allows county officials to continue or terminate county assessment function contracts previously held by the state Department of Revenue.

LB153, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, expands the types of projects that will qualify for funding under the Civic and Community Center Financing Act to include construction of recreation centers.

LB28, introduced by Hadley, changes the late filing date for personal property tax returns. Currently, taxpayers must meet a July 31 deadline for late personal property tax filings. The bill changes the deadline to June 30. Taxpayers missing the deadline will face a penalty of 25 percent of the tax on the value added. Senators passed the bill on a 43-0 vote.

LB34, also introduced by Hadley, revises current definitions under the Nebraska Advantage Act. The current definition of taxpayer includes any person who is subject to sales and use taxes and withholding. It also includes



Sen. Burke Harr



Sen. John Wightman

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

specific entities, including corporations and partnerships, that are subject to the same taxes.

The bill, passed 46-0, eliminates the specific references and substitutes the word entity in its place. It also allows flow-through entities and cooperatives to qualify as taxpayers even though all or some portion of the partners or members are political subdivisions or exempt entities.

Schumacher introduced **LB613**, passed 47-0, which codifies the state's ability to issue subpoenas.

A legislative committee may receive approval by a majority vote of the Executive Board to issue a subpoena with regard to a specific inquiry or investigation. The committee may require any state agency, political subdivision or individual to provide information relevant to the investigation within 30 days of the initial request.

LB82, also introduced by Schumacher, would have allowed taxpayers to pay extra taxes in return for a future income tax credit. The credit would be adjusted for inflation with an interest calculation equal to the T-Bill rate of return. Revenue raised by the tax investments would have been earmarked for highway construction projects. The bill failed to advance from general file on a 22-15 vote.

State income taxes

Omaha Sen. Beau McCoy introduced two bills, **LB405** and **LB406**, that would have eliminated state income taxes by discontinuing sales tax exemptions.

LB405 would have eliminated income tax on individuals, estates, trusts and corporations. To replace the estimated \$2.4 billion in lost revenue from the elimination of the income tax, the bill would have eliminated nearly half of the state's current sales tax exemptions.

Exemptions that would have expired under the bill include those on purchases of:

- manufacturing, agricultural and industrial machinery and equipment;
- insulin, prescription drugs and durable medical goods;
- rooms used to house students at educational institutions;
- hospital equipment;
- fuel used in irrigation, farming, manufacturing or by hospitals; and
- equipment built in state and sold outside Nebraska.



Sen. Beau McCoy

LB406 was introduced as an alternative to LB405 that would exempt only a portion of retirement income from income taxes: up to \$12,000 for married couples filing jointly and \$6,000 for single persons. Social security income was not exempt under the bill.

The state would have seen a loss of approximately \$300 million in revenue from the elimination of the corporation income tax, financial institutions franchise tax and earned income tax credit. To recover the projected loss in revenue, the bill would eliminate sales tax exemptions including:

- mobility enhancing, durable medical equipment and home medical supplies;
- energy or fuel used in industry, agriculture or by for-profit hospitals;
- molds, dies and patterns used in manufacturing;
- chemicals used in agriculture; and
- seeds and annual plants sold to commercial producers or for exclusively agricultural purposes.

The refundable Nebraska Advantage Research and Development income tax credit also would have been eliminated. The bill authorized a nonrefundable income tax credit, which could be carried forward for five years.

Both bills were indefinitely postponed by the committee.

Economic forecast

The Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board maintained the current fiscal year revenue projections during an April 25 meeting at the Capitol. The board provides an advisory forecast of general fund receipts used by the Legislature to craft the state's budget.

Total projected revenue receipts for fiscal year 2012-13 were maintained at \$3.87 billion, which is based on an estimated growth rate of 5.4 percent.

The board raised its projections for FY2013-14 and FY2014-15. Projections were set at \$3.98 billion for FY2013-14, which is based on an estimated 3.6 percent growth rate. Projections for FY2014-15 were set at \$4.14 billion, which is based on an estimated 4.7 percent growth rate.

Members also voted to include an addendum to the forecast stating the board's belief that there will be a one-time \$125 million increase in state revenue, above the forecast amount, for FY2012-13 that results from capital gains liabilities incurred in 2012.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 24. ■

Transportation and Telecommunications



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

Among other measures, lawmakers passed bills this session to require longer ignition interlock installation for DUI offenders and to identify veterans on driver's licenses.

Transportation

A bill that requires those convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol to install ignition interlock devices in their vehicle for a minimum of one year passed on a 45-0 vote.

Hastings Sen. Les Seiler introduced **LB158** to bring Nebraska into compliance with new National Highway Traffic Safety Administration guidelines in order to maintain \$6.2 million in federal highway funding.

Under the bill, an offender's license



Sen. Les Seiler

will not be reinstated until after the court-ordered ignition interlock device installation period. Offenders who have prior convictions or are serving probation will have their license revoked for 18 months from the court-ordered date and must have an ignition interlock device installed for at least one year.

The bill also eliminates restrictions on offenders to operate an ignition-interlock 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.

Under a bill introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, eligible veterans can request that their veteran status be indicated on their driver's licenses or state ID cards.

Passed on a 47-0 vote, **LB93** requires the state Department of Veterans Affairs to create and maintain a registry to aid the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in issuing such cards, which may include identifying information, active duty, retired, or discharge status. Those who submit fraudulent applications may have their driver's licenses or state IDs canceled by the DMV.

Two bills relating to driving safety measures remain on general file.

LB399, introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, would allow the display of rotating or flashing amber lights on vehicles operated by public safety volunteers and crime prevention organizations. Under the bill, the use of such lights must be approved by a sheriff, police department or other law enforcement agency and used only within a designated area.

LB393, introduced by Hoskins Sen. Dave Bloomfield, would repeal the state's current law requiring motorcyclists to wear protective helmets. Under the bill, motorcycle operators and passengers younger than 21 would continue to be required to wear a protective helmet, but those 21 and older no longer would be required to do so. All motorcyclists would be required to wear eye protection.



Sen. Dave Bloomfield

The committee held several other bills dealing with

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

driving safety.

Under **LB10**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Bob Krist, all occupants of a vehicle would be required to wear a seatbelt. Violations would be an infraction with a \$25 fine.

Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms introduced **LB189**, which would assess vehicle passengers who are not wearing seatbelts one point on their operator's license and a \$100 fine per violation.

Harms also introduced a bill that would make enforcement of texting while driving a primary action, allowing law enforcement to stop drivers solely for engaging in such activity. Enforcement of the law currently is a secondary action, meaning the driver must first be cited or charged with some other violation.

Under **LB118**, a texting driver would be issued an infraction and a fine of between \$200 and \$500, depending on the number of previous offenses.

LB258, introduced by Cedar Rapids Sen. Kate Sullivan, would prohibit school bus operators from using interactive wireless communication devices while driving, not including dispatch devices.

Under **LB351**, introduced by Harms, drivers who are 80 years old and older whose tests indicate cognitive impairment would be required to take and pass the standard written test.

LB84, introduced by Columbus Sen. Paul Schumacher, would allow utility type vehicles (UTV) to cross controlled access highways with more than two marked traffic lanes if:

- the UTV's headlight and tail-light are on at the time of crossing;
- the intersection is controlled by and in compliance with a traffic light; and
- the local governing body has authorized UTV crossings at that intersection.

UTVs currently are prohibited from crossing controlled access highways with more than two marked traffic lanes.

Finally, a bill introduced by Omaha Sen. Scott Price that increases the contract value for bridge and road projects in which counties must undergo a formal bidding process was approved on a 42-0 vote.



Sen. John Harms



Sen. Paul Schumacher



Sen. Scott Price

LB623, raises the bidding threshold from \$60,000 to \$100,000 for county contracts for bridge and road repair projects and from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for material costs.

Telecommunications

Appeal procedures for the Public Service Commission (PSC) were changed with the passage of **LB545** on a 43-2 vote.

Under the bill, introduced by Dubas, PSC appeals will go directly to the court of appeals instead of the district court as currently required under the Administrative Procedures Act. The appellate court will conduct a review of a PSC order de novo on the record.

Among other provisions, the bill also:

- allows commission orders other than natural gas rate orders be reconsidered within 10 business days after the effective date of the order. Natural gas rate orders may be reconsidered within 30 days;
- suspends the time for filing a notice of intention to appeal pending resolution of a motion to reconsider; and
- automatically stays enforcement of natural gas rate orders pending resolution of an appeal.

A bill that allows the PSC to conduct a study examining the statewide implementation of Next Generation 911 was passed on a 41-0 vote.

LB595, introduced by Price, authorizes the PSC to use Enhanced Wireless 911 funds to conduct a study of the implications, costs and consideration of statewide implementation of next generation emergency communications. The PSC will be required to report its findings to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

The committee indefinitely postponed **LB617**, introduced by Schumacher, which would have amended the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act.

The bill also would have reduced the current 6.95 percent assessment to 3.5 percent by Jan. 1, 2021, and reallocated the funds to:

- promote private competition by allowing competitors to use the fund and requiring competitive access to facilities;
- identify fiber optic and wireless infrastructures;

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

- encourage the aggregation of community broadband demand over local area networks;
- provide affordable acquisition of access to tier one network providers;
- reinforce federal bans on the practice of implicit subsidization of local phone companies; and
- emphasize broadband communications using Internet protocols.

Two bills were introduced this session regarding the One Call Notification Systems Act. Commonly referred to as the “Digger’s Hotline,” the system is used by excavators to identify and locate underground facilities prior to excavation to protect the facilities from damage. A notice to the service center currently is required prior to performing an excavation or bar test survey.

Syracuse Sen. Dan Watermeier introduced **LB589**,

which allows gas or hazardous liquid underground pipeline facility operators to test in the event of reported leaks without notifying the hotline, but requires the operator to give such notice prior to an excavation in response to a leak. A facility location response will not be required to begin

or continue excavation. The bill also provides immunity from civil penalties, but maintains strict liability for damage caused by either the bar testing or the repair excavation.

The bill passed on a 41-0 vote.

The committee held **LB358**, introduced by Dubas, which would limit those notification requirement exemptions for agricultural purposes to landowners, tenants or third parties who do not charge fees. ■



Sen. Dan Watermeier

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Urban Affairs



Sen. Amanda McGill, chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee

Economic development, annexation, utilities and city ordinances were among the urban issues taken up by lawmakers this session.

LB66, introduced by Ogallala Sen. Ken Schilz, creates a process for a city to use tax increment financing (TIF) for formerly used defense sites outside of city limits, but within the same county.

A formerly used defense site is defined as real property that was formerly owned by, leased to or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. Missile silos are excluded from the definition.

Under the bill, an area to be developed must be inside a sanitary improvement district (SID) and the city must file an ordinance declaring intent to annex the formed



Sen. Ken Schilz

SID. The city then may use TIF to create a redevelopment project.

Currently existing service areas of electric and natural gas utilities and communications companies will be preserved.

The bill passed on a 40-0 vote.

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



Sen. Greg Adams

The measure was advanced to general file by the Urban Affairs Committee on a 6-0 vote but was not scheduled for debate.

LB377, introduced by Wahoo Sen. Jerry Johnson, amends existing Nebraska law to clarify that the authority held by a county board over a county road, including any easements, are transferred to the governing body of an annexing city or village.



Sen. Jerry Johnson

The bill passed 46-0.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that makes several technical changes to state law governing metropolitan utilities districts.

LB208, introduced by Omaha Sen. Burke Harr, makes the following changes:

- allows the board to decrease the president's salary;
- eliminates a requirement that the district obtain a bond of not less than \$10,000 on the president's performance;
- allows the board to establish its own standards for fire hydrant placement, as long as such standards do not violate any state Department of Health and Human Services regulations; and
- removes a requirement that an employee first must have been made a permanent employee by a unanimous vote of the full board of directors in order to



Sen. Burke Harr

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

be removed from his or her position.

The board still will be able to remove an employee for cause by a two-thirds vote.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Senators approved four bills that modify provisions for primary, first and second class cities and villages. All were introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill.

LB87 provides that an appointee filling a vacancy on an airport authority board may serve the unexpired term of a vacated board member. The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

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

State law classifies incorporated cities, villages and municipalities by their population. The city is classified as:

- first class if its population is 5,001 to 100,000;
- second class if its population is 801 to 5,000; and
- a village if its population is 100 to 800.

The bill passed with an emergency clause on a 49-0 vote.

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

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

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

Senators passed the bill on a 47-0 vote.

Certain cities and villages are authorized to determine

at what height weeds and grasses become nuisances under a bill passed this session.

LB643, sponsored by Hyannis Sen. Al Davis, allows cities of the first and second class and villages to determine the height limit of weeds, grasses and worthless vegetation. Current law sets the nuisance level at 12 inches in height.

The bill also allows a city or village to develop a property owner notification process. If a property owner files a written appeal of a nuisance citation within five days of notification, the bill requires a city or village to hold an appeal hearing within 14 days.

LB643 passed 44-1.

Lawmakers voted to strike the enacting clause of a bill that would have required development of a regional housing authority plan for the Omaha area.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford, **LB49** would have created a joint committee to develop a plan for creation of a single housing authority in a county with a metropolitan class city. Currently, Omaha is the only metropolitan class city in Nebraska.

Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers filed a motion to return LB49 to select file from final reading for consideration of an amendment to strike the enacting clause. The amendment was adopted 39-0, effectively killing the bill. ■



Sen. Al Davis



Sen. Brad Ashford

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal an obsolete section relating to a report relating to human trafficking	
LB2	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete sections relating to appropriations	
LB3	Krist	S (+289)	Provide penalty for fraudulent filings, change nonconsensual common-law lien provisions, and adopt the Commercial Real Estate Broker Lien Act	15, 17, 18
LB4	Krist	C	Change Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund transfer provisions	12
LB5	Krist	C	Exempt social security benefits and military retirement income from income taxation	4
LB6	Krist	S	Create the Nebraska Commission on Problem Gambling	5, 8, 9, 20
LB6A	Krist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB7	Krist	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to signatures and seals under the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	
LB8	Krist	C	Provide for coverage of children's day services under medicaid and social services	
LB9	Krist	IPP	Change provisions relating to transportation for students in learning communities	8
LB10	Krist	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to occupant protection systems	6
LB11	Krist	S	Change provisions relating to surcharges for 911 service	
LB12	Krist	S	Change product liability action statute of limitations	
LB13	Krist	GF	Require radon resistant construction and radon mitigation statements for residential construction and create a building codes task force	3
LB14	Krist	S	Adopt the Elementary and Secondary Educational Opportunity Act and provide for income tax credits	
LB15	Krist	IPP	Change Pesticide Act provisions	
LB16	Christensen	S	Change provisions relating to title to Champion Mill State Historical Park	
LB17	Nordquist	C	Exempt social security benefits from state income taxation	4
LB18	Nordquist	C	Prohibit members of the Legislature and certain constitutional officers from participating in the state insurance program	
LB19	Nordquist	C	Change provisions of the Conveyance Safety Act	
LB20	Nordquist	C (>195)	State intent relating to appropriations for the rural health provider incentive program	12
LB21	Lathrop	S	Eliminate a Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act sunset provision for certain benefits	4, 8
LB22	Hadley	C	Change Parenting Act provisions relating to parenting plans	5
LB23	Hadley	S (+343)	Change ICF/MR reimbursement provisions and mental retardation terminology	15, 17, 21
LB23A	Hadley	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB24	Hadley	S	Update references to the Internal Revenue Code	
LB25	Hadley	C	Change provisions relating to the cigarette tax and the tobacco products tax	
LB26	Hadley	C	Change the commission allowed to stamping agents for the cigarette tax	
LB27	Hadley	S	Change experience requirements under the Public Accountancy Act	
LB28	Hadley	S	Change a late filing penalty relating to personal property tax	3, 5, 8
LB29	Hadley	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to tax lists and provide a duty for county treasurers for recording tax assessments and collections	
LB30	Hadley	S	Change distribution of motor vehicle certificate of title fees	
LB31	Hadley	S	Change provisions relating to parking permits for temporarily handicapped or disabled persons	4, 5, 10
LB32	Hadley	S	Change provisions relating to historical vehicle license plates	
LB33	Hadley	GF	Change and eliminate certain revenue laws and authorize agreements relating to tax collection	
LB34	Hadley	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Act	20, 21
LB35	Hadley	S	Adopt and update references to certain federal provisions related to motor vehicles	
LB36	Wightman	S	Change an exemption to the documentary stamp tax	
LB37	Wightman	C	Change provisions relating to powers of personal representative with respect to a decedent's Internet sites	3
LB38	Wightman	S	Change provisions relating to testamentary powers	
LB39	Harms	S	Change and eliminate references to the Legislative Performance Audit Section	
LB40	Harms	S	Update references to Government Auditing Standards	
LB41	Cook	C	Provide for permanent early voting request list and return of early voting ballots to polling places	3
LB42	Cook	S	Change credentialing requirements for administrators of facilities for persons with head injuries	
LB43	Cook	C	Change provisions relating to a property tax exemption	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB44	Ashford	S	Change criminal penalty and parole provisions relating to offenses committed by persons under eighteen years of age	5, 14, 17
LB45	Ashford	C	Change judge eligibility requirements for the Court of Appeals	
LB46	Ashford	GF	Provide for consolidation and coordination of crime laboratories	
LB47	Ashford	C	Change provisions relating to career academies	4
LB48	Ashford	C	Change provisions relating to housing agencies	
LB49	Ashford	IPP	Require a joint committee to develop a plan for creating a joint housing agency	4, 6
LB50	Ashford	C	Prohibit unreasonable placement of a firearm where a minor may unlawfully possess it	3
LB51	Ashford	GF	Change provisions relating to publication of court opinions	
LB52	Christensen	GF	Change employment provisions for persons committed to the Department of Correctional Services	7, 8
LB53	Hadley	C	Change provisions relating to sales and use tax with respect to the sale of a business or stock of goods	
LB54	Wightman	C	Change display of credential and advertisement provisions under the Uniform Credentialing Act	
LB55	Wightman	S	Change provisions relating to reassumption of assessment function by counties	13, 15
LB56	Larson	GF	Provide for automatic nomination of certain county officers	
LB57	Larson	SF	Change provisions relating to grants from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund	13
LB58	Larson	C	Adopt the Workplace Privacy Act	4
LB59	Larson	S	Change a presumption relating to rebates to insurance agents	
LB60	Larson	C	Change the livestock brand inspection area boundaries	
LB61	Murante	C	Change provisions relating to the Financial Data Protection and Consumer Notification of Data Security Breach Act of 2006	4
LB62	Schilz	C	Change levy provisions for rural and suburban fire protection districts	
LB63	Schilz	C	Change distribution of certain sales and use tax revenue	10
LB64	Schilz	C	Change provisions relating to deductions of refunds from municipal sales tax receipts	
LB65	Schilz	C	Authorize counties to set sheriff's fees and commissions	
LB66	Schilz	S	Provide for redevelopment of formerly used defense sites under the Community Development Law	17, 20
LB67	Schilz	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Milk Act	3, 5, 8
LB68	Schilz	S	Change provisions of the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act	14, 17
LB69	Schilz	S	Change provisions of the Pesticide Act	15, 17
LB70	Schilz	S	Change Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board membership provisions	3, 5, 10
LB71	Karpisek	C	Require insurance coverage for cochlear implants	
LB72	McCoy	S	Change provisions relating to use of interest-bearing trust accounts under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	
LB73	McCoy	C	Change interstate simulcast facility license requirements	6
LB74	Janssen	C	Exempt social security benefits from state income taxation	4
LB75	Janssen	C	Exempt military retirement benefits from taxation as prescribed	4
LB76	Nordquist	GF	Adopt the Health Care Transparency Act	
LB77	Avery	C	Adopt the Nebraska Iran Divestment Act	
LB78	Avery	S	Eliminate an authority, a board, and certain committees and commissions	3, 5, 8
LB79	Avery	S	Change political accountability and disclosure provisions and repeal campaign finance laws	3, 13, 15
LB79A	Avery	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB80	Schumacher	C	Change motor vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility requirements	
LB81	Schumacher	C	Provide an income tax deduction for corporate dividends	
LB82	Schumacher	GF	Adopt the Taxpayer Investment Program	9, 17
LB83	Schumacher	C	Change requirements for use of turn signals	
LB84	Schumacher	C	Change provisions relating to the operation of utility-type vehicles	11
LB85	Schumacher	IPP	Authorize vehicular traffic weighing less than one thousand pounds to proceed through a traffic light after stopping	6
LB86	McGill	C (>561)	Authorize inspection and regulation of staff secure juvenile facilities	
LB87	McGill	S	Change procedures for filling certain airport authority board vacancies	3, 4, 6
LB88	McGill	S	Change zoning provisions for cities of the primary class	
LB89	Haar	C	Provide immunity from liability for providing shelter during a weather event	
LB90	Haar	S	Change sales tax provisions on the furnishing of electricity service	20, 22

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB91	Haar	S	Change provisions regarding geologists	4, 6
LB92	Karpisek	S	Prohibit use of credit information for insurance and repeal a model act	8
LB93	Dubas	S	Provide for notation of veteran status on drivers' licenses and state identification cards and provide for a registry of veterans	17, 21
LB93A	Dubas	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB94	Dubas	S	Change hunting permit provisions	8, 12
LB95	Dubas	C	Adopt the Employee Credit Privacy Act	
LB96	Dubas	GF	Exempt repair or replacement parts for agricultural machinery and equipment from sales and use tax	
LB97	Mello	S	Adopt the Nebraska Municipal Land Bank Act and authorize land banks to acquire tax-delinquent properties	12, 14, 21
LB98	Mello	IPP (>242)	Change provisions relating to administrative rules	
LB99	Mello	S (+233)	Change provisions relating to racial profiling and the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act	15, 17, 18
LB100	Watermeier	S	Eliminate a notice requirement with respect to automatic teller machines	3, 4, 6
LB101	Watermeier	C	Change valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land	
LB102	Watermeier	S	Change requirements for certain water permit applications	
LB103	Lathrop	S	Change judges' general powers	
LB104	Lathrop	S (+266, 501)	Change sales and use tax increases under the Local Option Revenue Act and provide tax incentives for renewable energy projects under the Nebraska Advantage Act	16, 20, 21
LB105	Lathrop	S	Require child care licensees to obtain liability insurance	
LB106	Lathrop	GF	Adopt the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act and change provisions relating to perjury	
LB107	Lathrop	S	Change waiver of hearing provisions under the Parenting Act	
LB108	Karpisek	C	Prohibit counties, cities, and villages from imposing credentialing requirements	4
LB109	McGill	C	Provide requirements for precious metals dealers	
LB110	McGill	C	Change the eligibility determination for homestead exemptions	
LB111	McGill	S	Authorize a city of the first or second class or village to adopt a biennial budget	3, 4, 6
LB112	McGill	S	Change powers and duties of city and village clerks and treasurers as prescribed	3, 4, 6
LB113	McGill	S	Provide for mayors of cities of the second class to vote in certain situations	3, 4, 6
LB114	Harr	C (>195)	State intent relating to an appropriation to the University of Nebraska at Omaha	
LB115	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to homicide	
LB116	Harms	C	Provide requirements for dual-enrollment courses	4
LB117	Harms	S	Change provisions relating to permits for overweight vehicles	
LB118	Harms	C	Change texting enforcement provisions	6
LB119	Cook	C (>195)	State intent relating to appropriations for Public Health Aid	12
LB120	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions of the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB121	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Provide for waiver of a Nebraska certificate to administer	4
LB122	Lautenbaugh	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development	9
LB123	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Change distribution of indigent defense fees	
LB124	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions relating to grandparent visitation	5
LB125	Lautenbaugh	S	Change provisions relating to boards of education of Class V school districts	3, 4, 6
LB126	McGill	C (>195)	Provide for grants from the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund	10
LB127	McGill	C	Provide for preregistration to vote for 16 and 17 year olds	5
LB128	Coash	GF	Create the offense of disarming a peace officer	
LB129	Haar	C	Change the compensation for members of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds	
LB130	Mello	C	Eliminate Cash Reserve Fund transfers	
LB131	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Tobacco-Free Schools Act	
LB132	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Skin Cancer Prevention Act	3
LB133	Hadley	S	Provide priority of insurance coverage relating to motor vehicle dealer loaner vehicles	
LB134	Avery	C	Provide for inheritance by issue conceived after death	
LB135	Avery	S	Prohibit employment of a member of a community college boards of governors by the community college area he or she serves	
LB136	Avery	C	Provide for the distribution of administrative fines and costs and forfeited property	
LB137	Avery	S	Establish state fleet card programs	
LB138	Krist	C	Create the Group Health Trust Fund and provide for investment and provide duties for the State Treasurer	8

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB139	Krist	C	Change vital statistics information relating to annulment and dissolution of marriage	
LB140	Krist	S	Change provisions of the Airport Zoning Act	16, 20
LB141	Lathrop	S	Change court procedures for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court	
LB142	Lathrop	C	Provide that probation records are not subject to disclosure as prescribed	
LB143	Bloomfield	C	Authorize schools to adopt a child sexual abuse policy as prescribed	
LB144	Brasch	GF	Provide for write-in candidacy by defeated candidate	
LB145	Brasch	C	Change valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land	
LB146	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to funds transfers under the Uniform Commercial Code	
LB147	Gloor	S	Adopt the Health Carrier External Review Act	4, 5, 8
LB148	Ashford	C	Include ammunition in certain offenses involving firearms	3
LB149	Pirsch	IPP	Provide for biennial reviews of state agency programs and services	
LB150	Nordquist	C	Change provisions relating to the sale of natural gas by metropolitan utilities districts and exempt certain purchases of energy and fuel from sales tax	
LB151	Seiler	GF	Provide a hearsay exception for certain documents and data kept in the regular course of business	
LB152	Dubas	C	Change eminent domain negotiations	4
LB153	Dubas	S	Change the Civic and Community Center Financing Act	10, 15
LB153A	Dubas	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB154	Dubas	S	Redefine road assistance vehicle relating to drivers' duties to move over	
LB155	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to deposits of public funds in excess of insured or guaranteed amounts	3, 4, 6
LB156	Watermeier	S	Eliminate a report made to the Department of Health and Human Services by counties utilizing a community service program	
LB157	Cook	C (>195)	State intent relating to the appropriation of funds in support of dental services	
LB158	Seiler	S	Change provisions relating to eligibility for and use of ignition interlock devices	7, 13, 15
LB159	Schumacher	C	Provide and change sales tax provisions relating to gold, silver, and platinum and provide a tax amnesty	
LB160	Schumacher	C	Provide for electronic signatures on recall, initiative, and referendum petitions	4
LB161	McGill	GF	Change a penalty for violation of building ordinances or regulations of a city of the metropolitan class	
LB162	McGill	C	Provide for notification of eligibility for an associate degree as prescribed	
LB163	McGill	C	Provide for a report on education credentials and workforce needs	
LB164	Dubas	S	Change motor vehicle auction provisions	
LB165	Dubas	S	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle dealer warranty service	
LB166	Schilz	S	Change labeling requirements for lawn and turf seed containers	
LB167	McCoy	GF	Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors	
LB168	Larson	C	Authorize series limited liability companies	
LB169	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to jury commissioners	
LB170	Gloor	S	Rename and expand the purpose of the Nebraska Educational Finance Authority Act	
LB171	Bloomfield	C	Provide for an expedited concealed handgun permit process for applicants who are victims of domestic violence	22
LB172	Coash	S	Change court filings for guardianships and conservatorships	
LB173	Coash	S	Change provisions relating to documentary proof of age under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	4, 8
LB174	Mello	GF	Change provisions relating to vehicle load contents and spillage	
LB175	Smith	C	Change the persons authorized to represent Nebraska under the streamlined sales and use tax agreement	
LB176	Smith	C	Exempt military retirement benefits from taxation as prescribed	4
LB177	Smith	C	Provide enforcement and penalty provisions to the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	5
LB178	Kintner	IPP	Change provisions relating to transportation reimbursement and state aid relative to learning communities	
LB179	Kintner	IPP	Eliminate learning communities	8
LB180	Adams	S	Provide for the waiver of education-related fees for dependents of veterans	
LB181	Avery	C	Prohibit motorcycle passengers less than eight years old	
LB182	Avery	IPP	Change paternity provisions for a child conceived as a result of sexual assault	5

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB183	Karpisek	C	Provide for county board appointment of election commissioners	4
LB184	Haar	C	Appropriate funds for the Nebraska Wind Applications Center	11
LB185	Christensen	C	Authorize state assistance for streamflow enhancement projects undertaken by natural resources districts	4
LB186	Christensen	IPP	Restrict rule and regulation authority of natural resources districts	
LB187	Nelson	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services to fund the Dental Health Director	
LB188	Karpisek	GF	Require legislative approval of gubernatorially appointed election commissioners	4
LB189	Harms	C	Change provisions and penalties relating to occupant protection systems	6
LB190	Harms	C (>195)	Appropriate funds for the Early Childhood Education Endowment Cash Fund	9
LB191	Nordquist	GF	Adopt the Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act and provide tax credits	
LB192	Karpisek	S	Change provisions relating to requests for information by the Auditor of Public Accounts	
LB193	Nelson	C (>195)	Change funding for the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	9
LB194	Speaker Adams	S (+582)	Provide for deficit appropriations	18, 19, 20
LB195	Speaker Adams	S (+20, 114, 119, 126, 157, 187, 190, 193, 231, 234, 334, 375, 376, 400, 486, 492, 569)	Appropriate funds for state government expenses	18, 19, 20, 21
LB196	Speaker Adams	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of members of the Legislature	18, 19, 20
LB197	Speaker Adams	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of constitutional officers	18, 19, 20
LB198	Speaker Adams	S (+519)	Appropriate funds for capital construction and property acquisition	18, 19, 20, 21
LB199	Speaker Adams	S (+285, 286, 394, 504)	Provide fund transfers, create funds, authorize the sale of lands, and change provisions relating to grants as prescribed	18, 19, 20
LB200	Speaker Adams	S	Provide for transfers from the Cash Reserve Fund	18, 19, 20
LB201	Haar	C	Authorize emergency expenditures by school districts and educational service units	
LB202	Coash	C	Change provisions relating to DNA collection	
LB203	Scheer	S	Change provisions relating to solid waste under the Environmental Protection Act	11, 15
LB204	Larson	C	Change and provide criminal sanctions regarding animals and animal facilities	
LB205	Schumacher	S	Change provisions relating to application of the Securities Act of Nebraska	14, 17
LB206	Schumacher	C	Require secret-ballot envelopes for mailed ballots	
LB207	McCoy	S	Change motor vehicle registration provisions	
LB207A	McCoy	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB208	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to metropolitan utilities districts	6, 15, 17
LB209	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to publication of trade names	
LB210	Harr	S	Provide remedies and procedures regarding unauthorized financing statement filings	
LB211	Adams	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to statewide coordination of community college boards	4, 5, 21
LB211A	Adams	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB212	Karpisek	C	Change court-ordered parenting plan provisions of the Parenting Act	5
LB213	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to financial institutions	
LB214	Gloor	S	Change provisions relating to securities and seller-assisted marketing plans	
LB215	Schilz	GF	Change provisions relating to use of the County Visitors Promotion Fund	
LB216	McGill	S	Adopt the Young Adult Voluntary Services and Support Act	4, 13, 20, 21
LB216A	McGill	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB217	Avery	C	Change constitutional officers' salaries	6
LB218	Avery	C	Require insurance coverage for certain food formulas as prescribed	8
LB219	Avery	GF	Change petition requirements for general election ballot	
LB220	Avery	C	Change children's eligibility provisions relating to the Medical Assistance Act	
LB221	Karpisek	W	Change dental hygienist training and authorized functions	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB222	McCoy	S	Change provisions regarding certain reports submitted electronically to the Legislature	
LB223	Janssen	S	Redefine utility-type vehicles	
LB224	Janssen	S	Provide a preference for awarding state contracts to resident disabled veterans and certain businesses	21, 22
LB225	Smith	S	Adopt the Newborn Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening Act	3, 5, 20, 21
LB225A	Smith	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB226	Smith	C	Regulate dealers in the business of purchasing and reselling precious items	
LB227	Kintner	C	Exclude retirement benefits from state income taxation	4
LB228	Nordquist	C	Provide requirements relating to copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles relating to certain services	
LB229	Nordquist	IPP (>306)	Change the Nebraska Retirement Fund for Judges fee	
LB230	Karpisek	S	Change shipping license provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	13, 15
LB231	Nelson	IPP (>195)	Establish a uniform reimbursement rate for adult day services	
LB232	Lathrop	IPP (>306)	Change judges' salaries	14
LB232A	Lathrop	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB233	Pirsch	IPP (>99)	Change award and report provisions under the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act	
LB234	Howard	C (>195)	State intent relating to appropriations for nurse visitation	
LB235	Howard	IPP	Change precinct size requirements and procedures for drawing political subdivision boundaries and changing polling places and provide for election advisory committees	6
LB236	Howard	C	Appropriate funds to Department of Labor to establish an individual development accounts pilot project	
LB237	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to a property tax exemption	
LB238	Crawford	C	Exempt social security and certain retirement benefits from state income taxation	4
LB239	Wightman	C	Adopt the Nebraska All-Payer Patient-Centered Medical Home Act	
LB240	Harms	S	Change work activity requirements for self-sufficiency contracts under the Welfare Reform Act	10, 15, 17
LB241	Sullivan	C	Authorize voters to change election of county offices from partisan to nonpartisan	
LB242	Howard	S (+98)	Change provisions relating to administrative rules and regulations	14, 20
LB243	Howard	S	Redefine nurse practitioner practice	
LB244	Brasch	C	Require apprentice electricians to complete continuing education	
LB245	Nordquist	C	Change preferred drug list provisions under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB246	Larson	C	Provide for a health care copayment for jail and prison inmates	5
LB247	Larson	C	Change Nebraska Juvenile Code provisions relating to reimbursement by parents for costs of care and treatment	
LB248	Larson	C	Provide for seasonal employers under the Employment Security Law	
LB249	Dubas	GF	Change motor vehicle provisions relating to farm vehicles and drivers transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies	
LB250	Dubas	S	Change motor vehicle provisions relating to issuance of trip permits	
LB251	Hansen	GF	Change a fee relating to the rental of motor vehicles	
LB252	Adams	SF	Correct and change subdivision references and references to governmental entities related to postsecondary education	
LB253	Adams	GF	Correct references in school statutes	
LB254	Adams	SF	Correct references related to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission	
LB255	McGill	S	Change provisions and penalties relating to human trafficking, child abuse, prostitution, solicitation, and pandering	7, 20, 22
LB256	McGill	C	Eliminate criminal forfeiture and provide for civil forfeiture as prescribed	
LB257	McCoy	C	Change provisions relating to creation of municipal counties	
LB258	Sullivan	C	Prohibit use of certain wireless devices by school bus drivers as prescribed	8
LB259	Karpisek	SF	Exempt keno writers from licensure under the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act	
LB260	Gloor	GF	Change requirements for a data and information system under the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act	
LB261	Gloor	C	Adopt the Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities Act	9
LB262	Cook	S	Provide duties relating to sharing of student information	
LB263	Nebraska Retirement Systems	S (+321, 594)	Change provisions relating to government retirement systems	13, 15
LB264	Bolz	C	Provide an income tax credit for individuals caring for dependents	4

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB265	Coash	S (+443)	Adopt the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act and change foster care licensure and kinship home and relative home provisions	4, 13, 18, 20
LB266	Chambers	C (>104)	Eliminate provisions relating to increases in local option sales tax rates	8, 19, 20, 21
LB267	Chambers	GF	Prohibit persons on parole, probation, or work release from acting as undercover agents or employees of law enforcement and prohibit admissibility of certain evidence	5
LB268	Campbell	C	State intent to appropriate funds for upgrade of an electronic data collection system related to child welfare and other economic assistance programs	
LB269	Campbell	S	Change provisions relating to children and families	4, 14, 21
LB269A	Campbell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB270	Campbell	C	Provide for a medicaid state plan amendment relating to services for children with serious emotional disturbance	5
LB271	Lautenbaugh	S	Change provisions relating to early voting	13, 15
LB272	Carlson	GF	Change provisions relating to chemigation permits and fees	
LB273	Karpisek	SF	Change keno time limits	4, 8
LB274	Nordquist	IPP	Adopt the Education Compensation Transparency Act	5
LB275	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Nebraska Coordinated School Health Act	10
LB276	Nordquist	C	Change reimbursement provisions under the Early Intervention Act and require a medicaid state plan amendment	10
LB277	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to presentation of a false medicaid claim	
LB278	Pirsch	GF	Change provisions relating to fees charged by the Secretary of State	
LB279	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to loan brokers, delayed deposit services, and installment loans	
LB280	Pirsch	C	Change domestic assault provisions	
LB281	Pirsch	GF	Change the amount of tax credits allowed under the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act	
LB282	Pirsch	C	Exempt motor vehicle washing and waxing from sales taxation	
LB283	Conrad	S	Eliminate the Limited Liability Company Act	
LB284	Conrad	C	Change provisions of the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act relating to limits on actions and amounts recoverable	6
LB285	Conrad	C (>199)	Change authorized transfers to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund	12
LB286	Conrad	C (>199)	Provide for Cash Reserve Fund transfers for affordable housing, homeless shelter assistance, and legal aid	8
LB287	Carlson	IPP	Change rabies vaccination provisions	
LB288	Carlson	C	Change provisions of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act	
LB289	Lathrop	IPP (>3)	Change provisions relating to duration of real estate improvement contract liens	
LB290	Pirsch	S	Change provisions relating to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act	
LB291	Nordquist	C	Change medical payment provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	4
LB292	Karpisek	C	Change population restrictions for conducting elections by mail	
LB293	Kintner	C	Prohibit disclosure of any applicant or permitholder information regarding firearms registration, possession, sale, or use as prescribed	
LB294	Seiler	C	Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees	
LB295	Sullivan	S	Redefine a term under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act	
LB296	Hadley	S	Change provisions of the educational savings plan relating to income tax reductions and participation agreements	4, 16, 21
LB297	Bolz	C	Change mental injuries and mental illness compensation under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB298	McCoy	S	Change provisions relating to controlled substances schedules	17, 20, 21
LB299	Seiler	S (+417)	Require the Secretary of State to develop and publish guidelines for election workers and change political subdivision election provisions	13, 17, 18
LB300	Krist	C	Provide licensure requirements for health care facilities and require Department of Health and Human Services to provide abortion information	8
LB301	Carlson	C	Change provisions relating to transfer of property between school districts	
LB302	Wallman	C	Change total disability income benefits under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	8
LB303	Wallman	S	Change registration requirements for land surveyors	
LB304	Wallman	W	Change requirements relating to gasohol and provide requirements for use of E15 by the Department of Roads	
LB305	Nordquist	C (>553)	Change provisions relating to State Patrol retirement	18, 19

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB306	Nordquist	S (+229, 232, >553)	Change judges' salaries and retirement contribution provisions	14, 16, 18, 19, 21
LB306A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB307	Nelson	C	Change provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB308	Schumacher	S (+457)	Change provisions relating to the federal alternative minimum tax and net operating losses and capital losses	19, 20, 21
LB309	Bolz	C	Adopt the Department of Health and Human Services Delivery Improvement and Efficiency Act	
LB310	Bolz	C	Clarify compensation for shoulder injuries under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB311	Scheer	S	Change filing requirements for official bonds and oaths	
LB312	Scheer	C	Designate certain acts as unfair insurance trade practices	
LB313	Christensen	GF	Change provisions relating to incarceration work camps	
LB314	Christensen	C	Adopt the Escort Services Accountability and Permit Act	7
LB315	Christensen	C	Redefine massage therapy and change licensure requirements	5
LB316	Harr	S	Redefine automobile liability policy	
LB317	Price	C	Change a duty of county assessors relating to real property valuation	
LB318	McGill	C	Change duties of law enforcement officers and agencies relating to the taking and distribution of fingerprints	
LB319	McGill	C	Change certain permitholder penalty provisions under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	
LB320	McGill	C	Change temporary custody without a warrant provisions of the Nebraska Juvenile Code	9
LB321	Crawford	C (>263)	Change a provision relating to disability retirement payments	7
LB322	Karpisek	IPP	Require the Department of Natural Resources to conduct an environmental study relating to the Blue River	
LB323	Haar	IPP	Create the School Finance Review Committee	
LB324	Lautenbaugh	C	Change provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	11
LB325	Brasch	C	Change provisions relating to approval of natural resources district boundary changes	
LB326	Howard	S	Change provisions of Pharmacy Practice Act and Automated Medication Systems Act	4, 20, 21
LB327	Pirsch	C	Change income tax rates	5
LB328	Pirsch	C	Change corporate income tax rates	
LB329	Howard	S	Change provisions relating to criminal offenses against animals	
LB330	Howard	C	Change eligibility provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	
LB331	Harms	S (+466, 467)	Change provisions relating to postsecondary education grants and the Postsecondary Institution Act	20, 21
LB332	Harms	S	Change application provisions relating to the Access College Early Scholarship Program	
LB333	Schumacher	C	Change the sales and use tax collection fees	
LB334	Nordquist	C (>195)	Appropriate funds for the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program	
LB335	Christensen	C	Authorize possession of firearms as prescribed	
LB336	Carlson	S	Change sickness and accident insurance provisions for policies subject to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	4, 5, 8
LB337	Schumacher	S	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Insurers Supervision, Rehabilitation, and Liquidation Act	
LB338	Gloor	IPP	Prohibit certain practices by health care professionals and health care facilities	9
LB339	Schilz	C	Change fence dispute provisions	
LB340	Natural Resources	S	Change a hearing requirement related to the Nebraska Power Review Board	
LB341	Wightman	S	Change tax sale procedures	14, 20
LB342	Coash	IPP (>561)	Change right to counsel provisions under the Nebraska Juvenile Code	
LB343	Coash	IPP (>23)	Change terminology related to mental retardation	21
LB344	Sullivan	S	Change moratorium exceptions for long-term care beds	
LB345	Wightman	S	Change provisions relating to certain real estate filings and transfer on death deeds	
LB346	Kolowski	C	Authorize school districts to levy a tax and exceed budget authority for school security measures	9
LB347	Gloor	C	Provide for a moratorium on issuance of licenses under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	
LB348	Harr	GF	Change provisions relating to the assessment of certain rent-restricted housing projects	21
LB349	Murante	S	Change ballot status and write-in provisions for presidential and vice-presidential candidates	
LB350	Murante	C	Add members to the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB351	Harms	C	Require cognitive tests for persons eighty years of age or older obtaining motor vehicle operator's licenses	5
LB352	Christensen	C	Provide signage requirements and duties for the Nebraska State Patrol under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	
LB353	Christensen	C	Restrict rule and regulation authority of natural resources districts	
LB354	Larson	GF	Adopt the Nebraska Corn Promotion Act	
LB354A	Larson	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB355	Larson	C	Change the age of majority and certain age requirements	
LB356	Karpisek	C	Prohibit participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities as prescribed	
LB357	Haar	IPP (>407)	Change a budget limitation exemption under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB358	Dubas	C	Redefine excavation for purposes of the One-Call Notification System Act	10
LB359	Cook	GF	Change eligibility redeterminations relating to a child care subsidy	
LB359A	Cook	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB360	Karpisek	W	Change court fees, sheriff's fees, identification inspection fees, and handgun certificate fees	
LB361	Howard	S	Name the Child and Maternal Death Review Act and change review procedures	
LB362	Avery	GF	Change state park entry permit provisions and provide for a motor vehicle registration fee	14
LB362A	Avery	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB363	Avery	S	Change provisions relating to access to public records	
LB363A	Avery	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB364	Avery	GF	Permit government bodies to set limits on certain contracts	7
LB365	Avery	C	Require instruction in certain emergency procedures as a prerequisite to high school graduation	
LB366	Cook	S	Adopt the Diploma of High School Equivalency Assistance Act and provide funding from the Education Innovation Fund	5, 16, 21
LB366A	Cook	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB367	Cook	C	Adopt the Twenty-First Century Developmental Education Act	
LB368	Crawford	S	Create a subsidized employment pilot program within the Department of Health and Human Services	20, 21
LB368A	Crawford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB369	Lathrop	C	Require licensed service providers for services to probationers and parolees as prescribed	
LB370	Lathrop	C	Create the County Property Tax Assistance Program and the Municipal Property Tax Assistance Program	8
LB371	Mello	GF	Adopt the Transparency in Government Procurement Act	
LB372	Mello	IPP	Adopt the Buy Nebraska Act and eliminate provisions relating to resident bidder preferences	
LB373	Mello	GF	Change Nebraska Construction Prompt Pay Act provisions	
LB374	Nelson	C	Provide for a delinquent child support payment lien on an appearance bond as prescribed	
LB375	Lathrop	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services to be used for services for persons with developmental disabilities	12
LB376	Johnson	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development	
LB377	Johnson	S	Change provisions relating to annexation of a county road by a city or village	5, 15, 17
LB378	Smith	C	Eliminate fees for the issuance of certain license plates	
LB379	Nelson	C	Change furlough and reduction of sentence provisions as prescribed	
LB380	Howard	C	Provide for adoption by two adult persons jointly	10
LB381	Janssen	C	Require photographic identification to vote	9
LB382	Janssen	GF	Change presidential elector selection and voting requirements	9
LB383	Janssen	GF	Provide for Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates	
LB384	Nordquist	S	Adopt the Nebraska Exchange Transparency Act	7, 16, 18
LB384A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB385	Nordquist	GF	Prohibit certain bases for discrimination relating to child placement	10
LB386	Christensen	S	Require notice of road maintenance by counties as prescribed	
LB387	Christensen	IPP	Eliminate provisions relating to constructing drainage facilities and taking other control measures on public roads	
LB388	Natural Resources	S	Change provisions relating to first rights of construction, ownership, and maintenance of electric transmission lines	13, 15
LB389	Bolz	C	Provide an income tax credit for adoption and guardianship costs	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB390	Christensen	GF	Change provisions relating to Governor's powers regarding restrictions on firearms and ammunition under the Emergency Management Act	
LB391	Davis	C	Change water law provisions relating to water storage	
LB392	Lathrop	GF	Eliminate certain firearms provisions no longer authorized by federal law	
LB393	Bloomfield	GF	Change helmet and eye protection provisions regarding motorcycles	9
LB394	Conrad	C (>199)	Authorize use of Affordable Housing Trust Fund for vocational training	
LB395	Conrad	GF	Redefine the term "school-based health center" for purposes of the Medical Assistance Act	11
LB396	Conrad	C	Change Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court powers	
LB397	Conrad	C	Require insurance coverage for screening for amino acid-based formulas	
LB398	Brasch	S	Change provisions and penalties relating to certain excessively loaded vehicles	
LB399	Lautenbaugh	GF	Permit members of certain organizations to use flashing amber lights on motor vehicles	6
LB400	Lautenbaugh	C (>195)	Appropriate funds for aid to community colleges	
LB401	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the School Purchasing Act	
LB402	Mello	SF	Change provisions relating to community-based energy development projects	8, 17
LB403	Seiler	GF	Prohibit retail sale of novelty lighters	
LB404	McGill	C	Change State Natural Gas Regulation Act provisions relating to infrastructure system replacement cost recovery charges	
LB405	McCoy	IPP	Eliminate certain sales tax exemptions, corporate and individual income taxes, and the franchise tax and change other tax provisions	5
LB406	McCoy	IPP	Change tax provisions	5
LB407	Sullivan	S (+357, 469)	Change calculation provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	6, 16, 19
LB408	Sullivan	S	Change dates and provisions relating to certification and distribution of state aid	5, 7
LB409	Sullivan	C	Change distribution provisions for core services and educational technology funds	
LB410	Sullivan	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to education	17, 20
LB411	Nordquist	C	Change a renewable energy tax credit	9
LB412	Schumacher	C	Adopt the Freedom from Unwarranted Surveillance Act	6
LB413	Schumacher	IPP	Change license violation provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB414	Schumacher	C	Change funding for the Municipal Equalization Fund	
LB415	Seiler	GF	Change provisions relating to financial institutions and attachment and garnishment	
LB416	Kolowski	IPP	Change teacher education allowance provisions relative to the state aid formula	6
LB417	Kolowski	IPP (>299)	Provide for guidelines for election workers	
LB418	Kolowski	IPP	Change powers and duties of election commissioners, chief deputy election commissioners, and county boards	8
LB419	Hadley	C	Change provisions relating to the nameplate capacity tax	
LB420	McGill	S	Provide authorization for disposition of human remains based on military documents	5, 15, 17
LB421	McGill	C	Provide powers and duties for professional boards regarding credentialing veterans	
LB422	McGill	C	Provide duties for credentialing boards and temporary practice permits for military spouses	
LB423	Agriculture	S (+544)	Change provisions relating to seizure of animals and the Livestock Animal Welfare Act and restrict sales and require notifications for purposes of bovine trichomoniasis prevention	13, 16, 17
LB424	Coash	C	State intent to appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Patrol Internet Crimes Against Children Unit	
LB425	Campbell	C	State intent to appropriate funds for intervention services for at-risk children and youth	
LB426	Howard	S	Change provisions relating to fraternal benefit societies	
LB427	Howard	C	Adopt the Carbon Monoxide Safety Act	
LB428	Haar	C	Change permitted practice provisions for certified nurse midwives	8
LB429	Crawford	S	Require disclosure of state contracts	10, 13, 21
LB429A	Crawford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB430	Crawford	C	Change asset limitation for the aid to dependent children program, child care subsidy, and the Welfare Reform Act	
LB431	Karpisek	C	Change definition of food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act	
LB432	Price	C (>495)	Appropriate funds for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	
LB433	Price	GF	Require a report and change administration procedures for ballots at hospitals and nursing homes	18, 20
LB434	Price	S	Provide for emergency management registries for persons with special needs	7, 11, 12
LB435	Hansen	S	Provide for out-of-state brand permits under the Livestock Brand Act	7, 15, 17

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB436	Hansen	C	Redefine franchisee under the Franchise Practices Act	
LB437	Hansen	C	Transfer administration of mechanical safety inspection programs to the State Fire Marshal	
LB438	Adams	GF	Provide for priority schools, operating councils, and community schools	8
LB439	Gloor	C	Change cigarette and tobacco tax provisions	10
LB440	Gloor	C	Adopt the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act and provide an income tax credit	10
LB441	Seiler	GF	Change provisions relating to control of dead human remains	8
LB442	Schumacher	S	Change provisions relating to homeowners' associations and the Nebraska Condominium Act	
LB443	Cook	IPP (>265)	Adopt the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act	
LB444	Krist	C	Require certification and presence of authorized personnel by retail liquor licensees	9
LB445	Karpisek	C	Provide funding to the Department of Motor Vehicles to purchase a vehicle titling and registration computer system	
LB446	Avery	GF	Define the term flood damage for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act	
LB447	Avery	C	Provide for sales tax on soft drinks, change the distribution of sales tax proceeds, and provide funding for projects to help children	10
LB448	Avery	C	Prohibit contributions by lobbyists to candidates or members of the Legislature during legislative session	7
LB449	Avery	GF	Redefine high elective office for restrictions on multiple office holding	
LB450	Avery	C	Change political party convention and caucus provisions	
LB451	Janssen	C	Prohibit federal restrictions on firearms, magazines, and firearm accessories as prescribed	11
LB452	Conrad	C	Require a medicaid waiver to provide coverage for family planning services	11
LB453	Karpisek	C	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle headlights	
LB454	Haar	C	Adopt the Electronics Extended Producer Responsibility and Job Creation Act	
LB455	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide procedures for termination of a lease based upon clear and present danger	8
LB456	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide for removal of containers of draft beer from licensed premises as prescribe	
LB457	Krist	C (>308)	Change provisions relating to deductions for net operating losses and capital losses	19
LB458	Krist	S	Require general acute hospitals to offer tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis vaccinations as prescribed	
LB459	Krist	S	Require certain health care facilities to offer onsite vaccination services	
LB460	Krist	C	Require a booster meningococcal conjugate vaccine for students as prescribed	
LB461	Karpisek	C	Provide liability limitation for bucking bull activities	
LB462	Ashford	C	Change provisions relating to contracts for joint law enforcement services	
LB463	Ashford	C	Change the number of separate juvenile court judges	9
LB464	Ashford	SF	Change court jurisdiction over juveniles and indictment procedures	9, 11
LB465	Lautenbaugh	C	Adopt the College Choice Grant Program Act	9
LB466	Avery	IPP (>331)	Redefine a term under the Postsecondary Institution Act	20, 21
LB467	Avery	IPP (>331)	Provide for interstate reciprocity agreements under the Postsecondary Institution Act	20
LB468	Scheer	C	Allow an income tax deduction for tuition payments	
LB469	Scheer	IPP (>407)	Change an exemption to school budget lid relating to payments for a voluntary termination	
LB470	Scheer	GF	Adopt the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act	5
LB471	Coash	C (>561)	Change provisions relating to juvenile commitment evaluations	
LB472	Karpisek	C	Prohibit flying lanterns	
LB473	Bloomfield	C	Authorize certain residency restrictions near parks under the Sexual Predator Residency Restriction Act	10
LB474	Krist	GF	Change provisions relating to occupation taxes	
LB475	Carlson	C	Change the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act and the Business Innovation Act	
LB476	Carlson	S	Change provisions relating to grants for internships	16, 18
LB477	Carlson	S	Change sunset for the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force	
LB478	Smith	C	Provide requirements for awards under the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act	9
LB479	Lathrop	S	Prohibit policy and contract terms relating to contractual rights and insurance proceeds	
LB480	Lathrop	C	Adopt the Nebraska Career Technical Education Grant Program Act	5
LB481	Lathrop	C	Create the Career Education Task Force	
LB482	Kintner	C	Prohibit the state and political subdivisions from adopting certain policy recommendations	
LB483	Bolz	S	Provide for a reentry planning pilot program in adult correctional facilities	7, 16, 21
LB483A	Bolz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB484	Karpisek	S	Change dental hygienist training and authorized functions	4, 6, 10
LB485	Conrad	C	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation as prescribed	10

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB486	Dubas	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to the Legislative Council to pay dues under the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	11
LB487	Wightman	S	Change health care certificate of need provisions	15, 17
LB488	Revenue	C	Change provisions relating to municipal occupation taxes	
LB489	Revenue	C	Change the sales tax rate	
LB490	Revenue	C	Change income tax rates	
LB491	Cook	C	Change calculation of target level of funds under the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act	
LB492	Cook	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to carry out the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program	
LB493	Davis	S	Authorize transfer of portions of the Cowboy Trail	
LB494	Davis	C	Change number of districts and members of Game and Parks Commission	
LB495	Sullivan	S (+432)	Change provisions relating to the Education Innovation Fund and early childhood grant reporting	11, 13, 15
LB495A	Sullivan	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB496	Sullivan	IPP	Change provisions relating to school reorganization incentive payments	
LB497	Sullivan	S	Change provisions relating to funding for education from lottery funds	14, 20
LB498	Brasch	C	Provide for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief against foreign defamation judgments	
LB499	Brasch	S	Change powers and duties of Game and Parks Commission	5, 8, 12
LB500	Brasch	S	Change school bus operation provisions	
LB501	Hadley	C (>104)	Redefine a term in the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LB502	Hadley	C	Change a sales tax exemption for health clinics	
LB503	Coash	C (>561)	Rename the Child Protection Act and provide for alternative response to a report of child abuse or neglect	10
LB504	Coash	IPP (>199)	Change Commission on Indian Affairs state assistance for political subdivisions provisions	7, 19
LB505	Coash	C	Provide requirement for insurance coverage of autism spectrum disorders	8
LB506	Bolz	IPP	Change elementary class size allowance in the state aid formula	6
LB507	Campbell	S (+625)	Adopt the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act	7, 17, 20, 21
LB507A	Campbell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB508	Campbell	C	Change provisions relating to the aid to dependent children program	9
LB509	Murante	C	Change election of learning community coordinating council	
LB510	Scheer	S	Change Open Meetings Act telephone conference call provisions and authorization for videoconferencing and teleconferencing	
LB511	Scheer	IPP	Change allocation provisions relating to the Education Innovation Fund	
LB512	Scheer	C	Change provisions relating to academic content standards and statewide assessment and reporting	
LB513	Carlson	GF	Change notice provisions under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act	
LB514	Carlson	GF	Provide for new funding mechanisms under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act	
LB515	Carlson	C	Change provisions relating to irrigation district elections	
LB516	Carlson	C	Adopt the Nebraska Water Legacy Act	
LB517	Carlson	S	Create the Water Funding Task Force	6, 12, 17, 21
LB517A	Carlson	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB518	Janssen	IPP	Change certain eligibility provisions of the medical assistance program	
LB519	Krist	C (>198)	Appropriate funds for improvements at the Nebraska History Museum	9
LB520	Christensen	IPP	Allow land surveyors to enter upon public or private lands or waters as prescribed	
LB521	Christensen	C	Require cities and villages and other public bodies that maintain web sites to publish ordinances and other information as prescribed	5
LB522	Christensen	SF	Provide state financial assistance to irrigation districts to compensate water appropriators	16
LB522A	Christensen	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB523	Christensen	C	Provide requirements for copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles relating to certain services	
LB524	Christensen	C	Adopt the Pharmacy Audit Integrity Act	
LB525	Haar	IPP	Change deadlines under the Election Act	
LB526	Howard	C	Change optometry licensure and certification to perform minor surgery and use pharmaceutical agents	
LB527	Howard	C	Change optometry licensure and certification to use pharmaceutical agents	
LB528	Howard	S	Provide for partner treatment relating to sexually transmitted diseases	8, 12, 15

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB529	Dubas	C	Change requirements for approval of redevelopment plans under the Community Development Law	
LB530	Dubas	S	Add, change, and eliminate provisions relating to foster care reimbursements	6, 10, 21
LB530A	Dubas	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB531	Conrad	C	Change distribution of sales and use tax revenue and repeal the Build Nebraska Act	8
LB532	Conrad	C	Change income tax rates	5
LB533	Avery	C	Require oil and gas pipeline eminent domain condemnors to provide notice to property owners	
LB534	Avery	GF	Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Legislative Performance Audit Section	
LB535	Lathrop	C	Adopt Prescription Monitoring Program Act and repeal prescription monitoring provisions	
LB536	Business & Labor	S	Approve claims against the state	18, 19, 20
LB537	Business & Labor	C	Deny claims against the state	
LB538	Chambers	S	Change provisions relating to revocation and suspension of law enforcement training certificates or diplomas	7, 15, 17
LB539	Chambers	IPP	Prohibit requiring teaching experience for superintendents	5
LB540	Chambers	C	Prohibit rules and regulations requiring teachers to lead pledge of allegiance	11
LB541	Chambers	GF	Prohibit arbitration of claims involving disciplinary actions against peace officers	
LB542	Chambers	C	Eliminate an aggravating circumstance regarding death penalty sentencing hearings	
LB543	Chambers	GF	Change a penalty from death to life imprisonment or life imprisonment without possibility of parole	10, 19
LB544	Hansen	IPP (>423)	Require notifications regarding bovine trichomoniasis	
LB545	Dubas	S	Change Public Service Commission appeal procedures	16, 17, 21
LB546	Kolowski	GF	Eliminate review of postsecondary capital construction projects as prescribed	
LB547	Kolowski	C	Provide an income tax credit for payments to school districts for extracurricular activities and character education programs	
LB548	Schilz	C	Change a length exception for semitrailers transporting baled livestock forage	
LB549	Schilz	S	Change the scrap tire program sunset and certain grant allocations	
LB550	Schilz	C	Adopt the Livestock Growth Act and change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act	
LB551	Schilz	C	Change recreational liability provisions	6
LB552	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Cities of the First Class Firefighters Cash Balance Retirement Act	
LB553	Nordquist	S (+305, 306, 554)	Change actuarial valuation of retirement systems and school employee retirement provisions	5, 15, 18, 19
LB553A	Nordquist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB554	Nordquist	C (>553)	Change provisions relating to school employee retirement	5, 18, 19
LB555	Nordquist	C	Adopt the Preparing Students for Educational Success Act	
LB556	McGill	S	Provide for telehealth services for children, change the medical assistance program, and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services	19, 21
LB556A	McGill	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB557	McGill	C	Change provisions relating to net metering and authorize community solar gardens	
LB558	Kintner	C	Change provisions relating to certain declaratory judgments and illegal taxes paid	
LB559	Mello	C	Adopt a short-time compensation program under the Employment Security Law	5
LB560	Mello	C	Provide enforcement provisions to certain labor and employment acts	5
LB561	Ashford	S (+86, 342, 471, 503, 562)	Change provisions and transfer responsibilities regarding the juvenile justice system	9, 16, 21
LB561A	Ashford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB562	Ashford	C (>561)	Change provisions of the juvenile justice system	
LB563	Krist	S	Change provisions relating to contracts for services	15, 20
LB564	Nelson	C	Adopt the Health Care Freedom of Conscience Act	8
LB565	Nelson	GF	Prohibit registering to vote and voting early on the same day	
LB566	Karpisek	IPP	Create the Educational Technology Infrastructure Grant Program	
LB567	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to approval of electric generation facilities and transmission lines	
LB568	Harr	S	Adopt the Health Insurance Exchange Navigator Registration Act	19, 21, 22
LB568A	Harr	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB569	Harr	C (>195)	Appropriate funds to the Supreme Court for county court employees	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB570	Harr	C	Adopt the Employers Certainty in Records Act	
LB571	Harr	C	Adopt the Community Enhancement Financing Assistance Act	
LB572	Harr	C	Change the Nebraska Advantage Act and provisions relating to extraordinary dividends and capital gains on certain capital stock	
LB573	Harr	S	Change provisions relating to an adjustment to income for certain capital gains and extraordinary dividends	20, 21
LB574	Harr	GF	Provide that certain assessments are levied and collected as special assessments	
LB575	Harr	C	Provide for professional development training for school board and learning community coordinating council members	11
LB576	Harr	IPP	Require flagging of area near polling places and change restrictions on electioneering	
LB577	Campbell	GF	Change provisions relating to the medical assistance program	8, 15
LB577A	Campbell	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB578	Nordquist	GF	Create a fund to provide funding for medicaid services and change distribution of premium tax revenue	
LB579	Karpisek	S	Provide a duty regarding administration and enforcement of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	5, 14, 15, 21
LB579A	Karpisek	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB580	Johnson	C	Change certain condemnation procedures	
LB581	Crawford	C	Change the sales and use tax collection fees	
LB582	Carlson	C (>194)	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Tourism Commission	
LB583	Haar	S	Provide duties for the Climate Assessment Response Committee	16, 21
LB583A	Haar	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB584	Smith	C	Change Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act medical guidelines and independent medical examiner provisions	11
LB585	Smith	S	Change provisions relating to learning communities and learning community coordinating councils	14, 17
LB586	Mello	W	Provide content for rules and regulations relating to child care and preschools	
LB587	Schilz	C	Change provisions of the Livestock Brand Act	
LB588	Watermeier	GF	Change veteran employment preference provisions and name the act	
LB589	Watermeier	S	Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act	10, 14, 17
LB590	Lautenbaugh	GF	License and regulate wagering on historic horseracing	6
LB591	Lautenbaugh	C	Change civil service commission membership	
LB592	Lautenbaugh	C	Authorize the carrying of concealed handguns by qualified law enforcement officers and qualified retired law enforcement officers	
LB593	Lautenbaugh	IPP	Adopt the Charter Schools Act	8
LB594	Price	C (>263)	Provide Nebraska Investment Council duties relating to administration of the Nebraska Veterans' Aid Fund	
LB595	Price	S	Provide for a Public Service Commission study of next-generation 911	14, 17
LB595A	Price	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB596	Price	C	Change provisions relating to specialty license plates and Purple Heart license plates	
LB597	Larson	GF	Change provisions relating to county agricultural societies	
LB598	Larson	C	Change provisions relating to net metering	
LB599	Sullivan	IPP	Change exemptions relating to school budget limitations	
LB600	Wightman	C	Change inheritance tax rates	
LB601	Bloomfield	C	Require notice for natural resources district subcommittee meetings	
LB602	Bloomfield	C	Adopt the Nebraska Firearms Freedom Act	11
LB603	Chambers	GF	Include affirmation as an alternative when an oath is required	
LB604	Haar	IPP	Change computation of the cost growth factor relating to state aid to schools	
LB605	Pirsch	C	Provide for Telehealth Behavioral Health Services Program	
LB606	Pirsch	GF	Adopt the Nebraska Technology Entrepreneur Act to provide sales and use tax refunds to certain businesses	
LB607	Pirsch	IPP	Change provisions relating to protection order violations and conditions of release violations	
LB608	Pirsch	C	Change provisions relating to stalking	
LB609	Pirsch	C	Create the Nebraska's Emerging Future Subcommittee of the Legislature's Planning Committee	
LB610	Pirsch	C	Change provisions relating to terroristic threats	
LB611	Pirsch	C	Redefine serious bodily injury for purposes of domestic assault	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB612	Schumacher	S	Require the Department of Revenue to present reports to legislative committees	7, 13, 15
LB613	Schumacher	S	Change investigatory powers of the Legislative Council and legislative committees	7, 11, 21, 22
LB614	Schumacher	C	Provide for withholding insurance proceeds for demolition costs	
LB615	Schumacher	C	Provide for summary guardianships	
LB616	Schumacher	S	Adopt the Nebraska Money Transmitters Act and eliminate the Nebraska Sale of Checks and Funds Transmission Act and provide penalties	
LB617	Schumacher	IPP	Change provisions of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act	11
LB618	Karpisek	C	Create the Agricultural Land Valuation Task Force	
LB619	Haar	C	Require instruction in sexual health education	10
LB620	Performance Audit	S	Require the Department of Administrative Services and University of Nebraska to present health insurance management plans to the Appropriations Committee	
LB621	Karpisek	C	Exempt certain information from disclosure under the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act	
LB622	Haar	C	Change provisions relating to a report filed with the Nebraska Power Review Board	
LB623	Price	S	Change provisions relating to bridge construction and road improvements	7, 16, 20
LB624	Pirsch	IPP	Provide for fees for copies of motor vehicle accident reports	5
LB625	Conrad	IPP (>507)	Change income eligibility provisions relating to federal child care assistance	21
LB626	Conrad	C	Eliminate an income reduction for extraordinary dividends and certain capital gains	
LB627	Conrad	C	Provide for termination of certain tax incentives as prescribed	6
LB628	Conrad	S	Change and extend the Small Business Innovation Act	5, 6, 10
LB629	Conrad	S	Change provisions of the Tax Expenditure Reporting Act and require additional information regarding budget submissions from the Governor	8, 13, 15
LB630	Kolowski	C	Redefine place of employment for Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	9
LB631	Harr	C	Change provisions relating to garnishment	
LB632	Bolz	C	Change funding for county offices relating to public assistance programs	
LB633	Nordquist	C	Include contract violations under disciplinary provisions of Civil Service Act	
LB634	Davis	S	Adopt the Wildfire Control Act of 2013	7, 12, 21
LB634A	Davis	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB635	Wallman	C	Provide powers and duties regarding hydraulic fracturing to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission	8
LB636	Wallman	C	Provide restrictions for application of certain herbicides	
LB637	Wallman	GF	Require an economic analysis of rules and regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Quality	7
LB638	Nelson	IPP	Provide a cash balance retirement system for school employees	4
LB639	Nelson	IPP	Make new judges and state patrol officers members of the state employees retirement system	4
LB640	Hadley	IPP	Change provisions relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB641	Sullivan	W	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB642	Mello	GF	Prohibit receiving certain types of wagers on horseracing	
LB643	Davis	S	Change certain provisions regarding nuisances in cities and villages	5, 15, 17
LB644	Davis	W	Adopt the Contract Carrier Safety Act	
LB645	Haar	IPP	Change teacher education allowance and fall personnel report provisions	
LB646	Murante	S	Change election provisions for public power districts	14, 17
LB647	Davis	S	Change cattle identification provisions of the Animal Importation Act	7, 15, 17
LB648	Pirsch	W	Change penalty for public indecency	
LB649	Karpisek	IPP	Change certain penalties relating to operating a motor vehicle during a revocation period and tampering with an ignition interlock device	
LB650	Karpisek	IPP	Include asphalt crack filler trailers in the definition of trailer under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act	
LB651	Davis	C	Eliminate property tax levy and provide for state funding of community colleges	
LB652	Lautenbaugh	C	Provide procedures for taking grievances by certain county corrections officers to the Civil Service Commission	
LB653	Davis	IPP	Change and provide for distribution of the gallonage tax on beer	9
LB654	Davis	C	Change the brand inspection area under the Livestock Brand Act	
LB655	Carlson	C	Permit collection of fees for insurance consultants	
LR1CA	Larson	IPP	Constitutional amendment to change eligibility requirements for members of the Legislature	
LR2CA	Pirsch	C	Constitutional amendment to require that any bill that imposes or increases a tax be approved by a majority of the members of the Legislature plus four	
LR12CA	Harms	C	Constitutional amendment to authorize a county manager form of county government	3

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR20	Lathrop	C	Provide for continuation of the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee	4, 5
LR22	Campbell	C	Provide the Health & Human Services Committee and the Banking, Commerce & Insurance Committee be designated to convene a Partnership Towards Nebraska's Health Care System Transformation	11, 21
LR23	Avery	C	Memorialize Congress to support a constitutional amendment responding to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission	
LR29CA	Adams	GF	Constitutional amendment to change provisions relating to redevelopment projects	6
LR31	Campbell	C	Provide the Executive Board appoint the Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee as a special committee	6, 11
LR34CA	Schumacher	C	Constitutional amendment authorizing gaming and directing use of the proceeds	8
LR38	Avery	C	Endorse Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer and support efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change	
LR40	Davis	C	Request the United States Forest Service to reconsider its original decision not to pay a proportionate share of the replacement costs of fences destroyed by wildfires between private and public lands in certain counties	21
LR41CA	Lautenbaugh	SF	Constitutional amendment authorizing legislation for licensing and regulating wagering on live or replayed horseraces	6, 9, 10
LR42	Brasch	C	Urge Congress to pass the Parental Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and submit it to the states for ratification	
LR111	McGill	C	Interim study to explore the possibility of replicating the Delancey Street Foundation in Nebraska, which is considered one of the nation's leading self-help residential education centers for ex-convicts and former substance abusers	
LR143	Krist	C	Interim study to examine children's day health services	
LR155	Chambers	C	Create the Tax Modernization Committee as a special legislative committee	21
LR165	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding tax settlements	
LR166	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the creation of revolving funds to finance energy conservation measures in Nebraska K-12 school districts	
LR167	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding personal identifying information collected by state and local governments and private businesses	
LR170	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine the liability insurance mandate contained in the Child Care Licensing Act	
LR171	Dubas	C	Support the development and designation of a continuous Chief Standing Bear Trail from Nebraska to Oklahoma	
LR175	Sullivan	C	Interim study to examine the craft brewery industry in Nebraska to develop potential tax policy and statutory law to encourage growth of the industry	
LR181	Sullivan	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee	
LR182	Education	C	Interim study to examine alternatives for the financing and delivery of public early childhood, elementary, and secondary education in Nebraska	
LR183	Larson	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's drainage statutes as they apply to drainage by neighboring landowners under section 31-201 and other related statutes	
LR184	Larson	C	Interim study to examine the costs and benefits associated with lowering the age of majority to eighteen years of age	
LR186	Krist	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to enactment of a tax-credit scholarship program as contemplated by LB14, 2013	
LR187	Harr	C	Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's business entity statutes should be updated	
LR188	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act as it pertains to Nebraska	
LR189	McGill	C	Interim study to examine certain statutes to harmonize language, policies, and practices regarding the different classifications of cities and villages	
LR190	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the 2012 versions of the International Residential Code, the International Building Code, and the International Energy Conservation Code to determine whether Nebraska should update the current state building code	
LR191	Krist	C	Interim study to examine all state retirement plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR192	Avery	C	Interim study to examine conducting elections by mail	
LR193	Avery	C	Interim study to examine the role of political parties in the election process	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR194	Avery	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee	
LR198	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR199	Mello	C	Interim study to acquire additional information, including financial requirements, regarding the state's efforts to establish a statewide virtual/digital educational system	
LR201	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine policy options available to the State of Nebraska to support military installations, military families, and veterans and their families	
LR202	Avery	C	Interim study to examine the issue of election day registration	
LR205	Avery	C	Interim study to examine the mission and financing options as authorized by current law of the Game and Parks Commission	
LR206	Avery	C	Interim study to examine the school breakfast program	
LR207	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the impact of the possession, sale, trade, and distribution of shark fins in the State of Nebraska	
LR208	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine security in the public schools	
LR209	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine the contracts between the Dept. of Health and Human Services and provider agencies for foster care services	
LR211	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine and define the need for increased access to, and the costs of, quality expanded learning opportunities for K-12 children, focusing on at-risk children	
LR212	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine an allowance or aid component within the state aid formula for recognizing the costs of schools districts that encourage teachers to improve their skills and knowledge in order to increase student achievement	
LR213	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine the college savings plans administered under the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and ways to increase plan participation	
LR214	Carlson	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's statutes, rules, and regulations relating to the permitting process for small surface water storage reservoirs	
LR215	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to enforcement and servicing of real estate loans secured by a mortgage, trust deed, or other security instrument	
LR216	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine the provisions of the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act	
LR218	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine fetal alcohol spectrum disorders	
LR219	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to student financial aid programs	
LR221	Mello	C	Interim study to examine the different aspects of the state's wellness program	
LR222	Howard	C	Interim study to gather information and make recommendations necessary for the Legislature to craft a comprehensive early learning strategy for the State of Nebraska	
LR223	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding open data policies	
LR224	Haar	C	Interim study to examine the programs, incentives, and processes, used in other states to stimulate renewable energy projects of less than twenty megawatts that can be added without major additional transmission improvements	
LR226	Brasch	C	Interim study to examine concerns surrounding the operation of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District	
LR227	Haar	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding midwifery credentialing and safety measures	
LR228	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine the process by which military spouses and veterans obtain occupational licenses	
LR232	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine the process of applying for and attaining health care professional licensing when the applicant has a license, education, or credentialing from states and schools outside of Nebraska	
LR233	Harms	C	Interim study to review federal and state laws on the practice of businesses such as gas stations, hotels, or other businesses, placing holds on credit cards for more than the amount of the purchase	
LR234	Harms	C	Interim study to examine ways to assist in the development of budget, revenue, and fiscal note projections through comprehensive and targeted economic or demographic evaluations that are conducted in order to enhance policy decision making to ensure a balanced state budget	
LR235	Harms	C	Interim study to examine the adoption process under the current safe haven law	
LR236	Harms	C	Interim study to explore methods by which to prevent increases in motor vehicle injuries and fatalities as a result of the increase in the the aging population forecasts	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR237	Campbell	C	Interim study to assess the extent to which Nebraska has implemented key provisions of the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008	
LR238	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine the Access Nebraska system, as well as the separation of the economic assistance programs from the medicaid program	
LR239	Howard	C	Interim study to examine the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	
LR240	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine the need for amending the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act relating to payment of PTO benefits when leaving employment	
LR241	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the financial impact of, and financing options for, medicaid expansion under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for medical assistance for newly eligible individuals	
LR242	Harms	C	Interim study to examine the methods of encouraging transition from adult education to postsecondary education for adults	
LR243	Gloor	C	Interim study to examine the future of emergency medical services in Nebraska	
LR244	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Public Safety Communication System	
LR245	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to recycling	
LR246	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to conduct a comparison of the school employees and Class V school employees retirement plans	
LR247	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine purchase of service credits in public retirement plans	
LR248	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine service requirements in the School Employees Retirement Act	
LR250	Harr	C	Interim study to examine the State of Nebraska's self-insured workers' compensation plan administered by the Dept. of Administrative Services	
LR251	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine court fees earmarked to generate revenue for the Nebraska Judges Retirement System	
LR252	McGill	C	Interim study to examine how amendments to the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act affect existing economic development plans adopted under the act	
LR253	McGill	C	Interim study to assess the impact of Nebraska changing to a home rule state in matters of local concern	
LR254	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine the concept of regulating commingled acres relating to surface water and ground water	
LR255	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine the concept of moving surface water-only irrigated acres to ground water acres to help compliance with compacts, agreements, and decrees	
LR256	Christensen	C	Interim study to reexamine the consolidation of the Dept. of Health and Human Services that occurred in 1996 with the enactment of LB1044	
LR257	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the early childhood learning and development system across the state to determine how to make the current system more effective	
LR258	Krist	C	Interim study to examine whether alcohol licensee employees should be certified in how to apply pertinent portions of the Nebr. Liquor Control Act	
LR259	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine providing for the utilization of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) reserve funds to provide for afterschool programming for children in families that qualify for assistance	
LR260	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine existing barriers to the delivery of health care services through telehealth technologies in Nebraska	
LR261	Coash	C	Interim study to examine barriers to permanent placements for Nebraska children who have been placed out of the home and are wards of the state	
LR262	Coash	C	Interim study to examine the high rate of placement of Nebraska's Native American children involved in the foster care system	
LR263	Coash	C	Interim study to examine the economic impact of the film, television, and commercial industry in Nebraska	
LR264	Scheer	C	Interim study to examine the education data system	
LR265	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine insurance coverage of amino acid-based elemental formulas	
LR266	Conrad	C	Interim study to identify ways in which Nebraska may support and increase venture capital investment in the state	
LR267	Smith	C	Interim study to review the One-Call Notification System Act	
LR268	Smith	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding new residential and commercial development in our state's urban areas	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR269	Harr	C	Interim study to examine the property tax base structure and compare this structure to those of other states	
LR270	Davis	C	Interim study to examine identification or creation of methods of keeping elderly Nebraskans safe in their homes where they can receive high quality care and support	
LR271	Davis	C	Interim study to examine issues, benefits, and costs associated with expanding the brand inspection area to include the entire State of Nebraska	
LR272	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine issues related to the use of paraeducators to improve and promote student achievement in public elementary schools	
LR273	Bolz	C	Interim study to identify budgeting strategies to support the array of services needed for Nebraska's aging population in a fiscally responsible manner	
LR274	Bolz	C	Interim study to maximize opportunities to leverage the new opportunity to build a medicaid management information system that meets the needs of Nebraska	
LR275	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the behavioral and mental health needs of children in educational settings	
LR276	Chambers	C	Interim study to examine the communications rate structure for persons receiving calls from incarcerated individuals in county and local correctional facilities	
LR277	Ashford	C	Interim study to review the current costs associated with correctional and detention facilities in Nebraska	
LR278	Ashford	C	Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee	
LR279	Ashford	C	Interim study to examine the use of social impact bonds to develop programming for juveniles and adults reentering the community after involvement with the juvenile justice system or the criminal justice system	
LR280	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine retail license provisions within the Nebr. Liquor Control Act regarding whether licensees should be permitted to bottle draft beer to be sold for consumption off the premises	
LR281	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine the nature of and relationship between catering liquor licenses and special designated liquor licenses within the Nebr. Liquor Control Act	
LR282	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues regarding the parity in Nebraska School Activities Association activities between private and public high schools	
LR283	Karpisek	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee	
LR284	Karpisek	C	Interim study to review issues relating to child custody proceedings and parenting time determinations as they pertain to families of divorce	
LR285	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine career education program in Nebraska's public schools	
LR286	Lathrop	C	Interim study to review state law regarding child abuse and neglect in instances when a pregnant woman engages in an activity that causes harm to the fetus	
LR287	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine the requirement that counties pay court filing fees and costs when filing criminal charges and civil proceedings in the county, district, and juvenile courts	
LR288	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the role and value of animal health professionals and other volunteers in assisting law enforcement in carrying out duties under the Livestock Animal Welfare Act	
LR289	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of utilizing fence viewer panels as arbitrators or fact finders in resolving division fence disputes	
LR290	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of designating counties adjacent to the mandatory brand inspection area designated by 54-1109 as brand inspection service areas	
LR291	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the means by which to coordinate activities by state livestock animal health authorities with the activities of local livestock cruelty and neglect authorities	
LR292	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the levy authority of rural and suburban fire protection districts	
LR293	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine the prevalence of game processing services performed for compensation by persons not licensed as a food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act	
LR294	Schilz	C	Interim study to examine a program which would maximize private health insurance so as to cover as many Nebraskans as possible and be implemented to qualify for federal approval and matching funds	
LR295	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the disparity in income between men and women in the State of Nebraska	
LR296	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of career academies in Nebraska high schools and the feasibility of expanding career academies to more schools in the state	

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR297	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of telehealth technology used for behavioral health services in Nebraska	
LR298	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues surrounding the efficiency of state programs	
LR299	Nordquist	C	Interim study to examine the possibility of the State of Nebraska operating and managing all activities associated with motor vehicle licensing and registration for all counties	
LR300	Campbell	C	Interim study to examine the treatment and services for people dually diagnosed with intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental illness, or behavioral health problems	
LR302	Smith	C	Interim study to examine the generation of energy in Nebraska through the use of renewable energy sources and to provide a comparison with other states	
LR303	Coash	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to brain injuries	
LR304	Harr	C	Interim study to identify the differences between statutes governing Class V school districts and other school districts	
LR305	Harr	C	Interim study to examine the governance and efficiency of the State Board of Education	
LR306	Mello	C	Interim study to examine a practice known as "banning the box," which requires prospective employees to disclose their criminal backgrounds on initial job applications before prospective employees have an interview	
LR307	Lautenbaugh	C	Interim study to examine the committee and caucus structure of the Legislature	
LR309	Wallman	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to improving the protection of sensitive commercial crops from losses due to the damaging effects of phenoxy herbicide drift	
LR312	Coash	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the child protective services system within the Dept. of Health and Human Services	
LR313	McGill	C	Interim study to examine comprehensive models of response and treatment for victims of human trafficking	
LR314	McGill	C	Interim study to examine the use of parent education available within the public schools	
LR315	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine the development of a new type of corporate entity known as the benefit corporation	
LR316	Scheer	C	Interim study to examine unfair insurance trade practices	
LR317	Conrad	C	Interim study to examine how forced overtime on a regular basis as a regular work practice affects Nebraskans working in meatpacking, poultry, food processing, and other factory work	
LR318	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to mass transit authorities	
LR319	Mello	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to Omaha's federally mandated combined sewer overflow project	
LR320	Haar	C	Interim study to examine statutes and procedures relating to the eminent domain laws for oil pipelines and the authority of local governments to regulate oil pipelines	
LR321	Haar	C	Interim study to examine statutes and procedures relating to the State of Nebraska's financial responsibility for oil pipelines	
LR322	Haar	C	Interim study to examine options for stabilization and growth in state funding for schools	
LR323	Haar	C	Interim study to examine statutes and policies relating to increasing renewable energy development in Nebraska	
LR324	Haar	C	Interim study to examine and evaluate the statutory requirements on Nebraska's public power districts	
LR325	Haar	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of the school budget limitation and certification of school budget authority included in the state aid formula	
LR326	Haar	C	Interim study to examine and evaluate net metering in Nebraska	
LR327	Haar	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to providing storm shelters or safe rooms for residents of mobile home parks	
LR328	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine methods to better protect elderly and other vulnerable Nebraskans from financial exploitation	
LR329	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine ways the state could use tax policy to encourage more small business start-ups especially for businesses utilizing technology and innovation	
LR330	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine ways Nebraska can ensure a future workforce well-skilled in science, technology, engineering, and math education	
LR331	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine stronger penalties for offenders convicted of the crime of sexual assault of a child as well as related deterrents and victim remedies	
LR332	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine ways the state may reduce property taxes	

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed, LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file, GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed, W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill # ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2013 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR333	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine ways the state may reduce income tax rates	
LR334	Pirsch	C	Interim study to identify and eliminate waste and fraud in government spending	
LR335	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine whether more fair and appropriate methods of agricultural land valuation can be implemented	
LR336	Pirsch	C	Interim study to investigate methods to reduce gang violence	
LR337	Pirsch	C	Interim study to investigate methods to attract investment capital into Nebraska to create more jobs and businesses	
LR338	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the regulation of abortion clinics	
LR339	Pirsch	C	Interim study to examine methods to increase the export of Nebraska agricultural commodities and other Nebraska products	
LR340	Davis	C	Interim study to identify the value of property taxes eliminated by all tax-increment financing and other Nebraska business tax incentive programs	
LR341	Davis	C	Interim study to examine the powers and duties of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency	
LR342	Davis	C	Interim study to evaluate whether any types of agricultural land are being overvalued relative to their income potential	
LR343	Dubas	C	Interim study to examine the policy to supplement federal universal service support mechanisms and ensure all Nebraskans have comparable accessibility to telecommunications at affordable prices	
LR344	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to provide an examination of the availability and adequacy of retirement savings of Nebraska private sector workers	
LR345	Christensen	C	Interim study to examine whether the Nebr. Ground Water Management and Protection Act should be amended relating to designating or determining the appropriation status of river basins	
LR369	Nebraska Retirement Systems	C	Interim study to conduct an analysis of guidance principles for pension divestment policy decisions	
LR387	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine how Nebraska is utilizing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds	
LR389	Revenue	C	Interim study to examine the local use of taxing powers, including occupation tax and other forms of taxation, and to examine the fiscal relationship between state and local governments	

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCES

Visit www.NebraskaLegislature.gov to:

- learn about and contact a senator
- find the status of bills and resolutions
- research statutes
- view the legislative calendar
- find legislative documents and reports
- watch live coverage of floor debate and committee hearings
- order legislative publications
- browse the Nebraska Blue Book
- learn about the history of unicameralism
- discover the Legislature's student programs

To find the status of a bill or resolution by telephone:

Legislative Hot Line (V/TTY) - Lincoln: (402) 471-2709
Legislative Hot Line - Nebraska, outside Lincoln: (800) 742-7456

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

The Unicameral Update is a daily legislative news source produced by the Clerk of the Legislature's Unicameral Information Office.

Clerk of the Legislature
Patrick J. O'Donnell

Editor
Heidi Uhing

Writers
Nicole Behmer
Kate Heltzel
Ami Johnson

Photographer
Bess Ghormley



Read the Update blog at update.legislature.ne.gov



Sign up for the RSS feed from the Update blog



Get Update tweets at twitter.com/UnicamUpdate



Ask for a printed Update at (402) 471-2788 or uio@leg.ne.gov



Find Update stories on NebraskaLegislature.gov

Unicameral Information Office
Nebraska State Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509
03-23-05

PRESRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LINCOLN, NE
PERMIT NO. 212