

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

SESSION REVIEW 2019

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THE 106TH
NEBRASKA
LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

VOLUME XLII, No. 21 2019 SESSION REVIEW

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AGRICULTURE



Sen. Steve Halloran, chairperson of the Agriculture Committee

The Agriculture Committee advanced bills this session authorizing the cultivation and processing of hemp, expanding legal protections for agricultural producers and allowing for cottage food sales from a private home.

Nebraskans may grow, process and handle hemp and hemp products in the state under LB657, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne and passed on a vote of 43-4.

Under the 2018 Farm Bill, Congress distinguished hemp from marijuana and removed hemp from regulation under the federal Controlled Substances Act. In addition, the farm bill provided for the cultivation and commercial use of hemp under regulation of either the U.S. Department of Agriculture or the states. States that wish to regulate hemp production first must submit a plan to the USDA for approval.

LB657 requires the state Department of Agriculture to establish, operate and administer a program to license and regulate those who cultivate, process, handle or broker



Sen. Justin Wayne

hemp, defined as cannabis with no more than 0.3 percent delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the plant's main psychoactive compound.

The bill also requires the department's director to submit a state regulatory plan to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture no later than Dec. 31, 2019.

Prior to the state plan's approval, a person with a valid licensing agreement with the state Department of Agriculture may cultivate, handle or process hemp as part of a pilot program authorized by federal law in 2014.

The bill requires any person other than a hemp cultivator or processor-handler who is transporting hemp to carry a bill of lading indicating the hemp's owner, its point of origin and its destination, as well as documentation affirming that it was produced in compliance with federal law.

Another bill advanced by the committee expands legal protections for agricultural producers under Nebraska's 1982 Right to Farm Act.

Under the act, a farm or public grain warehouse—a grain elevator or receptacle in which grain is held for longer than 10 days—cannot be found to be a public or private nuisance if it existed before a change in the land use or occupancy of land in its locality and would not have been considered a nuisance before the change.

Under LB227, introduced by Sen. Dan Hughes of Venango and passed 46-2, no suit for public or private nuisance may be maintained against a farm or public grain warehouse more than two years after the condition that is the subject matter of the suit reaches a level of offense sufficient to sustain a nuisance claim.



Sen. Dan Hughes

The limitation does not apply to any action brought to determine compliance with or to enforce a previous court order related to the same nuisance claim or to any claims for additional damages or relief available when an operation fails to remediate a nuisance pursuant to the court order.

Nebraskans may sell so-called cottage foods directly from their homes and at certain events under another bill advanced by the committee.

Under the Nebraska Pure Food Act, a person or business preparing, storing or selling food for public consumption is required to be licensed and inspected and to comply with certain food safety regulations.

State law previously had exempted private homes only when preparing nonhazardous food items such as many types of baked goods and uncut fruits and vegetables directly sold to consumers at a farmers market if the consumer is informed by a sign at the sale location that

the food was prepared in a kitchen that was not subject to regulation and inspection.

LB304, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford and passed on a 40-0 vote, expands commercial avenues available to cottage food businesses by allowing direct consumer sales of nonhazardous food items at a fair, festival, craft show or other public event or for pickup or delivery at a seller's private home.



Sen. Sue Crawford

The bill requires producers other than those selling directly to consumers at a farmers' market to complete a nationally accredited food safety and handling course or a certified food safety and handling training course offered at a culinary school or as required by a county, city or village to obtain a food handler permit.

A producer also is required to follow food safety and handling guidelines for sale at public events, and a producer selling from a private home is required to register with the department before conducting any sales.

A bill advanced by the committee and passed on a vote of 43-0 creates a 17-member task force that will develop a plan to improve soil health in Nebraska.

Introduced by Creighton Sen. Tim Gragert, LB243 creates a healthy soils task force under the state Department of Agriculture.



Sen. Tim Gragert

The task force will develop a healthy soils initiative and a plan to carry it out "using standards for organic matter, biological activity, biological diversity and

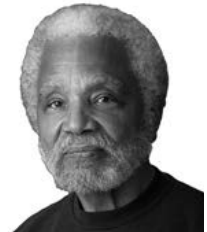
soil structure as measures to assess improved soil health."

Members will include the director of the department or his or her designee and others appointed by the governor, including representatives of natural resources districts, production agriculture and agribusiness as well as academic experts and representatives from environmental organizations.

When developing the plan, the task force will examine how to provide farmers and ranchers with research, education, technical assistance and demonstration projects; financial incentives to improve soil health; and information on the contribution of livestock to soil health.

The task force is required to submit its plan, findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the governor by Jan. 1, 2021, when it terminates.

The committee did not advance LB45, introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, which would repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act.



Sen. Ernie Chambers

The 2012 act authorizes county boards to adopt and carry out coordinated management programs to control black-tailed prairie dog colonies on property within the county.

Also remaining in committee is LB382, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Suzanne Geist, which would bar municipalities from enacting ordinances to regulate pet stores and require sellers to make pet disclosure statements available for customer review. ■



Sen. Suzanne Geist

APPROPRIATIONS



Sen. John Stinner, chairperson of the Appropriations Committee

Lawmakers approved the state's \$9.3 billion, two-year budget package this session.

Among the measures passed was LB294, the mainline budget bill, which funds state government for the next two fiscal years. The bill was introduced by Speaker Jim Scheer of Norfolk at the request of the governor and includes:

- LB174, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, which increases general funds to the state Office of Violence Prevention by \$300,000 per year in the next two fiscal years;
- LB181, sponsored by Bolz, which uses \$87,500 from the Nursing Facility Penalty Cash Fund to pay for a study to examine demographic trends, project current and future service needs and provide recommendations for continued statewide access to long-term care



Sen. Jim Scheer



Sen. Kate Bolz

services, including nursing facility care, for Medicaid recipients;

- LB327, also sponsored by Bolz, which increases behavioral health provider rates by \$1.5 million in FY2019-20 and \$3.6 million in FY2020-21; and
- LB403, sponsored by Gering Sen. John Stinner, which changes the Medicaid rate calculation for nursing facilities.

LB294 passed on a vote of 35-12.

Provisions of LB202, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Anna Wishart, were amended into LB293, a portion of the budget package that adjusts current year appropriations.

The provisions appropriate \$2.7 million in the current fiscal year to the state Department of Health and Human Services as the last of three payments to developmental disability providers who did not receive full compensation for services rendered due to a DHHS error.

Senators approved LB293 on a vote of 45-2.

Provisions of LB446, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, were amended into LB298, which repeals and creates funds and makes certain fund transfers.

The provisions authorize the use of funds from the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program to supplement existing programs, services and approaches to reduce jail populations and costs. Any aid not distributed to counties through the existing formula will be distributed on a competitive basis to counties demonstrating additional need in identified funding areas.

LB298 passed on a 46-2 vote.

Additional budget measures approved were:

- LB295, which provides for the \$12,000 annual salaries of Nebraska's 49 state senators, passed 43-4;
- LB296, which funds salaries and benefits for judges and constitutional officers, passed 47-0;
- LB297, which appropriates funds for reaffirmed and new capital construction projects, passed 38-9;
- LB299, which makes a \$54.7 million transfer to cover costs for two additional high security housing units for the state Department of Correctional Services, passed 43-4; and
- LB464, which provides for payment of claims against the state, passed 46-1.

The governor offered no line-item vetoes of the budget bills this session.



Sen. Anna Wishart



Sen. Mike McDonnell

Other measures

Lawmakers passed a bill this session intended to increase assistance available to startup companies through the state Department of Economic Development.

LB334, sponsored by Stinner, eliminates the Angel Investment Tax Credit, which was scheduled to terminate in 2022.

In FY2020-21, the \$4 million annual cost savings will be directed to the state Military Department for the governor's emergency program to assist those impacted by recent flooding. Beginning in FY2021-22, funds will be directed to DED to fund programs under the Business Innovation Act.

The bill requires DED and the Appropriations Committee to assess and evaluate the financial status and economic impact of programs funded under the Business Innovation Act.

LB334 also includes provisions of LB452, sponsored by Elmwood Sen. Robert Clements, which transfer Cass County from its current planning and development region to Region 8. The provisions also place a moratorium on future boundary changes until July 1, 2020.



Sen. Robert Clements

Lawmakers passed the bill 47-0.

Senators also established a trust fund for brain injury research and advocacy in Nebraska.

LB481, as originally introduced by Bolz, would have stated intent regarding how the state Department of Health and Human Services administers the federal Title

X Program.

Those provisions were removed and replaced with LB642, introduced by McDonnell. The bill creates the Brain Injury Trust Fund, which consists of general fund appropriations and transfers authorized by the Legislature, grants and any contributions designated for the purpose of the fund.

The bill transfers \$500,000 annually to the Brain Injury Trust Fund from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, beginning in FY2020-21.

The Brain Injury Trust Fund will be administered through a contract with the University of Nebraska Medical Center for administration, accounting and budgeting purposes and used to pay contracts for assistance to individuals with a brain injury. No more than 10 percent of the fund may be used for administration.

LB481 also creates a 12-member Brain Injury Oversight Committee. The bill passed on a 41-1 vote.

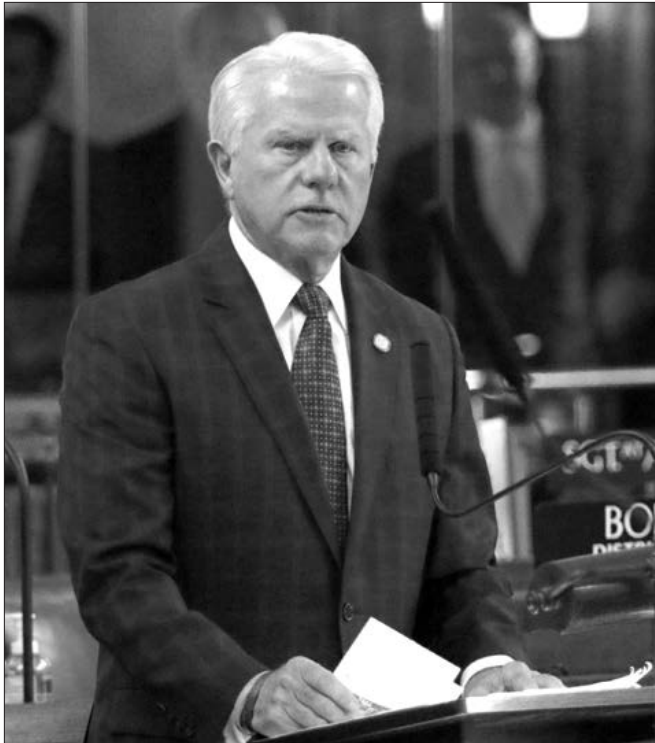
A proposal that would increase funding for pancreatic cancer research remains in committee.

LB669, sponsored by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman, would appropriate \$15 million from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the University of Nebraska Medical Center for the establishment of a pancreatic cancer research center. No funds would be distributed until the university has received \$15 million in matching private or other funds for the same purpose. ■



Sen. Mark Kolterman

BANKING, COMMERCE & INSURANCE



Sen. Matt Williams, chairperson of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

Insurance coverage for children’s hearing aids and behavioral health services were addressed this session, along with regulation of automatic teller machine fees and real estate licenses.

Insurance

Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, most insurance plans in Nebraska must cover hearing aids for children. LB15, introduced by Sen. Carol Blood of Bellevue, requires that non-exempt plans cover evaluation, fitting, programming, repairs and auditory rehabilitation and training for Nebraskans younger than 19. Hearing aids must be purchased from a licensed audiologist with medical clearance from an otolaryngologist to be covered.



Sen. Carol Blood

Small business group health plans are exempt, as are companies for whom expenses associated with the bill would exceed 1 percent of yearly premiums

collected. Covered expenses are capped at \$3,000 over four years. The bill passed 48-0.

Insurance companies can no longer deny coverage of behavioral health care solely because it is delivered in a school. Under LB619, introduced by Sen. Rick Kolowski of Omaha, insurers are not required to cover services that otherwise are excluded from a policy. The bill passed 49-0 and takes effect Jan. 1, 2020.



Sen. Rick Kolowski

Legislators also approved a bill 46-0 that allows Nebraskans with multiple medical prescriptions to coordinate and collect all of their medication on the same day.

LB442, introduced by Sen. John McCollister of Omaha, allows for medical synchronization if medication:



Sen. John McCollister

- is covered by the patient’s health benefit plan or has been approved by a formulary exception process;
- meets the prior authorization or utilization management criteria;
- treats a chronic illness;
- can be safely split into short-fill periods; and
- is not a Schedule II controlled substance.

LB228, introduced by Sen. Dan Hughes of Venango, would make it illegal for an insurance company to discriminate against organ donors.



Sen. Dan Hughes

LB501, introduced by Sen. Megan Hunt of Omaha, would require insurers to cover in vitro fertilization procedures to the same extent that they cover other pregnancy-related procedures.



Sen. Megan Hunt

Both bills remain in committee.

Banking

Certain automatic teller machine fees changed under LB603, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom. The bill, passed 49-0, removes a requirement that financial institutions must charge the same ATM fees to all other financial institutions.

LB603 affects default interchange fees that are charged between institutions during an ATM transaction. It does not change bank customer ATM fees.



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

A bill that would raise interest rate caps stalled on select file. LB188, also introduced by Lindstrom, would raise the maximum interest rate on installment loans to 29 percent. Currently, the interest rate on such loans is capped at 24 percent for the first \$1,000 of an unpaid balance and 21 percent on any remaining balance.

The bill advanced from general file but was removed from the agenda at Lindstrom's request. LB188 remains on select file.

LB379, introduced by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman, would allow a payday lender that has a principal place of business in Nebraska to offer its products online. The bill also would mandate that all payday lenders use the National Mortgage Licensing System and pay an additional licensing fee to be determined by the state Department of Banking and Finance.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

LB379 was advanced to general file but was not debated this session.

LB265, introduced by Sen. Andrew La Grone of Gretna, would create a regulation and licensure structure for unsecured consumer installment loans of less than \$1,000 with a minimum term of 180 days. The bill also would cap fees charged by lenders at 20 percent



Sen. Andrew La Grone

of the first \$300 borrowed plus 7.5 percent of the loan balance in excess of \$300.

The bill remains in committee.

Commerce

Lawmakers approved a bill that changes education requirements for new real estate licenses in Nebraska.

LB384, introduced by Sen. Lynne Walz of Fremont, prohibits an individual with a broker's license from acting as a designated broker for another licensee unless he or she has taken additional courses post-licensure.



Sen. Lynne Walz

The bill, which passed 31-10, requires that an applicant for a broker's or salesperson's license complete six class hours in professional practice and standards and 12 class hours in real estate knowledge and skills within 180 days of being issued a license. All classes must be approved by the Nebraska Real Estate Commission.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.

LB12, introduced by Blood, waives the \$80 real estate license fee if a military member or their spouse has a valid real estate license from another state or regulatory jurisdiction. The bill passed 47-0 and took effect immediately. ■

BUSINESS & LABOR



Sen. Matt Hansen, chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee

Among the issues considered by members of the Business and Labor Committee this session were strengthening worker protections, raising the tipped minimum wage and expanding unemployment benefits and family leave.

Worker protections and wages

Lawmakers approved a bill meant to assist individuals facing collection of certain medical debts.

LB418, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh and passed 35-0, prohibits collection of a debt incurred for treatment of a work-related injury while the matter is pending in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court.

Under the bill, written notice that the matter is pending will be provided to collection agencies seeking to collect on a debt. A second notice will be sent within 30 days of the initial notice, including specific details of the debt.



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

The state attorney general is authorized to investigate collection agencies that do not comply with the bill's provisions.

The measure includes provisions of LB360, originally sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen. These allow the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court to appoint a power of attorney for a claim, settlement or disbursement of money for nonresident alien dependents if the court believes the dependents are better served by someone other than the consular officer of their resident country, or if no consular officer exists.

Provisions of LB178, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers, also are included in the bill. These update and change references to the state Department of Administrative Services' risk manager and make changes to allow for a more efficient claims process.



Sen. Mike Hilgers

LB217, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, prohibits an employer from discharging or retaliating against any employee because he or she inquired about, discussed or disclosed comparative wage, benefit or other compensation information.



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

The bill prohibits disclosure or dissemination of:

- information to a competitor;
- proprietary or other privileged information; or
- information to the general public or by an employee during work hours.

LB217 does not apply to employers that are exempt from the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act and does not create an obligation for any employer or employee to disclose information regarding wages, benefits or other compensation.

The bill passed on a 46-1 vote.

A measure to raise the state's tipped minimum wage remains on general file.

LB400, introduced by Omaha Sen. Megan Hunt, would increase the tipped minimum wage from its current level of \$2.13 to 40 percent of the standard minimum wage rate in 2020 and 50 percent in 2021.

If the standard minimum wage remains at its current level of \$9.00 per hour, the minimum wage for persons compensated by way of gratuities would be \$3.60 per hour in 2020 and \$4.50 per hour in 2021.



Sen. Megan Hunt

A pending amendment from Lincoln Sen. Anna Wishart would make a single, one-time tipped minimum wage increase to \$4.50 per hour, rather than the incremental

approach proposed in the original bill.

After two days of debate, the Legislature adjourned without taking action on LB400. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford's LB311, which would provide partial wage replacement for eligible workers to care for themselves or a family member following a serious illness or to care for a new child, also was passed over in accordance with the three-hour policy and did not return to the agenda.



Sen. Sue Crawford

A pending Business and Labor Committee amendment would replace the bill. As amended, covered individuals would be entitled to take leave under the bill beginning Jan. 1, 2022. Available leave would vary between six and 12 weeks during any calendar year dependent on the qualified reason for the leave.

Crawford introduced an amendment, which is pending, that would reduce available leave to four to six weeks during a calendar year, dependent on the qualified reason for leave.

A bill that would require a prospective employer to evaluate a job applicant's qualifications without an initial check of his or her criminal history advanced from committee.

LB254, as originally introduced by Sen. John McCollister of Omaha, would have barred certain employers and employment agencies from asking about a job applicant's criminal history until the employer or agency determines whether the applicant meets the minimum qualifications of the position. The requirement would apply to businesses with 15 or more employees.



Sen. John McCollister

As amended, the bill instead would require an employer that asks an applicant to disclose his or her criminal history to afford the applicant the opportunity to explain a past conviction or other criminal history. LB254 would not apply to the state of Nebraska, local governmental agencies or political subdivisions.

The bill was advanced to final reading, where it remains.

LB305, introduced by Crawford, would require employers with four or more employees to provide paid sick and safe leave. Under the proposal, employees would accrue at least one hour of paid leave for every 30 hours worked. Employees could earn up to 40 hours of paid leave per year, based on hours worked.

The bill remains in committee.

Unemployment

Certain seasonal construction employees are exempt from a specific unemployment benefit requirement under a bill passed by the Legislature.

Under LB428, introduced by Henderson Sen. Curt Friesen, highway construction employees who are prohibited by the state Department of Transportation from working during the winter months will not have to prove that they actively are searching for employment to receive unemployment benefits.



Sen. Curt Friesen

The bill also increases the amount that construction employers contribute to the unemployment fund. LB428 passed on a 42-0 vote and takes effect Jan. 1, 2020.

An effort to expand unemployment benefits failed to pass this session.

Currently, a person who voluntarily leaves employment with "good cause" is eligible for unemployment benefits under employment security law. LB306, introduced by Crawford, would add leaving employment to care for a family member with a serious health condition to the existing list of good cause reasons.

An employee would be required to make all reasonable efforts to preserve his or her employment before voluntarily leaving.

The bill failed to pass on a 20-15 vote. Twenty-five votes were needed.

Other measures

A bill authorizing payment of claims against the state of Nebraska also passed this session.

LB464, introduced by Business and Labor Committee chairperson Hansen, was included as part of the state budget package and passed 46-1.

LB577, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, would grant the commissioner of labor the power to force a contractor to halt work on a site and expedite an investigation if a violation is found to threaten public health and safety.



Sen. Tony Vargas

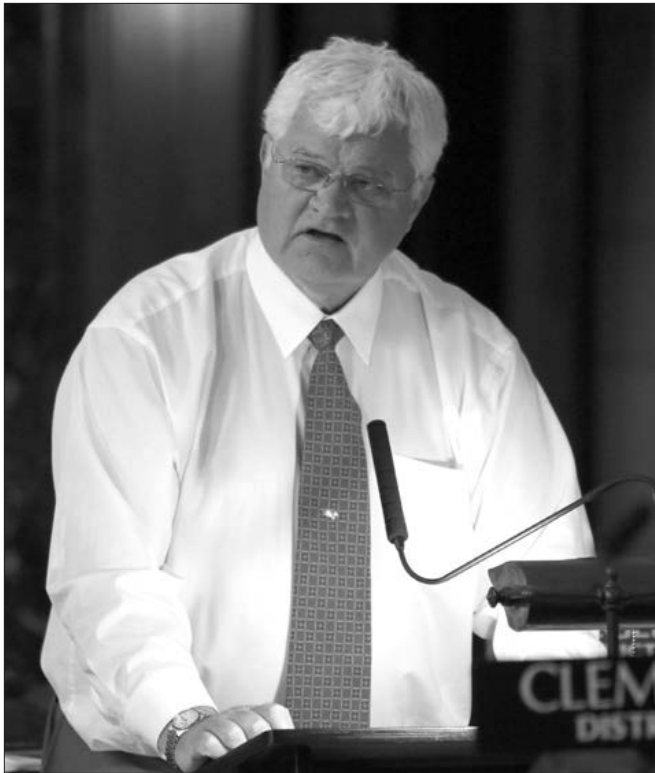
The bill advanced from committee but was not debated this session. It remains on general file.

Finally, LB19, introduced by Albion Sen. Tom Briese, would withhold from the public record first reports of injury to the Workers' Compensation Court with certain exceptions. The bill remains in committee. ■



Sen. Tom Briese

EDUCATION



Sen. Mike Groene, chairperson of the Education Committee

The Education Committee considered proposals this session to update Nebraska's civic education standards, reimburse school districts for mental and behavioral health expenses and authorize teachers to physically restrain violent students.

Standards and curriculum

LB399, introduced by Sen. Julie Slama of Peru and passed on a vote of 44-2, updates social studies requirements for Nebraska schools.

A renamed committee on American civics will hold at least two public meetings each year and ensure that a school district's social studies curriculum is accessible to the public.



Sen. Julie Slama

Each committee also will ensure that a district's curriculum aligns with state social studies standards and "teaches and assesses foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy and geography."

LB399 requires each school district to incorporate into its curriculum either an exam based on the 100-question civics portion of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization test or a civics-focused project, paper or presentation.

The committee did not advance a bill that would require Nebraska schools to teach students about the Holocaust.

As introduced by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, LB640 would expand the current definition of multicultural education to include studies related to the Holocaust and other acts of genocide, including such acts in Armenia, Bosnia, Cambodia, Rwanda, Sudan and Ukraine.



Sen. Sara Howard

Tuition and scholarships

The committee advanced a measure that provides resident college tuition rates for spouses and dependents of active duty military personnel who are assigned to duty stations outside Nebraska.

Under LB6, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood and passed 47-0, the spouse or legal dependent of a person who is on active duty military assignment in Nebraska is considered a resident for tuition purposes at the state's postsecondary educational institutions as long as the person was on active duty in Nebraska at the time the spouse or legal dependent was accepted for admission and he or she remains continually enrolled.



Sen. Carol Blood

The committee also advanced a bill that increases the number of programs eligible for the state's community college gap assistance program.

The program provides funding for community colleges to provide awards to students in programs that are aligned with training programs with stackable credentials that lead to a program awarding college credit, an associate degree, a diploma or a certificate in an in-demand occupation such as health services, transportation and computer services.

Previously, only programs that are not offered for credit and that have a duration of at least 16 contact hours were eligible for the program.

Under LB180, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, programs that are offered for credit but are of insufficient clock, semester or quarter hours to be



Sen. Kate Bolz

eligible for Federal Pell Grants also qualify for the program.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

The committee did not advance a bill under which students who major in computer science, nursing, engineering and other in-demand fields at Nebraska's university and public colleges could receive state scholarships.

Introduced by Gering Sen. John Stinner, LB639 would provide scholarships to eligible students whose declared majors lead to a high-demand, high-wage, high-skill career as designated by the state Department of Labor.



Sen. John Stinner

Mental and behavioral health services

Several bills meant to bolster mental health services, education and training for Nebraska students and school personnel remain in committee.

Public school nurses, teachers, counselors, psychologists, administrators and social workers currently are required to receive at least one hour of suicide awareness and prevention training each year.

LB120, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford, would require staff to receive instead one hour of behavioral and mental health training each year during contract hours.



Sen. Sue Crawford

The training would include suicide awareness and prevention training and also could include identification of early warning signs and symptoms of behavioral and mental health issues, effective responses for educators, trauma-informed care and procedures for making students and parents aware of services and supports.

LB488, introduced by Howard, would change requirements related to school districts' comprehensive health education programs.

Current law requires schools to include instruction about the physiological, psychological and sociological aspects of drug use, misuse and abuse and to place a special emphasis on tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, hallucinogenics, amphetamines, barbiturates and narcotics.

LB488 would repeal that requirement and instead require schools to incorporate age-appropriate mental health education and comprehensive drug awareness and prevention education into their programs.

LB725, introduced by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, would create a state Department of Education fund used to re-

imburse qualifying school districts and educational service units for up to 80 percent of their allowable mental health expenditures.

To qualify for reimbursement, a district or ESU would designate a mental health resource liaison who would help students, families, teachers and schools find mental health resources for students in the district or ESU.



Sen. Lynne Walz

Other measures

LB147, introduced by North Platte Sen. Mike Groene, would authorize a teacher or administrator to "use the necessary physical contact or physical restraint" to control a student who becomes physically violent. It also would authorize a teacher to have a disruptive student removed from the classroom under certain circumstances.

A teacher or administrator would not be subject to legal action or administrative discipline if he or she was acting in a "reasonable manner."

Groene filed a motion to place LB147 on general file, even though the Education Committee had not voted to advance it. Senators voted 25-14 to adopt the motion, which requires a majority vote of the Legislature. The bill remains on general file.

Several other bills received public hearings but were not advanced by the committee, including:

- LB73, introduced by Bayard Sen. Steve Erdman, which would require school boards to display the phrase "In God We Trust" in English in each classroom or other prominent place so that every student could see and read it each school day;
- LB358, introduced by Walz, which would change how qualified early childhood education membership is calculated for state aid purposes; and
- LB702, introduced by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, which would require postsecondary educational institutions to establish rules and procedures for resolving allegations of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking by students and employees and provide a method for anonymously reporting those incidents whether they occur on, near or off campus. ■



Sen. Steve Erdman



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

EXECUTIVE BOARD



Sen. Mike Hilgers, chairperson of the Executive Board

Legislative oversight, additional budget requirements and redistricting concerns topped the list of Executive Board issues considered by lawmakers this session.

LR104, introduced by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz and approved 42-0, reauthorizes a legislative committee that was approved in 2018 to study assisted living facilities.

The State-Licensed Care Facilities Oversight Committee is tasked with examining the lack of adequate conditions at state-licensed care facilities, the treatment of individuals residing in such facilities, the effectiveness of state Department of Health and Human Services regulation and licensure and how the department implements and administers its behavioral health services through the behavioral health regions.

The Executive Board appointed seven state senators to serve on the committee: Sens. Curt Friesen, Steve Halloran, Lou Ann Linehan, Dave Murman, Dan Quick, Lynne Walz and Anna Wishart.

The committee will issue a report to the Legislature by



Sen. Lynne Walz

Dec. 15, 2019.

Lawmakers also extended a time frame for the authority of the deputy public counsel for institutions.

The public counsel—also known as the state Ombudsman’s Office—is an independent office that handles citizen complaints regarding the actions of administrative agencies of Nebraska state government.

Currently, the authority of the deputy public counsel for institutions extends to individuals who have been patients at a state-owned or state-operated regional center within the prior 12 months. LB600, introduced by Walz, extends that time frame to 24 months.

The bill includes provisions of Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz’s LB330 that eliminate the July 2019 termination date for the Nebraska Children’s Commission. Under the provisions, the commission will become a permanent forum for collaboration among state, local, community, public and private stakeholders in child welfare and juvenile justice programs and services.



Sen. Kate Bolz

Also included are provisions of Bolz’s LB332, originally considered by the Health and Human Services Committee, which revise the Youth Bridge to Independence Program—a system of supports for older teenagers and young adults who are at or near the end of their time in foster care.

The bill expands the program to include young adults who age out of the state’s juvenile justice system. It also limits participation in the program to Nebraska residents and eliminates benefits to recipients who already are receiving residential funding through the home and community-based waiver program.

LB600 passed 39-0 and took effect immediately.

LB572, a measure proposed by Walz that would expand the oversight powers of the Ombudsman’s Office to include licensed assisted living facilities, remains in committee.

Sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Adam Morfeld, LB631 would create the Medicaid Expansion Task Force to provide oversight and facilitation of Medicaid expansion, which was approved by voters in 2018.

The 13-member task force would hold public hearings in each of the state’s three congressional districts and submit a report to the Legislature. The bill remains in committee.

A bill that requires the Legislature to analyze long-term fiscal sustainability by adding a new step to the state budget process was approved this session.



Sen. Adam Morfeld

LB713, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas and passed 49-0, requires the legislative fiscal analyst to create additional revenue and budget reports throughout the biennium. The reports include a revenue volatility report in even-numbered years, a budget stress test in odd-numbered years and a long-term budget for major programs every four years.



Sen. Tony Vargas

The Executive Board also considered four proposals this session regarding the Legislature's redistricting process.

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

Redistricting will be undertaken next in 2021.

LB466, introduced by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, would adopt the Redistricting Act.

Among other provisions, the act would specify the Legislature's redistricting process and require that new district



Sen. Sara Howard

maps be drawn using state-issued computer software and politically neutral criteria.

Other redistricting proposals considered were:

- LB253, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John McCollister, which would establish an Independent Redistricting Citizen's Advisory Commission, to be established by Jan. 30 of each redistricting year;
- LB261, sponsored by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer, which would require the use of state-issued computer software to create any map that is part of the redistricting process; and
- LB467, sponsored by Vargas, which would prohibit consideration of the political affiliation of registered voters, demographic information other than population figures and results of previous elections when drawing boundaries for legislative districts. Information required by federal law or the U.S. Constitution would be exempted under the bill.

None of the redistricting measures advanced from committee. ■

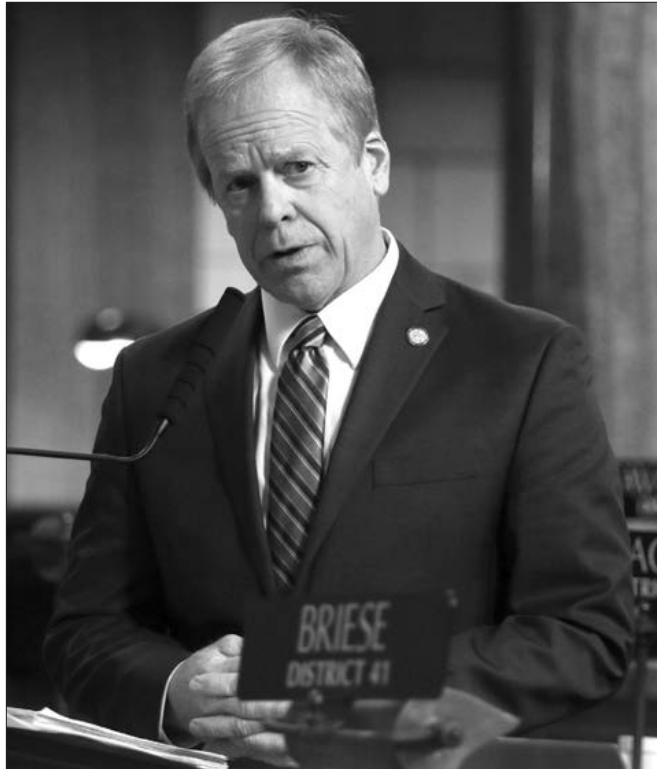


Sen. John McCollister



Sen. Wendy DeBoer

GENERAL AFFAIRS



Sen. Tom Briese, chairperson of the General Affairs Committee

Lawmakers made changes to the regulation of mechanical amusement devices, the Nebraska Lottery and vapor and tobacco products this session.

Alcohol and tobacco

LB149, introduced by Sen. Dan Quick of Grand Island, raised the legal age from 18 to 19 for purchasing and possessing tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems and flavored liquids containing nicotine.

Individuals younger than 19 who purchase or use tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems or flavored liquids containing nicotine will be guilty of a Class V misdemeanor and an individual selling or providing such products to those under 19 will be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

The bill does not apply to alternative nicotine products that are not sold in combination with a substance containing nicotine, tobacco or tobacco derivatives. LB149 passed 45-0.



Sen. Dan Quick

Non-licensed home alcohol brewers can now participate in certain public events. LB235, introduced by Sen. Sue Crawford of Bellevue, allows home brewers to offer their product without a permit at exhibitions, festivals, tastings and competitions as long as the alcohol is not for sale. The bill was approved on a 45-0 vote.



Sen. Sue Crawford

Farm wineries were redefined under a bill passed this session. LB592, as originally introduced by Albion Sen. Tom Briese, would have addressed the state Liquor Control Commission's ability to close establishments under the Liquor Control Act.

Those provisions were removed and replaced with portions of LB584, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers, which reduce from 75 to 60 the percentage of fruit or other suitable agricultural product grown in Nebraska required to meet the definition of farm winery. The bill also increases from one to four the number of branch outlets that allow sampling and sale of a farm winery's product.



Sen. Mike Hilgers

LB592 passed 47-0.

Briese also introduced LB591, which would allow a municipality or county board to apply to the LCC to create an alcohol impact zone. Among other provisions, the bill would require that an application include evidence that chronic public intoxication or illegal activity associated with alcohol sales has harmed the quality of life within the zone.

The bill remains in committee.

Two bills introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas also remain in committee: LB682, which would tax alcoholic spirits as proof gallons—liquor that is at least 50 percent alcohol; and LB723, which would lower the per-gallon excise tax on beer, wine and spirits.



Sen. Tony Vargas

Gaming

LB538, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, added electronic games of skill to the definition of a mechanical amusement device and requires the state Department of Revenue to determine if such devices are games of skill or chance.

Device distributors will pay a \$500 application fee, submit a sample game to the department, provide evidence



Sen. Steve Lathrop

that the device is a game of skill and provide an affidavit to the tax commissioner that no functional changes will be made to the device's hardware or software without the commissioner's approval after the license is granted.

LB538 also requires game owners to pay an annual \$250 licensure fee per device, sets a maximum number of devices per establishment, sets 19 as the legal age to play devices and prohibits use of credit or debit cards for payment.

The bill was approved on a 44-0 vote.

In another change to gaming law, the odds of winning will be posted on all Nebraska Lottery advertisements.

LB252, introduced by Sen. Suzanne Geist of Lincoln and passed 45-0, requires that all state lottery ads disclose the odds of winning the largest prize in



Sen. Suzanne Geist

a font no smaller than 35 percent of the largest font used in the ad. Online advertisements must disclose the odds in at least 10 point font.

Two additional bills were advanced by the committee but were not debated this session.



Sen. Carol Blood

LB137, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood, would require daily fantasy sports operators—like Fan Duel and Draft Kings—to register with the state Department of Revenue.

LB41, introduced by Sen. Robert Hilkemann of Omaha, would increase revenue directed to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund.



Sen. Robert Hilkemann

Both bills remain on general file. ■

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS



Sen. Tom Brewer, chairperson of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Election law, tourism merchandising, public records law and open meeting rules were discussed by lawmakers this session.

Elections

LB411, introduced by Sen. Jim Scheer of Norfolk, changed numerous election laws.

The bill, approved on a 46-0 vote, allows county boards to place a question on the ballot regarding a change in county board membership. The bill applies to counties with a population of less than 400,000 people that are not under township organization.



Sen. Jim Scheer

Under LB411, a qualifying county board may adopt a resolution by majority vote to allow voters to alter the number of commissioners on the board.

Included were provisions of 10 additional bills:

- LB98, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, which changes the number of signatures needed by a candidate to appear on a ballot to 4,000;



Sen. Justin Wayne

- LB101, also introduced by Wayne, which changes provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act relating to a potential conflict of interest by an elected office holder of certain cities or villages or a school district;

- LB246, introduced by Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer, which makes technical changes to several election procedures;

- LB280, also introduced by Brewer, which increases the maximum fine under the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Act from \$2,000 to \$5,000;



Sen. Andrew La Grone

- LB342, introduced by Gretna Sen. Andrew La Grone, which moves oversight of metropolitan utilities district elections from county election commissioners to the Nebraska secretary of state's office;

- LB522, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, which authorizes the Douglas County board to appoint a department director and have final say in personnel matters;



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan

- LB574, introduced by Brewer, which allows the members of a metropolitan utilities district to set the date of monthly meetings;

- LB608, introduced by La Grone, which removes outdated language regarding electronic voting and allows ballots to be counted at polling places;



Sen. Mike Hilgers

- LB618, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers, which redefines electioneering; and

- LB733, introduced by Sen. Rick Kolowski of Omaha, which expands access to the polls for voters with disabilities.



Sen. Rick Kolowski

Several other election-related bills did not advance from committee, including LB415, introduced

by Sen. Curt Friesen of Henderson, which would end the petition process to recall certain local elected officials; and LB83, introduced by Wayne, which would restore voting rights upon completion of a felony prison sentence or probation. Currently, ex-felons must wait two years before being able to register to vote.



Sen. Curt Friesen

Other bills

The Nebraska Tourism Commission can now better capitalize on its slogan: “Honestly, it’s not for everyone.”

LB637, introduced by Sen. John Stinner of Gering, authorizes the commission to develop and approve state marketing campaigns and develop and sell tourism products. Revenue generated by any sales will be credited to the commission’s promotional cash fund. The bill passed on a 49-0 vote and took effect immediately.



Sen. John Stinner

Gov. Pete Ricketts vetoed a bill intended to increase Nebraska’s participation in the 2020 U.S. census. LB436, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen, would have granted the Nebraska State Data Center program the authority to form a commission that could have solicited private funds to carry out its duties.



Sen. Matt Hansen

The bill passed 38-4, but was vetoed by the governor after the Legislature had adjourned sine die.

Current law allows for withholding certain information from disclosure under Nebraska’s public records law. Introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion, LB16 adds physical and cyber assets of critical energy or electric infrastructure, if the disclosure would threaten national security, public health or safety.



Sen. Tom Briese

The bill also prohibits disclosure of the identity of personnel whose primary job makes them responsible for providing or granting access to physical or cyber assets or operating and maintaining those assets, if a reasonable person would conclude that such a public disclosure would create a substantial likelihood of risk to those assets.

LB16 passed on a 45-0 vote.

Lawmakers also approved a bill intended to clarify jurisdiction over five tracts of land inside the fence line of

Offutt Air Force Base. LB214, introduced by La Grone, cedes all civil and criminal jurisdiction over the land tracts to the federal government. The bill passed 46-0.

LB511, introduced by Brewer and passed 48-0, allows state employees to devote one hour a week to youth mentoring programs. Paid leave for this purpose is not authorized under the bill.

Nebraska’s largest counties and cities are allowed to use an alternative design method for transportation projects under LB583, introduced by Hilgers. The bill, passed on a 47-0 vote, allows counties of 150,000 or more residents and metropolitan and primary class cities to use a design-build method for projects that fall under the Transportation Innovation Act.

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee introduced LB212, which expands the use of teleconferencing for public meetings of risk management pools, organizations created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act and those created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sell electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis.

The bill allows those organizations to designate a non-voting individual, not included as part of the quorum, to be present at a site where a public hearing is being held to keep the site open for members of the public who wish to attend the public hearing by telephone conference or videoconference.

LB212 allows qualified entities to hold more than 50 percent of their meetings by telephone or videoconferencing as long as at least one meeting is not held in that manner. It also extends the allowed length of a telephone conference call from two hours to no more than five hours.

The bill includes portions of LB191, introduced by La Grone, and LB239, introduced by Adams Sen. Myron Dorn. LB191 harmonizes bond definitions and deletes obsolete language regarding financial instruments, and LB239 amends the County Budget Act to require the same four-day notice mandated in the Nebraska Budget Act.



Sen. Myron Dorn

LB212 passed 49-0.

A bill to better account for federal money flowing into Nebraska advanced out of committee but was not scheduled for debate. LB337, introduced by Stinner, would require the state Department of Administrative Services to create a list of all state agencies receiving federal funds, document requirements associated with federal grants and develop a contingency plan in case of a reduction in federal funding. The bill remains on general file. ■

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Sen. Sara Howard, chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee

Public benefit requirements, licensure changes and pharmacy practice updates were the top health and human services issues addressed by lawmakers this session.

Public benefits

LB570, introduced by Sen. Lynne Walz of Fremont, requires the state Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan to provide services to qualified individuals with disabilities in the most integrated community-based settings, known as an “Olmstead Plan.”

DHHS is required to develop the plan with the University of Nebraska, the Equal Opportunity Commission and the state departments of Correctional Services, Economic Development, Labor, Transportation and Education. The plan will be



Sen. Lynne Walz

completed by Dec. 15, 2019.

The bill also adds the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the Public Service Commission to the Olmstead Plan stakeholder advisory committee.

LB570 requires DHHS to work with an independent consultant to assist with continued analysis and revision of the Olmstead Plan. This analysis will be provided in a report to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2021, and every three years going forward.

The bill passed 44-0 and took effect immediately.

A measure that delays the transition of long-term care facilities to the state’s Medicaid managed care program passed this session.

LB468, also introduced by Walz, prohibits long-term care and supports—including skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, assisted living facilities and home and community-based services—from being added to the Medicaid managed care program before July 1, 2021.

The bill includes provisions of LB566, sponsored by Sen. Sue Crawford of Bellevue, which require notification and a hearing of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee if the state Department of Insurance submits an innovation waiver to the federal government under section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act.



Sen. Sue Crawford

Notification—and a public hearing of the Health and Human Services Committee during the public comment period—also are required for a Medicaid waiver submitted under section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act.

LB468 passed on a 43-1 vote.

A bill that would remove a ban on food assistance eligibility for individuals with past drug felonies stalled during general file debate.

Under current state law, an individual is ineligible for SNAP benefits in Nebraska if he or she has three or more felony convictions for the possession or use of a controlled substance or has been convicted of a felony involving the sale, distribution of—or intent to sell or distribute—a controlled substance.

A person with one or two felony convictions for possession or use of a controlled substance is eligible only if he or she is participating in or has completed a state-licensed or nationally accredited substance abuse treatment program since the date of conviction.

As introduced, LB169, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Megan Hunt, would remove that ban. The bill also would apply the treatment requirement to individuals with three

or more possession or use convictions.

After several hours of debate, the Legislature adjourned for the day before voting on LB169 or any of the pending amendments. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

The bill remains on general file.

The committee heard testimony on another proposed SNAP eligibility change.

LB255, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John McCollister, would increase the SNAP gross income eligibility limit from 130 percent of the federal income poverty level to 140 percent beginning Sept. 1, 2019. The bill, which would not increase the net income eligibility limit for the program, remains in committee.



Sen. Megan Hunt



Sen. John McCollister

Lawmakers advanced a bill that would make changes to a program meant to help individuals with disabilities maintain employment while retaining Medicaid coverage.

LB323, introduced by Crawford, would update eligibility standards for Nebraska's Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities program—commonly referred to as the Medicaid buy-in program—from federal Balanced Budget Act standards to more recent federal Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act standards.

Senators advanced the bill to final reading this session, where it remains.

A bill that would require family planning services in Nebraska to be covered by Medicaid remains in committee.

Sen. Anna Wishart of Lincoln introduced LB498, which would direct DHHS to submit a state plan amendment to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid to include medical assistance for family planning services to individuals with an income at or below 194 percent of the federal poverty level.



Sen. Anna Wishart

Licensure and credentialing

Senators passed a bill that waives initial licensing fees for a variety of health professions under the Uniform Credentialing Act.

LB112, introduced by Omaha Sen. Sara Howard, waives initial licensing fees for individuals who:

- are 18 to 25;
- have a household income less than 130 percent of the federal poverty level or are enrolled in a state or federal assistance program; and
- are active duty services members or their spouses, honorably discharged veterans or their spouses and un-remarried surviving spouses of deceased service members.

The bill was approved by a vote of 37-0.

The timeline for abuse complaints was tightened this session.

LB59, introduced by Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh of Omaha and passed 49-0, mandates that DHHS respond within five days to all complaints of child abuse or neglect made at a facility licensed under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act.



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

If a complaint leads to an investigation, the department is required to issue a report within 60 days. The requirement could be extended to 90 days if DHHS files an interim report by the 60-day deadline.

Lawmakers also approved a bill that allows mental health substance use treatment facilities that use locked rooms to retain licensure.

LB200 was introduced by Wishart after DHHS considered revoking the operating license of The Bridge Behavioral Health facility in Lincoln last year because it uses locked rooms for clients placed into civil protective custody. Senators approved the bill on a 44-0 vote.

LB244, sponsored by Bayard Sen. Steve Erdman and passed 45-0, authorizes mobile massage therapy establishments to be operated by individuals licensed under the Massage Therapy Practice Act.



Sen. Steve Erdman

Among other requirements, services may be performed only while a mobile massage therapy unit is legally parked and a unit cannot conduct business within 300 feet of a brick and mortar licensed massage therapy establishment.

Residential child care workers must submit to a new federally mandated background check under a bill approved by lawmakers.

LB460, sponsored by the Health and Human Services Committee, mandates that any adult employed at a residential child-caring agency pay for fingerprinting and a national criminal history record information check at least once every five years. An employee also will be checked against state sex

offender, criminal and child abuse and neglect registries.

The bill includes provisions of Howard's LB459 that require all prospective child care staff members to submit to a criminal history record check prior to employment, beginning Sept. 1, 2019. Child care staff currently employed will have until Sept. 1, 2021.

It also includes provisions of LB341 introduced by La Vista Sen. John Arch, which allow families to continue to receive transitional child care if their income is below 185 percent of the federal poverty level as long as the family's income does not exceed 85 percent of the Nebraska median income for a family of the same size. The bill also eliminates the program's 24-month eligibility limit.



Sen. John Arch

LB460 was approved on a vote of 48-0 and took effect immediately.

Four licensure bills were advanced by the committee but were not scheduled for general file debate this session.

LB205, introduced by Sen. Mark Kolterman of Seward, would require a registry for surgical technicians. To register, a surgical technician would be required to document any felony or misdemeanor convictions, be at least 19 years old, have a high school or equivalent diploma and be of good moral character.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

Among other provisions, LB607, also introduced by Kolterman, would create a three-day license for a "guest body artist"—enabling him or her to work at a licensed tattoo establishment or under a licensed body artist—create the position of nail technology apprentice, allow an apprentice to work under a licensed nail technologist and update the definition of cosmetic tattooing.

LB312, introduced by Blair Sen. Ben Hansen, would allow licensed dental hygienists to perform residential care through a home-health agency or hospice service. The bill also would eliminate a requirement that a dental hygienist have 3,000 hours of clinical experience to treat adults unsupervised in a public health setting.



Sen. Ben Hansen

LB347, introduced by Sen. Dave Murman of Glenvil, would exempt reflexologists from licensure under the Massage Therapy Practice Act.



Sen. Dave Murman

All four bills remain on general file.

Other measures

Lawmakers approved a bill that makes several changes to the state's prescription drug monitoring program.

LB556, introduced by Sen. Sara Howard of Omaha, makes a number of changes designed to make the PDMP interact more effectively with appropriate agencies, other state drug monitoring programs and state and regional health information exchanges.

The bill also contains provisions of LB557, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom, that amend the definition of a practitioner to include additional providers if they are members of a patient's care team. The provisions also change the first and third prescription to a 60-day look back and add an exemption for hospice and palliative care or a cancer diagnosis.



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

The measure passed on a 44-0 vote and took effect immediately.

LB559, sponsored by Arch and passed 43-0, makes a number of changes to laws related to the State Anatomical Board that incorporate provisions of the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act. Among other provisions, the bill details who may receive an anatomical gift under a variety of circumstances and names the board as an approved recipient of an anatomical gift.

The Legislature also passed a bill to fund enhanced safety training for medical professionals.

LB25, introduced by Kolterman and passed 47-0, creates the Patient Safety Cash Fund to receive credentialing fees that will be used solely to support patient safety activities conducted by the Nebraska Coalition of Patient Safety. The bill imposes biennial fees of \$50 for physicians and osteopathic physicians and \$20 for physician assistants through 2025.

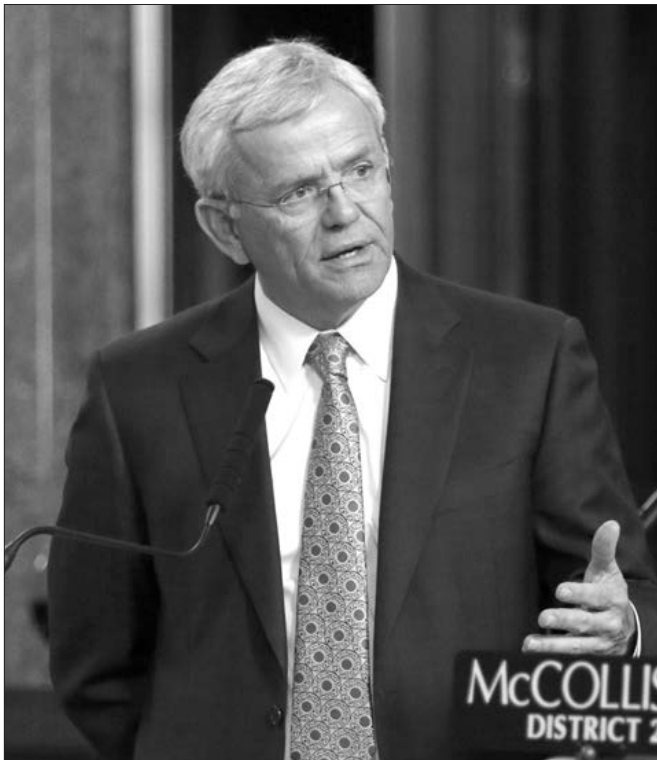
A bill that would increase resources to combat human trafficking was advanced to general file but was not scheduled for debate this session.

LB518, sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, would develop a statewide network of supports and services related to human trafficking and create the Support for Trafficking Survivors advisory board. ■



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan

JUDICIARY



Sen. Steve Lathrop, chairperson of the Judiciary Committee

Lawmakers considered measures this session to ensure fair treatment for minors engaged in the court system, legalize medical cannabis and provide additional oversight of the state correctional system.

The Legislature approved an omnibus bill that makes numerous changes to current criminal justice statutes.

LB686, as introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, would have imposed new requirements on the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services for declaring a prison overcrowding emergency.

The bill was replaced with provisions of several additional measures, including LB91, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, which allows a court to enter a deferred judgement for a person found guilty of committing a crime. Persons granted a deferred judgment instead can be placed on probation. After successful completion of the terms of probation, he or she will have their charge dismissed without the entry of judgment.



Sen. Justin Wayne

Provisions of Wayne's LB233 also are included in the bill. These prohibit a person from bringing an electronic communication device into a correctional facility or providing it to an inmate. Violation of this provision will be a Class I misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in prison, a \$1,000 fine or both.

Attorneys, public counsel employees, law enforcement and first responders are exempt from the prohibition. The NDCS director also can exempt certain staff members as necessary. Seizure of an electronic communication device is authorized.

Also included are portions of LB739, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, which prohibit NDCS, after March 1, 2020, from placing a member of a vulnerable population in restrictive housing. Vulnerable populations include inmates who are younger than 18, pregnant or diagnosed with serious mental illness, developmental disabilities or traumatic brain injury.



Sen. Tony Vargas

The bill does not prevent NDCS from establishing secure mental health housing or placing vulnerable inmates in temporary segregation pending classification.

Finally, LB686 includes provisions of four additional bills:

- LB90, sponsored by Wayne, which removes a requirement for post-release supervision for Class IV felonies;
- LB240, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen, which allows the state Department of Health and Human Services to contract with private facilities to provide treatment to criminal defendants found to be mentally incompetent to stand trial;
- LB262, sponsored by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer, which requires the NDCS director to share the annual restrictive housing report with members of the long-term restrictive housing work group prior to release of the report; and
- LB684, sponsored by Lathrop, which allows judges to sentence a person found to have violated terms of post-release supervision to a period of incarceration equal to the length of his or her original term of post-release supervision.



Sen. Matt Hansen



Sen. Wendy DeBoer

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Courts

Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh introduced LB532, passed 47-0, which harmonizes the application procedures for the three types of protection orders authorized under state law: harassment, sexual assault and domestic abuse.

Under the bill, if an application for a temporary protection order is dismissed, it will be dismissed without prejudice. The petition for a protection order must include the events and dates, or approximate dates, of the alleged assault or abuse, including the most recent and most severe incidents.

The court where the petition is filed can decide to issue a temporary protection order “ex parte,” or without giving notice to the respondent, if the petitioner believes the respondent poses an immediate and significant safety risk.

If the court rejects an application for a sexual assault or domestic abuse protection order, LB532 requires that an evidentiary hearing be held within 14 days. The court will be required to admit the original petition and affidavit into evidence. The petitioner for a protection order cannot be found to be in violation of his or her protection order.

Senators supported an effort to increase transparency in the use of jailhouse informants this session.

Under LB352, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Adam Morfeld, if a prosecutor intends to use the testimony of a jailhouse informant, he or she is required to provide certain information to the defense regarding the informant’s history.

A prosecutor who offers any benefit or plea deal to a jailhouse informant first is required to notify any victim of a crime committed by the informant. The bill passed on a 48-1 vote.

Lawmakers also approved several measures this session to protect the rights of juveniles engaged in the criminal justice system.

LB354, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, requires that any juvenile’s record be sealed automatically upon satisfactory completion of diversion, mediation, probation, supervision or other treatment program.

Under the bill, a juvenile’s record will be sealed automatically if no charges are filed or if the charges are



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh



Sen. Adam Morfeld



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

dismissed. If a record is not automatically sealed, the juvenile or his or her parent can file a motion to have it sealed six months after the case has been closed or when the juvenile has reached the age of majority, whichever is sooner.

The bill allows the state court administrator to permit viewing of a sealed record for bona fide research. LB354 passed on a 46-0 vote.

Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas sponsored LB478, passed 46-0, which makes a victim’s consent inadmissible in any civil case alleging sexual penetration when a perpetrator is 19 or older and the victim is younger than 16. It also makes inadmissible a victim’s consent in a civil case alleging sexual contact when a perpetrator is 19 or older and the victim is younger than 15.

Under LB231, introduced by Pansing Brooks, legal counsel would be appointed each time a juvenile court petition is filed. The juvenile and his or her parent or guardian would be informed of the right to retain such counsel as needed.

LB231 was advanced to general file by the committee but was not scheduled for debate.

The use of restorative justice programs in Nebraska was expanded by lawmakers this session.

LB595, introduced by Thurston Sen. Joni Albrecht, specifies that any restorative justice agreement reached between parties is considered confidential. It makes any admission, confession or incriminating information obtained through a restorative justice program inadmissible as evidence against a juvenile—except as rebuttal or impeachment evidence—in any future juvenile adjudication or criminal proceeding.

The bill also changes membership of the 15-member dispute resolution advisory council to include a district court judge, county court judge and juvenile court judge, as well as representatives from the Office of Parole Administration, Nebraska State Bar Association and Nebraska County Attorneys Association.

LB595 passed on a 47-0 vote.

LB300, sponsored by Lathrop and passed 43-0, increases Nebraska Supreme Court judges’ salaries for fiscal year 2019-20 and FY2020-21. The current salary is \$173,693.

District, county, juvenile, appellate and workers’ compensation court judges’ salaries statutorily are based on a percentage of the Supreme Court judges’ salaries and will be adjusted accordingly. Salaries will increase by 3 percent each fiscal year, totaling \$181,588 in FY2019-20 and \$187,036 in FY2020-21.

Lathrop also introduced LB309, passed 46-0, which



Sen. Joni Albrecht

adds one district court judge, increasing the number in Douglas County to 17.

Certain legal motions are eligible for immediate appeal under LB179, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers. The bill makes an order denying a motion for summary judgment eligible for immediate appeal if the motion is based on an assertion of sovereign immunity or the immunity of a government official. The bill passed 43-0.



Sen. Mike Hilgers

An effort this session to repeal Nebraska's death penalty failed to advance from general file.

The Legislature abolished the death penalty in 2015, overriding a veto by Gov. Pete Ricketts. Voters then rejected the repeal measure in the 2016 general election, maintaining capital punishment in Nebraska.

LB44, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, would replace death penalty provisions with a sentence of life without the possibility of parole. The bill would apply retroactively to inmates currently serving capital punishment sentences.



Sen. Ernie Chambers

Senators voted 17-25 on the advancement of LB44 to select file, eight votes short of the number required.

Law enforcement

Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer sponsored LB154, which directs the Nebraska State Patrol to conduct a study of missing Native American women and children.

The study will be conducted in conjunction with the state Commission on Indian Affairs, tribal and local law enforcement, federally-recognized tribes and urban Indian organizations. The Nebraska State Patrol will submit a final report of its findings to the Executive Board of the Legislature by June 1, 2020.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

LB390, introduced by Pansing Brooks, requires the state Department of Education to distribute a model memorandum of understanding to govern the use of school resource officers or security guards by Dec. 1, 2019. Any law enforcement agency providing school resource officers will be required to adopt an MOU with the school district by Jan. 1, 2021.

The MOU will include training requirements for all school resource officers or security guards employed by



Sen. Tom Brewer

a district as well as at least one administrator. A school district is required to maintain records of each student referral for prosecution by a school resource officer, including the reason for each referral and federally identified demographic characteristics of each student.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

The committee considered a proposal that would govern how Nebraska law enforcement agencies enforce immigration policies.

The director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement currently can delegate immigration enforcement functions to state and local law enforcement officers who receive appropriate training and operate under the supervision of ICE officers.

LB369, sponsored by Vargas, would require a law enforcement agency or jail that enters into such an agreement with any other public agency to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect or arrest people for immigration enforcement purposes to provide written notification to the governing body of its political subdivision at least 30 days before entering into the agreement.

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

Penalties

Senators approved a bill to extend and eliminate certain statutes of limitation for labor and sex trafficking.

LB519, introduced by Peru Sen. Julie Slama, eliminates a statute of limitation for creation of child pornography or labor or sex trafficking of a minor.

The bill increases the statute of limitations from three years to seven for labor or sex trafficking of an adult. It extends the statute of limitations for possession of child pornography to seven years, or seven years beyond a victim's 18th birthday.

It also allows law enforcement to apply for wiretap authorization to intercept electronic communications relating to labor or sex trafficking of adults and minors.

The measure includes provisions of four additional bills.

LB517, originally introduced by Pansing Brooks, enumerates the types of damages a trafficking victim may recover for physical and mental pain and suffering, the reasonable value of medical care and supplies, transportation, housing, child care, lost wages and potential relocation costs.

Pansing Brooks also introduced LB516, which requires DHHS to collect and report information on the traffick-



Sen. Julie Slama

ing of minor children and expands the definition of child abuse to include placing a child in a situation to be sexually abused or exploited. It also expands the definition of out-of-home child abuse to include cases where the perpetrator of such abuse is not a member of the victim's household, no longer has access to the victim or is unknown or cannot be identified.

Finally, portions of LB479, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Anna Wishart, prohibit a law enforcement officer from using consent as a defense for sexual contact with a person who is detained or in custody. The provisions also codify that any person detained by law enforcement is not able to consent to sexual contact.



Sen. Anna Wishart

LB519 passed on a 46-0 vote.

Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne sponsored LB496, which makes witness, informant or jury tampering a Class II felony when the underlying criminal charge is a Class II felony or higher. A Class II felony carries a penalty of one to 50 years in prison.

The tampering penalty is a Class I misdemeanor when the underlying criminal proceeding alleges a Class II misdemeanor or lower, or a violation of a city or village ordinance. A Class I misdemeanor carries a penalty of up to one year in prison, a \$1,000 fine or both.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

Lincoln Sen. Adam Morfeld introduced LB630, which creates the offense of distributing a private image of another person's intimate area or of a person engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

A person who violates this provision will be charged with a Class I misdemeanor for a first offense. Second and subsequent offenses are a Class IV felony, punishable by up to two years in prison with 12 months post-release supervision, a \$10,000 fine or both.

LB630 also creates the offense of threatening to distribute intimate images with the intent to intimidate, threaten or harass a person. Violation of this provision is a Class I misdemeanor.

The bill provides an affirmative defense for juveniles who possess a visual depiction that was knowingly and voluntarily provided by another juvenile who is within four years of age of the defendant. LB630 passed on a 47-0 vote.

A victim of the intentional or threatening distribution of intimate images could seek damages under LB680, sponsored by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer and passed 47-0. The bill allows a prevailing plaintiff to recover economic and noneconomic damages proximately caused by a defendant, including damages equal to any monetary gain

made by the defendant and for emotional distress.

If actual damages cannot be quantified, the court can award reasonable presumed damages—not to exceed \$10,000—against each defendant. LB680 also holds internet service providers liable only if actively involved in the creation or distribution of the prohibited material.

Correctional system

Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh introduced LB690, which prohibits the use of restraints on a pregnant prisoner or detainee unless she poses an extraordinary flight or security risk.

Under the bill, if restraints are used on a pregnant prisoner or detainee, it must be in the least restrictive manner necessary. The administrator of the detention facility must notify relevant medical staff of the risks and dangers of removing the restraints from the specific prisoner or detainee.

A detention center administrator also must document the extraordinary circumstances that necessitated the use of restraints within 10 days of an incident. Restraints are to be removed immediately if a health care professional treating a pregnant woman requests it, and restraints are prohibited without exception during active labor or childbirth.

LB690 also allows a prisoner or detainee who is improperly restrained to bring a civil action under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act or the State Tort Claims Act.

The bill passed on a 41-0 vote.

LB443, introduced by Omaha Sen. John McCollister and passed 32-9, requires that any communication between an inmate and attorney through telephone or videoconferencing be provided without charge to the inmate. The bill also prohibits recording of the communication by the correctional institution or a law enforcement agency.



Sen. John McCollister

Other measures

A bill that requires medical professionals to provide additional information to women seeking abortions passed this session.

LB209, introduced by Thurston Sen. Joni Albrecht, requires medical providers to inform a woman seeking an abortion that the first of two drugs administered during a medical abortion—mifepristone—is not always effective in ending a pregnancy.

In addition to other information already required under existing law, the bill requires a provider to inform a woman

that if she changes her mind and wants to continue a pregnancy after taking mifepristone, she may consult the DHHS website.

The bill directs DHHS to publish information on the agency's website about the effectiveness of mifepristone in ending pregnancy as well as contact information for medical assistance.

DHHS will collect data from medical providers every time a woman attempts to continue a pregnancy after taking an initial dose of mifepristone. The data collected will include the woman's age, facility location, name of the attending physician, any complications experienced and other relevant medical information.

The information will be included in the annual DHHS report on abortion in Nebraska.

LB209 also includes provisions of LB13, originally sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood and considered by the Revenue Committee, which exempts breastfeeding from the state's public indecency statutes.



Sen. Carol Blood

The bill passed on a 36-12 vote.

The removal of an obsolete provision in the state constitution will be placed on the ballot for voters' consideration under LR1CA, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne and passed 44-0. The measure will place a proposed constitutional amendment on the November 2020 general election ballot to remove an exemption that prohibits slavery and indentured servitude except as punishment for people convicted of a crime.

Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen sponsored LB433, which requires landlords automatically to provide the balance due on a security deposit to a tenant within 14 days of termination of a rental agreement.

If a landlord fails to return a security deposit within 14 days, the tenant can recover any property or money due to him or her, as well as liquidated damages equal to one month's rent plus costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

If a government entity deems a residence to be uninhabitable due to negligence, the tenant is not liable for any damage as a direct result of forcible removal.

The bill also includes provisions of Hansen's LB434, which extend the period of time for payment of rent after a notice of intent to terminate from three to seven days.

A tenant can recover liquidated damages equal to one month's rent or twice the amount of the security deposit—whichever is less—if the landlord's failure to return the security deposit was willful and in bad faith.

Landlords must remit any unclaimed security deposit to the state treasurer for disposition under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act if returned undeliverable or if the deposit remains outstanding 30 days after the initial mailing.

The bill passed on a 39-1 vote.

A bill to approve certain forms of cannabis for medical use failed to advance from general file.

LB110, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Anna Wishart, would create a framework for legalizing medical cannabis use in Nebraska. After three hours of debate, the Legislature adjourned for the day before voting on the bill or the pending amendments. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

A bill that would protect employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity also failed to advance from general file.

Introduced by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, LB627 would prohibit employers, employment agencies and labor unions from discriminating against individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status and national origin currently is prohibited.

LB627 would apply to employers with 15 or more employees or with state contracts regardless of the number of employees, the state of Nebraska, governmental agencies and political subdivisions.

Debate ceased on the bill per the three-hour policy and LB627 did not return to the agenda this session.

Finally, a bill intended to allow people to safely transport firearms throughout the state was considered by the committee but not advanced.

LB54, introduced by Kearney Sen. John Lowe, would allow a person to transport a legally possessed firearm as long as it is unloaded and stored in a case.



Sen. John Lowe

The bill remains in committee. ■

NATURAL RESOURCES



Sen. Dan Hughes, chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee

Measures restricting the use of eminent domain by renewable energy developers, extending an Omaha-area natural resources district's bonding authority and merging the state agencies responsible for recommending energy policies and administering environmental regulations were among the bills advanced by the Natural Resources Committee this session.

Renewable energy

As introduced by Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer, LB155 would have prohibited a private entity from using eminent domain to provide access to build transmission lines or other infrastructure related to a privately developed wind energy project.

Currently, state law authorizes the use of eminent domain in those situations and states that it is considered a public use.

The bill was amended to define the public use aspect of such exercise of eminent domain as a "rebuttable presumption"—meaning that it may be challenged in court by an



Sen. Tom Brewer

impacted landowner.

Lawmakers passed LB155 on a 44-0 vote.

A bill that would require owners to remove a wind turbine's concrete foundation after decommissioning stalled on first-round debate.

LB700, introduced by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, would make any person who owns, operates or manages a wind energy conversion system responsible for decommissioning or reclamation costs necessary for removal of the system.

A pending committee amendment would replace the bill. It would require a wind turbine owner who is a party to

a wind agreement to provide every landowner who also is a party to that agreement with information about the materials and equipment that would be removed from, and that would remain on, the landowner's property when a wind turbine is decommissioned.

The amendment would require every wind agreement executed on or after Jan. 1, 2020, to provide for the removal of a wind turbine's foundation material and equipment below grade upon decommissioning. The requirement would not apply to a wind turbine that is used for repowering within 24 months after it would have been decommissioned.

Any void left from the removal of foundation material and equipment would be restored to the condition of the land prior to the installation of the turbine or to an improved condition.

The Legislature moved to the next item on its agenda before voting on the committee amendment or LB700. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

The bill remains on general file.

Natural resources districts

Currently, NRDs encompassing a city of the metropolitan class may issue bonds payable from a flood protection and water quality enhancement levy on the taxable value of property in the district. The levy may not exceed 1 cent per \$100 of taxable valuation annually without voter approval.

Only the Papio-Missouri River NRD has that bonding authority, which was set to end Dec. 31, 2019. LB177, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom and passed on a vote of 35-8, extends



Sen. Bruce Bostelman



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

the termination date to Dec. 31, 2024.

The committee did not advance a bill that would authorize NRDs to sell land originally acquired for a water augmentation project while retaining the right to use groundwater beneath that land.

Introduced by North Platte Sen. Mike Groene, LB606 would authorize each NRD to develop water augmentation projects for stream-flow enhancement and to acquire real property for those projects. The governing NRD would be required to allocate the amount of groundwater that may be withdrawn for such a project.



Sen. Mike Groene

After a project has been developed, its owner could sell the property and continue to pump the groundwater necessary for augmentation without regard to the land area or acres owned.

Other measures

LB302, introduced by Venango Sen. Dan Hughes on behalf of Gov. Pete Ricketts, transfers the statutory powers, employees and assets of the State Energy Office into the state Department of Environmental Quality on July 1, 2019. The new Department of Environment and Energy will be led by the current director of environmental quality.

The bill authorizes the new department to assume responsibility for a permit program related to the discharge

of dredged or fill material consistent with section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act. The permits are required for any project that encounters “waters of the U.S.” as defined under the act. Federal law allows the program, which is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency, to be delegated to states with approved programs.

LB302 passed on a 45-0 vote.

A change to state Department of Natural Resources rulemaking requirements also advanced from committee.

LB319, sponsored by Columbus Sen. Mike Moser and passed on a vote of 43-1, repeals a requirement that the department send county, city and village clerks notice of hearings regarding floodplain management rules and regulations via mail.



Sen. Mike Moser

The bill also makes two changes to department rulemaking requirements. It makes optional the department’s adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations regarding the allocation and expenditure of money from the Water Resources Trust Fund, which holds state and federal funds used to pay for the management and protection of the state’s groundwater.

The bill also makes optional the department’s adoption of rules and regulations governing the matters over which it has jurisdiction—water rights for irrigation, power or other useful purposes. ■

NEBRASKA RETIREMENT SYSTEMS



Sen. Mark Kolterman, chairperson of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee

Lawmakers made a number of changes to the state's various retirement systems this session, including approving a study of the possible transfer of management duties for the Omaha school retirement plan to the state.

LB31, introduced by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman, requires the Public Employees Retirement Board—in consultation with the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee, the Omaha School Employees Retirement System board of trustees, Omaha Public Schools board of education and other stakeholders—to prepare a work plan that examines the possible transfer of management responsibilities for the OSERS plan to PERB.

The work plan must identify the tasks, issues, costs and timelines to transfer management and provide a comparison of the annual OSERS administration costs to the estimated cost for PERB to assume management of the plan.

PERB is authorized to assess OPS for costs related to the

work plan, which must be completed and submitted to the Legislature by June 30, 2020. OSERS is granted authority to bill OPS for any time or expenses incurred in responding to requests from PERB in completion of the work plan.

LB31 passed 47-0 and took effect immediately.

Senators also approved an omnibus bill.

Among other provisions, LB34, introduced by Kolterman, eliminates an option that allowed a county or state employee retirement plan member who has been terminated and filed a grievance to request and receive up to \$25,000 from his or her retirement account during the grievance process.

The measure includes provisions from three additional bills:

- LB35, also introduced by Kolterman, which clarifies that, beginning Jan. 1, 2020, a county or state permanent employee must be at least 18 to be eligible for membership in the county or state employee retirement plan;
- LB36, introduced by Kolterman, which modernizes language and codifies the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems practice of awarding service credit by unifying the creditable service definition across all school employee retirement plan tiers. The provisions also grant NPERS additional time to process refund buy back payments for members who were employed on April 17, 2014, and who timely submit their refund buy back applications to NPERS by April 16, 2020; and
- LB565, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, which clarifies that when a beneficiary is not designated in the state, county or school retirement plans, benefits go to the surviving spouse.



Sen. Kate Bolz

If a member of the retirement system is married at the time of his or her death and there is no designated beneficiary on file, the spouse married to the member on the date of the member's death will be the beneficiary.

If the member is not married on the date of his or her death and there is no surviving designated beneficiary on file, the benefit will be paid to the member's estate.

LB34 passed on a vote of 48-0 and took effect immediately.

Finally, the Legislature approved a bill that makes a number of governance and administrative changes to PERB, NPERS, Nebraska Investment Council and OSERS.

Introduced by Kolterman, LB33:

- increases the per diem for PERB members from

\$50 to \$75;

- exempts legal compliance audit contracts from bidding requirements;
- increases from one to two the number of three-year extensions on actuarial contracts that PERB may issue; and
- changes the presentation date of the NPERS and

Nebraska Investment Council annual reports to the Legislature from March 31 to April 10, beginning in 2020.

The bill also grants OSERS the same exclusion from the state's public records law that applies to all other plans administered by PERB.

LB33 passed 47-0 and took effect immediately. ■

REVENUE



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, chairperson of the Revenue Committee

The Revenue Committee advanced bills this session that would require a political subdivision to hold a public hearing before increasing its property tax request, require out-of-state internet retailers to collect state sales tax on purchases made by Nebraska residents and allow a county to impose a sales tax to pay a federal judgment against it.

Several property tax relief measures and a bill that would create a new business tax incentive program failed to pass this session.

Property tax

The committee advanced a bill that requires political subdivisions such as counties and school districts to hold a public hearing before collecting additional property taxes generated by valuation increases.

Under LB103, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan and passed on a vote of 47-0, if the annual assessment of property within a political subdivision would result in an increase in the total amount of taxes levied

using the previous year's tax levy, the levy will decrease so that the political subdivision's property tax request is no more than in the previous year.

If a governing body wishes to increase its property tax request, it may do so only after holding a public hearing called for that purpose and by passing a resolution or ordinance.

The committee also advanced a bill intended to provide tax relief to those whose property has been destroyed by a natural disaster.

LB512, also introduced by Linehan and passed on a vote of 45-0, makes several technical changes to state tax law requested by the state Department of Revenue.

The bill includes provisions of LB482, introduced by Bayard Sen. Steve Erdman, under which the owner of destroyed real property must file a report with the county assessor and county clerk before July 15 of the current assessment year.



Sen. Steve Erdman

The county board of equalization then will adjust the assessed value of the property to its assessed value on the date it suffered significant damage and the county assessor will correct the current year's assessment roll. Any change in the assessed value of destroyed real property is for the current assessment year only.

LB289, a bill introduced by Linehan that is intended to reduce property taxes by raising the state sales tax rate and directing the additional revenue to Nebraska's public schools, did not advance past the first round of debate.

The proposal—contained in a pending committee amendment that would replace the bill—would be funded by a state sales tax rate increase; a sales tax on bottled water, candy, soft drinks, ice and approximately 20 services; a documentary stamp tax increase; and a cigarette tax increase.

The amendment would direct the new tax revenue to the state's Property Tax Credit Cash Fund. The amendment would use a portion of the fund for school aid, but it also would require the Legislature to grant at least \$115 million in property tax credits each year.

Beginning with school fiscal year 2019-20, each local school system would receive foundation aid. If total aid through the state's school funding formula totaled less than 33.33 percent of a district's total formula need, the district also would receive guaranteed funding aid to make up the difference.

After three hours of debate, the Legislature adjourned before voting on the committee amendment or LB289. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the

sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

The bill remains on general file.

A scaled-down version of LB289 remains on select file after a failed cloture vote.

As introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion, LB183 would reduce the valuation of farm and ranch land for the purpose of school bond issues. Briese introduced an amendment that would replace the bill.



Sen. Tom Briese

The amendment contains several provisions also found in LB289, including a sales tax on bottled water, candy, soft drinks and certain services. The proposal would direct the state treasurer to credit sales and use tax revenue generated by the bill's changes to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund.

After three hours of select file debate, Briese filed a motion to invoke cloture, or cease debate and vote on any pending amendments and the bill. The motion failed 23-7. Thirty-three votes were needed.

The committee advanced a proposal to value farmland for property tax purposes based on the income it can produce, but it stalled on general file.

Under LB483, introduced by Erdman, agricultural and horticultural land would be assessed based on its agricultural productivity value, which in turn would be based on that land's capitalized net earning capacity.

Beginning with tax year 2020, county assessors would determine capitalized net earning capacity using an agricultural land valuation manual created by a new Agricultural Land Valuation Board.

After three hours of debate, the Legislature adjourned before voting on LB483. Per the speaker's three-hour policy, the bill was not scheduled for additional debate this session. It remains on general file.

Business tax incentives

The committee advanced a bill to create a new business tax incentive program to replace the Nebraska Advantage Act, but it stalled on select file after a failed cloture vote.

LB720, introduced by Sen. Mark Kolterman of Seward, would create the ImagiNE Nebraska Act, under which qualifying businesses would receive a varying combination of incentives based on their level of capital invest-



Sen. Mark Kolterman

ment and the number of employees they hire at a minimum qualifying wage.

The proposal includes provisions of Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom's LB605, which would create a tax credit for companies that produce sustainable materials and renewable chemicals using agricultural products.



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

It also includes provisions of LB527, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Kate Bolz, which would create a program to provide job training grants to employers.



Sen. Kate Bolz

As amended on select file, the bill would require the director of the state Department of Economic Development to submit to the Legislature an estimate of the amount of sales and use tax refunds to be paid and tax credits to be used under the act for each of the next three calendar years.

If the estimate exceeds a "base authority" of \$125 million for any calendar year from 2020 to 2023, the director could not approve any additional applications unless the Legislature's Executive Board approves his or her request for additional authority.

After three hours of select file debate, Kolterman filed a motion to invoke cloture, or cease debate and vote on LB720. The motion failed 30-18. Thirty-three votes were needed.

The bill remains on select file.

Sales and income tax

Lawmakers voted 41-8 to override Gov. Pete Ricketts' veto of a bill that allows a county to impose a sales tax to help pay a federal judgment against it. Thirty votes were needed.

LB472, introduced by Adams Sen. Myron Dorn and passed on a vote of 43-6, authorizes a county board to adopt a resolution to impose a sales and use tax of 0.5 percent on transactions within the county to pay a qualified judgment, which the bill defines as a judgment rendered against a county by a federal court for a violation of federal law.



Sen. Myron Dorn

Internet retailers without a physical presence in Nebraska are required to collect and remit state sales tax on purchases made by Nebraska residents under a bill advanced by the committee and passed on a vote of 43-0.

LB284, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John McCollister, requires remote sellers exceeding certain sales thresholds in the previous or current calendar year to collect and remit

state sales tax. The bill also requires “multivendor marketplace platforms”—online marketplaces such as Amazon or Ebay—to collect and remit state sales tax for the smaller sellers they serve if the marketplaces exceed the thresholds.

The committee advanced a proposal that would require out-of-state corporations selling digital products to customers in Nebraska to pay state income tax on those sales.

Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan introduced LB288 as a placeholder that could be amended to include state income tax law changes needed to reflect federal tax code changes made in 2017.

The new proposal, contained in a pending committee amendment that would replace the bill, would expand the definition of “doing business in this state” to include the sale, lease or license of services, intangibles or digital products to customers in Nebraska that exceed \$500,000 in the previous or current calendar year.

LB288 remains on general file.



Sen. John McCollister

College savings

The committee advanced several bills intended to expand the use of college savings accounts established under the Nebraska educational savings plan trust.

LB610, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom and passed on a vote of 48-0, creates a cash fund administered by the state treasurer to provide incentive payments to employers that make matching contributions to employees’ NEST accounts.

Beginning in 2022, an employer may apply to the state treasurer to receive the incentive payments. An employer whose application is approved will receive an incentive payment equal to 25 percent of the matching contributions made during the preceding year, up to \$2,000 per employee per year.

The bill includes provisions of LB547, introduced by Sen. Anna Wishart of Lincoln, under which the state will match contributions to NEST accounts made on behalf of beneficiaries who meet certain income requirements.

The treasurer may approve up to \$250,000 in incentive payments and \$250,000 in matching scholarships each year.

LB610 also includes provisions of Linehan’s LB544, which create a program under which each enrolled child will have a NEST account opened for him or her.



Sen. Anna Wishart

Under the program, the treasurer will send a notification explaining the program to the parent or legal guardian of each Nebraska resident born on or after Jan. 1, 2020. The parent or legal guardian may exclude his or her child from the program. Any child not excluded will be deemed enrolled.

Each year the treasurer will distribute the previous year’s investment income from an associated trust fund to the accounts opened during the previous year. The fund will consist of private contributions and any funds transferred or appropriated by the Legislature. The bill prohibits the transfer of state general funds to the trust fund.

A bill that allowed an income tax deduction on employer contributions to NEST accounts and exempted military housing units from property taxation passed 43-2, but was vetoed by the governor after the session ended.

As introduced by Gretna Sen. Andrew La Grone, LB470 would have allowed individuals to claim a state income tax deduction on contributions they make to any NEST account. The bill was amended to remove his proposal because of its implementation cost.



Sen. Andrew La Grone

As amended, LB470 instead included provisions of two other bills: LB444, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, and LB545, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne.

Under Wayne’s measure, an individual’s federal adjusted gross income would have been reduced by the amount contributed to the individual’s NEST account by his or her employer.

McDonnell’s proposal would have exempted military dwelling complexes from property taxation but required the owners of those dwelling complexes to make payments in lieu of taxes to local school districts, the county in which the complex is located and an infrastructure maintenance trust fund used for capital repairs, maintenance and improvement of the complex.

In his veto message, Ricketts said a state attorney general’s opinion indicated that the bill violated the state constitution by redefining real property as tangible personal property.



Sen. Justin Wayne



Sen. Mike McDonnell

Credits and exemptions

LB218, introduced by Lindstrom and passed 48-0, adds electric generation, transmission, distribution and street

lighting structures or facilities owned by a political subdivision to the definition of real property, thereby making those items exempt from state sales and use tax.

The bill also excludes from the definition of “gross receipts” the gross income received by political subdivisions for the lease or use of those structures or facilities, making that income exempt from state sales and use tax.

The committee also advanced LB222, introduced by Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston and passed on a vote of 46-0, which is intended to simplify administration of the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act.

Under the bill, a certification administrator will provide each volunteer member with notice of the total points he or she has accumulated during the first six months of the current calendar year no later than July 15 of each year.

A bill that clarifies the number of rental agreements farmers and agricultural asset owners may make under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act also advanced from committee and passed on a vote of 46-0.

Lincoln Sen. Suzanne Geist, sponsor of LB560, introduced the bill to address a Legislative Performance Audit Committee’s audit of the program. It was replaced on general file with a committee amendment containing provisions of LB623, introduced by Gothenburg Sen. Matt Williams.

Under those provisions, qualified beginning farmers or livestock producers and owners of agricultural assets who have participated in a three-year rental agreement are eligible to file subsequent applications for different assets. The bill clarifies that tax credits for an asset may be issued for a maximum of three years.

LB560 also defines a flex or variable rent agreement, in which a predetermined base rent is adjusted for actual crop yield or price.

A bill that would create an income tax credit for those who donate money to nonprofits that grant scholarships to students to attend a private elementary or secondary school stalled on general file.

Under LB670, introduced by Linehan, individuals, passthrough entities, estates, trusts and corporations could receive a nonrefundable income tax credit equal to the total amount of their contributions or 50 percent of their income tax liability for the year, whichever is less.



Sen. Joni Albrecht



Sen. Suzanne Geist



Sen. Matt Williams

The scholarships could be used to pay tuition and fees at a qualifying non-governmental, privately operated elementary or secondary school in Nebraska.

A pending committee amendment would add requirements for scholarship granting organizations.

After three hours of first-round debate, the Legislature adjourned before voting on the committee amendment or LB670. Per the speaker’s three-hour policy, the bill was not scheduled for additional debate this session. It remains on general file.

The committee advanced two bills that were not scheduled for first-round debate this session.

LB153, introduced by Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer on behalf of the governor, would replace the current options to exclude military retirement benefit pay from state income tax and allow an individual to exclude 50 percent of his or her military retirement benefit income to the extent included in federal AGI.



Sen. Tom Brewer

Under LB266, introduced by Lindstrom, self-employed individuals who provide child care and early childhood education would be eligible to claim a staff member credit available under the School Readiness Tax Credit Act. It also would allow tax credits awarded to eligible providers that are formed as pass-through entities to be distributed as income.

Other measures

LB86, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, requires the state Department of Economic Development to prioritize projects located in an area that has been declared extremely blighted when selecting projects for Affordable Housing Trust Fund assistance.

The bill requires the governing body of a city that intends to build workforce housing in an extremely blighted area under the state’s Community Development Law—or intends to declare an area as extremely blighted for purposes of funding decisions under the Affordable Housing Trust Fund—first to adopt a resolution that the area is extremely blighted after a public hearing.

The bill includes provisions of Wayne’s LB88 that will provide a \$5,000 nonrefundable income tax credit to any individual who purchases a residence located in an extremely blighted area if it is his or her primary residence and was not purchased from a family member.

LB86, which passed on a vote of 47-0, also includes provisions of LB694 and LB737, both introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas.

Under those provisions, only for-profit entities are required to provide matching funds to receive assistance from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Political subdivisions, local housing authorities and nonprofit organizations are not required to provide matching funds.



Sen. Tony Vargas

The bill also requires the department to include more information in its annual status report on the fund.

A bill reinstating a commission that counties receive in return for collecting state motor vehicle tax also advanced from committee this session.

County treasurers may withhold 2.5 percent of the first \$3,000 in state motor vehicle sales and use tax that they remit. Under LB237, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Sue Crawford and passed on a vote of 44-4, counties also may withhold 0.5 percent of all amounts in excess of \$6,000 remitted each month.

Prior to Jan. 1, 2023, the amount withheld will be split between a county's general fund and a county's road fund. After that, 75 percent will be deposited in a county's general fund and 25 percent will be deposited in a county's road fund.

The bill also requires county treasurers in counties with a population of 150,000 or more to remit \$1 of the

collection fee for each of the first 5,000 motor vehicles, semitrailers or trailers registered on or after Jan. 1, 2020, to the state treasurer, who will credit the amount to the Department of Revenue Enforcement Fund.

The committee also advanced a bill meant to ensure that homeowners receive sufficient notice that they may lose their property due to unpaid taxes.

LB463, introduced by Gothenburg Sen. Matt Williams and passed on a vote of 47-0, requires tax sale certificate purchasers to make multiple attempts to notify those who occupy the property, as well as anyone listed on the property's title, before applying for a tax deed to acquire the property.

The bill also specifies the documents that a tax sale certificate purchaser must provide before a county treasurer issues a tax deed. The bill applies to tax sale certificates sold after Jan. 1, 2017.

LB585, introduced by Sen. Curt Friesen of Henderson and passed on a vote of 49-0, creates a cost-share grant program under which owners and operators of retail motor fuel sites may install, replace or convert infrastructure used to store, blend or dispense certain gasoline-ethanol blends. ■



Sen. Curt Friesen

TRANSPORTATION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS



Sen. Curt Friesen, chairperson of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee

Senators expanded license plate options and addressed call spoofing and a number of infrastructure concerns this year.

Licensing and administration

LB138, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood, authorizes the state Department of Motor Vehicles to create several specialty license plates including designs honoring people who have served in the armed forces in Iran, Afghanistan, the Persian Gulf War, the Vietnam War and the Global War on Terror.



Sen. Carol Blood

It also creates a “Support Our Troops” plate available to those who have not served, but would like to show support for the armed forces. The application fee for a personalized message Support Our Troops plate will be \$70.

There is a \$5 fee for any of the bill’s specialty alphanumeric plates and a \$40 fee for a personalized message plate.

The alphanumeric fee and \$30 of the personalized message fee will be dedicated to the Veterans Employment Program Fund. The remaining portion of the personalized message fee will be credited to the DMV cash fund.

The specialty plates will be available Jan. 1, 2021.

The bill includes provisions of LB696, introduced by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, which substitute Army National Guard and Air National Guard license plates for the current National Guard Military Honor plates.



Sen. Bruce Bostelman

Provisions of LB697, also introduced by Bostelman, eliminate application and renewal fees for Purple Heart, ex-POW, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Disabled American Veteran license plates effective Jan. 1, 2021.

Similarly, there will be no application fee for a Gold Star personalized message license plate, however a \$5 renewal fee still will apply. The license plate will be considered permanent as long as the vehicle to which it is attached remains registered by the applicant.

Finally, the bill includes provisions of LB626, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, which direct the state Department of Veterans Affairs to create a job search website specifically for veterans. The website will be funded through revenue raised by sales of the Support Our Troops license plates.



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

LB356, sponsored by Norfolk Sen. Jim Scheer and passed 49-0, redistributes certain specialty license plate fees. It reclassifies Sammy’s Superheroes license plates from an organizational to a specialty plate and dedicates 75 percent of the application and renewal fees for personalized message plates and all of the fees for alphanumeric plates to the University of Nebraska Medical Center for pediatric cancer research. The remaining 25 percent of the personalized message plate fees will be credited to the state DMV cash fund.



Sen. Jim Scheer

Sixty percent of all application and renewal fees for standard message plates, Husker Spirit plates and organizational plates will be credited to the state DMV cash fund. The remaining 40 percent will be credited to the Highway Trust Fund.

LB356 also adds a \$5 fee for a Breast Cancer Awareness alphanumeric plate and establishes a standard \$50 application fee for both the special interest motor vehicle and one-plate plus sticker program.

The state DMV is authorized to discontinue specialty license plates every year that standard license plates are reissued, or every six years, if no more than 250 plates are issued for two consecutive years. New license plates next will be issued in 2023.

Gold Star, Purple Heart, Ex-POW, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Disabled American Veteran license plates are exempt from the discontinuance provision.

Finally, the measure includes provisions from several additional bills, including:

- LB128, introduced by Venango Sen. Dan Hughes, which authorizes bighorn sheep and sandhill crane license plates;
- LB215, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, which authorizes a prostate cancer awareness license plate; and
- LB691, introduced by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, which authorizes an ornate box turtle specialty license plate.



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan



Sen. Dan Hughes



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

Application for and distribution of specialty license plates created under LB356 will begin Jan. 1, 2021.

Lawmakers also approved changes to a record retention law for transporter plates.

LB699, introduced by Bostelman and passed 45-0, decreases the retention period from six to three years for transporter plate applicants to keep records associated with the transport of a motor vehicle.

Telecommunications

The expansion of high-speed wireless service throughout the state was the focus of several bills approved this session by lawmakers.

Under LB184, introduced by Sen. Curt Friesen of Henderson, a political subdivision or authority may require wireless providers to apply for and obtain permits to collocate, or attach, small wireless facilities to wireless structures and utility poles and to install, modify or replace a utility pole associated with a small wireless facility in the public right of way.

The facilities are short-range cellular nodes needed to support fifth-generation wireless technology, or 5G, in high-traffic areas.

The application fee to collocate small wireless facilities on an existing or replacement authority pole may not exceed \$500

for up to five small wireless facilities on the same application and \$100 for each additional small wireless facility on the same application. The rate to collocate a small wireless facility on an authority pole may be no more than \$20 per pole per year.

Senators voted 44-0 to pass LB184.

Friesen also introduced LB268, passed 48-0, which allows a customer who currently is not receiving high-speed broadband services to switch to a neighboring company in a different local exchange to receive such services.

LB693, sponsored by Hastings Sen. Steve Halloran and passed 49-0, targets telemarketing companies that use caller ID to make it appear as though phone calls are from a trusted number—a process known as “spoofing.”

It prohibits any person from selling or renting a phone number to an out-of-state entity unless the telephone number is listed publicly and can be verified by a telecommunications provider.

The bill also prohibits any person working in connection with a telecommunications service or internet-enabled voice service from causing a caller ID service to knowingly provide misleading or inaccurate information with the intent to defraud, harm or wrongfully obtain anything of value.

The provisions of LB693 do not apply to authorized law enforcement activity or a court order that authorizes caller ID manipulation. The Nebraska Public Service Commission is authorized to impose administrative penalties on violators, not to exceed \$2,000.

The state attorney general can investigate violations of the bill under the Consumer Protection Act. These violations do not give cause to any private civil action. Local telecommunications companies are exempt from the bill’s provisions as long as they are acting in accordance with federal law.

A bill that would require municipalities to seek voter approval before levying additional taxes on wireless services failed to advance from general file.

LB550, as introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, would require a municipality to secure voter approval before imposing any local tax or fee on wireless services.

As introduced, the bill would make additional changes to taxes and fees imposed on wireless services, including eliminating the prepaid wireless surcharge, lowering the enhanced wireless 911 surcharge and exempting wireless service from a surcharge used to fund the state’s telecommunications relay system.

After three hours of debate, the Legislature moved on to the next item on the agenda before voting on LB550 or any of the



Sen. Steve Halloran



Sen. Tony Vargas

pending amendments. Per a practice implemented by Speaker Jim Scheer, the sponsor of a bill that is facing a potential filibuster must demonstrate sufficient support for a cloture motion before the measure will be scheduled for additional debate.

The bill remains on general file.

Infrastructure

Lawmakers approved a plan allowing the Nebraska Department of Transportation to complete roads projects more efficiently.

LB82, introduced by Friesen, authorizes NDOT to apply for pre-approval to use practical road design standards that might not meet all current statutory design standards, but that provide significant benefits to users at a reasonable cost.

The bill allows the department, counties or municipalities to apply for programmatic pre-approvals, which apply to an entire category of roads projects that are materially similar.

LB82 also allows each county and municipality to electronically certify completion of one-year and six-year road improvement plans required annually by state law, rather than submitting hard copies of both plans to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

LB616, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers and passed 48-0, exempts highway construction projects with a payment schedule exceeding the date of completion from paying contractor interest.



Sen. Mike Hilgers

LB462, introduced by Friesen, allows the Nebraska One-Call Service board of directors to review locator training materials and propose best practices.

The board is required to assess the effectiveness of enforcement programs and actions, as well as the board's damage prevention and public awareness programs. A report of its findings will be submitted to the governor and Legislature no later than Dec. 1, 2021, and biennially after that.

LB462 also requires the state attorney general to submit a report annually to the Legislature, state fire marshal and One-Call board of directors detailing the number of complaints filed and prosecuted each year under the One-Call Notification System Act.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Rules of the road

LB698, sponsored by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, requires commercial motor vehicle operators to ensure all cargo is secured adequately to prevent it from falling off of the vehicle. The structures, systems, parts and components

used to secure the cargo must be in proper working order with no damaged or weakened components.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote and took effect immediately.

Autonomous vehicle manufacturers could be held liable for accidents under a bill advanced by the committee.

LB142, as originally introduced by Lincoln Sen. Suzanne Geist, would update legal definitions to mirror those adopted by the Society of Automotive Engineers in 2018. It also would establish legal liability for autonomous vehicle accidents.



Sen. Suzanne Geist

The bill was placed on general file but was not scheduled for debate this session.

Also advanced to general file but not debated was LB378, introduced by Blair Sen. Ben Hansen, which would remove a current state law requiring all motorcycle or moped riders to wear a protective helmet. Instead the bill would give riders 21 and older the option not to wear a helmet, but would require that eye protection be used.



Sen. Ben Hansen

Other measures

Lawmakers approved a bill that provides grant funding to a statewide health and human services referral program.

LB641, introduced by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, transfers \$300,000 annually from the Nebraska Health Care Cash fund for the next two years to the 211 Information and Referral Network. The grant will be used to create a website to educate users about and connect them with available services. The grant also can be used to provide 24/7 service through telephone and online access.



Sen. Mike McDonnell

LB641 also expands the reach of 211 services to include disaster and emergency response. The bill passed on a 41-0 vote.

LB611, introduced by Plymouth Sen. Tom Brandt, would require a crew of at least two people on each train or light engine used in the movement of freight. The Nebraska Public Service Commission would enforce the two-person requirement, directing any collected fines for distribution to counties for use by public school districts.



Sen. Tom Brandt

LB611 remains in committee. ■

URBAN AFFAIRS



Sen. Justin Wayne, chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee

Senators authorized creation of a new regional transit authority, addressed blighted properties, updated building codes and approved a constitutional amendment ballot question this session.

Mass transit

Lawmakers overrode a gubernatorial veto of a bill adopting the Regional Metropolitan Transit Authority Act.

Under LB492, introduced by Sen. Justin Wayne of Omaha, an existing transit authority that serves one or more municipalities located within the same metropolitan statistical area or combined statistical area can convert to a RMTA. Omaha has the only transit authority created under existing state law that falls under the bill's provisions.

An ordinance to create, join or leave a RMTA will require a two-thirds vote of the governing authority of each municipality involved. If a RMTA is created, it will be governed by a seven-person elected board and have the power to issue revenue bonds.

LB492 passed 32-11 and subsequently was vetoed by Gov. Pete Ricketts. Senators voted 33-16 to override the veto.

Economic development

A bill designed to rejuvenate economically disadvantaged areas passed this session.

LB87, introduced by Wayne and passed 49-0, requires that the state Department of Economic Development provide a preference for grant applications at least partially located within an opportunity zone as designated by the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

Projects that are located in an opportunity zone and meet the program requirements for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Business Innovation Act, the Job Training Cash Fund and the Site and Building Development Fund are given priority consideration for funding under the bill.

Lawmakers also passed a bill allowing municipalities to use local tax revenue for early childhood development infrastructure.

LB160, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Dan Quick, expands the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act, which allows first and second class cities and villages to use local tax dollars for economic development projects through voter-approved grants and loans.



Sen. Dan Quick

The bill, which passed 36-7, adds early childhood development infrastructure to the law's scope.

A bill to authorize land banks stalled on general file. LB424, also introduced by Quick, would allow any municipality in Nebraska to create a land bank—a tax-exempt political subdivision that acquires, manages and develops vacant and tax-delinquent properties—or join an existing land bank. Currently, only municipalities in Douglas and Sarpy counties are eligible to create land banks under state law.

The bill also would specify that a land bank is prohibited from levying property taxes.

Under LB424, only a metropolitan class city could create a stand-alone land bank. Currently, Omaha is the state's only metropolitan class city. Other municipalities wishing to create a land bank would be required to join together using the state's Interlocal Cooperation Act.

After three hours of debate, Quick offered a cloture motion, which would have ended debate and forced a vote on the bill. The motion failed 31-10. Thirty-three votes were needed.

LB66, introduced by Sen. Matt Hansen of Lincoln, would require that early childhood development be included in a city's comprehensive development plan by 2022.

The bill failed to advance to select file on a vote of 19-23.



Sen. Matt Hansen

Building codes

Wayne introduced LB96, which makes the state building code applicable in any county, city or village that does not adopt a building code within two years of an update to the state building code. Any building that is on a farm or is used for farm purposes is exempt. Senators approved the bill 39-0.

Quick introduced LB348, which adopts the 2018 version of the International Building Code, the International Residential Code and the International Existing Building Code as published by the International Code Council. Currently, Nebraska is using the 2012 edition of the ICC codes. The bill passed 41-6.

A bill that requires the state's building code to include standards for radon-resistant construction for new residential, commercial, educational and medical structures passed 40-4.

Introduced by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer, LB130 adopts standards recommended by the Radon Resistant New Construction Task Force. The bill also incorporates those standards into the state building code and requires local building codes to adopt minimum standards.



Sen. Wendy DeBoer

The bill exempts new construction projects designed by a licensed architect or engineer, non-residential buildings if a local building official deems radon-resistant construction unnecessary and new construction projects in counties with an average radon concentration of less than 2.7 picocuries per liter of air.

Other measures

A proposed constitutional amendment will appear on the November 2020 general election ballot under a measure passed this session.

If approved by voters, LR14CA, introduced by Wayne, will authorize the Legislature to extend the maximum repayment period for tax-increment financing indebtedness from 15 to 20 years if more than half of the property in a project area is designated as extremely blighted. The measure was approved 43-2.

LB23 made changes to the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act. The bill, introduced by Sen. Mark Kolterman of Seward, adds new public purpose language to the PACE Act and changes the classification of co-generation and tri-generation systems from a renewable energy resource to an energy efficiency improvement. The bill passed 45-0.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

LB57, introduced by Sen. Adam Morfeld of Lincoln, prevents municipal bans on short-term rentals, defined as 30 or fewer consecutive days. Municipalities still may regulate short-term rental properties for health and safety reasons and the bill does not affect regulation of homeowners' associations. The bill passed on a vote of 46-0.



Sen. Adam Morfeld

Nebraska municipalities must report the impact of occupation taxes under LB445, introduced by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell. The bill requires an annual report detailing:



Sen. Mike McDonnell

- all occupation taxes collected by the municipality;
- the amount generated annually by each occupation tax;
- whether funds generated are deposited in the municipality's general, cash or other funds;
- whether an occupation tax is dedicated for a specific purpose and the amount dedicated; and
- the scheduled or projected termination date of each occupation tax.

LB445 passed on a vote of 42-0.

LB85, introduced by Wayne, would require that most residential rental properties in metropolitan and primary class cities be registered with the city and inspected at least every three years. The bill advanced from committee but was not scheduled for debate. It remains on general file.

Another Wayne bill, LB136, remains in committee. The bill would incentivize affordable housing projects by providing residential density increases and regulatory concessions, as well as incentives for developments that include a certain percentage of income-restricted rental units for low-income residents. ■

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete provisions relating to the Water Funding Task Force	
LB2	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete provisions relating to a program that ended in 2012	
LB3	Executive Board	S	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete appropriation provisions	
LB4	Stinner	FR	Change mileage reimbursement and filing fees under the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act	
LB4A	Stinner	FR	Appropriation Bill	
LB5	Blood	C	Change the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	
LB6	Blood	S	Change residency requirements for college tuition purposes for spouses or legal dependents of persons on active duty	14, 17
LB7	Blood	S	Adopt the Counterfeit Airbag Prevention Act	
LB8	Blood	S	Allow physician medical directors to display certain vehicle lights as prescribed	
LB9	Blood	GF	Prohibit cities, counties, and villages from taxing or regulating distributed ledger technology	
LB10	Blood	S	Authorize the operation of lighted-billboard motor vehicles	
LB11	Blood	S	Provide for interlocal agreements regarding nuisances	
LB12	Blood	S	Provide a license fee exemption for servicemembers and their spouses under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	3, 8
LB13	Blood	IPP (>209)	Provide a sales tax exemption for breast pumps and related supplies and exempt breast-feeding from public indecency offenses	3
LB14	Blood	W	Provide for truth in advertising and labeling in the sale of meat and provide a penalty	
LB15	Blood	S	Adopt the Children of Nebraska Hearing Aid Act	2, 13, 20
LB16	Briese	S	Provide for the withholding of records relating to certain critical infrastructure	6, 9, 10
LB17	Briese	C	State a right of juveniles who have a parent with a disability	
LB18	Briese	C	Adopt the Remote Seller Sales Tax Collection Act	4
LB19	Briese	C	Allow withholding from public of reports of injury under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act as prescribed and provide duties for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court	12
LB20	Briese	C	Require voter approval of public building commission bonds	
LB21	Kolterman	C	Provide formal protest procedures for certain state contracts for services	7
LB22	Kolterman	S	Change provisions relating to the Nursing Facility Penalty Cash Fund	
LB23	Kolterman	S	Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act	14, 16
LB24	Kolterman	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB25	Kolterman	S	Provide for additional fees under the Uniform Credentialing Act and create the Patient Safety Cash Fund	4, 6, 9
LB25A	Kolterman	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB26	Kolterman	S	Change provisions related to legal service insurance corporations	
LB27	Kolterman	C	Change provisions related to the use of proceeds from community college levies	
LB28	Kolterman	C	Authorize damages for property taxes and special assessments paid on property lost through adverse possession	
LB29	Kolterman	S	Provide and eliminate telehealth provisions	
LB30	Kolterman	GF	Change and eliminate provisions under the Professional Landscape Architects Act	
LB31	Kolterman	S	Provide for a work plan relating to a transfer of management of the retirement system operated under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act to the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems and to require a report and provide duties	11, 14, 16
LB31A	Kolterman	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB32	Kolterman	S	Change defined contribution benefit investment options as prescribed under the County Employees Retirement Act and State Employees Retirement Act	
LB33	Kolterman	S	Change various provisions relating to retirement and the Nebraska Investment Council and the Public Employees Retirement Board	3, 4, 8
LB33A	Kolterman	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB34	Kolterman	S (+35, 36, 565)	Change various retirement provisions	11, 14
LB35	Kolterman	C (>34)	Change provisions relating to reemployment, reinstatement, repayment, and age eligibility for certain members under the County Employees Retirement Act and State Employees Retirement Act	11, 14
LB36	Kolterman	C (>34)	Redefine creditable service, change a payment deadline for restoration of relinquished creditable service, and change payment requirements and service credit computation provisions under the School Employees Retirement Act	11, 14
LB37	Hilkemann	C	Change the Podiatry Practice Act to authorize a physician assistant to assist a podiatrist	
LB38	Hilkemann	C	Provide for one license plate and In Transit decal per vehicle	5

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LB39	Hilkemann	C	Change provisions relating to occupant protection system enforcement and change certain violations from secondary to primary enforcement	
LB40	Hilkemann	C	Change provisions related to provisional operator's permits, LPD and LPE learner's permits, and interactive wireless communication devices	
LB41	Hilkemann	GF	Change provisions relating to transfers and uses of certain gaming taxes	5
LB42	Hilkemann	S	Provide certain responsibilities and a duty under the Condominium Property Act and a duty under the Nebraska Condominium Act	
LB43	Bolz	C	Adopt the Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights Act	7
LB44	Chambers	GF	Eliminate the death penalty and change provisions relating to murder in the first degree	9, 16
LB45	Chambers	C	Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act	9
LB46	Chambers	C	Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of mountain lions	
LB47	Chambers	IPP	Change provisions relating to when a grand jury report may be made public	
LB48	Stinner	S	Change provisions relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation	
LB49	Stinner	S	Change provisions relating to accounting firm ownership	
LB50	Vargas	C	Change individual income tax brackets and rates	3
LB51	Vargas	C	Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act	
LB52	Stinner	S	Require accountability for and investment of public funds and change provisions relating to the transfer and use of funds under the Nebraska educational savings plan trust	
LB53	Scheer	C	Change and provide duties for landowners or their tenants relating to removal of a blockage or obstruction in a watercourse and provide for court costs and attorney's fees	
LB54	Lowe	C	Change provisions relating to carrying a concealed weapon	8
LB55	Lowe	S (+172)	Change powers of copersonal representatives, cotrustees, coguardians, and coconservators, change provisions relating to accounts with POD designations, and authorize persons eighteen years of age to acquire or convey title to real property and to enter into and execute related legal documents	
LB56	Lowe	S	Change special designated licensure provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB57	Morfeld	S	Prohibit regulation of short-term rentals and provide for taxation agreements	4, 8
LB58	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act	8
LB59	Cavanaugh	S	Change investigation and reporting provisions under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act	12, 15
LB60	Cavanaugh	S	Change terminology relating to shaken baby syndrome	
LB61	Halloran	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to rabies	
LB62	Howard	S	Provide for education regarding and treatment of trichomoniasis	
LB63	Groene	S	Change tax levy provisions relating to rural and suburban fire protection districts and change the Mutual Finance Assistance Act	
LB64	Groene	C	Change and eliminate licensing, training, and internship provisions under the Licensing of Truth and Deception Examiners Act	
LB65	Groene	S	Authorize a licensing exception under the State Electrical Act	
LB66	Hansen, M.	GF	Provide for an early childhood element in a comprehensive plan developed by a city	4, 5
LB67	Hansen, M.	S	Change provisions relating to determination of municipality population thresholds and references to cities, villages, and governing bodies	
LB68	Hansen, M.	GF	Change provisions of the Business Improvement District Act as prescribed	
LB69	Hansen, M.	C	Provide income tax credits for caregivers as prescribed	
LB70	Hansen, M.	S	Adopt the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act and eliminate the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act	
LB71	Hansen, M.	S	Eliminate a cause of action for damages for shoplifting	
LB72	Hansen, M.	W	Provide for nonpartisan election of county officers	
LB73	Erdman	C	Require display of the national motto in schools	3
LB74	Williams	S	Provide for validation by certified pharmacy technicians	
LB75	Williams	S	Change terms of members of the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board	
LB76	Williams	GF	Change provisions relating to the nameplate capacity tax	
LB77	Williams	S	Change provisions of the Real Property Appraiser Act and the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act	
LB78	Williams	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Uniform Protected Series Act and the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act	
LB79	Friesen	S	Adopt and update references to federal transportation laws and allow for electronic images of certain registration certificates	
LB80	Friesen	S	Change motor vehicle identification inspection provisions	
LB81	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to special stops at railroad grade crossings under the Nebraska Rules of the Road	

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LB82	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to contracts and state aid for bridges, land acquisition for state highways, functional classification, minimum standards, six-year and one-year plans, and distribution of funds	3, 4, 8
LB83	Wayne	C	Provide for restoration of voting rights upon completion of a felony sentence or probation for a felony	9
LB84	Wayne	C	Provide a tax deduction for wages paid to individuals convicted of a felony	
LB85	Wayne	GF	Provide for a rental housing inspection program for a city of the metropolitan class or a city of the primary class	3
LB86	Wayne	S (+88, 694, 737)	Change provisions for redevelopment plans for extremely blighted areas under the Community Development Law and change funding provisions under the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act	16, 20
LB86A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB87	Wayne	S	Provide funding in opportunity zones designated pursuant to federal law	12, 15
LB88	Wayne	IPP (>86)	Provide an income tax credit for certain purchases of a residence	16, 20
LB89	Wayne	C	Change certain marijuana penalties	
LB90	Wayne	C (>686)	Make post-release supervision optional for Class IV felonies	19, 20
LB91	Wayne	C (>686)	Provide for deferred judgments by courts as prescribed	19, 20
LB92	Wayne	C	Require application of Nebraska Evidence Rules at parental termination hearings	
LB93	Wayne	GF	Provide for intervention by a biological parent in certain juvenile proceedings	
LB94	Wayne	C	Designate Nebraska State Patrol as agency to investigate criminal activity within Department of Correctional Services correctional facilities	
LB95	Wayne	C	Change applicability provisions for building codes	
LB96	Wayne	S	Change local building code provisions	6, 16, 19
LB97	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to highway funding	
LB98	Wayne	IPP (>411)	Change signature requirements for nomination of partisan candidates by petition	19
LB99	Wayne	C	Change requirements of the Prompt Payment Act	
LB100	Wayne	C	State intent relating to an appropriation to the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB101	Wayne	IPP (>411)	Change provisions of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act relating to a potential conflict of interest by an elected office holder of certain cities or villages or a school district	10, 19
LB102	Wayne	S	Change references from Big Twelve to Big Ten Conference in provisions requiring a stipend or restricting hours of participation for intercollegiate athletes	
LB103	Linehan	S	Change the procedure for setting a political subdivision's property tax request	3, 6, 9
LB104	Linehan	C	Change distribution of the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund	
LB105	Linehan	C	Designate corn as the state vegetable	6
LB106	Dorn	GF	Change provisions relating to disclosure of DNA records under the DNA Identification Information Act	
LB107	Dorn	GF	Change provisions relating to city and village plumbing boards and change a penalty	
LB108	Bolz	C	Change provisions relating to placement of Department of Correctional Services inmates in county jails	
LB109	Bolz	GF	Require the position classification plan and salary or pay plan for state employees to include certain positions	
LB110	Wishart	GF	Adopt the Medical Cannabis Act	3, 19
LB111	Howard	S	Change a certificate of title application signature requirement as prescribed	
LB112	Howard	S	Provide for waiver of certain occupational and licensing fees as prescribed	5, 7, 10
LB112A	Howard	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB113	Blood	C	Require the Department of Correctional Services to disclose certain records	
LB114	Blood	C	Change provisions relating to reductions of good time	
LB115	Blood	S	Change provisions related to enrollment of children of members of the military	
LB116	Kolterman	S	Authorize electronic delivery of insurance policies and billing information to insureds	
LB117	Hilgers	S	Change provisions relating to bridge and highway construction contracts, certification of financial showing, and obtaining contract plans prepared by the Department of Transportation	
LB118	Arch	C	Provide a procedure to withhold residential addresses of physicians in county records	
LB119	Arch	S	Provide for immunity from liability, confidentiality of information, and a burden of proof under the Health Care Quality Improvement Act	
LB120	Crawford	C	Require teacher and school staff to receive training on behavioral and mental health	9
LB121	Crawford	S	Change provisions on limits on indebtedness from direct borrowing by cities and villages	
LB122	Crawford	S	Change postsecondary residency requirements for veterans, family members, and other qualified persons	

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LB123	Crawford	S	Add an exemption from the Taxpayer Transparency Act for certain contracts	
LB124	Crawford	S	Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act	
LB125	Lathrop	S	Include certain intimate partners who are victims of theft within victim rights statutes	
LB126	Hughes	GF	Provide for special landowner deer hunting permits as prescribed	
LB127	Hughes	S	Redefine immediate family for purposes of limited permits for hunting	
LB128	Hughes	C (>356)	Provide for Wildlife Conservation Plates	5, 14, 17
LB129	Wayne	C (>294)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation	
LB130	DeBoer	S	Adopt radon resistant new construction requirements	6, 11, 17
LB130A	DeBoer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB131	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change certain provisions relating to minimum sentences	
LB132	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change penalties for certain felonies committed by persons under nineteen years of age	
LB133	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change provisions relating to structured programming and deferral of parole	
LB134	Stinner	C	Provide levy authority and duties for natural resources districts	4
LB135	Stinner	S	Change provisions relating to students in emergency medical services training	
LB136	Wayne	C	Adopt the Density Bonus and Inclusionary Housing Act	7
LB137	Blood	GF	Adopt the Fantasy Contests Act and provide a gambling exception	9
LB137A	Blood	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB138	Blood	S (+626, 696, 697)	Provide for a veterans' program coordinator, change and eliminate certain license plate fees, and provide for additional Military Honor Plates and Support Our Troops Plates	5, 15, 17
LB139	Kolterman	S	Change provisions relating to a data base of contractors under the Contractor Registration Act	
LB140	Kolowski	C	Change provisions relating to the Indoor Tanning Facility Act	
LB141	DeBoer	S	Provide for the offense of assault by strangulation or suffocation	
LB142	Geist	GF	Change provisions relating to driving automation systems and liability	4
LB143	Hughes	C	Prohibit throwing or dropping dangerous instruments on motor vehicles	
LB144	Hughes	C	Provide for voter approval of nonpartisan nomination and partisan election of county officers	8
LB145	Hansen, M.	S	Change power of attorney provisions relating to banks and other financial institutions	
LB146	Hansen, M.	S	Change liability and damages provisions for refusal to accept acknowledged power of attorney	
LB147	Groene	GF	Change the Student Discipline Act to provide for use by a teacher or administrator of necessary physical contact or physical restraint and provide procedures and grounds for removal from a class in response to student behavior	6, 20
LB148	Groene	GF	Change requirements for public hearings on proposed budget statements and notices of meetings of public bodies	
LB149	Quick	S	Change provisions relating to sale and use of tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, and alternative nicotine products	9, 17, 20
LB150	Brewer	C	Change provisions relating to access to public records and provide for fees	
LB151	Brewer	C	Adopt the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act	7
LB152	Brewer	S	State rights of Nebraska National Guard members and provide for confidentiality of members' residential addresses	
LB153	Brewer	GF	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits	5
LB154	Brewer	S	Authorize a study to improve reporting and investigation of missing Native American women and children	3, 5, 8
LB155	Brewer	S	Change eminent domain provisions that apply to privately developed renewable energy generation facilities	5, 8, 15, 19
LB156	Brewer	S	Provide for the operation, titling, and registration of former military vehicles	
LB157	Brewer	GF	Provide for voluntary registration, duties for the Department of Agriculture, and a cause of action under the Nebraska Apiary Act	
LB158	Brewer	C	Change provisions relating to the assessed value of real property	
LB159	Williams	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act	
LB160	Quick	S	Include early childhood infrastructure development and early childhood care and education programs under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act for certain cities and villages	4, 6, 10
LB161	Erdman	C	Eliminate learning communities	
LB162	Hunt	C	Impose sales and use taxes on certain services	
LB163	Hunt	C	Permit counties to conduct elections by mail	9
LB164	Hunt	C	Prohibit electronic transmission or online posting of certain photographs or videos, redefine sexual exploitation, and provide for a registrable offense under the Sex Offender Registration Act	
LB165	Hunt	C	Adopt the Too Young to Suspend Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB166	Hunt	C	Prohibit defendant's discovery of victim's actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation as defense to crime	
LB167	Hunt	C	Prohibit conversion therapy	5
LB168	Hunt	C	Define offense of child abuse to include subjecting a child to conversion therapy	
LB169	Hunt	GF	Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	11, 12
LB170	Hunt	C	Provide a sales and use tax exemption for feminine hygiene products	3
LB171	Pansing Brooks	C (>297)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Administrative Services	
LB172	Pansing Brooks	IPP (>55)	Change provisions relating to cofiduciaries, payable on death accounts, and competency for persons eighteen years of age or older entering into certain financial agreements	
LB173	Pansing Brooks	C	Define and redefine terms of coercion and without consent and provide for applicability with respect to sexual assault	
LB174	Bolz	C (>294)	State intent relating to appropriations for the Office of Violence Prevention	9, 18, 20
LB175	Chambers	C	Change provisions regarding candidate committee funds	
LB176	Chambers	C	Eliminate certain mandatory minimum penalties	
LB177	Lindstrom	S	Change a termination date for bonding authority of natural resources districts	14, 16, 17
LB178	Hilgers	IPP (>418)	Change provisions relating to workers' compensation claims, tort claims against the state, and state vehicles	16, 19
LB179	Hilgers	S	Authorize the appeal of certain motions as final orders	16, 19
LB180	Bolz	S	Change program eligibility criteria under the Community College Gap Assistance Program Act	14, 16
LB181	Bolz	C (>294)	Require a report from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature regarding long-term care sustainability	19
LB182	Bolz	C	Adopt the School District Local Option Income Surtax Act	
LB183	Briese	SF	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land for purposes of certain school district taxes	20
LB184	Friesen	S	Adopt the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act	5, 16, 19
LB185	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to the special valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	
LB186	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions governing certain documents and adopt the Online Notary Public Act	
LB186A	Lindstrom	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB187	Lindstrom	C	Change the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act	
LB188	Lindstrom	SF	Change the rate of interest charged on loans under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	4
LB189	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to budget limitations for cities and villages	
LB190	La Grone	S	Change provisions relating to rule and regulation authority of the Department of Transportation and the Nebraska Aeronautics Commission and provisions relating to school bus loading area warning signs	
LB191	La Grone	IPP (>212)	Change provisions relating to budgets and public hearing notice for certain governmental entities	13, 15
LB192	McCollister	S	Change provisions relating to veteran designations on operators' licenses and state identification cards	
LB192A	McCollister	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB193	Urban Affairs	S	Change provisions relating to cities of particular classes and villages, correct and include references as prescribed, and eliminate obsolete provisions and repeal definitions	
LB194	Urban Affairs	S	Change provisions relating to cities of the first class as prescribed	
LB195	Urban Affairs	S	Correct statutory references relating to the State Fire Code	
LB196	Urban Affairs	S	Change provisions relating to notices of certain zoning matters in cities of the metropolitan class and for hearings under the Business Improvement District Act	
LB197	Urban Affairs	C	Provide a procedure for detachment of real property from the corporate limits of a city or village and eliminate existing detachment provisions	
LB198	Halloran	C	Change provisions relating to use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony and prohibit use of a facsimile firearm to commit a felony	
LB199	Wishart	C (>294)	Appropriate funds to the Supreme Court for court appointed special advocate state aid	
LB200	Wishart	S	Change provisions relating to licensure under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act of mental health substance use treatment centers providing civil protective custody of intoxicated persons	3, 5, 9
LB201	McCollister	C	Prohibit certain unlawful acts as prescribed relating to the Weights and Measures Act	
LB202	Wishart	C (>293)	Designate funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services for state aid	18
LB203	Briese	S	Change provisions of the Music Licensing Agency Act	
LB204	Briese	C	Require approval of voters for bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act	
LB205	Kolterman	GF	Adopt the Surgical Technologist Registration Act	3
LB205A	Kolterman	GF	Appropriation Bill	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB206	Morfeld	GF	Protect free speech rights of student journalists and student media advisers	4
LB207	Morfeld	C	Create a Death Penalty Defense Standards Advisory Council	
LB208	Walz	C	Provide an exception for leasing dark fiber or providing certain telecommunications and related services by a state agency or political subdivision	
LB209	Albrecht	S (+13)	Require information, materials, and reporting regarding continuing a viable pregnancy after taking mifepristone and change provisions relating to public indecency	11, 17, 18, 20
LB210	Crawford	C	Change independent expenditure reporting requirements and require electioneering reporting	10
LB211	Crawford	C	Provide for nonpartisan nomination and election of county officers	
LB212	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	S (+191, 239)	Change provisions relating to budget limitations and procedures, hearing notices for county budgets and property tax requests, and videoconferences and telephone conferences	13, 15
LB213	McCollister	C	Provide for setting aside certain infraction, misdemeanor, and felony convictions	
LB214	La Grone	S	Authorize cession of certain land to the federal government	4, 5, 9
LB215	Linehan	C (>356)	Provide for Prostate Cancer Awareness Plates	5, 14, 17
LB216	Kolterman	C	Prohibit releasing a person in custody to avoid medical costs	
LB217	Pansing Brooks	S	Prohibit discrimination against an employee for communicating about employee wages, benefits, or other compensation	10, 13, 14
LB218	Lindstrom	S	Redefine real property and gross receipts for tax purposes	12, 20
LB219	Wishart	GF	Change requirements for foster care transition proposals and provide immunity from liability for caregivers	
LB220	Wishart	S	Change provisions regarding vending facility programs in state buildings for blind vendors	
LB221	La Grone	S	Change provisions relating to limitations on powers under the Title Insurers Act	
LB222	Albrecht	S	Change the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act	14, 16
LB223	Albrecht	S	Provide duties with regard to a state-sponsored insurance program for members of the Nebraska National Guard	
LB224	Albrecht	S	Rename the Nebraska Educational, Health, and Social Services Finance Authority Act and provide for applicability	
LB225	Quick	C	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB226	Quick	C	State intent relating to appropriations for the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney and the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Geneva	
LB227	Hughes	S	Change provisions governing determination of a public or private nuisance under the Nebraska Right to Farm Act	6, 14, 16, 17
LB228	Hughes	C	Prohibit certain insurance practices relating to a person's status as a living organ donor	9
LB229	Groene	C	Prohibit certain unlawful acts as prescribed under the Weights and Measures Act	
LB230	Pansing Brooks	GF	Provide for room confinement of juveniles as prescribed	6
LB231	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change provisions relating to legal defense of juveniles	9
LB231A	Pansing Brooks	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB232	Slama	C	Reduce the threshold amount for claims against the state for prosecution costs	
LB233	Wayne	C (>686)	Prohibit bringing a cell phone into a detention facility	19, 20
LB234	Wayne	C	Provide requirements for payment of claims by cities and villages	
LB235	Crawford	S	Change provisions relating to making and serving alcoholic liquor by nonlicensed persons as prescribed	6, 9
LB236	Crawford	GF	Change access to sales and use tax information with respect to the Nebraska Advantage Transformational Tourism and Redevelopment Act	
LB237	Crawford	S	Change provisions relating to sales and use tax collection fees and authorize use of certain fees for revenue enforcement	15, 16, 17
LB237A	Crawford	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB238	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change requirements for witnessing death penalty executions	9
LB239	Dorn	IPP (>212)	Change requirements for notice of hearing on county budget	13, 15
LB240	Hansen, M.	C (>686)	Change procedures for determining competency to stand trial	19, 20
LB241	Bolz	C	Provide for teacher mentoring program grants using income from solar and wind agreements on school lands	
LB242	Lindstrom	C	Adopt the Infrastructure Improvement and Replacement Assistance Act and provide for a turnback of state sales tax revenue	7
LB243	Gragert	S	Create the Healthy Soils Task Force and add a use for a fund	4, 11, 14
LB244	Erdman	S	Provide for mobile massage therapy establishments	18, 20
LB245	Erdman	C	Eliminate an exception to the medicaid preferred drug list	12
LB246	Brewer	IPP (>411)	Change provisions relating to elections	10, 19
LB247	Bolz	C	Adopt the Advance Mental Health Care Directives Act	
LB248	Howard	S	Change terminology relating to hearing-impaired persons	
LB249	Howard	C	Change the statute of limitations for civil actions arising from a sexual assault	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB250	Walz	C	Change provisions relating to agricultural land and horticultural land receiving special valuations	
LB251	Walz	C	Adopt the Child Hunger and Workforce Readiness Act	4
LB252	Geist	S	Provide a condition relating to advertisements by the state lottery	11, 14, 16
LB253	McCollister	C	Adopt the Redistricting Act	6
LB254	McCollister	FR	Adopt the Fair Chance Hiring Act	7
LB255	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	5
LB256	Arch	S	Authorize participation in insurance coverage for members of a community college board of governors	
LB257	Kolterman	C	Change provisions relating to loss payouts by insurers	
LB258	Williams	S	Change provisions relating to banking and finance	
LB259	Lindstrom	S	Change consumer protection provisions under the Securities Act of Nebraska, the Commodity Code, and the Consumer Rental Purchase Agreement Act	
LB260	Hansen, B.	S	Change provisions relating to medicaid recovery audit contractors and a health insurance premium assistance payment program	
LB261	DeBoer	C	Require use of redistricting maps drawn using state-issued computer software	6
LB262	DeBoer	C (>686)	Change membership and duties of long-term restrictive housing work group	19, 20
LB263	Clements	C	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits	
LB264	La Grone	S	Redefine premises under the Disposition of Personal Property Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB265	La Grone	C	Adopt the Unsecured Consumer Loan Licensing Act and clarify licensing provisions under the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act and the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	10
LB266	Lindstrom	GF	Change the School Readiness Tax Credit Act	4
LB267	Bolz	GF	Provide a duty for the county board relating to deficient bridges and authorize a tax levy	
LB268	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to a certificate of convenience and necessity for a telecommunications company	13, 15
LB269	Friesen	S (+579)	Change provisions relating to ignition interlock permits and school permits	
LB270	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to motorboats, motor vehicles, state identification cards, and operators' licenses	
LB271	Morfeld	C	Change provisions relating to releases, covenants not to sue, or similar agreements on joint and several liability	
LB272	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Apprenticeship Training Program Tax Credit Act	4
LB273	Hansen, M.	C	Provide a restricted funds budget limitation as prescribed for certain political subdivisions	
LB274	Hansen, M.	C	Change provisions relating to stacking of coverage under the Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Insurance Coverage Act	
LB275	Hansen, M.	C	Require notification when persons prohibited by state or federal law attempt to obtain a handgun purchase permit or concealed handgun permit	
LB276	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to the taxation of income from certain small business corporations and limited liability companies	6
LB277	McCollister	C	Change membership provisions for the Board of Parole	
LB278	Bostelman	C	Provide a veteran notation on an operator's license or a state identification card for certain commissioned officers as prescribed	
LB279	Bostelman	C	Provide a sales and use tax exemption for food sold by veterans service organizations	
LB280	Brewer	IPP (>411)	Change a penalty for violations of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	10, 19
LB281	McCollister	S	Provide for posting by public schools of a toll-free number set up to report child abuse or neglect	
LB282	Hansen, M.	C	Change provisions relating to bail	
LB283	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide for a climate change study	6
LB284	McCollister	S	Change sales and use tax provisions relating to out-of-state retailers and multivendor marketplace platforms	4, 9, 10
LB285	McCollister	C	State intent to appropriate funds to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a study and state public policy	
LB286	McCollister	C	Create the Coordinated Reentry Council	8
LB287	Quick	GF	Change and provide duties for the Game and Parks Commission and change provisions relating to stamps, permits, fees, and hunter orange display requirements as prescribed	
LB288	Linehan	GF	Change income tax rates	13
LB289	Linehan	GF	Change provisions relating to county assessor inspections of real property for property tax purposes	16, 18, 20
LB289A	Linehan	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB290	Linehan	C	Change the sales and use tax rate	
LB291	Linehan	C	Change sales and use tax provisions	4
LB292	Vargas	C (>294)	Appropriate funds to the State Department of Education	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB293	Speaker Scheer	S (+202)	Provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to appropriations	18, 19, 20
LB294	Speaker Scheer	S (+129, 174, 181, 199, 292, 327, 403, 404, 678)	Appropriate funds for the expenses of Nebraska State Government for the biennium ending June 30, 2021	18, 19, 20
LB295	Speaker Scheer	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of members of the Legislature	18, 19, 20
LB296	Speaker Scheer	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of constitutional officers	18, 19, 20
LB297	Speaker Scheer	S (+171, 562)	Appropriate funds for capital construction and property acquisition	18, 19, 20
LB298	Speaker Scheer	S (+446)	Create and repeal funds and provide, change, and eliminate sources, uses, and transfers of funds	18, 19, 20
LB299	Speaker Scheer	S	Change Cash Reserve Fund provisions	18, 19, 20
LB300	Lathrop	S	Change judges' salaries	18, 20
LB300A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB301	Lowe	S	Transfer duties under the Boiler Inspection Act, the Nebraska Amusement Ride Act, and the Conveyance Safety Act from the Department of Labor to the State Fire Marshal	
LB302	Hughes	S	Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality	4, 5, 10
LB303	Lindstrom	GF	Change the amount of relief under the Property Tax Credit Act	8
LB304	Crawford	S	Exempt certain operations from the definition of a food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act	9, 14, 17
LB305	Crawford	GF	Adopt the Healthy and Safe Families and Workplaces Act	5
LB306	Crawford	Failed FR	Change provisions relating to good cause for voluntarily leaving employment under the Employment Security Law	14
LB307	Albrecht	S	Change provisions relating to certain Department of Environmental Quality Funds	
LB308	Lathrop	S	Change provisions relating to commencement of civil actions, voluntary appearances, and waivers of defenses	
LB309	Lathrop	S	Increase the number of district court judges in Douglas County	5, 8, 20
LB309A	Lathrop	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB310	Vargas	GF	Change procedures for tax credits under the Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act	
LB311	Crawford	GF	Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act	11
LB311A	Crawford	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB312	Hansen, B.	GF	Change and eliminate provisions relating to dental hygienists	6
LB313	Bolz	C	Provide the office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System with oversight authority over regional centers	7
LB314	Briese	C	Adopt the Remote Seller Sales Tax Collection Act and change revenue and taxation provisions	6
LB315	Kolterman	S	Provide for an inheritance tax exemption and change certain inheritance tax proceedings	
LB316	Kolterman	S	Provide protections for pharmacies to disclose information regarding drug prices and prohibit insurers from charging covered individuals in excess of certain amounts	
LB317	Kolterman	C	Eliminate Public Service Commission inspection authority under the Nebraska Uniform Standards for Modular Housing Units Act and eliminate applicability and references to manufactured homes under the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles and rename the code	
LB318	McCollister	S	Change provisions relating to petroleum products liens	
LB319	Moser	S	Change provisions relating to notices, rules, and regulations of the Department of Natural Resources	5, 6, 10
LB320	Albrecht	S	Change various provisions of the Pesticide Act and update federal references	
LB321	Hansen, B.	C	Update certain standards and regulations and change Director of Agriculture duties and Department of Agriculture fee and permit provisions under the Weights and Measures Act	
LB322	Crawford	GF	Change provisions relating to enforcement of certain tobacco restriction provisions	
LB323	Crawford	FR	Change eligibility provisions under the Medical Assistance Act for certain disabled persons	15
LB323A	Crawford	FR	Appropriation Bill	
LB324	La Grone	C	Change immunity from liability under the 911 Service System Act	
LB325	Bostelman	C	Provide for motor vehicle tax exemptions for one hundred percent service-connected disability compensation rated veterans and dependency and indemnity compensation recipients	
LB326	Quick	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB327	Bolz	C (>294)	State intent to appropriate funds for an increase in rates paid to behavioral health service providers	12, 18, 20
LB328	Bolz	C	Adopt the Nebraska Family First Act, provide for non-court-involved response to reports of child abuse or neglect, and provide for a family finding project	20

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB329	Bolz	GF	Change provisions relating to child care assistance and licensure	
LB330	Bolz	IPP (>600)	Change the administration, duties, membership, purpose, and reports of the Nebraska Children's Commission	7, 16, 19, 20
LB331	Bolz	C	Change provisions relating to the Board of Parole, the Department of Correctional Services, and the Office of Probation Administration	
LB332	Bolz	IPP (>600)	Change eligibility requirements and other provisions of the Young Adult Bridge to Independence Act	9, 19, 20
LB333	Slama	S	Update federal references and redefine a term under the Nebraska Milk Act	
LB334	Stinner	S (+452)	Change provisions relating to Nebraska planning and development regions, eliminate funding for the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act, provide intent for an appropriation to the Governor's Emergency Program, and increase funding and eliminate a termination date for the Business Innovation Act	10, 14, 20
LB334A	Stinner	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB335	Hansen, M.	C	Authorize a 24/7 sobriety program permit for operating a motor vehicle as a condition of bail	
LB336	Hansen, M.	C	Change the vote required to exceed certain budget limitations	
LB337	Stinner	GF	Require report of federal receipts with the annual state budget report	7
LB338	Wayne	C	Change calculation of gasoline tax and distribution of proceeds	
LB339	Lathrop	S	Change provisions relating to judicial nominating commissions	
LB340	Lathrop	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to incarceration work camps	
LB341	Arch	C (>460)	Change provisions relating to a determination of ongoing eligibility for a child care subsidy	16, 20
LB342	La Grone	IPP (>411)	Change election provisions for the board of metropolitan utilities districts	10, 19
LB343	Halloran	C	Adopt the School Safety Rapid Response Option Act and authorize schools to allow employees to carry concealed handguns	8
LB344	Agriculture	C	Adopt the Animal Health and Disease Control Act, eliminate and provide duties for the Department of Agriculture, eliminate various acts, terminate and transfer certain funds, create a fund, and provide penalties	
LB345	Wishart	GF	Prohibit mandatory overtime for certain state employees	
LB346	Wishart	C	Change special education reimbursements	
LB347	Murman	GF	Exempt reflexology from licensure under the Massage Therapy Practice Act	11
LB348	Quick	S	Adopt changes to the state building code	6, 11, 14
LB349	Friesen	C	Provide sales and use tax collection duties for certain peer-to-peer rentals of vehicles	
LB350	Morfeld	C	Provide a budget exception for expanded learning opportunity programs	
LB351	Morfeld	C	Provide for school district levy and bonding authority for cybersecurity and violence prevention	
LB352	Morfeld	S	Provide requirements relating to the use of jailhouse informants	9, 13, 15
LB353	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide powers and duties for University of Nebraska police departments and police officers as prescribed	
LB354	Pansing Brooks	S	Change provisions relating to sealing of juvenile records	4, 9, 11
LB354A	Pansing Brooks	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB355	La Grone	S	Change provisions relating to money transmitters, installment sales, and mortgage loans	
LB356	Scheer	S (+128, 215, 691)	Change certain license plate fee distributions, create new license plates, and provide for the discontinuance of certain plates as prescribed	5, 14, 17
LB357	Walz	C	Adopt the Direct Support Professional Tax Credit Act	
LB358	Walz	C	Change provisions related to early childhood education in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	12
LB359	Hansen, M.	S	Change provisions in the Employment Security Law and Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act and relating to appointment of the meatpacking industry worker rights coordinator	
LB360	Hansen, M.	IPP (>418)	Provide for settlement of claims of nonresident alien dependents under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	16, 19
LB361	Hansen, M.	SF	Prohibit retaliation under the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act and the Wage and Hour Act	
LB362	Hansen, M.	C	Require payment of unpaid wages for violations of the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	
LB363	Hansen, M.	C	Adopt the In the Line of Duty Compensation Act	
LB364	Quick	C	Change provisions relating to a limit on fees under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB365	Crawford	C	Adopt the Health Care Directives Registry Act	
LB366	Bostelman	C	Change registration fee for alternative fuel-powered motor vehicles	8
LB367	Hughes	C	Eliminate provisions relating to fund transfers and change a termination date under the Nebraska Litter Reduction and Recycling Act	
LB368	Hughes	C	Eliminate overappropriated river basins, subbasins, and reaches	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB369	Vargas	GF	Require jails, law enforcement agencies, and the Nebraska State Patrol to provide public notice before entering into agreements to enforce federal immigration law and to allow audits of noncomplying entities	12
LB370	McCollister	C	Change motor vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility requirements	
LB371	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to requirements for all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles	
LB372	Erdman	S	Change provisions relating to classes and subclasses of agricultural land and horticultural land	
LB373	Brewer	C	Provide setback and zoning requirements for wind energy generation projects	4
LB374	Brewer	S	Provide for raptor permits for wildlife abatement	
LB375	Brewer	S	Allow certain library, archive, and museum materials to be withheld from the public	
LB376	Friesen	C	Provide for safekeeping of prisoners	5
LB377	DeBoer	C	Provide for voidability of certain releases from liability	
LB378	Hansen, B.	GF	Change helmet provisions for autcycles, motorcycles, and mopeds	6
LB379	Kolterman	GF	Change provisions under the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act and the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	10
LB380	La Grone	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Property and Liability Insurance Guaranty Association Act	
LB381	Hansen, B.	GF	Change expense reimbursement provisions for state officers and agencies	11, 20
LB382	Geist	C	Change the Dog and Cat Purchase Protection Act	8
LB383	Quick	C	Provide for an annual adjustment to the minimum wage	
LB384	Walz	S	Change certain education requirements under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	7, 10
LB385	Erdman	IPP (>447)	Change election provisions for the board of trustees of the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB386	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to cash reserves under the Nebraska Budget Act	
LB387	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change and modernize provisions relating to juries	
LB388	Howard	GF	Change provisions relating to termination of parental rights, placement of children, and guardianship	
LB389	Howard	C	Change provisions relating to termination of parental rights	
LB390	Pansing Brooks	S	Provide duties regarding school resource officers and security guards	12, 15
LB391	Hansen, M.	C	Change duties of peace officers taking juveniles into custody or interrogating juveniles and prohibit use of statements taken in violation of the rights of a juvenile	
LB392	Lathrop	S	Change hearsay provisions in the Nebraska Evidence Rules	
LB393	Groene	C	Increase the documentary stamp tax	
LB394	Wishart	C	State intent relating to an appropriation to the Department of Transportation	
LB395	Hansen, M.	C	Change landlord's power of possession provisions in cases of domestic violence	
LB396	Hansen, M.	GF	Change landlord and tenant provisions relating to continuances and rental deposits	
LB397	Briese	S	Change provisions relating to tobacco and other nicotine products and tobacco manufacturers	
LB398	DeBoer	C	Change learning community levy and diversity plan requirements	
LB399	Slama	S	Change the name and provisions related to the committee on Americanism	4, 7, 8, 10, 11
LB400	Hunt	GF	Change the minimum wage for persons compensated by way of gratuities	10
LB401	Quick	C	Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	
LB402	Hilkemann	C	Eliminate an eligibility provision relating to nutrition assistance benefits as prescribed	5
LB403	Stinner	C (>294)	Provide a duty for the Department of Health and Human Services when calculating certain medicaid rates	18, 20
LB404	Stinner	C (>294)	State intent relating to medicaid budgeting	
LB405	Hunt	S	Adopt updates to building and energy codes	
LB406	Gragert	S	Change the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act	
LB407	Lindstrom	C	Grant in-state credit unions powers of out-of-state credit unions as prescribed	
LB408	Quick	C	Change provisions relating to compensation paid upon the death on an employee under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB409	Kolowski	S	Adopt design standards for health care facilities	
LB410	Kolowski	C	Exempt certain sales of clothing and footwear from sales and use taxes	
LB411	Scheer	S (+98, 101, 246, 280, 342, 522, 574, 608, 618, 733)	Name, change, and transfer provisions relating to the county civil service commission and change provisions relating to metropolitan utilities districts, county boards, elections, and political accountability and disclosure	10, 19
LB412	Geist	C	Require an election regarding creation of a joint public agency	5
LB413	Brandt	C	Change application submission deadlines under the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LB414	Brandt	S	Change county highway superintendent duties as prescribed and eliminate an annual report requirement	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB415	Friesen	C	Repeal recall provisions for political subdivisions	6
LB416	Friesen	C	Change distribution of funds from the temporary school fund and from fines and licenses	
LB417	Friesen	C	Change application deadlines under certain tax incentive programs	
LB418	Cavanaugh	S (+178, 360)	Change provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act and change provisions relating to tort claims against the state, the State Self-Insured Liability Fund, and state vehicles	16, 19
LB419	Bolz	C	Change the Nebraska Advantage Act and create a fund and grant program	
LB420	Bolz	C	Adopt the Property Tax Circuit Breaker Act	7
LB421	Hilgers	C	Adopt the Asbestos Trust Claims Transparency Act	
LB422	Howard	C	Adopt the Art Therapy Practice Act	
LB423	Howard	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to school-based health centers under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB424	Quick	GF	Change the Nebraska Municipal Land Bank Act	7, 15, 18
LB425	Hilkemann	C	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	
LB426	DeBoer	C	Provide for adoption by two adults	5
LB427	Howard	S	Change terminology relating to legitimacy of children	
LB428	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to computation of wages under the Employment Security Law	14, 17
LB429	Wayne	C	Change tax provisions for cigars, cheroots, and stogies	
LB430	Groene	S	Change dates related to certifications and distributions of state aid to schools	
LB431	Groene	C (>675)	Change school finance base limitation and local effort rate provisions	
LB432	Groene	C	Include tax-increment financing valuation in adjusted valuations for purposes of state aid to schools and change school district levy authority	
LB433	Hansen, M.	S (+434)	Change provisions relating to return of tenants' deposits and damages and the time period for a written notice to quit	16, 20
LB434	Hansen, M.	IPP (>433)	Change landlord and tenant provisions relating to three-day notice to quit and to create a right of redemption for tenants	16, 20
LB435	Hansen, M.	C	Change provisions relating to retaliatory conduct by a landlord	
LB436	Hansen, M.	V	Create the Complete Count Committee	10, 20
LB437	Linehan	C	Change application deadlines under the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LB438	Wishart	C	Designate Nebraska State Patrol as agency to investigate criminal activity within Department of Correctional Services facilities and the Lincoln Regional Center	4
LB439	Crawford	C	Require coverage for chiropractic services under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB440	Walz	C	Increase a tax on aviation jet fuel	12
LB441	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to certain sales and use tax refund deductions and applicability to municipalities as prescribed	
LB442	McCollister	S	Require insurance coverage for synchronizing prescription medications	5, 9
LB443	McCollister	S	Require the Department of Correctional Services to allow committed offenders reasonable access to their attorneys	9, 11
LB444	McDonnell	C (>470)	Provide a homestead exemption for certain dwelling complexes	16, 20
LB445	McDonnell	S	Require cities and villages to provide annual reports relating to occupation taxes as prescribed	8, 14, 17
LB446	McDonnell	C (>298)	State intent relating to appropriations for the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program	9
LB447	McDonnell	S (+385)	Exempt certain employees of the Nebraska State Historical Society from the State Personnel System and change election provisions for the board of trustees of the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB447A	McDonnell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB448	McDonnell	GF	Change provisions relating to compensation for burial expenses under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB449	Walz	S	Prohibit scleral tattooing	
LB450	Wishart	FR	Change tuition assistance provisions for National Guard members, spouses, and children	
LB450A	Wishart	FR	Appropriation Bill	
LB451	Halloran	C	Adopt the Faithful Delegate to Federal Article V Convention Act	4
LB452	Clements	IPP (>334)	Change boundaries of Nebraska planning and development regions and provide a procedure for a county to move to an adjacent region	14, 20
LB453	Clements	C	Provide for hearings on credit union membership expansion applications	
LB454	Clements	S	Change education requirements for issuance of a broker's or salesperson's license under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	
LB455	Arch	C	Change medical services payment provisions relating to jails	
LB456	Lathrop	C	Provide a sales and use tax exemption for certain machinery and equipment used to produce electricity	10

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB457	Lathrop	GF	Define and redefine terms relating to industrial hemp under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act	
LB458	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to child abuse or neglect	19, 20
LB459	Health & Human Services	C (>460)	Change criminal background check provisions under the Child Care Licensing Act	16
LB460	Health & Human Services	S (+341, 459)	Change provisions relating to transitional child care assistance and cash assistance and require background checks under the Child Care Licensing Act and Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act as prescribed	16, 20
LB460A	Howard	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB461	Friesen	C	Eliminate certificates of public convenience and necessity and permits for common and contract motor carriers and provide a permit process for regulated motor carriers	
LB462	Friesen	S (+617)	Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act and the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act	6, 19, 20
LB463	Williams	S	Change provisions relating to treasurer's tax deeds and tax sale certificates	5, 10, 11
LB464	Hansen, M.	S	Provide for payment of claims against the state	18, 19, 20
LB465	Hansen, M.	C	Deny payment of claims against the state	
LB466	Howard	C	Adopt the Redistricting Act	6
LB467	Vargas	C	Prohibit consideration of certain factors in redistricting	6
LB468	Walz	S (+566)	Prohibit inclusion of long-term services and supports under the medicaid managed care program and provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Insurance	16, 20
LB469	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions of the Surplus Lines Insurance Act and the Property and Casualty Insurance Rate and Form Act and eliminate provisions relating to employee benefit plans	
LB470	La Grone	V (+444, 545)	Exempt dwelling complexes located on United States Department of Defense military installations from taxes as prescribed and authorize and provide tax deductions for contributions to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust by employers and persons other than participants as prescribed	5, 16, 20
LB470A	La Grone	V	Appropriation Bill	
LB471	La Grone	C	Provide a procedure for consolidation of related civil actions in multiple judicial districts	
LB472	Dorn	VO	Adopt the Qualified Judgment Payment Act, authorize a sales and use tax, and require a property tax levy	13, 15, 16, 17
LB473	Dorn	C	Change revenue and taxation provisions relating to judgments against public corporations and political subdivisions, authorize certain loans, and provide powers and duties to the State Treasurer	8
LB474	Dorn	C	Change provisions relating to claims against the state for wrongful incarceration and conviction	7
LB475	Geist	C	Create the offense of sexual extortion, redefine sexual exploitation, and provide for a registrable offense under the Sex Offender Registration Act	
LB476	McCullister	S	Eliminate a sunset provision relating to certain retail sales of natural gas by a metropolitan utilities district	
LB477	Vargas	GF	Provide an income tax exemption for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards	
LB477A	Vargas	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB478	Vargas	S	Prohibit evidence of a minor's consent in any civil proceeding involving certain alleged sex offenses	10, 16, 19
LB479	Wishart	IPP (>519)	Prohibit sexual abuse of a detainee and change provisions relating to sexual abuse of an inmate or parolee	19, 20
LB480	Quick	C	State intent relating to appropriations to local public health departments	
LB481	Bolz	S (+642)	Adopt the Brain Injury Trust Fund Act and change provisions related to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund	20
LB481A	Stinner	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB482	Erdman	C	Provide for an adjustment to the assessed value of destroyed real property	13
LB483	Erdman	GF	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land	13
LB483A	Erdman	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB484	Lowe	C	Change provisions relating to assault on certain employees and officers	
LB485	Lowe	C	State intent relating to an appropriation for the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney	
LB486	Lowe	S	Adopt the Veteran and Active Duty Supportive Postsecondary Institution Act	
LB487	La Grone	C	Require the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court to adopt an evidence-based drug formulary	
LB488	Howard	C	Adopt school district requirements for mental health education and change school district requirements for drug awareness and prevention	12

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB489	Howard	C	Require registration for the prescription drug monitoring system	
LB490	Wayne	C	Consolidate offices of clerk of the district court and clerk magistrates	
LB491	Wayne	C	Authorize punitive damages as prescribed	
LB492	Wayne	VO	Adopt the Regional Metropolitan Transit Authority Act	8, 18, 20
LB493	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to property tax exemptions under the Nebraska Housing Agency Act	
LB494	Wayne	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation	
LB495	Wayne	C	Provide for collection of data on student disciplinary actions	
LB496	Wayne	S	Change penalties for tampering with witnesses, informants, jurors, or physical evidence and change provisions relating to discovery in criminal cases	15, 17
LB497	Friesen	C	Adopt the School District Property Tax Authority Act and change revenue and taxation provisions	
LB498	Wishart	C	Provide for medical assistance coverage of family planning services as prescribed	7
LB499	Morfeld	C	Provide requirements for services by psychologists	12
LB500	Morfeld	C	Prohibit participation in pretrial diversion programs for certain driving under the influence and driver's license offenses	6
LB501	Hunt	C	Require insurance coverage for in vitro fertilization procedures	9
LB502	Hunt	C	Adopt the Limited Immigration Inquiry Act	12
LB503	Hunt	C	Eliminate requirement that physician be physically present in same room when an abortion is performed	11
LB504	Hunt	C	Provide for enhanced penalties and a civil action for crimes committed because of a victim's gender identity or association with a person of a certain gender identity and include strangulation in the offenses eligible for enhancement	
LB505	Brewer	S	Change provisions relating to support order payments and the State Disbursement Unit	
LB506	Briese	C	Adopt the Property Tax Request Limitation Act	
LB507	Briese	C	Impose sales tax on certain services and eliminate sales tax exemptions	
LB508	Briese	C	Impose sales and use taxes on certain services, eliminate sales tax exemptions, and use the increased revenue for property tax credits.	
LB509	McCollister	C	Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility	
LB510	McCollister	C (>630)	Change applicability of Sex Offender Registration Act to certain out-of-state juvenile adjudications	20
LB511	Brewer	S	Authorize adjustments to state employee work schedules for participation in approved youth mentoring programs	11, 20
LB512	Linehan	S	Change revenue and taxation provisions	13, 14, 20
LB513	Briese	C	Change requirements for the issuance of certain school district bonds	5
LB514	Morfeld	S	Change bad check provisions to include obtaining child support credit and spousal support credit	
LB515	Vargas	GF	Change provisions relating to the Student Discipline Act	
LB516	Pansing Brooks	C (>519)	Change provisions relating to child abuse, the Child Protection and Family Safety Act, human trafficking, and child welfare services	19, 20
LB517	Pansing Brooks	C (>519)	Change human trafficking civil damage provisions	19, 20
LB518	Linehan	GF	Adopt the Support for Trafficking Survivors Act	9
LB519	Slama	S (+479, 516, 517)	Change civil and criminal provisions relating to certain sexual offenses, human trafficking, and child abuse	10, 19, 20
LB520	McDonnell	GF	Provide requirements for safety standards and operating procedures for road construction and maintenance in cities of the metropolitan class	
LB521	McDonnell	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to automated vehicles	9
LB522	Linehan	IPP (>411)	Name and change the purpose of the County Civil Service Commission Act, change provisions relating to commission membership and duties, and provide for appointment of a human resources director	19
LB523	Linehan	C	Provide a documentary stamp tax exemption for certain deeds and a property tax exemption for certain charitable organizations	
LB524	Dorn	S	Change provisions relating to annexations under the Nebraska Budget Act	
LB525	Dorn	S	Change provisions relating to the sale of county land in fee simple	
LB526	McDonnell	C	Change provisions relating to compensation for temporary disability under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB527	Bolz	GF	Adopt the Customized Job Training Act	19, 20
LB528	Hilkemann	C	Change provisions relating to use of pharmaceutical agents and use of certain treatments and procedures by optometrists	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB529	Groene	C	Change provisions relating to a property tax exemption for hospitals	
LB530	Groene	C	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land for property tax purposes	
LB531	Vargas	C	Create a fund and provide for a transfer of funds	
LB532	Cavanaugh	S	Change provisions relating to harassment protection orders, sexual assault protection orders, and domestic abuse protection orders	17, 20
LB532A	Cavanaugh	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB533	Cavanaugh	V	Change terminology related to marriage	
LB534	Cavanaugh	GF	Require public postsecondary educational institutions to conduct an annual sexual assault climate survey	
LB535	Cavanaugh	C	Prohibit employment discrimination by qualified businesses under the Nebraska Advantage Act	
LB536	Pansing Brooks	S	Adopt the Nebraska Uniform Directed Trust Act	
LB537	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to actions with regard to the performance or conduct of a certificated school district employee	
LB538	Lathrop	S	Change provisions relating to possession of a gambling device and provide for approval of certain mechanical amusement devices by the Department of Revenue	15, 19, 20
LB538A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB539	Walz	C	Redefine abuse under the Adult Protective Services Act	
LB540	Walz	GF	Eliminate the termination date of a developmental disability service	
LB541	Walz	GF	Provide a duty for the Department of Health and Human Services relating to bone marrow	
LB542	Lowe	C	Adopt the Firearm Safety Act and provide a tax credit	11
LB543	Lowe	C	Change provisions relating to state contracts, state vehicles, and state personnel	
LB544	Linehan	IPP (>610)	Adopt the Meadowlark Scholarship Act	5, 20
LB545	Wayne	C (>470)	Change income tax provisions relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and authorize employer contributions to the trust	5, 16, 20
LB546	Wishart	C	Create Spay and Neuter Awareness license plates and a low-income spay and neuter grant program	5
LB547	Wishart	IPP (>610)	Create the College Savings Plan Matching Grant Program	5, 20
LB548	Howard	C	Prohibit restraining animals during certain disasters or weather events	7
LB549	Brandt	C	Provide for creation and maintenance of a geographic information system map as prescribed under the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act	5
LB550	Vargas	GF	Require voter approval of fees and taxes on wireless services and eliminate the Prepaid Wireless Surcharge Act	7, 15
LB551	McDonnell	C	State intent relating to funding for development districts	
LB552	McDonnell	C	Change appropriations relating to the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program	
LB553	Clements	C	Require reasonable accommodation for a person with a disability to have an assistance animal in a dwelling as prescribed	7
LB554	Wishart	C	Change provisions relating to prescription drugs not on the preferred drug list under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB555	Hunt	C	Adopt the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act and provide for disciplinary action against hospitals	10
LB556	Howard	S (+557)	Change provisions relating to prescriptions for controlled substances and the prescription drug monitoring program	6, 14, 17
LB556A	Howard	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB557	Lindstrom	C (>556)	Change provisions relating to prescriptions for controlled substances	17
LB558	Hilkemann	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB559	Arch	S	Change provisions relating to the State Anatomical Board	18, 20
LB560	Geist	S (+623)	Change provisions relating to tax credits under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	11, 16, 19
LB561	Geist	S	Adopt updated audit standards under the Legislative Performance Audit Act	
LB562	Stinner	C (>297)	State intent relating to University of Nebraska facilities and appropriations	
LB563	Bolz	C	Adopt the Access College Early Tech Promise Program Act	
LB564	Bolz	S	Change the Civic and Community Center Financing Act	
LB565	Bolz	C (>34)	State legislative intent relating to a designated beneficiary determination under certain retirement systems	6, 11, 14
LB566	Crawford	IPP (>468)	Provide for notice to the Legislature if the Department of Insurance applies for a 1332 waiver from requirements of federal law as prescribed	20
LB567	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Prescription Drug Cost Transparency Act	
LB568	Morfeld	C	Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds	
LB569	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Out-of-Network Consumer Protection, Transparency, and Accountability Act	
LB570	Walz	S	Change transfers to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund and provisions regarding the strategic plan for providing services to persons with disabilities	14, 19

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB570A	Walz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB571	Walz	S	Require assisted-living facilities to provide grievance procedures to the Department of Health and Human Services as prescribed	
LB571A	Walz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB572	Walz	C	Provide authority for the public counsel over an assisted-living facility	8
LB573	Hansen, M.	IPP	Change provisions relating to agreements under the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act	
LB574	Brewer	IPP (>411)	Change a provision relating to regular meetings of a metropolitan utilities district	19
LB575	Brewer	S	Require school district policies regarding the provision of information to and access by military recruiters	
LB576	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to presumptions regarding causes of death or disability of certain firefighters and firefighter-paramedics	
LB577	Vargas	GF	Provide additional powers to the Commissioner of Labor related to investigations under and violations of the Employee Classification Act	11
LB578	La Grone	C	Provide for venue of legal proceedings challenging laws regarding redistricting	
LB579	Quick	IPP (>269)	Authorize issuance of ignition interlock permits to persons who caused serious bodily injury while driving under the influence	6
LB580	Hilkemann	C	Change provisions relating to landfill disposal fees and rebates under the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act	
LB581	Albrecht	C	Require the use of generally accepted accounting principles in preparing budgets under the Nebraska Budget Act	
LB582	Brewer	GF	Change provisions relating to possession of a stolen firearm	
LB583	Hilgers	S	Provide powers for certain cities, counties, and joint entities under the Transportation Innovation Act	17, 20
LB584	Hilgers	IPP (>592)	Change farm winery provisions and provide for a promotional special designated license	19, 20
LB585	Friesen	S	Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program and provide for grants	10, 14, 17
LB586	Stinner	C	Change an appropriation	
LB587	Stinner	C	Change a provision relating to the Cash Reserve Fund	
LB588	Stinner	C	Change the local effort rate pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB589	Chambers	C	Prohibit peace officers from serving as school resource officers	6
LB590	Briese	S	Require use of Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Record System for documentation and verification of staff training	
LB591	Briese	C	Provide for alcohol impact zones and provide duties for the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	11
LB592	Briese	S (+584)	Change provisions relating to farm wineries under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	19, 20
LB593	Briese	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to medical assistance reimbursement claims and liens and provide for retroactivity	
LB594	Blood	GF	Provide for a deceptive trade practice relating to meat under the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act	
LB595	Albrecht	S	Provide for restorative justice under the Dispute Resolution Act, Nebraska Juvenile Code, and the Student Discipline Act and in compulsory attendance collaboration plans and change provisions relating to mediators under the Parenting Act	16, 19
LB596	Quick	C	Adopt the Office of Inspector General of Nebraska Public Health	
LB597	Walz	C	Require reporting of incidents and development of policies for assisted-living facilities	
LB598	Walz	C	Provide the Public Counsel with access to data from the Adult Protective Services Central Registry	
LB599	Walz	C	Provide data to the Public Counsel from the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB600	Walz	S (+330, 332)	Change provisions for the bridge to independence programs, the Nebraska Children's Commission membership and operations, case management for juvenile services, the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, and the Public Counsel	16, 19, 20
LB600A	Walz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB601	Lindstrom	C	Change a property tax exemption relating to educational, religious, charitable, and cemetery organizations	
LB602	Lindstrom	C	Adopt the Domestic Stock Insurance Company Division Act	
LB603	Lindstrom	S	Change automatic teller machine fees	8, 12, 15
LB604	Lindstrom	C	Authorize High-Wage Jobs and Capital Investment Creation Fund entities and provide grants, loans, and economic assistance to such entities	
LB605	Lindstrom	C (>720)	Adopt the Renewable Chemical Production Tax Credit Act	11, 19, 20
LB606	Groene	C	Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed	10

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LB607	Kolterman	GF	Change provisions relating to nail technology and body art	6
LB607A	Kolterman	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB608	La Grone	IPP (>411)	Change and eliminate provisions regarding counting methods under the Election Act	10, 19
LB609	La Grone	S	Provide for reimbursement of actual costs of a rental vehicle by county and local governments	
LB610	Lindstrom	S (+544, 547)	Adopt the Meadowlark Act, the Employer Matching Contribution Incentive Program, and the College Savings Plan Low-Income Matching Scholarship Program and change the Nebraska educational savings plan trust	5, 15, 16, 20
LB610A	Lindstrom	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB611	Brandt	C	Require train crews of at least two individuals	9
LB612	Erdman	C	Authorize the display of roadside memorials	
LB613	Crawford	C	Change application deadlines under certain tax incentive programs	
LB614	Crawford	C	Change revenue and taxation provisions	8
LB615	Hilgers	C	Reduce income tax rates and provide for certain transfers from the Cash Reserve Fund	7
LB616	Hilgers	S	Provide an interest payment exception for certain state highway and bridge construction contracts	14, 17
LB617	Hilgers	C (>462)	Change provisions of the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act	19
LB618	Hilgers	IPP (>411)	Change provisions relating to electioneering	10, 19
LB619	Kolowski	S	Prohibit denial of coverage for mental health services delivered in a school	9, 11, 13, 14
LB620	Kolowski	C	Provide for enforcement of violations relating to use of handheld wireless communication devices as a primary action	9
LB621	Kolowski	C	Change provisions relating to solar energy and wind energy, declare certain instruments void and unenforceable, and provide for a civil cause of action	7
LB622	Williams	S	Change provisions and provide for pooled collateral under the Public Funds Deposit Security Act	
LB623	Williams	C (>560)	Change provisions relating to qualifications under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	11, 16, 19
LB624	Williams	S	Change terms of members of the Nebraska Craft Brewery Board	
LB625	Pansing Brooks	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Correctional Services	
LB626	Pansing Brooks	IPP (>138)	Create the position of veterans' workforce development coordinator in the Department of Labor	8, 15, 17
LB627	Pansing Brooks	GF	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation and gender identity	5, 9
LB628	Pansing Brooks	C	Increase the earned income tax credit	
LB629	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide criteria for recipients of Title X grant funds	11
LB630	Morfeld	S (+510)	Change provisions relating to unlawful intrusion, sexually explicit conduct, theft, extortion, intimidation by telephone call or electronic communication, and the Sex Offender Registration Act	19, 20
LB631	Morfeld	C	Create the Medicaid Expansion Implementation Task Force	7
LB632	Hughes	C	Clarify a statutory reference relating to rural water districts	
LB633	Wishart	C	Change provisions relating to real property owner information available to the public	
LB634	Hilkemann	C	Require three-point safety belt systems for school vehicles as prescribed	9
LB635	Hilkemann	C	Change membership of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	
LB636	Stinner	C	Create the Financial Condition of Counties and Municipalities Task Force	8
LB637	Stinner	S	Authorize sales of tourism promotional products by the Nebraska Tourism Commission	8, 13, 15
LB638	Stinner	S	Change provisions relating to the transfer of excess General Fund net receipts to the Cash Reserve Fund	
LB639	Stinner	C	Adopt the H3 Careers Scholarship Act	5
LB640	Howard	C	Include study relative to the Holocaust and other genocides in provisions relating to multicultural education	11
LB641	McDonnell	S	Provide for grants for a 211 Information and Referral Network	7, 14, 20
LB641A	McDonnell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB642	McDonnell	IPP (>481)	Create the Brain Injury Trust Fund	20
LB642A	McDonnell	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB643	McDonnell	GF	Change death and disability-related prima facie evidence provisions relating to emergency responders	
LB644	McDonnell	C	Adopt the Nebraska Workforce Diploma Act	
LB645	McDonnell	C	Change provisions of the Medical Assistance Act	
LB646	Chambers	C	Eliminate cash bail bonds, appearance bonds, and related provisions	
LB647	Wayne	C	Include virtual school students in the state aid to schools formula	
LB648	Wayne	C	Change the Community Development Law	
LB649	Wayne	C	Eliminate a termination date relating to the Medical Cannabidiol Pilot Study	
LB650	Wayne	C	Adopt the Teach for Nebraska Program Act and change provisions relating to the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund and the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund	

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LB651	Wayne	C	Change funding provisions for the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program	
LB652	Wayne	C	Change a penalty for controlled substance possession as prescribed	
LB653	Wayne	C	Adopt the Healthy Kids Act and require tests for lead-based hazards in housing	10
LB654	Wayne	C	Provide for a type 1 diabetes pilot study	
LB655	Wayne	C	Change division fence provisions	
LB656	Wayne	C	Adopt the Nebraska Education Formula, terminate the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act, and change levy limits and the base limitation for school districts	
LB657	Wayne	S	Adopt the Nebraska Hemp Farming Act and change provisions relating to the industrial hemp agricultural pilot program	6, 15, 20
LB657A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB658	Wayne	C	Prohibit executive director of Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice from taking certain disciplinary actions	
LB659	Wayne	C	Remove cannabidiol from list of controlled substances	
LB660	Brewer	S	Change provisions relating to the executive director and chief investigator of the Nebraska Brand Committee	
LB660A	Brewer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB661	Friesen	C	Change income tax provisions and the distribution of certain income tax revenue	
LB662	Friesen	C	Terminate the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB663	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to Nebraska adjusted basis	
LB664	Friesen	C	Provide for certain income tax deductions	
LB665	Friesen	C	Authorize the use of electric foot scooters	
LB666	Dorn	C	Change Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund provisions and provide for a transfer to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for a program to train first responders and emergency medical technicians in rural areas	
LB667	Vargas	C	Adopt the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Act	
LB668	Vargas	C	Adopt the Alternative Certification for Quality Teachers Act	
LB669	Kolterman	C	Change Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund provisions and state intent relating to an appropriation for pancreatic cancer research	10
LB670	Linehan	GF	Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide tax credits	9, 19
LB670A	Linehan	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB671	Linehan	C	Provide for sparsity aid in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB672	Clements	C	Change provisions of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act relating to a named driver insurance policy	
LB673	Hilkemann	C	Change Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund provisions and state intent relating to an appropriation for data collection and analysis on antimicrobial resistant bacteria	
LB674	Linehan	C	Change the base limitation for school districts	
LB675	Groene	S (+431)	Change provisions relating to education	
LB676	Groene	C	Change provisions relating to school districts and the reorganization of school districts	
LB677	Groene	C	Change provisions of the Property Tax Credit Act and provide school district property tax relief aid	
LB678	Vargas	C (>294)	Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality	
LB679	DeBoer	C	Create the School Financing Review Commission	11
LB680	DeBoer	S	Adopt the Uniform Civil Remedies for Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images Act	19, 20
LB681	Hilgers	C	Change provisions relating to legislative subpoenas	
LB682	Vargas	C	Provide for taxing spirits as proof gallons	12
LB683	Kolterman	C	Provide for a work plan under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act relating to a one-time lump sum payment to certain retirement system members	
LB684	Lathrop	C (>686)	Change provisions relating to post-release supervision for Class IV felonies	19, 20
LB685	Lathrop	C	Prohibit the denial or delay of a remedy by due course of law as prescribed	
LB686	Lathrop	S (+90, 91, 233, 240, 262, 684, 739)	Change provisions relating to Class IV felonies, post-release supervision, competency to stand trial, restrictive housing, and the long-term restrictive housing work group, create a criminal offense relating to electronic communication devices in correctional facilities, change possession of a deadly weapon by a prohibited person provisions, and provide for deferred judgments by courts	19, 20
LB686A	Lathrop	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB687	Vargas	C	Provide for voter registration of applicants for driver's licenses and state identification cards	
LB688	Cavanaugh	C	Provide for contributions to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust from income tax refunds	5
LB689	Cavanaugh	C	Prohibit discrimination by a seller or landlord on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or citizenship status in any real estate transaction or lease	8

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB690	Cavanaugh	S	Adopt the Healthy Pregnancies for Incarcerated Women Act	9, 18, 20
LB691	Cavanaugh	C (>356)	Provide for Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates	5, 14, 17
LB692	Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to commemorative certificates for a nonviable birth	
LB693	Halloran	S	Prohibit the selling, renting, or conveying of telephone numbers	7, 15, 17
LB694	Vargas	IPP (>86)	Change matching fund requirements under the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act	16, 20
LB695	Groene	C	Change provisions relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act, the Property Tax Credit Act, levy limits, and the base limitation	
LB696	Bostelman	C (>138)	Change provisions relating to Military Honor Plates	5, 15, 17
LB697	Bostelman	C (>138)	Eliminate a fee for issuance of military related license plates	5, 15, 17
LB698	Bostelman	S	Change load provisions and penalties for commercial motor vehicles and commercial trailers	14, 17
LB699	Bostelman	S	Change provisions relating to transporter plates	5, 6, 10
LB700	Bostelman	GF	Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system	9, 16
LB701	Bostelman	C	Require billing for emergency medical services	
LB702	Cavanaugh	C	Adopt the Campus Safety Act	10
LB703	Vargas	C	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice	
LB704	McCollister	C	Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles	
LB705	Murman	C	Provide for distribution of funds upon death from an achieve a better life experience account	
LB706	Lindstrom	C	Authorize a one-year freeze of cost-of-living adjustments under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act	
LB707	Erdman	C	Authorize the Tax Equalization and Review Commission to hold certain hearings by videoconference and telephone conference	
LB708	Brandt	C	Adopt the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act	
LB709	Cavanaugh	C	Provide for a place to express breast milk in the State Capitol	10
LB710	Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to tobacco including sales, crimes, a tax increase, and distribution of funds	
LB711	Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to voting qualifications for any person convicted of a felony	
LB712	Friesen	C	Prohibit joint entities and joint public agencies from taking action against representative for their speech	
LB713	Vargas	S	Provide for long-term analyses from the Legislative Fiscal Analyst	8, 12, 15
LB714	Crawford	C	Adopt the Nebraska Industrial New Job-training Act and authorize the transfer of certain withholding taxes	
LB715	Hilkemann	W	Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska for a medicaid research center	
LB716	Hilkemann	C	Create the Medicaid Cost and Quality Data and Analysis Center of Nebraska	
LB717	Brewer	C	Provide requirements for state contracts regarding hours billed for computer services	
LB718	Hunt	C	Require additional polling places prior to elections in certain counties	
LB719	Hughes	S	Provide for reporting to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information system for wreckers and salvage dealers	
LB719A	Hughes	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB720	Kolterman	SF (+605)	Adopt the ImagiNE Nebraska Act, Renewable Chemical Production Tax Credit Act, Customized Job Training Act, and Community Economic Opportunities Act and provide tax incentives	9, 19, 20
LB720A	Kolterman	SF	Appropriation Bill	
LB721	Lindstrom	C	Provide for insurance eligibility for spouses and dependents of deceased or disabled firefighters of cities of the first-class	
LB722	Albrecht	C	Authorize seizure of gray devices under the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act	
LB723	Vargas	C	Change taxes on manufacturers and wholesalers under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	12
LB724	Vargas	C	Provide requirements for boards of directors in order to qualify for incentives under the Nebraska Advantage Act	10
LB725	Walz	C	Provide for reimbursements to school districts and educational service units for mental health expenditures	12
LB726	Walz	S	Require a protocol for individuals eligible for medical parole to apply for medical assistance	
LB727	Walz	C	Provide duties for school districts, the State Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to mental health services	7
LB728	Walz	C	Provide duties relating to school meals	
LB729	Walz	C	Adopt the Soil Health and Productivity Incentive Act	
LB730	Walz	C	Change, transfer, and eliminate provisions relating to advanced practice registered nurses	
LB731	Hunt	GF	Change provisions relating to new or updated comprehensive plans adopted by municipalities	
LB732	Vargas	C	Adopt the Mobile Food Unit Act and change fees for a mobile food unit	
LB733	Kolowski	IPP (>411)	Provide and change requirements for polling places	10, 19

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONELINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB733A	Kolowski	IPP	Appropriation Bill	
LB734	Hunt	GF	Provide for licensure of charter bus services under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB735	Chambers	C	Provide a duty for the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB736	Murman	C	Provide restrictions on occupation taxes, license fees, and regulation by counties and municipalities	
LB737	Vargas	IPP (>86)	Change requirements for an annual status report relating to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund	16, 20
LB738	Wayne	C	Change individual income tax brackets and rates	
LB739	Vargas	C (>686)	Change procedures and requirements for use of restrictive housing of inmates	8, 19, 20
LR1CA	Wayne	S	Constitutional amendment to eliminate slavery or involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime	5, 9
LR2	Blood	C	Rescind any previous resolutions calling for U.S. Constitution Article V conventions	
LR3CA	Erdman	C	Constitutional amendment to provide income tax credits for property taxes paid	5
LR5CA	Brewer	C	Constitutional amendment to limit the percentage of funding for schools that comes from property taxes	
LR7	Halloran	C	Resolution to Congress for convention of the states to propose amendments to the United States Constitution	4
LR8CA	Linehan	C	Constitutional amendment to limit the total amount of property tax revenue that may be raised by political subdivisions	8
LR9	Wayne	C	Resolution to Congress for convention of the states to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution	
LR11CA	Hansen, M.	C	Constitutional amendment to change age requirements for members of the Legislature	5
LR12CA	Vargas	C	Constitutional amendment to change legislators' salaries	5
LR14CA	Wayne	P	Constitutional amendment to authorize municipalities to pledge property taxes for up to twenty years if more than one-half of the property in a redevelopment project is extremely blighted	9, 12, 13, 15
LR15	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee to be known as the Workforce Development Committee of the Legislature	
LR57	Williams	C	Interim study to determine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated	
LR63	Linehan	C	Interim study to examine educational service units	
LR65	Kolterman	C	Interim study to provide for presentation of reports by all political subdivisions with underfunded defined benefit plans	
LR66	Kolterman	C	Interim study to examine the public employees' retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR87	Crawford	C	Interim study to continue the work of the select interim committee created in LR437, 2018, to examine possible improvements to the standing committee system	
LR88	McCollister	C	Interim study to examine issues related to grandparents raising grandchildren and other kinship family relationships	
LR92	Lowe	C	Interim study to examine the processes for adopting, promulgating, and eliminating rules and regulations in Nebraska and in other states	
LR94	Wishart	C	Interim study in conjunction with the Attorney General and the Dept. of Banking and Finance to examine issues surrounding regulatory sandbox programs	
LR95	Slama	C	Interim study to examine the prevalence and economic costs of methamphetamine use in the state	
LR96	Slama	C	Interim study to examine the long-term public power generation and transmission options in the state	
LR98	Lowe	C	Interim study to examine the special designated license issued by the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission and review potential reforms	
LR103	Lowe	C	Interim study to review staffing concerns including, but not limited to, staff retention at the Beatrice State Developmental Center, the Lincoln Regional Center, the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Geneva, and the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney	
LR104	Walz	C	Provide the Executive Board appoint a special committee to be known as the State-Licensed Care Facilities Investigative Committee of the Legislature	20
LR105	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to investigate the eligibility requirements applied to children with disabilities for coverage under the Medical Assistance Act	
LR106	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to review the Boiler Safety Code Advisory Board and occupational regulations for boiler inspectors	
LR111	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee	
LR112	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine the statutes governing cities of the primary class	
LR113	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine existing anti-discrimination employment related laws to ensure they are advancing the public policy of Nebraska	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR114	Hughes	C	Interim study to examine conditions under which the board of directors of the Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement Project and the Rock Creek augmentation project may dispose of real property each owns related to the projects	
LR115	Williams	C	Interim study to examine the Nebraska Banking Act, the Securities Act of Nebraska, and other laws within the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Banking and Finance to determine the need to update such laws	
LR116	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund	
LR117	Howard	C	Interim study to examine matters related to cemeteries	
LR119	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine issues related to the disconnection or detachment of territory from the corporate limits of municipalities	
LR123	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to assess the readiness of the Dept. of Correctional Services to implement Laws 2018, LB258, by its operative date of July 1, 2020, regarding obtaining a state identification card or renewing a driver's license	
LR124	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to examine the practices for juvenile interrogations by law enforcement and potential improvements to protect the rights of juveniles and the safety of the public	
LR126	Hunt	C	Interim study to examine issues related to urban development in municipalities	
LR127	Hunt	C	Interim study to ensure youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system understand their rights, to ensure their rights are being upheld, and to explore the need for additional rights	
LR128	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to review the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act and the Wage and Hour Act	
LR129	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Business and Labor Committee	
LR130	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues related to density bonuses and other nonmonetary regulatory incentives in municipal zoning ordinances	
LR131	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues related to the regulation of solar energy by municipalities and sanitary and improvement districts	
LR132	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues related to plumbing codes	
LR134	Slama	C	Interim study to examine the drug testing protocol recently changed by the Division of Children and Family Services for families involved in the child welfare system	
LR135	Hunt	C	Interim study to examine issues related to food insecurity in Nebraska communities	
LR137	Lindstrom	C	Interim study to examine the Nebraska Condominium Act	
LR138	McDonnell	C	Interim study to identify for adoption by the Legislature three to five infrastructure project opportunities in eastern Nebraska to provide flood control, a reliable drinking water supply, power generation, climate change mitigation, and recreation	
LR139	Lowe	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of increasing the presence of the University of Nebraska Medical Center in central and western Nebraska by strengthening collaborations with the University of Nebraska at Kearney	
LR140	Kolowski	C	Interim study to examine the roles and guidelines of homeowners' associations	
LR141	Williams	C	Interim study to examine ways to enhance financial literacy programs, training, and general competencies and problem-solving skills in Nebraska, with the objective of increasing long-term financial stability for all Nebraskans	
LR142	Hughes	C	Interim study to examine any matter concerning the Game and Parks Commission	
LR143	Albrecht	C	Interim study to examine the laws for accounting and financial reporting in political subdivisions to determine a more uniform method of reporting	
LR144	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of cash bail and cash bonds for misdemeanors and city and village ordinance violations	
LR145	Hunt	C	Interim study to examine the financing of energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on single-family residential property under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act	
LR146	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of adopting a Prosecutor Transparency Act in Nebraska	
LR148	La Grone	C	Interim study to examine issues related to unfunded mandates to county governments for the administration of judicial proceedings	
LR149	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine the burden of unfunded mandates on county budgets	
LR151	Groene	C	Interim study to examine the financing of public education and develop recommendations for improving school funding	
LR152	Groene	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee	
LR153	Groene	C	Interim study to examine the administrative costs of local school systems and school districts	
LR154	Groene	C	Interim study to examine statutes related to augmentation projects in relationship to the Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement interlocal project in Lincoln County	
LR155	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues related to municipalities that border another state	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR156	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine strategies to prevent suicide by youth involved in the Nebraska juvenile justice system	
LR157	DeBoer	C	Interim study to conduct an indepth review of the financing of the public elementary and secondary schools	
LR158	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine matters related to adoption procedures in Nebraska	
LR159	Crawford	C	Interim study to examine the rules of the Legislature regarding information required to be included in records of the committees of the Legislature	
LR160	Howard	C	Interim study to assess the mental and behavioral health needs of Nebraskans and the current shortages of services and resources	
LR161	Performance Audit	C	Interim study to examine policy issues revealed during a performance audit of the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act	
LR162	Bostelman	C	Interim study to examine issues impacting volunteer emergency medical personnel	
LR163	Howard	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee	
LR164	Williams	C	Interim study to examine the need to update the insurance laws of Nebraska in response to technology advancement and innovation	
LR165	McDonnell	C	Interim study to examine issues related to municipal firefighting and emergency medical services	
LR166	Friesen	C	Interim study to review the report of the Rural Broadband Task Force that was created by Laws 2018, LB994	
LR167	Friesen	C	Interim study to review the current model of collecting taxes to build and repair roads	
LR168	Friesen	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee	
LR169	Friesen	C	Interim study to examine issues raised by LB462, 2019, and examine potential improvements to the enforcement of the One-Call Notification System Act	
LR170	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine the Dept. of Health and Human Services' plan to submit a demonstration project waiver for the medical assistance program under section 1115 of the Social Security Act	
LR171	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine the impact of lowering the age of majority from 19 years of age to 18 years of age for making health care decisions	
LR172	Williams	C	Interim study to analyze state and local policy and initiatives to retain and incentivize health care providers and health-related businesses in the state to remain and expand in the state	
LR173	Quick	C	Interim study to examine health concerns related to the public use of and secondhand exposure to electronic nicotine delivery systems and other products	
LR174	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the Highway Trust Fund and ways to increase transit infrastructure in areas with limited access	
LR175	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to ensure accelerated broadband deployment statewide	
LR176	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the metrics used in the juvenile justice system to track outcomes for youth who are under system supervision and after contact with the juvenile justice system	
LR177	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine issues faced by youth in the child welfare system who are pregnant or parenting	
LR178	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the distribution of affordable housing across the state and how the lack of available affordable housing can impact the workforce	
LR179	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the fiscal impact of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and child care subsidies	
LR180	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the practice of mindfulness to reduce the number of children and adults in crisis	
LR181	Dorn	C	Interim study to examine new funding streams for financial stability of the simulation-in-motion Nebraska program	
LR182	Kolterman	C	Interim study to examine methods for the early screening of melanoma and modernization of reimbursement for telehealth for such screening	
LR183	Geist	C	Interim study to examine whether continuity of care and safety for individuals and the public can be enhanced by allowing mental health providers to coordinate with law enforcement	
LR184	Quick	C	Interim study to examine how to provide a sustainable and adequate stream of state funds to local public health departments to ensure they are able to meet their core responsibilities	
LR186	McDonnell	C	Interim study to examine the elimination of sales and use tax exemptions for goods and services	
LR187	Lowe	C	Interim study to determine the feasibility and fiscal impact of hiring outside consultants to perform an efficiency review of state agencies	
LR188	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to review the policy of operating trains of increasing length and the effects	

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LR189	Hansen, M.	C	on worker safety and on the operations of businesses near railroad crossings	
LR190	Quick	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of 24/7 sobriety programs and determine potential standards for statewide implementation	
LR191	Arch	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's history of involvement in the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	
LR192	Bolz	C	Interim study to evaluate the potential use of Physicians Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment and the potential use of out-of-hospital Do Not Resuscitate protocols	
LR193	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine workforce development initiatives with emphasis on hearing the perspectives of employees across industries	
LR194	Hilgers	C	Interim study to assess implementation of the federal Family First Prevention Services Act in Nebraska and identify opportunities for children and families	
LR197	Vargas	C	Interim study to examine the benefits of employee stock ownership programs and strategies to promote the implementation of such programs	
LR198	Wishart	C	Interim study to conduct a comprehensive study of due process for inmates in restrictive housing	
LR199	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine the implementation of a statewide registry for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias	
LR200	Quick	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's redistricting process	
LR201	Vargas	C	Interim study to examine programming provided at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Geneva and the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney and the need for additional programming	
LR202	McCullister	C	Interim study to examine the role truancy plays in the school-to-prison pipeline and explore possible alternatives to reduce truancy	
LR204	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine the use and administration of the Nebraska housing tax credit	
LR205	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee	
LR206	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine issues related to child custody proceedings and parenting time determinations for families of divorce	
LR207	Briese	C	Interim study to examine options for the elimination of cash bail, appearance bonds, and related provisions, and examine risk assessment tools for pretrial release, post-conviction custody, and supervision status determinations	
LR208	Pansing Brooks	C	Interim study to examine the possible elimination of various exemptions of goods and exclusions of services under Nebraska's sales and use tax laws	
LR209	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine state and school district policies that relate to maintaining a safe and positive school learning environment	
LR210	Stinner	C	Interim study to examine state and federal funding options for existing and potential research by the University of Nebraska on local, state, and global water management systems	
LR211	Stinner	C	Interim study to analyze programs and agencies that are active in addressing workforce and talent shortages, and identify options to assist in filling vacant high-wage, high-demand, and high-skill jobs	
LR212	Stinner	C	Interim study to examine alternatives for funding the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program	
LR213	Vargas	C	Interim study to assess the financial position of the Nebraska Brand Committee and to identify core operational needs and opportunities for efficiency improvement	
LR214	Wishart	C	Interim study to examine potential solutions and approaches to benefits traditionally enjoyed by workers in an employer-employee relationship	
LR215	Briese	C	Interim study to examine issues that surround the engagement, attraction, and retention of youth in Nebraska	
LR216	Walz	C	Interim study to examine the Nebraska Lottery and Raffle Act	
LR217	Vargas	C	Interim study to examine funding priorities for the medicaid home and community-based services waivers under the Developmental Disabilities Services Act	
LR218	Halloran	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of developing a process for the preparation and consideration of racial impact statements on legislation	
LR219	Halloran	C	Interim study to review the resources of the Dept. of Agriculture and state government to respond to natural disasters	
LR220	Halloran	C	Interim study to identify constraints on agricultural processing, production, and marketing investment	
LR221	Halloran	C	Interim study to review provisions governing carcass disposal requirements and options	
LR222	Halloran	C	Interim study to review the resources and authorities of the Dept. of Agriculture regarding livestock disease prevention and response	
LR222	Halloran	C	Interim study to review the status of the implementation of the electronic brand document and reporting system by the Nebraska Brand Committee	

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LR223	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to appoint a special committee to carry out a comprehensive study of incarceration and mental health services in Nebraska	
LR224	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine the civil legal service needs of low-income residents	
LR226	Howard	C	Interim study to examine and assess prescribing practices of health care providers related to opioids and the effectiveness of Nebraska's prescription drug monitoring program	
LR227	Bostelman	C	Interim study to examine the future of nuclear-generated electricity in Nebraska	
LR228	Lindstrom	C	Interim study to examine the potential effects of implementing a flat-rate income tax	
LR229	Lindstrom	C	Interim study to examine the rate of interest permissible on installment loans under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	
LR231	Briese	C	Interim study to examine whether electrician licensing requirements and building regulations need to be changed to support economic development	
LR232	McCollister	C	Interim study to examine the processes and procedures used in the assessment and valuation of real property and in appeals before the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	
LR233	Arch	C	Interim study to examine fingerprint collection and national criminal history record information checks for employees of child care facilities and child-caring agencies	
LR234	Bolz	C	Interim study to track rate increases appropriated for behavioral health providers to ensure that legislative intent is followed and the rate increases are funded	
LR235	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine the efficacy of testing and monitoring programs to reduce recidivism for driving under the influence and controlled substances offenses	
LR236	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine issues related to juvenile justice	
LR237	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine issues related to Nebraska's correctional system	
LR238	Lathrop	C	Interim study to assess the rehabilitation and other needs of inmates while in the custody of the Dept. of Correctional Services and while transitioning into the community	
LR239	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine non-court-involved cases, including voluntary and alternative response cases, in the child welfare system	
LR240	Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to review municipal rental housing inspection programs	
LR241	Pansing Brooks	C	Interim study to create a select committee to develop an environmental action plan for the state, including assessments of vulnerability, risks, economic impacts, and mitigation strategies	
LR242	State-Tribal Relations	C	Interim study to examine the replacement of Native American mascots in Nebraska at nontribal schools	
LR243	Hunt	C	Interim study to examine the practice of medical refusal for contraception, sterilization, or abortion services by health care facilities and providers	
LR244	Hansen, B.	C	Interim study to examine discrepancies in reimbursement under the medical assistance program between the three Heritage Health managed care plans and the impacts of applying a multiple-procedure payment-reduction policy to therapy services	
LR245	Bolz	C	Interim study to examine advance planning for mental health care, which is distinct from advance planning for end-of-life care	
LR246	Linehan	C	Interim study to examine the Office of Public Guardian	
LR247	La Grone	C	Interim study to examine the long-term sustainability of recurring election technology replacement	
LR248	Wayne	C	Interim study to analyze and assess the arrangement for chemical testing of items seized pursuant to arrests for controlled substances	
LR249	Friesen	C	Interim study to examine how the state administers federal Older Americans Act funds	
LR250	Walz	C	Interim study to examine programs relating to development and implementation of the plan for providing services to qualified persons with disabilities in the most integrated community-based settings, commonly referred to as the Olmstead Plan	
LR251	Vargas	C	Interim study to conduct a review of food deserts in Nebraska and make recommendations to increase access to healthy affordable food	
LR252	Vargas	C	Interim study to review employment opportunities and barriers to employment for minority and at-risk populations	
LR253	Brewer	C	Interim study to investigate the laws of self-defense and defense of third parties as they apply to the defense of persons victimized by domestic violence and human trafficking	
LR257	Stinner		Approve the gift of labor and materials from the Nebraska Association of Former State Legislators for the restoration of the gardens of the State Capitol Courtyards	
LR262	Revenue	C	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Revenue Committee	

LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The lawmaking process in Nebraska officially begins when a bill is introduced. But the process actually begins much earlier, when senators formulate ideas for new laws. Anyone — concerned citizens, special interest groups, state agencies or the governor — may suggest an idea for a new law. But a senator, a group of senators or a legislative committee must introduce the idea before the Legislature

can formally consider it.

Legislative committees then consider each bill and may propose amendments to them before advancing them to the full Legislature. The legislative body then has an opportunity to debate a bill at least twice before voting on its final passage.

This is the process a bill must undergo before it becomes a Nebraska statute:

Research

First, a senator and his or her staff research a problem and study possible legislative remedies. Senators may introduce bills to create new laws or to repeal or change existing laws.

Much research is done during the period between sessions called the interim. During this time, committees study a variety of issues that have been outlined in interim study resolutions passed by the Legislature.

Drafting

A senator brings his or her idea for a new law to a bill drafter, who works with the senator to transform the idea into the proper legal form for a bill. Unlike some states, bills introduced in Nebraska must contain only one subject.

Introduction

Most bills are introduced during the first 10 days of a regular legislative session, which begins each January.

To introduce a bill, a senator files it with the clerk of



A legislative committee hearing

the Legislature. The clerk reads the title of the bill into the record, assigns the bill a number and prints copies of it for public and legislative use.

Committee Action

Except for a few technical bills, all bills and many resolutions must receive a public hearing before a legislative committee. A nine-member Reference Committee determines which bills will be heard by which committees, based on subject matter jurisdiction.

The Legislative Fiscal Office prepares budget statements known as fiscal notes for each bill

introduced. Fiscal notes generally are prepared before a committee conducts a hearing on a bill.

After the hearing, the committee may either indefinitely postpone the measure, hold it for further discussion or advance it to the full Legislature. The committee may forward recommended amendments to the bill if it is advanced.

General File

General file is the first time the full Legislature can debate and vote on bills. At this stage, senators often consider amendments, which may be proposed both by committees and by individual senators. Many people consider general file to be the most crucial stage of the legislative process, because it is where most compromises are worked out through debate and amendment.

Bills on general file may be amended, indefinitely postponed, sent back to committee or advanced to the next stage. As with most legislative business, it takes a majority of senators (25 votes) to adopt any amendment or to move a bill from general file to the next stage.

After a bill is advanced from general file, it undergoes an initial process of enrollment and review, or E&R. During E&R Initial, adopted amendments are reviewed and the entire bill is checked for technical and grammatical accuracy.

Select File

Select file is the second debating and voting stage. This stage offers another opportunity for amendment, compromise and reflection. Bills on select file may be amended, indefinitely postponed, sent back to committee or advanced to the next stage.

After a bill is advanced from select file, the bill and all of its adopted amendments are sent to enrollment and review final for a process called engrossment. Once all amendments are incorporated into the bill, it is considered to be "correctly engrossed." The bill then is reprinted for final reading.

Final Reading

Final Reading is the third and last stage of legislative consideration. The Nebraska Constitution requires the clerk of the Legislature to read every bill aloud in its entirety before the vote on whether to pass it. However, that requirement may be waived by a three-fifths vote (30 members) of the Legislature.

A bill may not be amended on final reading, but it may be returned to select file for specific amendment. No bill can be passed on final reading until at least five legislative days after the bill is introduced and one legislative day after it is placed on final reading.

Governor

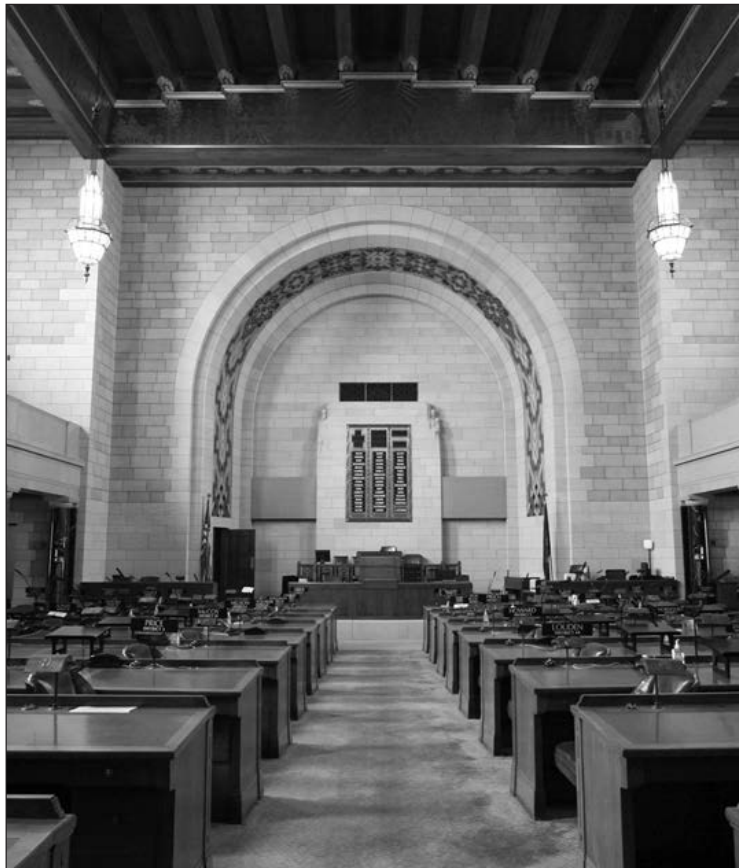
After the Legislature passes a bill on final reading, it goes to the governor. The governor has five days, excluding Sundays, to decide what to do with a bill.

If the governor signs a bill or declines to act on it, the bill becomes law. If the governor vetoes the bill, it is returned to the Legislature with the governor's objections. A three-fifths vote of the Legislature is re-

quired to override a governor's veto. The governor also may make reductions of specific figures in state budget bills. These reductions are line-item vetoes.

Laws of Nebraska

Most bills passed and approved by the governor become law three calendar months after the Legislature adjourns. However, bills may take effect earlier if they contain an emergency clause or a specified operative date. An emergency clause allows a bill to take effect immediately after the governor signs it. It takes a vote of 33 members of the Legislature to pass a bill with an emergency clause. ■



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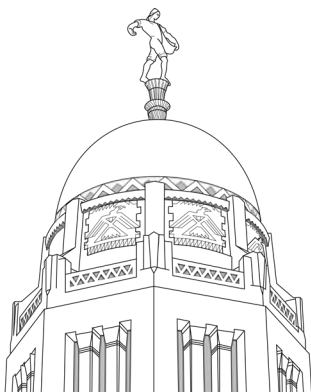
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ABOUT THE UPDATE

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