

UNICAMERAL UPDATE

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NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

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AGRICULTURE



Sen. Steve Halloran, chairperson of the Agriculture Committee

The Agriculture Committee this session advanced proposals to update the Livestock Brand Act and allow farmers and ranchers to offer livestock ownership shares to customers.

Under LB572, introduced by Sen. Steve Halloran of Hastings, the Nebraska Brand Committee may provide for electronic inspection of enrolled cattle identified by certain approved nonvisual identifiers, including electronic devices, nose prints, retinal scans or DNA matches.

The bill, passed on a vote of 47-1, creates an electronic inspection fee of no more than 85 cents per head and lowers the physical brand inspection fee to the same amount.

The new fee schedule takes effect Oct. 1, 2021, and ends June 30, 2023.

LB572 also increases fees for new brand applications and brand renewals and authorizes the committee to charge for actual mileage incurred by an inspector to perform a physical inspection.

Additionally, the bill requires the committee to provide a certified bill of sale and a certified transportation permit to qualified dairies that sell or move calves under 30 days of age out of the brand inspection area. Dairies first must provide required information electronically to the committee.

LB572 also makes violations of several Livestock Brand Act provisions infractions enforceable by citation. The bill makes it a Class III felony to willfully or knowingly apply, remove, damage or alter an approved nonvisual identifier — or corrupt the information recorded on an identifier — if it is done to steal or falsely assert ownership of livestock.

Finally, the bill makes Nebraska Brand Committee appointments subject to confirmation by the Legislature.

Introduced by Plymouth Sen. Tom Brandt and passed 48-0, LB324 allows the acquisition of meat through an animal share — an ownership interest in an animal or herd of animals created by a written contract between a consumer and a farmer or rancher — under certain conditions.

Among other requirements, the animal share owner, or someone acting on their behalf, must receive the meat, and the farmer or rancher must provide the consumer with a description of their livestock health and processing standards.

A farmer or rancher who offers an animal share must be a Nebraska resident and maintain a record of each animal share sold. The name and address of each individual with an ownership interest in the particular livestock must be presented to the processor prior to slaughter.

LB324 also creates an independent processor assistance program that, if funds are made available, will provide funding to certain federally inspected, state inspected or custom-exempt slaughter and processing facilities in Nebraska that employ fewer than 25 people. ■



Sen. Tom Brandt

APPROPRIATIONS



Sen. John Stinner, chairperson of the Appropriations Committee

Lawmakers approved the state's \$9.7 billion budget package this session.

The package includes a number of appropriations and transfers to address the state's prison overcrowding situation, including \$100 million in general funds to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund, to be available for the Legislature to appropriate for a new state prison should one be deemed necessary in the future.

It also appropriates \$14.9 million to fund the preparation of designs for a possible new facility, including site selection and an option to purchase, as well as completion of an independent engineering study regarding the useful life of the current Nebraska State Penitentiary.

The package provides \$15 million to the Prison Overcrowding Contingency Fund and \$200,000 to contract with the University of Nebraska to study inmate classification within the state Department of Correctional Services.

Among the budget components passed this year was LB380, the main-line budget bill, which funds state



Sen. Mike Hilgers

government for the next two fiscal years. The bill was introduced by Speaker Mike Hilgers on behalf of Gov. Pete Ricketts and contains provisions of several other bills, including:

- LB141, sponsored by Gering Sen. John Stinner, which appropriates \$7.5 million in fiscal year 2022-23 to the Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney;
- LB391, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Eliot Bostar, which appropriates \$2.5 million in FY2021-22 to the Customized Job Training Cash Fund;



Sen. Eliot Bostar



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

- LB493, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, which appropriates \$1 million in each fiscal year of the biennium to the state's developmental disability wait list; and

- LB585, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, which appropriates \$1.5 million in FY2021-22 and \$3 million in FY2022-23 to local public health departments.



Sen. Tony Vargas

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote and took effect immediately.

LB384, approved 41-0, transfers funds and changes the permitted use of a fund. The bill includes provisions of LB588, introduced by Stinner, that extend existing appropriations for deferred maintenance under the University of Nebraska Facilities Program until 2062 and the State College Facilities Program until 2040.

Additional budget measures approved were:

- LB379, passed 47-0, which adjusts funding for state operations, aid and construction programs in the current fiscal year;
- LB381, passed 46-0, which provides for the \$12,000 annual salaries of Nebraska's 49 state senators;
- LB382, passed 46-0, which funds salaries and benefits for judges and constitutional officers;
- LB383, passed 38-2, which appropriates funds for capital construction;
- LB385, passed 44-0, which makes a number of fund transfers to and from the state's Cash Reserve Fund; and
- LB666, passed 45-0, which provides for payment of claims against the state and agency write-offs for uncollectible debts.

Lawmakers also approved a bill that provides state general funds to counties to pay certain federal judgments.

LB103, sponsored by Sen. Myron Dorn of Adams, appropriates \$2 million in general funds in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23 to any county that has a judgment against it from a federal court of more than \$25 million if the total cost of the judgment exceeds 20 percent of the county's annual budget.



Sen. Myron Dorn

An eligible county must set its property tax levy at the maximum for each year that it receives aid under the bill and any state funds received may be used only for payment of a qualifying judgment.

LB103 passed on a 44-3 vote and took effect immediately.

A measure that provides state funds to one of Nebraska's federally qualified health centers passed this session 49-0.

LB185, sponsored by Gordon Sen. Tom Brewer, appropriate \$531,000 in general funds in FY2021-22 and FY2022-23 to the state Department of Health and Human Services to provide funding



Sen. Tom Brewer

to the Fred LeRoy Health and Wellness Center in Omaha.

A proposal introduced to appropriate funds to the Nebraska Department of Transportation to speed work on the state's expressway system was narrowed to become a reporting requirement before being passed by lawmakers.

LB579, as introduced by Columbus Sen. Mike Moser, would have appropriated \$70 million in general funds to NDOT to offset dollars spent to repair highways, roads and bridges damaged during flooding in 2019.



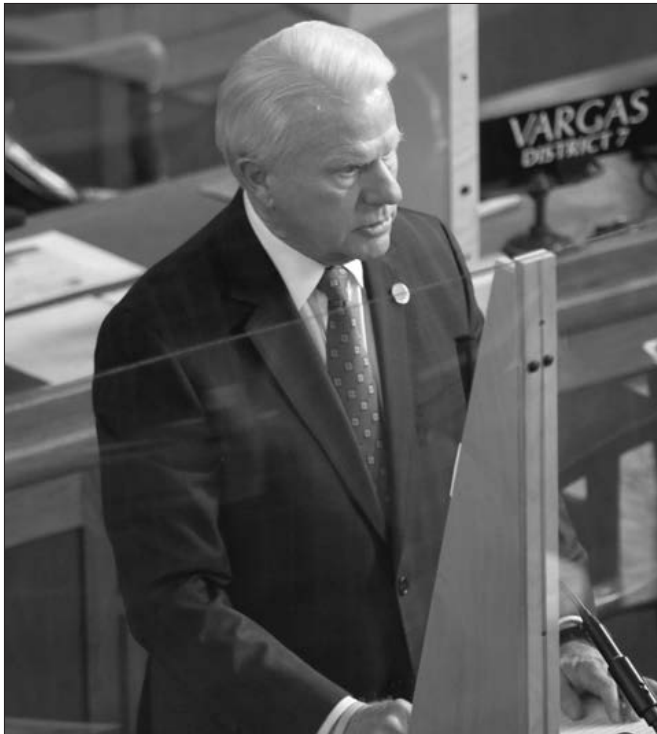
Sen. Mike Moser

An amendment adopted on general file removed the funding provision and the bill instead requires the state Department of Transportation to include in its annual report to the Legislature information detailing the amount of money spent to date on the state's expressway system, the number of miles yet to be completed and expected milestone dates.

The report also must include a statement of all state highway projects under construction and the estimated cost of each project.

LB579 passed 45-0. ■

BANKING, COMMERCE & INSURANCE



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

Digital asset management, step therapy, insurance parity and protection of vulnerable adults topped the list of issues heard by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee and addressed by the Legislature this session.

LB649, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Michael Flood, creates a regulatory framework for managing digital assets in Nebraska. Under the bill, a state-chartered bank may create a digital asset division or a digital asset depository may be created under a new charter. Both will be regulated by the state Department of Banking and Finance.



Sen. Michael Flood

Among other provisions, the bill also:

- establishes procedures for incorporation, operation, liquidation and dissolution of digital asset depository institutions;
- prohibits digital depository institutions from taking cash deposits or lending cash;
- requires a digital depository's headquarters and of-

• office of the chief executive officer to be established in Nebraska;

- allows digital depositories to be held by a bank holding company and allows existing bank investment in such a depository;
- requires a surety bond or pledged investments and specified private insurance;
- establishes a minimum capital requirement of \$10 million; and
- authorizes the director of the Department of Banking and Finance and the governor to set the assessment of digital depositories to cover administration costs.

LB649 passed on a vote of 46-2.

LB297, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom, allows broker-dealers and investment advisers to hold transactions for up to 30 business days in suspected cases of exploitation of seniors and vulnerable adults.



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

The bill, passed on a 47-0 vote, requires broker-dealers and investment advisers to notify the Adult Protective Services Division of the state Department of Health and Human Services and the state Department of Banking and Finance within two business days in order to delay a transaction and conduct an internal review.

Senators also passed a bill that gives health care providers greater flexibility in prescribing treatment. LB337, introduced by Sen. Mark Kolterman of Seward, reforms step therapy — an insurance company practice in which a patient must fail a treatment selected by an insurance company before the company will cover a treatment originally prescribed by the patient's health care provider.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

The bill, approved 47-0, allows a provider to request a step therapy override exception and requires that the override be granted if all of the following apply:

- a provider believes a drug prescribed under step therapy will be ineffective because of the drug's characteristics or the patient's experience with the drug;
- a patient previously was prescribed a drug that was ineffective;
- a patient successfully is being treated by a drug prescribed by his or her provider; and
- a drug required under step therapy is contraindicated by the drug manufacturer's prescribing information or the drug is likely to cause an adverse reaction, decrease a patient's ability to perform daily activities or cause mental or physical harm to the patient.

LB487, introduced by La Vista Sen. John Arch, prohibits a private health insurance plan that covers mental health treatment from establishing rates, terms or conditions that place a greater financial burden on an insured for accessing treatment via telehealth.



Sen. John Arch

The bill, passed 43-0, also requires that the reimbursement rate for telehealth treatment for a mental health condition be the same as the rate for a comparable treatment provided in person.

A bill that would increase the interest rate that licensees may charge on installment loans remains on select file. LB510, introduced by Lindstrom, would raise the current interest rate cap of 24 percent on the first \$1,000 borrowed and 21 percent thereafter to a single rate of 29 percent annually.

The bill advanced from general file but was not scheduled for second-round debate.

LB20, introduced by Sen. Carol Blood of Bellevue, was advanced to general file by the committee but was not scheduled for debate. The bill would require public and private insurers not preempted by federal law to cover the expense of a self-administered hormonal contraceptive approved by the Federal Drug Administration.



Sen. Carol Blood

A bill regarding automobile insurance failed to advance from committee. LB602, introduced by Omaha Sen. Rich Pahls, would restrict Nebraska insurers in the use of aftermarket parts used in vehicle repair. ■



Sen. Rich Pahls

BUSINESS & LABOR



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

Among the issues considered by members of the Business and Labor Committee this session were compensation for families of first responders, strengthening worker protections and expanding unemployment benefits and family leave.

LB255, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen, provides monetary compensation to the family of a law enforcement officer, firefighter, correctional officer or government or nonprofit EMS ambulance squad member killed in the line of duty, including those who work on a voluntary basis.



Sen. Matt Hansen

Under the bill, a qualifying family member must file for compensation within one year of the death. For first responders killed in 2022, compensation provided will be \$50,000. For each following year, compensation will be equal to the previous year's compensation increased by the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers.

The bill defines a line-of-duty death as having occurred

within three years of a related incident or injury during the active performance of an individual's official duties.

LB255 passed on a 38-6 vote.

Worker protections and wages

A bill to extend employment discrimination protections was approved by lawmakers this session.

LB451, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Terrell McKinney, expands the definition of race in the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act to include characteristics associated with race such as skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles. The bill defines protective hairstyles as braids, locks and twists.



Sen. Terrell McKinney

An employer still may implement health and safety standards regulating characteristics associated with race as long as they are non-discriminatory and applied equally to all employees, and if good faith efforts have been made to accommodate an employee.

The Nebraska National Guard and state, county and local law enforcement agencies may continue to impose their own dress and grooming standards.

LB451 passed on a 40-4 vote.

A bill intended to protect meatpacking employees from the coronavirus pandemic stalled on select file.

Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas introduced LB241, which would require meat processing employers to maintain 6 feet of space around and between each worker, including in common areas like lunch, break and locker rooms.



Sen. Tony Vargas

Among other provisions, employees would be screened for COVID-19 at the start of each shift and could leave the meatpacking operation premises to receive a test on paid work time.

The bill also would ensure paid sick leave for an employee who tests positive, which would not count against any other paid sick leave owed to the employee. The protections proposed in LB241 would apply until June 30, 2022.

Kearney Sen. John Lowe offered a motion during select file debate, adopted 25-18, to bracket the bill until June 10, 2021, which ended consideration of LB241 for this session.

Unemployment and family leave

In light of the coronavirus pandemic, lawmakers voted this session to expand eligibility for unemployment benefits.

LB260, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Megan Hunt, expands the list of “good cause” reasons to leave employment voluntarily to include caring for a family member with a serious health condition.

The bill allows workers to be eligible for unemployment benefits if they voluntarily leave employment to care for a family member but are seeking to return to employment and meet all other existing requirements.

The bill passed on a 33-11 vote.

Lawmakers debated two additional bills that would expand unemployment eligibility and paid leave in Nebraska.

Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell sponsored LB298, which would allow work-authorized immigrants to collect unemployment benefits when otherwise qualified. Currently, Nebraska employers pay unemployment insurance taxes for these employees, who are barred under state law from receiving



Sen. Megan Hunt



Sen. Mike McDonnell

such benefits.

An individual eligible for benefits under LB298 first would have their employment authorization verified through the federal Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program.

The bill advanced from general file on a 26-9 vote, but was not scheduled for select file debate this session.

LB258, sponsored by Vargas, 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.

Qualifying employers would be required to allow an employee to use his or her paid sick and safe leave for a mental or physical illness, injury or health condition, to care for an ill family member or for an absence due to domestic abuse, assault or stalking – including psychological treatment or legal services.

LB258 failed to advance from general file on a 17-20 vote. Twenty-five votes were needed. ■

EDUCATION



Sen. Lynne Walz, chairperson of the Education Committee

Measures to create a school safety reporting system, establish a statewide farm-to-school program and require schools to create health plans for students with seizure disorders were among the proposals advanced by the Education Committee this session.

Health and safety

Lawmakers voted 41-5 to approve a statewide school safety reporting program.

LB322, sponsored by Gothenburg Sen. Matt Williams, requires the state Department of Education to establish a statewide, anonymous reporting system to support threat assessment teams with the goal of reducing violent incidents.

The reporting system — the Safe-2HelpNE report line — allows students, school staff, parents and community members to report information about concerning behavior or possible harm to people or property anonymously and



Sen. Matt Williams

free of charge by telephone, mobile app, website or email.

The report line will be available to any public or nonpublic school that has a threat assessment team and maintains a current list of contact information for at least five team members designated to receive alerts from report line staff 24/7.

Report line staff immediately will alert the appropriate threat assessment team of any concern directly regarding or likely to impact a student, school staff member or school property.

Senators also passed a bill that requires each public, private, denominational and parochial school in Nebraska to create individualized health plans for students with seizure disorders.

Under LB639, introduced by Sen. Jen Day of Omaha and passed on a 44-3 vote, a school with an enrolled student who has a seizure disorder and requires medication must have at least one employee at each school building who is trained to recognize and respond to seizures and administer medications.



Sen. Jen Day

Before a school employee may administer seizure medication, a student's parent or guardian must provide a written authorization, a written statement from the student's doctor and the medication in its unopened, sealed package with the intact label affixed by the dispensing pharmacy.

A parent or guardian also must collaborate with school employees to create a written, individualized health plan to acknowledge and prepare for the health care needs of a student diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Each student's seizure action plan must be distributed to any school personnel or volunteers responsible for them.

LB639 also requires each certificated school employee to review seizure disorder materials at least once every two school years beginning in school year 2022-23.

The state will install high-quality air filters in certain classrooms to study their effect on student test scores and behavior under a bill passed on a vote of 44-2.

LB630, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Eliot Bostar, requires the department to develop and implement a two-year pilot program to study the efficacy of commercial air filters to remove air pollution from classrooms and their impact on academic performance and behavior.



Sen. Eliot Bostar

The pilot program will include 50 schools, with six participating classrooms of students in grades 3 through 8 in each school.

Half of the classrooms will be assigned to the control group.

Participation is voluntary, and no more than 50 percent of participating schools will be from the same school district. The department will submit the study results to the Legislature.

A bill that would require Nebraska public schools to adopt programs intended to curb child sexual abuse remains on select file.

As introduced by Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston, LB281 would require schools to adopt a child sexual abuse prevention program beginning with the 2022-23 school year for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. As amended on general file, programs would extend through the twelfth grade.



Sen. Joni Albrecht

LB281 advanced to the second round of consideration but was not scheduled for further debate.

Cleanup bill, lottery funds

Lawmakers voted 48-0 to pass a measure that makes several technical changes to education law and extends current allocations of lottery funds to education-related programs.

LB528, sponsored by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, extends the sunset date to school year 2020-21 for a grant program meant to improve teacher effectiveness, expands the list of programs eligible for the Community College Gap Assistance Program and changes eligibility requirements for the Access College Early Scholarship Program.

The bill also specifies that the purchase of computer technology or equipment and internet access and related services are qualified higher education expenses under the Nebraska educational savings plan trust.

Additionally, each school board must require that the telephone number for a national or local suicide prevention hotline or a crisis text line be included on new student identification cards beginning with the 2022-23 school year.

Public postsecondary institutions also will include one of those numbers on new student ID cards beginning with the 2022-23 academic year.

LB528 includes provisions of LB3, introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion, that require the state Department of Education to establish and maintain a website where the public may access school financial data at the statewide and district levels.



Sen. Tom Briese

Also included are provisions of LB558, sponsored by

Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, that require the state commissioner of education to grant a temporary teaching certificate to any applicant who has completed a teacher education program at a standard institution of higher education and has a certificate to teach in good standing from another state.



Sen. Tony Vargas

Finally, LB528 extends the current allocation of state lottery funds to several education-related programs, including need-based college scholarships for Nebraska students, through fiscal year 2023-24.

The committee advanced a bill that would allocate a portion of lottery funds to behavioral awareness and intervention training, but it stalled on the second round of debate after a failed cloture motion.

LB529, introduced by Walz, would allocate lottery funds to more than a dozen education programs for fiscal years 2021-22 through 2025-26.

Under one new program, school districts would ensure that teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, school nurses and counselors receive evidence-based behavioral awareness and intervention training beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

After four hours of select file debate, Walz filed a motion to invoke cloture, which ends debate and forces a vote on the bill and any pending amendments. The motion failed on a vote of 28-11. Thirty-three votes were needed.

Postsecondary education

Nebraska home-school students are eligible for in-state tuition at Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions under a bill approved by lawmakers on a vote of 43-0.

Under LB92, introduced by Elmwood Sen. Robert Clements, students who complete the program of instruction offered by a home school are considered residents for tuition purposes.

The bill also prohibits a publicly funded college or university in Nebraska from discriminating against any student with regard to determinations of residency status or scholarship eligibility on the basis of having been home-schooled.

Another measure advanced by the committee makes certain AmeriCorp participants eligible for in-state tuition.

Under LB197, introduced by Sen. Tony Vargas of Omaha and passed on a 43-0 vote, a student who qualifies for an AmeriCorps award is considered a resident for



Sen. Robert Clements

tuition purposes at Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions.

Certain uniformed service members will receive priority college admission under another bill approved by lawmakers.

LB669, also introduced by Vargas, requires Nebraska's public postsecondary institutions to accept military and veteran students who apply to enroll as undergraduates if they otherwise meet admissions requirements.

A student who graduates from a Nebraska high school on or after Jan. 1, 2022, signs enlistment papers to serve in a uniformed service and meets other requirements related to the length of their service is eligible.

Nebraska high school graduates and individuals who graduated from high school in another state on or after Jan. 1, 2002, and served in a uniformed service while assigned to a location in Nebraska also qualify if they received an honorable discharge.

LB669 passed on a vote of 38-0 and took effect immediately.

Curriculum requirements

A bill intended to improve the personal finance skills of Nebraska students passed on a vote of 49-0.

LB452, introduced by Omaha Sen. Terrell McKinney, requires each school district to include financial literacy in its elementary and middle school instructional program. The bill also requires all students to complete at least one half-credit high school course in personal finance or financial literacy as a graduation requirement, a provision originally introduced by Sen. Julie Slama of Peru in LB327.

Under LB452, financial literacy includes knowledge and skills regarding budget and financial record keeping, taxes, debt, savings, risk management, insurance, investment strategies and establishing, building, maintaining and monitoring credit.

The State Board of Education will adopt measurable academic content standards for financial literacy as part of the state's social studies standards. Beginning Dec. 31, 2024, each school district is required to provide an annual financial literacy status report to its school board.

The committee advanced a proposal that would require Nebraska public and private schools to incorporate multicultural education into their instructional programs, but



Sen. Terrell McKinney



Sen. Julie Slama

it was not scheduled for general file debate.

Currently, each public school district is required to incorporate into their K-12 curriculum studies related to the culture, history and contributions of African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and Asian Americans.

Under LB359, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, multicultural education also would incorporate the perspectives of those groups and reflect the "diverse races and cultures of all persons in Nebraska and the United States of America."

LB359 also would require the department to hire a full-time consultant trained and experienced in the field of multicultural education.



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

Student discipline

Nebraska will track and report individual student discipline data under a bill passed on a vote of 46-0.

LB154, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, requires the State Board of Education to implement a statewide system for tracking individual student discipline by type and by demographic characteristics including race, poverty, high mobility, attendance, disability and limited English proficiency.



Sen. Justin Wayne

Under the bill, each school district is required to report any individual student act resulting in suspension or expulsion, assignment to an alternative school or alternative learning program, the use of physical contact with a student or the restraint or seclusion of a student.

LB154 also requires the board to include student discipline as an indicator in an accountability system used to measure the performance of individual public schools and school districts. The state Department of Education will analyze and report on student discipline in a currently required annual report on student achievement.

A measure that would change several provisions in the Student Discipline Act related to suspension, expulsion and mandatory reassignment advanced from committee but was not scheduled for first-round debate.

LB198, sponsored by Sen. Tony Vargas of Omaha, would require that a student be given an opportunity to complete any classwork and homework missed during a suspension, including examinations.

It also would require school districts to reinstate a stu-

dent after an expulsion and accept certain non-duplicative, grade-appropriate credits earned by the student during the expulsion.

Among other changes, LB198 would modify procedures for student discipline hearings and require a principal to decide student discipline by long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment within two school days after learning of the alleged misconduct.

The committee indefinitely postponed a bill that would have authorized teachers and other school personnel to use reasonable physical intervention to manage student behavior to protect the student or another person from physical injury

LB673, introduced by Sen. Dave Murman of Glenvil, also would have required school districts to provide behavioral awareness and intervention training to teachers, administrators and certain other school staff.



Sen. Dave Murman

Other measures

A Nebraska farm-to-school program will provide locally grown and minimally processed food to elementary and secondary school students under a proposal approved this session.

LB396, introduced by Sen. Tom Brandt of Plymouth and passed on a 48-0 vote, requires the state Department of Education to hire a coordinator to administer the program, which also may provide students with hands-on learning activities, such as farm visits, cooking demonstrations and school gardening and composting programs.



Sen. Tom Brandt

The coordinator will partner with public agencies and nonprofits on a public engagement campaign and build a communication network that links farmers and schools.

They also will encourage schools to develop and improve their nutrition plans using locally grown or processed food and provide technical assistance to school food services staff, farmers, processors and distributors regarding the demand for and availability of Nebraska food products.

Lawmakers voted 46-0 to pass a bill intended to speed the issuance of teaching certificates to military spouses.

LB389, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Rita Sanders at the request of Gov. Pete Ricketts, requires the State Board of Education to issue a certificate or per-



Sen. Rita Sanders

mit to a military spouse who, among other requirements, holds a valid certificate or permit currently in force in another state to teach, administer or provide special services.

Under the bill, the certificate or permit for a military spouse is valid for at least three years and includes the same or similar endorsements to teach in all subject areas for which the applicant had been certified in the other state if Nebraska offers a similar endorsement.

The committee also advanced a bill under which Nebraska schools that take measures to welcome military-connected students may receive a special designation.

Under LB5, introduced by Sen. Carol Blood of Bellevue and passed on a vote of 46-0, a public, private or parochial school may apply to the State Board of Education for an annual “purple star school” designation.

To qualify, a school must designate a staff member as a military liaison who will serve as a school’s point of contact for military-connected students and their families.

Among other criteria, a qualifying school must offer online resources for military-connected students and their families, maintain a student-led program to assist military-connected students in transitioning into the school and offer training for staff members on issues related to military-connected students.

Nebraska public schools will provide transition services to each student with a developmental disability two years sooner under a bill passed on a vote of 48-0.

Schools are required to provide a coordinated set of activities that help prepare qualified students for life after high school. Under LB527, sponsored by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, schools will provide transition services to those students beginning when they turn 14 rather than 16.

A commission would conduct an in-depth review of Nebraska public elementary and secondary school financing under a bill that remains on select file.

LB132, introduced by Sen. Wendy DeBoer of Bennington, would create a 16-member school finance review commission within the state Department of Education.

The commission would examine methods of financing public schools that would provide equitable educational opportunities across the state and offer alternatives to a heavy reliance on property taxes.

Finally, the committee advanced a bill to general file



Sen. Carol Blood



Sen. Wendy DeBoer

that would allow home-schooled students to participate in a public school district's extracurricular activities without also enrolling in the district's classes.

Current state law requires public school boards to allow students enrolled in private, denominational, parochial or home schools to enroll part-time as long as they are residents of the district.

LB210, introduced by Glenvil Sen. Dave Murman,

would allow those students to enroll part-time for all courses selected by the students. It also would require school boards to establish policies and procedures to allow home-schooled students to participate in extracurricular activities to the same extent and subject to the same requirements as students enrolled in the public school governed by the board.

The bill was not scheduled for debate this session. ■

EXECUTIVE BOARD



Sen. Dan Hughes, chairperson of the Executive Board

The Executive Board advanced measures this session that established legislative committees to investigate a child welfare contract and provide oversight to the state's youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, as well as a task force to study implementation of a mental health crisis line.

Legislative oversight

Nebraska implemented a statewide privatization of its child welfare system in 2009. By 2012, the experiment had failed and all service areas except the eastern — serving Douglas and Sarpy counties — had returned to casework provision by the state Department of Health and Human Services.

In 2019, the department awarded a five-year provider contract for the eastern service area to Saint Francis Ministries for \$197 million — a considerably lower bid than was made by the entity that was providing services at the time.

LR29, introduced by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, creates the Eastern Service Area Child Welfare

Contract Special Investigative and Oversight Committee to study the procurement process undertaken by DHHS and Administrative Services to award, implement and oversee that contract.



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

Committee membership includes two members each from the Appropriations, Government, Military and Veterans Affairs, Health and Human Services and Judiciary committees as well as one at-large member of the Legislature who is a resident of the eastern service area.

The committee has subpoena power, subject to authorization by the Executive Board, and will report findings and recommendations to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2021. The committee will terminate Dec. 31, 2022.

Senators also voted to reauthorize an oversight committee for the state's troubled youth rehabilitation and treatment centers.

In 2020, lawmakers created the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center Special Oversight Committee of the Legislature in response to a crisis at YRTC Geneva the year before. The nine-member committee issued a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature and terminated Dec. 31, 2020.

LR25, sponsored by the Health and Human Services Committee, reauthorizes the oversight committee with a termination date of Dec. 31, 2021. The oversight committee may hold hearings, request and receive reports from DHHS and issue subpoenas. It will issue a report to the Legislature by Dec. 15, 2021.

LB247, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, establishes the Mental Health Crisis Hotline Task Force to create an implementation plan for the 988 crisis hotline established by the federal government in 2020.



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

Voting members include the chairpersons of the Health and Human Services, Judiciary and Transportation and Telecommunications committees and two at-large members of the Legislature appointed by the Executive Board.

Representatives from DHHS and the Public Service Commission — along with advocacy, education, law enforcement and behavioral and mental health provider representatives — are nonvoting members.

The task force will issue a report to the Legislature by Dec. 17, 2021, regarding implementation plans and recommendations and will terminate Dec. 31, 2022.

LB247 passed on a 46-0 vote and took effect immediately. ■

GENERAL AFFAIRS



Sen. Tom Briese, chairperson of the General Affairs Committee

Senators established casino gaming regulations, permanently legalized to-go alcohol sales authorized during the pandemic and expanded the type of fireworks that can be sold in Nebraska.

Gaming

Lawmakers created a statutory framework for a constitutional amendment approved by voters last November that legalized all forms of games of chance at licensed Nebraska horse racing tracks.

Among other provisions, LB561, introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion:

- allows wagering on sporting events at racetracks in the state;
- prohibits wagering on high school youth sports;
- establishes a system for filing complaints;
- prohibits the use of credit cards to place bets;
- renames the State Racing Commission to the State Racing and Gaming Commission;

- raises the legal age to wager on horse racing from 19 to 21;
- establishes a process for allowing individuals to be excluded voluntarily from wagering; and
- classifies manipulation of a game of chance or gaming machine as a Class I misdemeanor.

LB561 also prohibits betting on Nebraska college teams when they are playing in state and requires that keno played at licensed racetrack casinos operate in accordance with the same state regulations that govern existing keno parlors.

The bill passed on a 44-3 vote and took effect immediately.

LB371, introduced by Grand Island Sen. Raymond Aguilar, also addresses the ballot initiative. Current state law prohibits gambling and a number of other activities within 660 feet of a state, district, county or agricultural fair and provides exceptions.



Sen. Raymond Aguilar

The bill adds games of chance under the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act to the list of exceptions, allowing games of chance at licensed racetracks in Nebraska that are located near fairgrounds to operate at the same time as a fair.

Senators passed the bill on a 35-7 vote.

Alcohol

LB274, introduced by Sen. John Lowe of Kearney, creates a new promotional farmers market special designated license. Under the bill, farm wineries, craft breweries and microdistilleries that currently are licensed to manufacture alcoholic beverages may apply for the SDL, which allows sales at any farmers market for one year, subject to local approval.



Sen. John Lowe

Previously, such entities were required to apply for an SDL for each event at which they sold alcohol.

LB274 includes provisions of North Platte Sen. Mike Groene's LB415 that increase the maximum number of gallons a Nebraska microdistillery may produce annually from 10,000 to 100,000.

The bill also includes provisions of LB578, introduced by Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, which create ready-to-drink cocktails as a new category of



Sen. Mike Groene



Sen. Tony Vargas

alcoholic beverage in statute — defined as spirits in an original container with up to 12.5 percent alcohol — and set the excise tax at 95 cents a gallon.

Also included are provisions of LB72, introduced by Sen. Suzanne Geist of Lincoln, which allow the holder of a Class C, I or Y liquor license to sell alcohol not in the original package — such as a mixed drink, cocktail or wine slushy — for consumption off the premises.



Sen. Suzanne Geist

The holder of a Class B, C, D, L, Y or Z retail liquor license may sell alcohol to an individual 21 or older who is in a motor vehicle if the alcohol is sold along with food. Alcohol must be placed in the vehicle's trunk or in an area behind the last upright seat.

LB274 passed 45-0 and took effect immediately.

Other measures

Nebraskans have more options when buying fireworks under LB152, introduced by Sen. Julie Slama of Peru. The bill adopts the federal standard of consumer fireworks, which is more permissive than was previously allowed in Nebraska law.



Sen. Julie Slama

The bill also authorizes the state fire marshal to test commercially available fireworks in response to complaints and declare them unsafe if necessary.

The bill passed 42-3 and took effect immediately.

LB70, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, authorizes the state athletic commissioner to regulate professional kickboxing and bare-knuckle boxing. The commissioner currently regulates professional mixed martial arts and boxing.



Sen. Justin Wayne

The bill passed 42-2. ■

GOVERNMENT, MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS



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

Concealed carry regulation and open meetings law were among the issues addressed by lawmakers this session.

Firearms

LB236, introduced by Sen. Tom Brewer of Gordon, updated several concealed carry provisions and the state's Uniform Controlled Substances Act. As introduced, the bill would have allowed certain Nebraska counties to allow residents to carry a concealed weapon without a state-issued permit. Amendments removed those provisions and added provisions of:

- LB85, introduced by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, which requires the Nebraska State Patrol to notify the holder of a concealed carry permit four months prior to the permit's expiration;



Sen. Bruce Bostelman

- LB173, introduced by Blair Sen. Ben Hansen, which exempts from concealed carry prohibitions the transportation of a firearm in a vehicle for lawful purposes or carrying a concealed weapon directly to or from a vehicle if the firearm is unloaded, stored in a case and kept separate from ammunition;
- LB244, introduced by Elmwood Sen. Robert Clements, which allows a 30-day grace period to renew a concealed carry permit; and
- LB301, also introduced by Hansen, which removes CBD contained in a product approved by the FDA from the definition of hashish or concentrated cannabis and updates Nebraska drug schedules and penalties to conform to federal law.



Sen. Ben Hansen



Sen. Robert Clements

Senators passed LB236 on a 45-0 vote.

LB188, introduced by Sen. Steve Halloran of Hastings, would prohibit any state or political subdivision employee from enforcing any federal law regulating a firearm, firearm accessory or ammunition unless the measure also is codified in state law. The proposal remains in committee.



Sen. Steve Halloran

Governance

Local political subdivisions have greater flexibility to meet virtually under LB83, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Michael Flood. The bill allows authorized political subdivisions to hold meetings virtually during a declared emergency. The bill defines virtual conferencing as a meeting conducted electronically or by phone.



Sen. Michael Flood

Under LB83, political subdivisions subject to the state's Open Meetings Act and currently allowed to conduct one half of their annual meetings by video conferencing and teleconferencing can hold virtual meetings and discuss regular business during a governor-declared emergency.

Current requirements regarding advanced public notice and at least one physical site available for public participation still will apply. An official participating in such a virtual meeting may do so from any location.

The bill also reaffirms the validity of any actions taken by a public body between March 17, 2020, and April 30, 2021, in reliance on an executive order from the governor that waived open meeting requirements during the pandemic.

LB83 passed 43-0 and took effect immediately.

Government entities that fail to file required reports with the state auditor of public accounts may be fined \$20 a day – up to \$2,000 total per filing – under LB368, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Rita Sanders.

Lawmakers passed the bill on a 46-0 vote.



Sen. Rita Sanders

Other bills

More Nebraska service members are eligible to receive a military grave marker under LB261, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan. A Nebraska National Guard member who served on or after July 1, 1973, or served in active duty federal service is eligible.



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan

The bill, which passed 41-0, also removes a requirement that a member of the armed forces have served during wartime to receive a marker. Markers will be available to all members of the armed forces in active duty or the U.S. reserve forces.

LR14, introduced by Halloran, would be Nebraska's application for a convention of the states authorized under the U.S. Constitution. If two-thirds of the states commit

to a convention, states could propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution that would limit the size and authority of the federal government, consider fiscal restraints and consider term limits for members of Congress.

The proposal advanced from committee and remains on general file.

Three other bills also were advanced from committee but were not scheduled for debate this session.

LB442, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen, would create a 14-member Commission on Asian American Affairs. Members would be of Asian ancestry and appointed by the governor. The commission would promote beneficial state and federal legislation, enhance the cause of Asian American rights and develop solutions to problems common to all Asian Americans in Nebraska.



Sen. Matt Hansen

LB557, also sponsored by Hansen, would add police body camera recordings that involve the death of an individual being apprehended or in law enforcement custody to the list of records subject to public records requests following conclusion of a grand jury inquiry.

LB631, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Eliot Bostar, would prohibit counties from banning property owners from renting their property through Airbnb and other short-term rental companies.



Sen. Eliot Bostar

All three bills remain on general file. ■

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Sen. John Arch, chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee

Senators expanded state benefits for low-income Nebraskans, reformed youth rehabilitation and treatment centers and addressed a variety of licensure issues this session.

Public benefits

Senators overrode two gubernatorial vetoes to expand benefits to Nebraskans struggling with food insecurity and utility bills.

Under Omaha Sen. John McCollister's LB108, Nebraska families making up to 165 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program until Sept. 30, 2023. At that time, the gross income eligibility limit will return to 130 percent of FPL.



Sen. John McCollister

Lawmakers passed the bill 33-11 and it subsequently was vetoed by Gov. Pete Ricketts. In his veto letter, the governor expressed concern that the Legislature would maintain the expanded eligibility after the scheduled expiration date. A motion from McCollister to override the veto succeeded on a 30-19 vote. Thirty votes were required.

LB306, introduced by Sen. Tom Brandt of Plymouth, increases the eligibility threshold for the low income home energy assistance program from 130 percent of FPL to 150 percent. The bill also requires the state Department of Health and Human Services to allocate at least 10 percent of program funds to weatherization assistance.



Sen. Tom Brandt

Senators approved LB306 on a 38-6 vote and it also was vetoed by the governor, who objected to creation of a permanent benefit using temporary federal funding. Brandt offered a motion to override the veto, adopted 32-15, saying the bill will make the program more efficient.

LB485, introduced by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer, increases the income eligibility limit for the determination of initial eligibility for assistance under the Child Care Subsidy program from 130 percent of FPL to 185 percent. The bill, passed 31-6, also increases income eligibility for transitional child care assistance from 185 percent of FPL to 200 percent.



Sen. Wendy DeBoer

Expanded eligibility will begin July 1, 2021, and end Sept. 30, 2023. The cost of the bill will be paid through existing federal block grant funds.

A bill to expand access to services for developmentally disabled Nebraskans stalled on select file. LB376, introduced by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, would require DHHS to apply for a three-year Medicaid waiver to start a family support program for developmental disability services. The program would:



Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh

- have an annual budget for long-term services and supports capped at \$10,000 per person;
- cap participation at 850 individuals currently on the state's wait list;
- offer Medicaid eligibility for children with disabilities by disregarding parental income;
- be administered by the state Division of Developmental Disabilities of DHHS; and
- allow families to self-direct services.

After four hours of discussion on select file, Cavanaugh filed a motion to invoke cloture, which ends debate and forces a vote on the bill. The motion failed 30-11. Thirty-three votes were needed. LB376 was not scheduled for further debate this session.

Youth

LB428, introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee, requires that youth rehabilitation and treatment center residents receive educational opportunities equivalent to those offered to students at Nebraska public schools. Under the bill, each YRTC must maintain accreditation by the state Board of Education and provide age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate education programs.

The measure, passed 49-0, includes provisions of four other bills, all introduced by the committee:

- LB425, which requires DHHS to hire a consultant to perform a needs assessment and cost analysis for an inpatient adolescent psychiatric unit at the Lincoln Regional Center;
- LB427, which prohibits DHHS from delaying inpatient or subacute substance abuse or behavioral health residential treatment for youth under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court when such treatment has been determined necessary after the youth's commitment to the state Office of Juvenile Services or has been ordered by a juvenile court;
- LB429, which requires DHHS to notify the Legislature quarterly of substantial changes it intends to make to YRTC facilities and programs; and
- LB570, which requires the Legislature to complete an evaluation of the state's privatization of child welfare case management in the eastern service area by Dec. 31, 2021, and approves hiring a consultant to assist in the evaluation.

LB251, introduced by Omaha Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh, advanced to general file but was not scheduled for debate this session. The bill would lower from 16 to 14 the minimum age to choose to be an organ donor on a Nebraska state ID or driver license.

Licensure and regulation

Nebraska is authorized to join an interstate compact for audiologists and speech-language pathologists under LB14,

introduced by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood. The bill, passed 47-0, adopts the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. Under the compact, individuals licensed in a member state may practice in any other member state without having to obtain a separate license. The compact has been enacted by 13 states, including Nebraska. The Compact Commission will convene to establish rules and bylaws.



Sen. Carol Blood

Lawmakers voted 40-1 to expand the pool of credentialed health care practitioners in Nebraska.

LB390, introduced by Sen. Dave Murman of Glenvil at the request of the governor, amends Nebraska's Uniform Credentialing Act to allow certain health care providers who are credentialed in other states to apply for an expedited credential in Nebraska.



Sen. Dave Murman

LB400, introduced by Sen. John Arch of La Vista, allows some established patients to receive audio-only telehealth for individual behavioral health services originating from any location.

The bill, approved on a 43-0 vote, allows a patient to provide verbal consent during an initial telehealth visit. Previously, Nebraskans were required to give written consent to receive telehealth services prior to those services being provided.

LB211, introduced by Murman, would remove a current requirement that reflexologists be licensed under the Massage Therapy Practice Act. Instead, the bill would create a registry for reflexologists and require certification by a national board. The bill advanced from committee but was not debated this session.

Also remaining on general file is LB86, introduced by Sen. Bruce Bostelman of Brainard. The bill would mandate that active prescribers and dispensers who are registered under the Uniform Credentialing Act also register with DHHS for the state's prescription drug monitoring program. The bill would exempt credential holders who do not prescribe, dispense or treat as well as veterinarians and members of the armed forces who do not practice in Nebraska. ■



Sen. Bruce Bostelman

JUDICIARY



Sen. Steve Lathrop, chairperson of the Judiciary Committee

Police accountability, criminal justice reform and tenant housing security were among the measures considered by members of the Judiciary Committee this session.

Law enforcement

Lawmakers passed a comprehensive measure this year to address police certification and training.

Under LB51, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, the current 20 hours of annual continuing education required of all officers increases to 28 hours in 2022, and 32 hours in 2023 and subsequent years.

The bill also requires a psychological evaluation of any applicant who has not worked previously in law enforcement to determine fitness for duty. Applicants seeking entry-level law enforcement certification will be required to complete de-escalation training related to mental health behaviors, substance abuse, anti-bias, implicit bias and crisis communication.

An applicant seeking certification as a law enforcement

officer will be required to testify under oath that their certification has never been revoked or suspended in another jurisdiction and they have not been separated from employment or disciplined for serious misconduct or a violation of their oath of office, code of ethics or statutory duties.

LB51 authorizes the appointment of noncertified conditional officers, pending acceptance into a formal law enforcement training program. These officers will discharge their duties under the direct supervision of a field training officer and be restricted from carrying a firearm.

A noncertified conditional officer may, only with direct supervision and guidance from a training officer, ride in a marked police cruiser, make arrests, interview suspects, victims or witnesses or carry out other law enforcement functions. The bill places a 16-week restriction on a noncertified conditional officer's service.

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will prioritize smaller law enforcement agencies when awarding grants to offset the costs of accreditation and training.

LB51 also prohibits a police officer from intentionally using a chokehold on a person, except when deadly force is authorized. Similarly, an officer is prohibited from using a carotid restraint control hold unless the officer believes the individual would cause death or bodily injury to others or deadly force is authorized and the officer is trained in the restraint technique.

LB51 contains provisions of LB601, originally sponsored by Omaha Sen. Terrell McKinney. These provisions require the commission to post information on its public website regarding law enforcement officers who have voluntarily surrendered their certification or had it revoked, been convicted of or pleaded guilty or no contest to a felony or Class I misdemeanor or been found to have engaged in serious misconduct.



Sen. Terrell McKinney

Finally, the bill requires the commission to develop accreditation standards for law enforcement agencies. Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, the commission will publish a list of unaccredited agencies annually. An unaccredited law enforcement agency will be ineligible to receive loans, grant funds or donations from the commission until it achieves accreditation.

LB51 passed on a 41-1 vote.

Courts

Senators passed a proposal this session intended to prohibit frivolous coronavirus-related lawsuits.

LB139, sponsored by Albion Sen. Tom Briese and passed 41-1, provides “safe harbor” from potential lawsuits alleging that a protected individual or organization – including health care providers, first responders, schools, restaurants, businesses, churches and senior care facilities – negligently exposed an individual to COVID-19 infection.



Sen. Tom Briese

The bill prevents civil action as long as the protected individual or organization was acting in compliance with federal public health guidelines in place at the time of an alleged exposure.

LB139 includes provisions of LB53, originally sponsored by Lathrop, that implement a health care crisis protocol developed by the Nebraska Medical Emergency Operations Center.

The protocol establishes criteria for the triage and application of medical services and resources under extraordinary circumstances when the level of demand for services exceeds the available resources required to deliver the generally accepted standard of care.

Individuals awaiting trial for driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs may enroll in a county-level 24/7 sobriety programs created by the sheriff or a designated entity under LB271, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Adam Morfeld.



Sen. Adam Morfeld

Under the bill, a person awaiting trial for driving under the influence may join a voluntary 24/7 sobriety program as a condition of bail and submit to twice-daily sobriety testing or use of a continuous alcohol monitoring device. Participants must agree not to consume alcohol or any drug not prescribed by a physician while enrolled in the program.

LB271 also authorizes a special motor vehicle operating permit for individuals enrolled in a 24/7 sobriety program. The permit is subject to court approval, a \$45 issuance fee and at least 30 consecutive days in the program without sanction.

An individual will be ineligible for a permit if they are subject to an unrelated suspension, cancellation or revocation of their license or are under a required no-driving period. An individual with a 24/7 sobriety permit found to be driving under the influence or who refuses a chemical test is guilty of a Class III misdemeanor, punishable by up to three months imprisonment, a \$500 fine or both.

LB271 passed on a 36-11 vote.

Lathrop sponsored LB386, passed 46-1, which increases Nebraska Supreme Court judges’ salaries for fiscal year

2021-22 and FY2022-23. The current salary is \$187,035.

District, county, juvenile, appellate and workers’ compensation court judges’ salaries statutorily are based on a percentage of the Supreme Court judges’ salaries, so those judges also will receive a salary increase.

The bill sets the salary increase at 3 percent each fiscal year, reaching \$192,647 in FY2021-22 and \$198,426 in FY2022-23.

Forensic evidence would be collected upon arrest for felony charges under a bill that remains on select file.

LB496, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Robert Hilkemann, would require an adult charged with a felony crime of violence or burglary to provide a DNA sample to law enforcement at the time of booking or to the court during a first appearance.



Sen. Robert Hilkemann

A DNA sample collected under the provisions of LB496 would not be tested or placed into the state’s database until a judicial determination of probable cause has been made or a hearing to determine probable cause has been waived.

If the charge against an individual is dismissed, the DNA sample would be destroyed immediately and notice would be sent to the individual. The bill’s provisions would not apply to juveniles.

The bill was amended to include provisions of Omaha Sen. John Cavanaugh’s LB316, which would clarify the date from which the one-year limitation for filing a motion for post-conviction relief would run and require a prisoner to file notice with the district court.



Sen. John Cavanaugh

LB496 advanced from general file but was not scheduled for further debate this session.

Students with excessive school absences could receive additional resources under a bill that also remains on select file.

In 2010, the Legislature passed a bill requiring school districts to report cases to a county attorney when a student has been absent at least 20 days per year, whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

Under LB568, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, excessive absenteeism would no longer be an independent basis for a juvenile court action. It could, however, still be considered as a factor in other juvenile cases.



Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks

Under the bill as amended, juveniles could be referred to

pretrial diversion programs and receive services to address their needs or those of their families. The bill would increase an appropriation to the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program from \$5 million to \$8.5 million to fund those expanded diversion services beginning in fiscal year 2023-24.

The bill also would create a new position within the Nebraska Crime Commission charged with developing regulations for diversion programs and assisting in the review of applications for grant funding.

Eligibility for grant funding would be extended to programs that serve families of juveniles who are experiencing excessive absenteeism, and allow aid not distributed to counties to be used for statewide programs to benefit individual counties and the state's Indian tribes.

The bill advanced from general file but was not scheduled for second-round debate.

Correctional system

Lawmakers gave final approval this session to two proposals intended to ensure the due process rights of system-involved juveniles.

Kearney Sen. John Lowe sponsored LB273, passed 40-0, which allows the state Department of Health and Human Services to file an immediate change of placement motion to transfer a juvenile to a different facility during an emergency situation. A hearing on the motion must be held within 24 hours and can be conducted by telephone or videoconference.



Sen. John Lowe

An immediate change of placement may be filed in cases when a juvenile requires additional specialized care to address substance use or behavioral health needs. A qualifying emergency also can include a public health emergency, natural disaster or damage that renders a juvenile facility uninhabitable.

The court will order a temporary emergency change of placement if it determines that the change is appropriate and in the best interests of the juvenile. The court must notify a juvenile's parent or guardian of the motion to transfer, including notice that the hearing will be held within 24 hours.

Additionally, the department is required to provide all parties of record with the evidence and witnesses to be presented during an emergency hearing. The juvenile will have an opportunity to consult with legal counsel and review the motion and all evidence before the hearing.

Under LB307, sponsored by Pansing Brooks, if a juve-

nile who is charged with a felony waives the right to legal counsel, the court is required to show affirmatively that the juvenile will not be removed from their home or detained outside of the home:

- between adjudication and disposition of the case;
- during any probationary period; or
- in response to an alleged probation violation.

The Nebraska Supreme Court will develop a process to ensure that a juvenile is provided with an opportunity to consult counsel in making the initial decision to waive counsel. An initial consultation with counsel is not required if the juvenile and their family already have conferred with private counsel before the hearing.

The bill includes provisions of LB354, originally sponsored by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, which require a judge to consider a motion to transfer a criminal case to juvenile court within 30 days.

LB307 passed on a 29-6 vote.

Other measures

Senators passed an omnibus proposal intended to strengthen protections for landlords and tenants this session.

LB320, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John Cavanaugh, allows a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence to seek early release from a rental agreement under certain conditions.

To be released from a rental agreement, the tenant is required to provide their landlord with a copy of an active protective or restraining order or certification confirming domestic abuse from a qualified nonprofit organization that provides services to victims of domestic violence.

Additionally, the tenant must provide written notice, including the date of release – to be no sooner than 14 days and no later than 30 days – and the names of any household members also to be released.

The tenant is required to pay rent for the month in which the agreement was terminated, but is not liable for any rent, damages or fees incurred after the release date. The protections provided under LB320 are not available to a perpetrator of domestic violence.

The bill also includes provisions of several additional measures, including:

- LB45, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen, which repeals a provision prohibiting judges from granting continuances in eviction proceedings unless extraordinary cause is shown and accrued back rent is paid;



Sen. Matt Hansen

- LB46, also sponsored by Hansen, which requires that summons in an eviction proceeding be conducted through methods commonly used in civil proceedings, unless otherwise authorized;
- LB246, sponsored by Bennington Sen. Wendy DeBoer, which requires that a civil action for possession against renters of mobile home lots follow the same procedures as those brought against renters of mobile homes,



Sen. Wendy DeBoer



Sen. John McCollister

- apartments, houses and other residences;
- LB268, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John McCollister, which requires landlords to provide written notice to each individual unit 24 hours before seeking entry;



Sen. Megan Hunt

- LB277, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Megan Hunt, which updates the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant act to reflect changes made in 2019 to the Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act; and
- LB402, sponsored by DeBoer, which requires the Nebraska Supreme Court to submit a biannual report to the Legislature with information pertaining to eviction procedures.

LB320 passed on a 43-3 vote.

DeBoer sponsored LB497, which allows a health care provider to apply to the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Program for reimbursement of costs associated with treating or examining an individual's injuries directly related to sexual assault or domestic abuse.

The reimbursement covers the portion of costs that are not covered by insurance or other sources and typically paid by the patient. Currently, a person receiving such services is billed and required to pay for the services before then applying for reimbursement.

The bill, passed 47-0, requires that a health care provider

obtain a patient's consent before applying for reimbursement. It also adds child abuse as an offense eligible for reimbursement.

Two bills were discussed by lawmakers this session but stalled during floor debate.

LB474, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Anna Wishart, would create a framework for legalizing medical cannabis use in Nebraska.

To qualify for a medical cannabis registration card under the bill, a person must receive written certification that medical cannabis would improve their condition from a health care practitioner with whom they have an established, bonafide relationship.



Sen. Anna Wishart

Registered medical cannabis users could purchase cannabis through regulated in-state dispensaries or home delivery from out-of-state suppliers. Patients would be limited to no more than 2.5 ounces of cannabis – or a greater amount approved by a medical necessity waiver – or cannabis infused products with no more than 2,000 milligrams of THC.

After eight hours of general file debate, Wishart offered a motion to invoke cloture, which failed 31-18. Thirty-three votes were needed. LB474 was not placed on the agenda again this session.

LB88, sponsored by Morfeld, would designate student-produced media as part of a public forum and extend the full right to exercise freedom of speech and press that is provided to professional members of the media to public high school and postsecondary student journalists, as well as their media advisers.

The bill would not protect any expression by a student journalist that is libelous or slanderous, constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy, violates state or federal law or incites students to engage in unlawful acts.

Student media advisers could face discipline under the bill but with guaranteed due process protections.

After four hours of second-round debate, Morfeld offered a motion to invoke cloture, which failed 30-17. LB88 remains on select file. ■

NATURAL RESOURCES



Sen. Bruce Bostelman, chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee

Proposals to ban the use of treated seed in ethanol production and create a legal framework for carbon dioxide sequestration were among the measures advanced by the Natural Resources Committee this session.

LB507, introduced by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, prohibits the use of treated seed in the production of ethanol if its use results in the generation of a byproduct that is deemed unsafe for livestock consumption or land application.

The bill also contains provisions of LB190, introduced by Venango Sen. Dan Hughes, which prohibit the Legislature from appropriating or transferring money from the Water Sustainability Fund for purposes other than those outlined in statute after June 30, 2021.

The provisions of LB191, also introduced by Hughes, allow a qualified landowner or leaseholder to be an irrigation district elector if they live in a certain irrigation district in which at least half of the landowners, leaseholders or entrymen of government lands are not Nebraska residents.



Sen. Dan Hughes

Under provisions originally introduced by Creighton Sen. Tim Gragert as LB395, the secretary of the state Game and Parks Commission may designate special antelope and elk depredation seasons or extend existing hunting seasons when they determine that the animals are causing excessive property damage.



Sen. Tim Gragert

A Nebraska resident will pay no more than \$25 for a special depredation season permit, and a nonresident will pay no more than \$75.

The bill requires the commission to charge landowners and their immediate family members no more than \$10 for a special depredation season permit. Those who own or operate at least 20 acres of farm or ranch land within the geographic area in which hunting is permitted may take deer and antelope, and those who own or operate at least 80 acres may take elk.

Finally, LB507 requires the commission to issue one free-earned elk permit to certain landowners and lessees when hunters have harvested the qualifying number of antlerless elk on their land.

The commission will use income from the special permits to abate damage caused by deer, antelope and elk.

The bill passed 48-0 and takes effect immediately.

Lawmakers also approved a measure that increases state park entry fees for nonresidents.

LB336, introduced by Hughes and passed on a vote of 49-0, sets the annual permit fee for a nonresident motor vehicle at twice the fee for a resident motor vehicle or \$60, whichever is greater.

It sets the fee for a temporary permit for a nonresident motor vehicle at twice the fee for a resident motor vehicle or \$12, whichever is greater.

Another measure, passed on a vote of 46-1, creates a special legislative committee that will study potential flood control projects and related economic development opportunities in three areas of the state.

LB406, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, creates a special committee, consisting of at least seven members of the Legislature, that will study the need to protect public and private property, enhance economic development and promote private investment along the Platte River and its tributaries from Columbus to Plattsmouth.



Sen. Mike McDonnell

The committee will conduct similar studies on the Lake McConaughy region and the region in Knox County that includes Lewis and Clark Lake and Niobrara State Park.

The Platte River study cannot include a study of any dam on the river's channel but may include infrastructure that maintains the integrity of its main channel.

With the Executive Board's approval – and after a competitive bidding process – the committee may enter into contracts for consulting, engineering and development studies. The committee will complete each study no later than Dec. 31, 2022, and will terminate on that date.

Senators also approved a measure that creates a legal and regulatory framework for the geologic storage of carbon dioxide in Nebraska.

Under LB650, introduced by Sen. Michael Flood of Norfolk and passed on a vote of 48-1, the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission will regulate facilities that inject carbon dioxide through wells into underground geologic formations for permanent or



Sen. Michael Flood

short-term storage.

The bill allows geologic storage only if a storage operator obtains a permit from both the commission and the Environmental Protection Agency's Underground Injection Control program. Before the commission issues a permit, it must hold a public hearing and consult with the state Department of Environment and Energy and the federal permitting authority.

The commission must find that the proposed storage facility would not endanger surface waters or underground drinking water sources and that the storage operator will establish a testing and monitoring plan to assess the location and migration of injected carbon dioxide.

LB650 requires storage operators to pay the commission two fees on each ton of carbon dioxide injected for storage, one to defray administrative expenses and another to defray expenses incurred in the long-term monitoring and management of a closed storage facility. ■

NEBRASKA RETIREMENT SYSTEMS



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

Lawmakers overcame a gubernatorial veto to authorize a state takeover of management duties for the Omaha school retirement plan this session.

LB147, sponsored by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman, transfers duties and responsibilities for management of the OPS plan from the Omaha School Employees Retirement System board of trustees to the Public Employees Retirement Board, which manages the rest of the state's plans through the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems.

The transfer will take effect Sept. 1, 2024. The school district, board of education, board of trustees and the PERB must finalize a transfer of management agreement by Dec. 31, 2021.

The bill specifies that the school district remains liable for the retirement system's funding obligations and OPS will cover all costs for the management transfer.

The measure includes components of three additional bills related to the transfer, all sponsored by Kolterman.

Provisions of LB145 require completion of a compliance audit of the Omaha pension plan by Nov. 15, 2021, and

the first annual audit by the state auditor by July 1, 2022.

Provisions of LB582 terminate the board of trustees' authority to administer the plan on July 1, 2021, and place plan administration authority with the OPS board of education. On that date, new members of the board of trustees, appointed by the board of education, will begin serving their terms. This board of trustees will facilitate the transfer of management to the PERB on Sept. 1, 2024.

Finally, provisions of LB146 expand allowable substitute service up to eight days each calendar month during the 180-day period following a member's retirement from the school or Omaha plan. The IRS requires limitations on service during this period to ensure that a bona fide separation of service has occurred.

OPS allows temporary service after a 30-day waiting period following termination if it is to accomplish a specific purpose or task, not to exceed one year.

LB147 passed on a 38-3 vote and took effect immediately. The bill subsequently was vetoed by Gov. Pete Ricketts, who called it a "slippery slope" toward the state eventually assuming responsibility for the troubled retirement plan's nearly \$1 billion unfunded liability.

Kolterman offered a motion to override the veto, noting that the bill contains an explicit provision that OPS remains "at all times and in all circumstances" solely liable for all the plan's funding obligations. Senators voted 31-18 to override the governor's veto. Thirty votes were needed.

Lawmakers also approved LB17, introduced by Kolterman, which adopts shorter amortization periods to reflect current actuarial standards for the judges', state patrol and school employee retirement plans. Beginning July 1, 2021, new amortization bases will be based on 25-year periods rather than the current 30-year amortization period.

The bill includes provisions of Kolterman's LB24 that increase various dedicated court fees to provide additional revenue to cover a shortfall in the judges' retirement plan. Several fees will increase from \$6 to \$8 on July 1, 2021, and rise incrementally until reaching \$12 on July 1, 2025.

The bill does not increase fees on any criminal cause of action, traffic misdemeanor or infraction, or city or village criminal ordinance violation filed in district court or county court.

LB17 also includes amended provisions of LB16, sponsored by Kolterman, that add an annual contribution from the state to the judges' retirement fund of 5 percent of total compensation of the members of the judges' retirement system beginning July 1, 2023. The rate may be adjusted or terminated but cannot rise above 5 percent.

The bill passed on a 33-13 vote and took effect immediately. ■

REDISTRICTING

The Redistricting Committee considered criteria this session that will guide the Legislature in the 2021 redistricting process.

The U.S. and state constitutions require the Legislature to redraw various governmental district boundaries every 10 years in response to population changes reflected in the U.S. Census. Senators are expected to complete the redistricting process in a special session in September after census data becomes available.

Lawmakers will create new district boundaries for Nebraska's three U.S. House of Representatives districts, 49 legislative districts and those of the Nebraska Supreme Court, Public Service Commission, State Board of Education and University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

LR134, introduced by the Redistricting Committee and adopted by the Legislature on a vote of 31-16, sets criteria intended to ensure that redistricting plans are constitutionally acceptable.

Under the guidelines, senators will use 2020 U.S. Census population data and census geography to establish

district boundaries. Boundaries will follow county lines wherever practicable and define districts that are compact and contiguous.

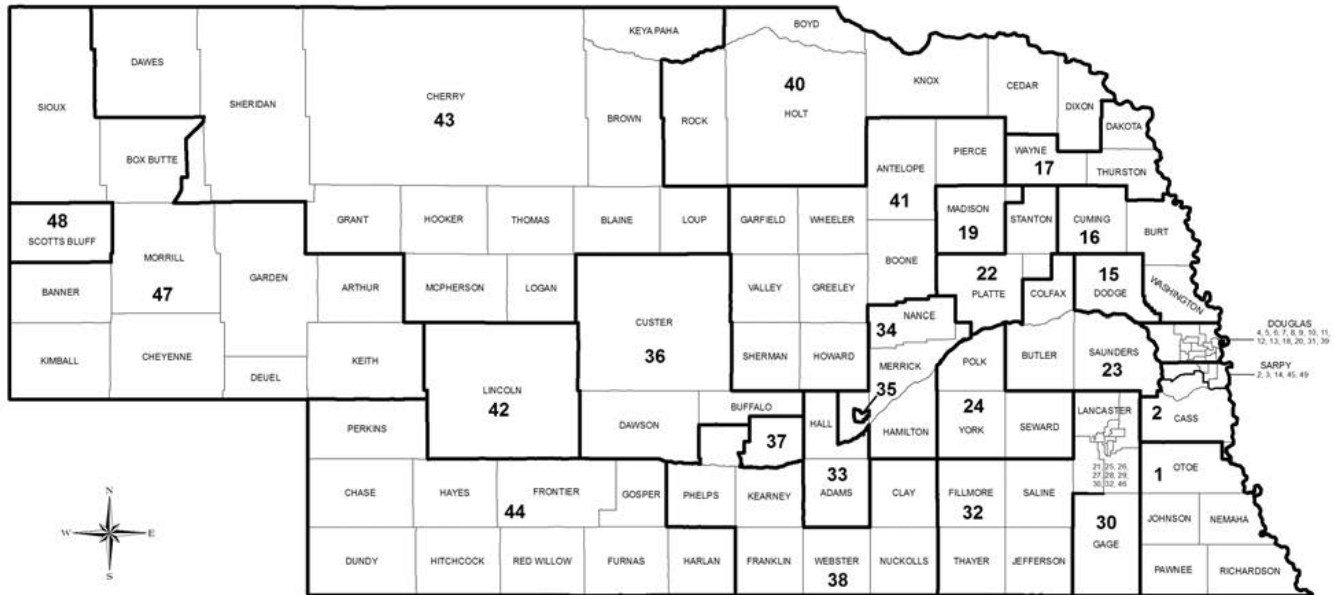
District boundaries cannot be established with the intention of favoring a political party or any other group or person, and lawmakers cannot consider the political affiliations of registered voters, demographic information other than population figures or the results of previous elections.

The criteria also prohibit district boundaries that would result in the unlawful dilution of any minority population's voting strength.

As far as possible, boundaries also must define districts that are easily identifiable and understandable to voters, preserve communities of interest and allow for the preservation of the core of prior districts.

Under LR134, lawmakers will draw congressional districts with populations as close to equal as practicable, with an overall range of deviation at or approaching zero percent. No plan may be considered that results in an overall range of deviation of more than 1 percent or a relative deviation of more than 0.5 percent from the ideal population.

For the remaining districts, the Legislature may not consider a plan that results in an overall range of deviation of more than 10 percent or a relative deviation of more than 5 percent from the ideal population. ■



For larger versions of this and other district maps, visit the maps clearinghouse page on the Legislature's official website: www.nebraskalegislature.gov/about/maps.php

REVENUE



Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, chairperson of the Revenue Committee

The Revenue Committee advanced bills this session that cut Nebraska's top corporate income tax rate and will exempt military retirement pay and a percentage of Social Security income from state income tax.

Income tax

Lawmakers voted 42-1 to cut the state's top corporate income tax rate by approximately one-half of 1 percent over the next two years.

LB432, introduced by the Revenue Committee as a placeholder bill, contains amended provisions of LB680, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, and provisions of several other bills heard by the committee this session.

Linehan's proposal reduces the state's top corporate income tax rate, which applies to income in excess of \$100,000, from 7.81 percent to 7.5 percent for tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2022, and before Jan. 1, 2023. The rate will fall to 7.25 percent for tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2023.

The bill states the intent of the Legislature to further

reduce the rate to 7 percent for tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2024, and before Jan. 1, 2025, and to 6.84 percent — the current top individual income tax rate — for tax years beginning on or after that date.

The corporate income tax rate on the first \$100,000 of income remains at 5.58 percent.

LB432 also includes provisions of LB597, introduced by Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston. They create a \$2,000 refundable state income tax credit for the parent of a stillborn child if a fetal death certificate is filed and if the child had advanced to at least the 20th week of gestation and would have been a dependent of the individual claiming the credit.



Sen. Joni Albrecht

Also included in the bill are provisions of LB299, introduced by Omaha Sen. Mike McDonnell, that allow any rural or suburban fire protection district, airport authority, city, village or nonprofit corporation to provide and maintain enhanced cancer benefits for paid and volunteer firefighters, the combined total of which cannot exceed \$50,000 in the firefighter's lifetime.



Sen. Mike McDonnell

Beginning with tax year 2022, an individual's federal adjusted gross income will be reduced by the amount received by or on behalf of a firefighter for cancer benefits under the act.

Under the provisions of LB564, also introduced by McDonnell, Nebraska educational savings plan trust accounts may be used to pay for the cost of certain apprenticeship programs.

Finally, the provisions of LB254, introduced by Sen. Matt Williams of Gothenburg, extend the sunset date for the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act from Dec. 31, 2022, to Dec. 31, 2025.



Sen. Matt Williams

The committee also advanced a bill to reduce taxation of Social Security income in Nebraska over several years with the intention of eliminating it entirely.

LB64, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom and passed on a vote of 41-0, sets the exemption on such income, to the extent that it is included in federal adjusted gross income, at 5 percent in tax year 2021. The exemption will increase to 20 percent in 2022 and then rise 10 percent per year until reaching 50 percent in tax year 2025.



Sen. Brett Lindstrom

The bill states legislative intent to continue incremental reduction of the tax — reaching 100 percent exemption in tax year 2030 — but passage of new legislation will be required to complete the process.

Nebraskans may exclude all of their military retirement benefit pay from state income tax under another bill approved by lawmakers this session.

Under LB387, introduced by Sen. Tom Brewer of Gordon at the request of Gov. Pete Ricketts, individuals may exclude 100 percent of their military retirement benefit income to the extent it is included in federal adjusted gross income, beginning in tax year 2022.



Sen. Tom Brewer



Sen. Carol Blood

The bill, passed on a 47-0 vote, also includes provisions of LB6, introduced by Sen. Carol Blood of Bellevue, which allow a military retiree to provide a form 1099 from either the U.S. Department of Defense or the Office of Personnel Management to claim the exemption.

Sales and use tax

Lawmakers voted 45-0 to pass a bill containing several sales and use tax exemptions, including one for inputs used to manufacture ethanol.

Under LB595, introduced by Thurston Sen. Joni Albrecht, state sales and use taxes may not be imposed on the gross receipts from the sale, lease or rental of — and storage, use or other consumption in Nebraska of — all catalysts, chemicals and materials used in the process of manufacturing ethanol and the production of coproducts.

The bill also includes provisions of LB672, introduced by Sen. Dave Murman of Glenvil, that define agricultural machinery and equipment for the purposes of an existing sales and use tax exemption.

Under LB595, agricultural machinery and equipment are defined as tangible personal property used directly in cultivating or harvesting a crop, raising or caring for animal life, protecting the health and welfare of animal life or collecting or processing an agricultural product on a farm or ranch.

The definition now includes header trailers, head haulers, header transports and seed tender trailers.

Also included in LB595 are provisions of LB182, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan. They exempt



Sen. Dave Murman

from state sales and use taxes the gross income received from the lease or use of towers or other structures primarily used in conjunction with the furnishing of internet access service, agricultural GPS locating services or certain over-the-air radio and television broadcasting.

Finally, under provisions originally introduced by Linehan in LB350, the proceeds of sales and use taxes imposed on the sale or lease of motorboats, personal watercraft, all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles will be credited to the state Game and Parks Commission Capital Maintenance Fund until 2027 rather than 2022.

The state will turn back new sales tax revenue to cities to help them build sports complexes under a bill passed on a vote of 45-0.

Under LB39, introduced by Omaha Sen. Brett Lindstrom, a political subdivision alone or working with a nonprofit organization can apply for state assistance to build sports complexes — facilities that are used primarily for competitive sports and contain a certain number of sports venues such as outdoor arenas or baseball, softball or multipurpose fields.

The turnback applies to state sales tax collected by new businesses located within 600 yards of the exterior boundary of a sports complex for the period of time beginning on the date the project commenced and ending four years after its completion date.

Under the bill, 30 percent of state sales tax revenue related to an eligible sports arena facility will be transferred to the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund.

If the sales tax revenue relates to a sports complex, 83 percent of those funds will be transferred to the Support the Arts Cash Fund and used to fund a competitive grant program for first class cities that have creative districts within their boundaries and a 10-year plan to bring about economic and workforce development initiatives.

The remaining 17 percent of those funds will be transferred to the Convention Center Support Fund and distributed to areas in metropolitan class cities with a high concentration of poverty to showcase important historical aspects of those areas or to help reduce street and gang violence.

LB39 took effect immediately upon passage.

Residential water service in Nebraska will no longer be taxed under another bill passed by lawmakers this session.

LB26, introduced by Sen. Justin Wayne of Omaha and passed on a vote of 41-2, exempts the gross receipts received from the sale, lease or rental of and storage, use or consumption of residential water service.



Sen. Justin Wayne

Property tax

Certain political subdivisions must hold a joint public hearing before increasing their property tax requests under a bill passed on 42-0 vote.

Under LB644, introduced by Sen. Ben Hansen of Blair, counties, cities, school districts and community colleges must participate in a joint public hearing and pass a resolution or ordinance before increasing their property tax request by more than an allowable growth percentage.

The bill requires counties to notify affected taxpayers of the hearing by postcard, the cost of which will be shared by the political subdivisions seeking to increase their property tax request.

The hearing must be open to public testimony, and the agenda may include only the proposed property tax request increase.

LB644 also includes provisions of LB189, introduced by Hastings Sen. Steve Halloran, that require a political subdivision's governing body to make provisions in its next budget to pay a refund of real or personal property taxes. The measure also repeals a provision allowing political subdivisions up to five years to pay the refund.

Lawmakers also approved a bill intended to shift the cost of school bonds away from owners of farm and ranch land.

Under LB2, introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion and passed on a vote of 36-6, agricultural and horticultural land is valued at 50 percent of its actual value for purposes of school district taxes levied to pay the principal and interest on bonds approved by a vote of the people on or after the act's operative date.

A proposal to limit increases in property taxes collected by local governments stalled on the first round of debate after a failed cloture motion.

Under LB408, as introduced by Briese, a political subdivision's property tax request — the amount of property taxes requested to be raised through its levy — could not exceed the prior year's request by more than 3 percent.

A political subdivision could exceed the limit by an amount approved by a majority of registered voters in a primary, general or special election.

Under a pending Revenue Committee amendment, a political subdivision's property tax request for any year could



Sen. Ben Hansen



Sen. Steve Halloran



Sen. Tom Briese

not exceed the previous year's request multiplied by 103 percent. The limit would apply to property tax requests set in 2022 through 2027.

The amendment also would allow a political subdivision to exceed the 3 percent limit for no more than two consecutive years with a majority vote of its governing body. The political subdivision's property tax request would be reduced in subsequent years so that the increase would not exceed 9 percent over a three-year period.

The limit would not apply to the portion of a political subdivision's property tax request that will be derived from its real growth value, or the increase in real property valuation due to improvements — such as new construction and additions to existing buildings — and the annexation of property.

After eight hours of debate on general file, Briese filed a motion to invoke cloture, which ceases debate and forces a vote on the bill and any pending amendments. The motion failed on a vote of 29-8. Thirty-three votes were needed. LB408 was not scheduled for further debate this session.

A bill that would provide additional state aid to school districts that rely heavily on property taxes failed to advance from the first round of debate.

Under LB454, as introduced by Henderson Sen. Curt Friesen, a school district would be eligible for a property tax stabilization payment if its property tax requirement — defined as the difference between the district's needs and the amount of state aid it receives — exceeds 70 percent of its needs for the school year.

A Revenue Committee amendment replaced the bill. Under the amendment, a school district's property tax requirement would have to exceed a smaller percentage of its needs each year in order for the district to qualify for a stabilization payment, from 70 percent in school fiscal year 2021-22 to 55 percent for school fiscal year 2024-25 and after.

Unlike the original bill, the amendment would not reduce the valuation of agricultural and horticultural land for the purposes of school district taxation.

LB454 failed to advance to select file on a vote of 23-12. Twenty-five votes were needed.



Sen. Curt Friesen

Tax incentives

The state will provide matching funds for the development of industrial rail access business parks under a bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

Under LB40, introduced by Sen. Mike Groene of North Platte, a nonprofit economic development corporation may apply to the director of the state Department of Economic Development for up to \$30 million in matching funds to cover a project's development costs. The director could approve up to \$50 million in matching funds under the act.



Sen. Mike Groene

Matching funds could be used for site acquisition and preparation, utility extensions and rail spur construction for the development of a new industrial rail access business park, including expenses incurred to help an initial tenant in the manufacturing, processing, distribution or transloading trades.

Qualifying projects must be located in a county with a population of fewer than 100,000 inhabitants.

Upon legislative appropriation of funds, the state will provide \$2 of matching funds for each dollar invested up to \$2.5 million. For a larger investment, the state will provide \$5 in matching funds for each dollar invested.

Businesses that invest in urban areas with high poverty and unemployment rates may qualify for tax incentives under another bill passed by lawmakers this session.

Under LB544, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne and passed on a vote of 49-0, taxpayers may apply to the director of the state Department of Economic Development for tax credits based on their level of investment and the number of new employees they hire.

To qualify, a business must be located in a primary or metropolitan class city and in an economic redevelopment area in which the average rate of unemployment is at least 150 percent of the state average and the average poverty rate is 20 percent or more for the area's federal census tract.

Taxpayers may use the credits to offset income, sales and use or real property taxes or to reduce income tax withholding. No taxpayer may earn a credit that exceeds \$50,000.

The director may not approve further applications once the expected incentives from approved projects total \$8 million, and no new applications may be filed after Dec. 31, 2031.

Senators also passed a bill intended to modernize the state's small business tax credit.

Under the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act, a business with five or fewer full-time employees can apply to receive a refundable tax credit designed to help decrease the cost of startup and expansion.

The program, which offers a tax credit to approved microbusiness taxpayers for new investment or employment equal to 20 percent of the investment amount — up to a

maximum of \$10,000 — had been set to expire in 2022. Total credits approved under the program are limited to \$2 million annually.

LB366, introduced by Sen. Tom Brieese of Albion and passed on a 44-1 vote, extends the program expiration date through 2032. It also raises the maximum lifetime tax credits claimed by any individual from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Finally, the bill strengthens reporting requirements and allows certain family members of a person who has received the maximum credit also to participate in the program — as long as ownership is not shared and the businesses are completely separate.

The changes made by LB366 apply only to applications made after the bill's operative date.

Lawmakers passed two measures that update the provisions of a major tax incentive program passed in 2020.

LB18, sponsored by Seward Sen. Mark Kolterman and passed on a vote of 34-10, makes three changes to the ImagiNE Nebraska Act, a business tax incentive program that replaced the Nebraska Advantage Act.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

Currently, the act requires that all qualifying new full-time jobs be filled by individuals who reside in Nebraska. The bill removes this provision and instead requires that an individual in a qualifying job be employed in the state and be subject to Nebraska income tax on compensation received.

LB18 also changes the definition of two qualifying business activities under the ImagiNE Nebraska Act to clarify terms and conform with a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Under LB84, sponsored by Sen. Bruce Bostelman of Brainard and passed on a 47-0 vote, a renewable energy firm that uses nuclear energy to produce electricity is eligible for tax incentives under the act.



Sen. Bruce Bostelman

Lawmakers also approved a measure that changes the way in which passthrough entities claim a refundable income tax credit under the Property Tax Incentive Act.

The act, passed last year as part of LB1107, requires passthrough entities, trusts and estates to allocate the credit — which is based on school property taxes paid — in the same proportion that income is distributed to shareholders, partners, members or beneficiaries.

LB181, sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, allows passthrough entities, trusts and estates to distribute the credit in the current manner for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before Jan. 1, 2021.

For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after that date, the credit will be claimed at the entity level.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote and took effect immediately.

Other measures

Voters could amend Nebraska's constitution to replace property, income, sales, inheritance and estate taxes with a state consumption tax under a proposal that failed to advance from the second round of debate.

If passed by the Legislature, LR11CA, sponsored by Bayard Sen. Steve Erdman, would place the question on the November 2022 general election ballot.

The amendment would prohibit the state and its political subdivisions from imposing a tax on property, income, inheritances, estates and the retail sale of services and most goods effective Jan. 1, 2024.

It would require the Legislature to enact a consumption tax that applies to the purchase of services and new goods, except for fuel, beginning on that date. The Legislature also could authorize political subdivisions to enact their own consumption taxes.

LR11CA failed to advance to select file on a vote of 23-19, two votes short of the number required.

A bill that would create a tax credit scholarship program for private school students stalled on general file after a failed cloture motion.

LB364, introduced by Sen. Lou Ann Linehan of Elkhorn, would allow individuals, passthrough entities, estates, trusts and corporations to claim a nonrefundable income tax credit of up to 50 percent of their state income tax liability on contributions they make to nonprofit organizations that grant scholarships to students to attend private school.

Only Nebraska residents would be eligible for the scholarships, which could be used to pay tuition and fees at a qualifying privately operated elementary or secondary school in Nebraska.

Students would be eligible for the scholarships if, among other requirements, they are a dependent member of a household with a gross income that does not exceed the eligibility guidelines for reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program.

As introduced, LB364 would allow the state Department of Revenue to grant \$10 million in credits in 2022. After that, if at least 90 percent of the credits in any given year are claimed, the annual limit would increase by 25 percent.

A pending Revenue Committee amendment instead would limit the total amount of credits available each year



Sen. Steve Erdman

to \$5 million.

The amendment also includes the amended provisions of LB531, introduced by Albion Sen. Tom Briese.

Under his proposal, taxpayers who make a qualifying financial contribution to certain child care and early childhood education programs in Nebraska could apply for a nonrefundable income tax credit equal to a portion of the contribution. Contributions would have to promote or enhance quality child care and early childhood education programs.

An eligible child care or early childhood education program would have to be enrolled in the quality rating and improvement system developed under the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act and meet other requirements.

Individuals, estates, trusts and corporations could claim the credit, which could not exceed \$25,000 per taxpayer in any single year. Up to \$5 million in credits would be available each year.

After eight hours of first-round debate, Linehan filed a motion to invoke cloture, which failed on a vote of 29-18.

The state highway commission could issue up to \$400 million in bonds over the next six years to speed completion of Nebraska's expressway system under a bill discussed on general file this session.

LB542, as introduced by Sen. Lynne Walz of Fremont, would authorize the commission, upon recommendation of the state Department of Transportation, to issue up to \$400 million in bonds to accelerate completion of highway construction projects under the Build Nebraska Act. Annual debt service could not exceed \$30 million.



Sen. Lynne Walz

Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers, speaker of the Legislature, said he would "park" LB542 until next session and retain its priority status. He said lawmakers should wait to consider the proposal in light of a potential federal infrastructure bill that could include significant roads funding for states.

Lawmakers moved to the next item on the agenda without voting on LB542 or the amendment.

Finally, the committee advanced a proposal that would cut state inheritance tax rates while increasing the amount of property value that is exempt from the tax, but it was not scheduled for first-round debate.

LB310, sponsored by Sen. Robert Clements of Elmwood, would cut rates approximately in half on each of the three classes of beneficiaries subject to the tax over three years while allowing exemptions to increase. ■



Sen. Robert Clements

TRANSPORTATION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS



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

Of the transportation and telecommunications issues considered this session, senators prioritized rural broadband development, lower administrative fees and expanded license plate options.

Rural broadband

Lawmakers passed a bill to increase broadband availability throughout the state.

Under LB388, introduced by Henderson Sen. Curt Friesen at the request of Gov. Pete Ricketts, the Public Service Commission will administer grants to providers, cooperatives and political subdivisions to fund qualifying broadband development projects.

The bill appropriates \$20 million in fiscal year 2021-22 and FY2022-23 to the commission to fund the grants, with legislative intent that the same level of funding continue annually. Priority will be given to grants to unserved areas that previously have not been targeted for such a project, unserved areas that are receiving federal support for con-

struction that will not be completed within 24 months and underserved areas that have developed a broadband and digital inclusion plan.

Eligibility is restricted to projects providing broadband internet service scalable to 100 Mbps for downloading and 100 Mbps for uploading, or greater. Each project must have a completion deadline of 18 months from the date the grant is awarded and be eligible for one extension of six months, to be approved by the PSC.

Political subdivisions must form a public-private partnership with a service provider to qualify for funding under LB388 and commit matching funds equal to 50 percent of the total development costs.

The bill requires all grant recipients to conduct randomized speed tests and submit the results to the PSC. If speeds fail to meet the bill's requirements, the provider will be required to repay the grant.

The commission will approve grants for all qualified applicants while funding remains available, with no award to exceed \$5 million. An applicant must provide broadband service for the entirety of the funding agreement. A grant recipient that fails to provide service at required speeds will have reasonable time to address the speed deficiency before funding is withdrawn.

LB388 passed on a 49-0 vote.

The Public Service Commission adopted rules in 2018 to withhold Nebraska Universal Service Fund support from telecommunications carriers that do not offer broadband services and instead redirect that funding to eligible carriers who could provide broadband in the same exchange area through a reverse auction process.

LB338, sponsored by Brainard Sen. Bruce Bostelman, authorizes a second method to redirect funds, known as a rural-based plan.

To qualify for consideration by the PSC, a rural-based plan must include an eligible telecommunications company.

Plans will be judged on a company's history and service capability in the area, as well as local support, partnerships with local public power and wireless internet service providers and cooperation by the incumbent local exchange carrier that has lost support from the commission.

The bill requires any recipient of ongoing high-cost financial support from the state universal service fund to submit to broadband service speed tests by the PSC. Any universal service funds distributed for new broadband infrastructure construction will be directed to projects that provide service scalable to 100 Mbps or greater of upload speed.



Sen. Bruce Bostelman

Additionally, any political subdivision that receives federal funding for broadband service enhancement will be required to provide service scalable to 100 Mbps or greater for both upload and download speed.

LB338 passed on a 46-0 vote.

Licensing and fees

Creighton Sen. Tim Gragert sponsored LB78, passed 46-0, to require an applicant for a Gold Star Family, Ex-Prisoner of War, Disabled American Veteran or Purple Heart/Combat Wounded license plate to register first with the state Department of Veterans' Affairs.



Sen. Tim Gragert

The state Department of Motor Vehicles will use the registry information to verify an individual's eligibility.

Senators also approved the creation of two new specialty license plates this session.

Under LB317, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John Cavanaugh, Nebraska History license plates will be available in alphanumeric or personalized versions beginning Jan. 1, 2023. The plate will be designed in consultation with History Nebraska — formally known as the Nebraska Historical Society — and reflect the importance of preserving the state's shared history.



Sen. John Cavanaugh

The fee for the alphanumeric plate is \$5, credited to the Support Nebraska History Cash Fund. Personalized plates will cost \$40, with \$10 credited to the state Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and \$30 credited to the Support Nebraska History Cash Fund.

The bill passed on a 39-0 vote.

LB166, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Suzanne Geist and passed 41-0, authorizes Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water license plates, available as of Jan. 1, 2022.



Sen. Suzanne Geist

The fee for the alphanumeric plate is \$5, credited to the Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water Cash Fund. Personalized plates will cost \$40, with \$10 credited to the state Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund and \$30 credited to the Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water Cash Fund.

The bill requires the Game and Parks Commission to create a program to award grants from the cash fund to nonprofit organizations dedicated to educating children about water safety.

A bill to increase landline and wireless fees in certain counties failed to advance from general file this session.

Currently, 92 Nebraska counties can collect up to \$1 per month, per landline telephone number, to pay for 911 services. Wireless phone carriers can charge up to 70 cents per phone number also to fund 911.

Both fees are capped at 50 cents per phone line in counties with a city of the metropolitan class. Douglas County is the only county where this exemption applies.

Venango Sen. Dan Hughes sponsored LB215, which would remove that exemption and effectively allow an increase of both fees in Douglas County. Senators voted 20-10 on advancement of the bill to select file, five votes short of the number required.



Sen. Dan Hughes

Committee members considered a proposal this year to provide a motor vehicle tax exemption to disabled veterans.

Under LB508, sponsored by Bostelman, a veteran with a 100 percent service-connected disability who was honorably discharged and is drawing Social Security would be eligible for the motor vehicle tax exemption for one vehicle owned and used for their personal transportation.

A veteran's surviving spouse who receives dependency and indemnity compensation also would be eligible for the exemption. The bill remains in committee.

Other measures

Nebraska law enforcement will be required to make timely abandoned vehicle reports under a bill passed by lawmakers this session.

When an abandoned vehicle is towed, the towing company must notify any lienholder on the title, as well as the owner, within 15 business days. LB616, sponsored by Hughes, requires the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction to follow the notification requirements.

The bill, passed 45-0, also raises the immediate vesting level of an abandoned vehicle from \$250 to \$500.

Another measure considered remains in committee.

Current state law requires all motorcycle or moped riders to wear a protective helmet. LB581, introduced by Blair Sen. Ben Hansen, instead would give riders 21 and older the option not to wear a helmet, but would require eye protection while riding and completion of a certified motorcycle safety course. ■



Sen. Ben Hansen

URBAN AFFAIRS



Sen. Justin Wayne, chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee

Lawmakers established inland port authorities, implemented provisions of an economic development-related constitutional amendment, updated annexation law and created a registry for home inspectors.

LB156, introduced by Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne, allows up to five inland port authorities to be established in Nebraska. An inland port authority may be established in a metropolitan, primary or first class city or a county with a population of greater than 20,000.

A qualifying city and one or more counties that contain a qualifying city – or in which the extra-territorial zoning jurisdiction of such a city is located – also may form a joint inland port authority.

To be eligible, an inland port site must be at least 300 acres in area and meet two of the following criteria of being within:

- one mile of a navigable river or waterway;
- one mile of a major rail line;
- two miles of a major airport; or
- two miles of any federal interstate or any four-lane divided highway.

An inland port authority is authorized to engage in mar-

keting activities, issue and sell revenue bonds and acquire rights-of-way and property. All authorities established under the bill will be administered by an appointed governing board.

Lawmakers passed LB156 on a 47-0 vote.

Wayne also introduced LB25, which implemented the provisions of a constitutional amendment approved by voters in 2020. The bill, passed 48-0, extends the maximum repayment period for tax-increment financing from 15 years to 20 if more than one half of the land in a project is designated as extremely blighted.

Nebraska home inspectors will be required to register with the state beginning Jan. 1, 2023, under a bill introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop.

LB423 requires inspectors to register with the Nebraska secretary of state, pay a fee and provide a certificate of general liability insurance of not less than \$250,000. The bill establishes a maximum registration fee of \$300 and allows an inspector to list any national home inspection certification he or she holds.

Senators passed LB423 on a vote of 41-2.

LB9, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Carol Blood, deems land, lots, tracts, streets and highways as contiguous to a first class city for annexation purposes even if areas owned by the federal government are located between potentially annexed land and a city's corporate limits.

Any changes to electrical service require approval of the electric utility currently serving the potentially annexed area. LB9 also allows for a special valuation of agricultural or horticultural land within the boundaries of a city or village if the land is subject to air installation compatible-use zone regulations or is within a flood plain.

The bill, which passed 46-0 and took effect immediately, applies only to first class cities located in counties with at least three first class cities.

LB131, introduced by Sen. Megan Hunt of Omaha, adds "or as otherwise provided by law" to the list of reasons a municipality may waive reading an ordinance three times before its adoption.

The measure, passed 40-7, includes provisions of seven other bills:

- LB99, introduced by Fremont Sen. Lynne Walz, which exempts areas



Sen. Steve Lathrop



Sen. Carol Blood



Sen. Megan Hunt



Sen. Lynne Walz

designated as extremely blighted from the maximum percentage of a city or village that may be designated blighted under the Community Development Law;

- LB161, introduced by the Urban Affairs Committee, which makes several technical changes to the Building Construction Act;
- LB162, also introduced by the committee, which establishes uniform procedures to detach territory from a municipality's corporate limits;
- LB218, introduced by Wayne, which adopts the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code as the state's default plumbing code;
- LB549, also introduced by Wayne, which allows municipalities that operate a natural gas plant or natural gas system to apply to the state for emergency grant funding to cover up to 80 percent of extraordinary costs associated with an extreme weather event and provides a one-time, \$4 million general fund transfer to fund the grants;
- LB556, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Matt Hansen,

which clarifies that municipalities may add requirements to a redevelopment contract to comply with their comprehensive redevelopment plan, affordable housing action plan or other goals established by the municipality; and

- LB647, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Michael Flood, which allows first class cities to increase their bonding threshold from \$2 million to \$5 million when constructing or buying a public building without a vote of the people.

Sanitary and improvement districts can build off-street parking facilities under LB81, introduced by Sen. Robert Hilkemann of Omaha. The bill, passed 40-0, enables SIDs to acquire, purchase, own, erect, construct, equip, operate or maintain off-street parking facilities. ■



Sen. Matt Hansen



Sen. Michael Flood



Sen. Robert Hilkemann

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB1	Executive Board	S	Correlate provisions of Laws 2019, LB538, with Initiative Law 2020, No. 430, regarding mechanical amusement devices	
LB2	Briese	S	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land for certain school district taxes	16, 20
LB3	Briese	IPP (>528)	Change notice requirements for school district budget hearings and require access to school district data	16, 20
LB4	Briese	S	Change tuition credit provisions for the Active Selected Reserve of the armed forces of the United States	
LB5	Blood	S	Adopt the Purple Star Schools Act	8, 13, 15
LB6	Blood	IPP (>387)	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits	10, 20
LB7	Blood	C	Provide immunity from arrest and prosecution for witnesses and victims of violent crimes	5
LB8	Blood	C	Change independent expenditure reporting requirements and require electioneering reporting	9
LB9	Blood	S	Change annexation requirements and property tax special valuation provisions	13, 17
LB10	Blood	IPP	Change motor vehicle and property tax exemptions for disabled veterans	
LB11	Blood	C	Change provisions regarding voter registration and requests for ballots for early voting	
LB12	Blood	C	Require a commuter rail service study by the Department of Transportation	
LB13	Blood	GF	Prohibit possession of a deadly weapon by the subject of a foreign protection order	
LB14	Blood	S	Adopt the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact	10, 12
LB15	Blood	C	Adopt the Occupational Therapy Practice Interstate Compact	4
LB16	Kolterman	GF (>17)	Provide for state contributions to the Nebraska Retirement Fund for Judges	6, 14, 16
LB17	Kolterman	S (+16, 24)	Change fees for and provide for transfers to the Nebraska Retirement Fund for Judges and change actuarial valuation and amortization provisions for certain state retirement systems	14, 16, 17
LB18	Kolterman	S	Change provisions relating to equivalent employees and qualified locations under the ImagiNE Nebraska Act	17, 20
LB19	Kolterman	GF	Change provisions relating to nail technology and body art	
LB19A	Kolterman	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB20	Blood	GF	Provide for insurance coverage of and medicaid access to prescribed contraceptives	9
LB21	Williams	S	Change insurance provisions regarding administrative penalties, health maintenance organizations, and continuing education	
LB22	Williams	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Protection in Annuity Transactions Act	
LB23	Williams	S	Change provisions of the Real Property Appraiser Act	
LB24	Kolterman	C (>17)	Change fee, remittance, and distribution provisions relating to the Nebraska Retirement Fund for Judges	6, 14, 16
LB25	Wayne	S	Change provisions relating to the division of ad valorem taxes under the Community Development Law	4, 7, 10
LB26	Wayne	S	Provide a sales tax exemption for residential water service	8, 17, 20
LB27	Wayne	C (>380)	Provide for appropriations to the Nebraska State Historical Society	
LB28	Wayne	GF	Provide for motions for new trial based on newly discovered evidence	18
LB29	Wayne	C	Replace Arbor Day with Juneteenth as a state holiday	9
LB30	Wayne	C	Limit the amount an insured pays for prescription insulin drugs	
LB31	Wayne	C	Authorize punitive damages as prescribed and provide for distribution	
LB32	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide for Class ICA and IDA felony classifications and change penalties	
LB33	Pansing Brooks	C	Change provisions relating to minimum sentences	
LB34	Pansing Brooks	C	Change sentencing provisions for crimes committed by a person under twenty-one years of age	7
LB35	Pansing Brooks	S	Change membership provisions for the First Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Infantry at Fort Donelson Committee	
LB36	Erdman	C	Require display of the national motto in schools	
LB37	Lowe	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the state boiler inspector, fee schedules, and powers and duties of the State Fire Marshal	
LB38	Lindstrom	GF	Change provisions relating to tax credits and retaliatory taxes	
LB39	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions regarding the Convention Center Support Fund and the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act and provide for grants for cities of the first class with creative districts	7, 16, 20
LB39A	Lindstrom	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB40	Groene	S	Adopt the Nebraska Rural Projects Act	7, 12, 20
LB40A	Groene	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB41	Dorn	S	Change provisions relating to certain payments of funds to townships	
LB42	Dorn	C (>384)	Provide for transfers to the Hall of Fame Trust Fund	
LB43	M. Hansen	C	Provide for election of election commissioners and eliminate certain deputy positions	

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LB44	M. Hansen	S	Change requirements for adoption of an affordable housing action plan	
LB45	M. Hansen	C (>320)	Eliminate provisions relating to continuance of proceedings under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	4, 12, 17
LB46	M. Hansen	C (>320)	Eliminate an alternative service provision under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	12, 17
LB47	M. Hansen	GF	Change procedures relating to obligees in child support proceedings	
LB48	M. Hansen	GF	Change provisions relating to marriage and annulments	
LB49	M. Hansen	GF	Change penalty for use of tobacco or nicotine products by a person under twenty-one years of age	
LB50	Groene	GF	Change voice analysis examiner and voice stress analyzer provisions under the Licensing of Truth and Deception Examiners Act	
LB51	Lathrop	S (+601)	Change provisions relating to qualifications, training, certification, accreditation, powers, and duties of certain law enforcement personnel	16, 19, 20
LB51A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB52	Lathrop	C	Provide for immunity for injury or death resulting from COVID-19 exposure	
LB53	Lathrop	C (>139)	Provide immunity for health care providers acting in conformance with the crisis standard of care during a COVID-19 state of emergency	19, 20
LB54	Lathrop	SF	Change immunity for intentional torts under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act	
LB55	Lathrop	W	Change judges' salaries	
LB56	Lathrop	C	Change provisions relating to administration of and eligibility for parole	
LB57	Lathrop	S	Provide a hearsay exception for present sense impressions	
LB58	Pahls	S	Change requirements for service by publication for delinquent liens arising from city or village special assessments	
LB59	Stinner	GF	Change provisions regarding sales of tourism promotional products by the Nebraska Tourism Commission and distribution of revenue	
LB60	Kolterman	C	Change provisions related to community college levies	
LB61	Kolterman	C	Provide formal protest procedures for certain state contracts for services	
LB62	Kolterman	IPP	Create the Access College Early Scholarship Cash Fund and change provisions relating to the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund, Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund, and Community College Gap Assistance Program Fund	
LB63	Lindstrom	S	Change certain deadlines relating to property tax exemptions	
LB64	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions relating to the taxation of social security benefits	17, 19, 20
LB65	Williams	S	Change contractual conflict of interest provisions under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	
LB66	Williams	S	Change deposit, bond, custodial official, and pooled collateral provisions under the Public Funds Deposit Security Act	
LB67	Day	C	Change provisions relating to school-based health centers under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB68	Day	C	Change provisions relating to reimbursement for services provided by the federal Child Care Subsidy program	6
LB69	Day	IPP	Adopt the Student Loan Repayment Tax Credit Act	4
LB70	Wayne	S	Authorize the State Athletic Commissioner to regulate professional kickboxing and professional bare-knuckle boxing	4, 13, 15
LB70A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB71	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to intentional tort claims under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and State Tort Claims Act	
LB72	Geist	C (>274)	Provide for sale of alcoholic liquor not in its original package	6, 10, 14, 20
LB73	Geist	GF	Direct a portion of the proceeds from the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act to county agricultural societies	
LB74	Geist	IPP	Eliminate funding for the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act and state intent regarding use of funds	5
LB75	Gragert	GF	Change provisions relating to township libraries	
LB76	Slama	C	Change apportionment of Nebraska's electoral college votes	7
LB77	Gragert	S	Prohibit insurance risk classifications and rate adjustments based on the fact that the insured is deployed in the military	
LB78	Gragert	S	Require applicants for certain license plates to register with the Department of Veterans' Affairs	13, 15
LB79	Briese	C	Change the minimum amount of relief provided under the Property Tax Credit Act	16
LB80	Briese	C	Change shipping license fees under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	

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LB81	Hilkemann	S	Provide authority for sanitary and improvement districts to own, construct, and maintain public parking facilities	7, 14, 17
LB82	Hilkemann	C	Change motor vehicle tax schedules	
LB83	Flood	S	Change public meeting provisions and provide for virtual conferencing under the Open Meetings Act	4, 11, 15
LB84	Bostelman	S	Redefine terms relating to tax incentive performance audits and the ImagiNE Nebraska Act	17 20
LB85	Bostelman	C (>236)	Require Nebraska State Patrol to provide notice of expiration of concealed handgun permits	9, 19, 20
LB86	Bostelman	GF	Require registration for the prescription drug monitoring system	6
LB87	Morfeld	IPP	Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds	
LB88	Morfeld	SF	Protect free speech rights of student journalists and student media advisers	11, 15
LB89	Morfeld	C	Allow persons eighteen years of age to make health care decisions and persons under nineteen years of age in correctional facilities to consent to medical and mental health care	
LB90	Halloran	S	Change fee provisions under the Pesticide Act and the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act	
LB91	Brandt	GF	Change germination seed testing provisions under the Nebraska Seed Law	
LB92	Clements	S	Change residency requirements for college tuition purposes for students from exempt schools and prohibit discrimination against such students	12, 14, 15
LB93	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	S	Eliminate a reporting requirement regarding marriages	
LB94	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	S	Prohibit invalidation of certain online notarial acts performed under the Governor's Executive Order	
LB95	DeBoer	C	Change provisions relating to garnishment	
LB96	DeBoer	C	Change provisions related to sanitary and improvement district hearings	
LB97	DeBoer	GF	Change provisions relating to adoptions	
LB98	Walz	C	Change provisions relating to agricultural or horticultural land receiving special valuation	4, 18, 20
LB99	Walz	IPP (>131)	Change provisions of the Community Development Law relating to limitations on blighted areas	
LB100	Walz	S	Prohibit certain billing practices under the Medical Assistance Act, state intent regarding foster care reimbursement rates increases, and appropriate funds	
LB101	Walz	S	Change the date for addition of long-term care services and supports under the medicaid managed care program	
LB102	Dorn	C	Provide for transfer of duties of clerks of the district court to clerk magistrates	
LB103	Dorn	S	Appropriate funds to aid counties to pay certain federal judgments	17, 20
LB104	Friesen	C	Allow aggregation of pecuniary losses for criminal mischief offenses	8
LB105	Friesen	S	Change certification dates for unpaid county claims	
LB106	Friesen	S	Change fees relating to access to drivers' records and provide for a new motor vehicle operator's license services system	
LB106A	Friesen	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB107	McCollister	C	Adopt the Redistricting Act	7
LB108	McCollister	VO	Change provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	15, 17, 20
LB108A	McCollister	VO	Appropriation Bill	
LB109	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide that photographing or recording a peace officer is not obstruction of justice	
LB110	Pansing Brooks	C	Change and provide duties relating to use of force in law enforcement	
LB111	Albrecht	C	Change provisions relating to various offenses involving public safety	8
LB112	Albrecht	C	Require members of the public to be allowed to speak at each meeting subject to the Open Meetings Act	
LB113	Albrecht	S	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle titling, licensing, registration, and fees and operators' licenses and permits and authorize a new motor carrier services system	
LB113A	Albrecht	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB114	McCollister	C	Adopt the Clean Slate Act	7
LB115	McCollister	C	Impose sales tax on candy and soft drinks and provide for distribution of proceeds	
LB116	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to handgun transfer certificates and require suicide prevention training and informational materials	
LB117	M. Cavanaugh	GF	Adopt the Hunger-Free Schools Act	
LB118	Morfeld	C	Change duration of harassment, sexual assault, and domestic abuse protection orders and change requirements for affidavits	
LB119	M. Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions of the Healthy Pregnancies for Incarcerated Women Act	6
LB120	Hunt	C	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation and gender identity	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB121	Hunt	GF	Change provisions relating to eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits	
LB122	Hunt	C	Change provisions relating to the minimum wage	
LB123	M. Cavanaugh	C	Change meeting requirements for the Legislative Council	
LB124	McCollister	GF	Change provisions relating to reports of the Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System	
LB125	McCollister	C	Provide for ranked-choice voting for certain elections	7
LB126	Halloran	IPP	Require use of headlights and taillights when windshield wipers are in operation	
LB127	M. Cavanaugh	C	Provide for adjustments to payments to guardians of former state wards	
LB128	McCollister	C	Adopt the Residential Tenant Clean Slate Act	
LB129	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to eligibility for services under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB130	McCollister	C	Change membership provisions for the Board of Parole	6
LB131	Hunt	S (+99, 161, 162, 218, 549, 556, 647)	Adopt the Municipal Natural Gas System Emergency Assistance Act and change provisions relating to ordinances, bond elections, municipal boundaries, the Community Development Law, and building and plumbing codes	18, 20
LB131A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB132	DeBoer	SF	Create the School Financing Review Commission	18
LB132A	DeBoer	SF	Appropriation Bill	
LB133	Erdman	C	Adopt the Nebraska EPIC Consumption Tax Act and eliminate certain other taxes	
LB134	Brandt	C	Require the posting and reporting of tax incentive information under the Taxpayer Transparency Act	8
LB135	Wishart	GF	Change special education reimbursements	
LB136	Vargas	GF	Change procedures regarding short-term suspension of students	
LB137	Vargas	GF	Require reporting to the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Record System	
LB138	Vargas	C	Require jails and law enforcement agencies to provide public notice before entering into agreements to enforce federal immigration law	
LB139	Briese	S (+53)	Adopt the COVID-19 Liability Act and the Health Care Crisis Protocol Act	7, 19, 20
LB140	Stinner	C	Provide funding for enforcement of railroad safety standards	
LB141	Stinner	C (>380)	Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska at Kearney	7, 14, 16
LB142	Stinner	C (>384)	Change provisions relating to General Fund transfers to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	
LB143	Kolterman	S	Change notice requirements regarding changes in a juvenile's placement	
LB144	Kolterman	C	Define terms under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act	
LB145	Kolterman	C (>147)	Provide for and change audit, reporting, and billing practices under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act	18, 20
LB146	Kolterman	C (>147)	Define and redefine terms relating to school retirement provisions	18, 20
LB147	Kolterman	VO (+145, 146, 582)	Change provisions relating to retirement systems for Class V school districts	18, 20
LB147A	Kolterman	VO	Appropriation Bill	
LB148	Bostelman	S	Transfer certain environmental safety programs to the Department of Environment and Energy	
LB149	Albrecht	S	Adopt changes to federal law regarding motor vehicles and motor carriers	
LB150	Morfeld	C	Increase the indigent defense court filing fee	
LB151	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Prosecutorial Transparency Act	
LB152	Slama	S	Change provisions regarding fireworks	13, 17
LB153	Wayne	C	Include virtual school students in the state aid to schools formula	
LB154	Wayne	S	Require tracking of student discipline as prescribed	13, 17
LB155	Wayne	GF	Change provisions relating to certain paternity proceedings	
LB156	Wayne	S	Adopt the Municipal Inland Port Authority Act and change provisions of the Site and Building Development Act	12, 20
LB156A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB157	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to grand juries in cases of death during apprehension or custody	
LB158	Wayne	C	Provide for restoration of voting rights upon completion of a felony sentence or probation for a felony	8
LB159	Urban Affairs	S	Provide for printing or publishing city and village ordinances in electronic form	
LB160	Wayne	C	Change provisions of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	
LB161	Urban Affairs	IPP (>131)	Provide for the applicability of state and local construction codes	18, 20
LB162	Urban Affairs	IPP (>131)	Provide a procedure for detachment of real property from the corporate limits of a city or village and eliminate existing detachment provisions	18, 20
LB163	Urban Affairs	S	Change and eliminate provisions relating to cities, villages, and metropolitan utilities districts	

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LB164	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to the establishment of speed limits by local authorities	5
LB165	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to the assessment of real property that suffers significant property damage	17
LB166	Geist	S	Provide for Josh the Otter-Be Safe Around Water Plates and provide powers and duties for the Game and Parks Commission	8, 18, 20
LB166A	Geist	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB167	Geist	C	Protect religious freedoms as prescribed and provide for certain tort claims	8
LB168	M. Hansen	C	Terminate authorization for creation of sanitary and improvement districts	7
LB169	M. Hansen	S	Repeal locksmith registration requirements	
LB170	M. Hansen	W	Change provisions relating to the date when compensation begins under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB171	M. Hansen	C	Change provisions of the Employment Security Law relating to weekly benefit amounts and maximum annual amounts	6
LB172	M. Hansen	C	Change provisions relating to benefit payments under the Employment Security Law	
LB173	B. Hansen	C (>236)	Change provisions relating to carrying a concealed weapon	19, 20
LB174	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to highways and highway funding, road classifications, licensure of local highway and street superintendents, motor vehicle safety responsibility, accident reports, and the Nebraska Rules of the Road	
LB175	Friesen	C	Change the distribution of sales tax revenue and authorize the use of funds for certain infrastructure projects	
LB176	Lindstrom	C	Provide an income tax credit for certain agricultural producers	
LB177	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions relating to liens on crops and livestock	
LB178	Lindstrom	GF	Adopt the Infrastructure Improvement and Replacement Assistance Act and provide for a turnback of state sales tax revenue	
LB179	Linehan	C	Transition from elected to appointed county assessors	
LB180	Linehan	S	Change provisions relating to certain public statements of the Tax Commissioner and certain estimates of General Fund net receipts	
LB181	Linehan	S	Change provisions regarding tax credits for school district taxes paid	15, 17
LB182	Linehan	C (>595)	Exclude certain income from the definition of gross receipts	17, 20
LB183	Hunt	C	Adopt the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act and provide for discipline against a hospital's license	
LB184	Brewer	C	Provide for an insurance premium deduction from the retirement annuity of certain Nebraska State Patrol employees	
LB185	Brewer	S	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for public health aid	8, 17, 20
LB186	Hilkemann	C	Change provisions relating to the offense of criminal child enticement	
LB187	M. Cavanaugh	C	Change definition of sexual penetration for purposes of sexual offenses	
LB188	Halloran	C	Adopt the Second Amendment Preservation Act	8
LB189	Halloran	IPP (>644)	Change provisions relating to property tax refunds	14, 20
LB190	Hughes	C (>507)	Change provisions relating to use of the Water Sustainability Fund	12, 17
LB191	Hughes	C (>507)	Redefine elector for the Irrigation District Act	12, 17
LB192	Wishart	C (>380)	State intent regarding appropriations for law enforcement training and certification	
LB193	Wishart	C	State intent regarding appropriations for law enforcement training	
LB194	Vargas	GF	Change the Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act	
LB195	Halloran	C	Adopt the Faithful Delegate to Federal Article V Convention Act	
LB196	Vargas	C	Prohibit discrimination based on lawful source of income under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act	
LB197	Vargas	S	Change residency requirements for college tuition purposes for award recipients from the National Service Trust	12, 15
LB198	Vargas	GF	Change provisions relating to the Student Discipline Act	6
LB199	Vargas	C	Adopt the Face Surveillance Privacy Act	
LB200	Vargas	GF	Provide a high school graduation requirement relating to federal student aid	
LB201	Pansing Brooks	C	Change provisions relating to jurisdiction over juveniles	
LB202	Pansing Brooks	C	Change provisions relating to transition of young adults to independence	6
LB203	Pansing Brooks	GF	Prescribe requirements for public colleges and universities regarding criminal history and juvenile court record information	
LB204	Slama	GF	Change provisions of the Sex Offender Registration Act	9
LB205	Hunt	C	Change provisions relating to unpaid periodic rent under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB206	McDonnell	C	Change provisions and penalties relating to arson, trespass, and graffiti	

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LB207	McDonnell	C	Change provisions relating to the date when compensation begins under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB208	McDonnell	C (>380)	State intent related to funding for development districts	
LB209	McDonnell	S	Change provisions relating to treatment of deferred compensation by certain political subdivisions, state agencies, and the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LB210	Murman	GF	Change provisions relating to part-time enrollment in public schools and extracurricular activities	4
LB211	Murman	GF	Adopt the Reflexologist Registration Act	4
LB212	M. Cavanaugh	C	Prohibit charging members of the Legislature fees for public record requests	
LB213	Briese	C	Provide for an efficiency review of state agencies	4
LB214	Linehan	GF	Define certain terms for purposes of property taxes	
LB215	Hughes	GF	Change 911 service surcharge provisions	12
LB216	Wayne	C	Prohibit certain public communications by a peace officer	
LB217	Wayne	C	Provide a penalty for filing a false report by a peace officer	
LB218	Wayne	IPP (>131)	Adopt 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code standards	18, 20
LB219	Wayne	C	Change legislative declarations and findings relating to traffic congestion in municipal areas	
LB220	Wayne	C	Change applicability provisions for building codes	
LB221	Wayne	C	Adopt 2021 Uniform Plumbing Code standards	
LB222	Erdman	IPP	Change provisions relating to certain in lieu of tax payments made by the Game and Parks Commission	
LB223	Erdman	C	Authorize carrying a firearm while archery hunting	
LB224	Aguilar	S	Change provisions for appointment of a county surveyor in certain counties	
LB225	Hilkemann	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB226	Hilkemann	C	Change motor vehicle tax exemptions as prescribed under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act	
LB227	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Doxing Prevention Act and change and provide penalties and a civil action for false reporting	
LB228	Morfeld	C	Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act	
LB229	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	
LB230	Hunt	C	Prohibit discrimination in public accommodations and under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity	8
LB231	Hunt	C	Prohibit conversion therapy	
LB232	Hunt	W	Change provisions relating to gender designation on drivers' licenses and state identification cards	
LB233	Friesen	GF	Provide sales and use tax collection duties for certain peer-to-peer rentals of vehicles	
LB234	Flood	IPP	Change corporate reporting and occupation tax provisions	
LB235	Brewer	C	State intent regarding implementation of a meat processing establishment inspection program	
LB236	Brewer	S (+85, 173, 244, 301)	Change provisions relating to controlled substances and firearms	19, 20
LB237	Brewer	C	Change provisions relating to the taxation of benefits received under the federal Social Security Act	17
LB238	McDonnell	C	Change provisions of the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act	
LB239	Hilkemann	IPP	Change provisions relating to the use of handheld wireless communication devices under the Nebraska Rules of the Road	
LB240	Hilkemann	IPP	Require use of occupant protection systems for each vehicle occupant	
LB241	Vargas	SF	Adopt the Meatpacking Employees COVID-19 Protection Act	9, 18, 20
LB242	Brandt	GF	Provide for county bridges under the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act	
LB243	Bostar	GF	Adopt the Access College Early Tech Promise Program Act	4
LB243A	Bostar	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB244	Clements	C (>236)	Change permit renewal provisions of the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	9, 19, 20
LB245	DeBoer	GF	Change provisions relating to adoptions	
LB246	DeBoer	C (>320)	Change provisions relating to applicability of forcible entry and detainer and actions for possession under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act and the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant Act	12, 17
LB247	Pansing Brooks	S	Create the Mental Health Crisis Hotline Task Force	13, 20
LB247A	Pansing Brooks	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB248	Pansing Brooks	S	Change provisions regarding exclusions from the Nebraska Uniform Directed Trust Act	
LB249	Pansing Brooks	C	Prohibit employers from inquiring about wage rate history under the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act	

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LB250	Hunt	GF	Adopt the Interior Design Voluntary Registration Act	
LB251	M. Cavanaugh	GF	Change the age for organ and tissue donation	5
LB252	Williams	S	Provide for refills of veterinary drug orders by veterinary drug distributors	
LB253	Williams	S	Change provisions relating to series limited liability companies	
LB254	Williams	IPP (>432)	Extend the date for applications under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	19, 20
LB255	M. Hansen	S	Adopt the In the Line of Duty Compensation Act	4, 10, 12 20
LB256	M. Hansen	S	Change provisions relating to lump-sum settlement approval and the filing of releases under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB257	M. Hansen	C	Change provisions relating to vacancies on public power and irrigation district boards	
LB258	Vargas	GF	Adopt the Healthy and Safe Families and Workplaces Act	19
LB258A	Vargas	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB259	Halloran	C	Authorize a civil action for damages sustained by public safety officers	
LB260	Hunt	S	Change provisions relating to good cause for voluntarily leaving employment under the Employment Security Law	4, 14, 20
LB261	Linehan	S	Change provisions regarding grave markers for certain veterans	6, 16, 20
LB262	Vargas	C	Provide for participation in the bridge to independence program by young adults not lawfully present in the United States	6
LB263	Briese	C	Require occupational boards to issue certain credentials based on credentials or work experience in another jurisdiction	
LB264	Stinner	C (>380)	State intent to appropriate funds for cultural districts created by the Nebraska Arts Council	
LB265	Blood	S	Change provisions of the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act	
LB266	McCollister	C	Adopt the Renewable Energy Standards Act	
LB267	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to municipal counties	
LB268	McCollister	C (>320)	Change landlord's right of access under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	12, 17
LB269	McCollister	C	Change provisions regarding review of a committed offender's record by the Board of Parole	6
LB270	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Regulation Act and require an audit under the Medical Assistance Act	9
LB271	Morfeld	S	Adopt the 24/7 Sobriety Program Act	7, 15, 17, 20
LB271A	Morfeld	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB272	Morfeld	IPP	Adopt the Apprenticeship Training Program Tax Credit Act	
LB273	Lowe	S	Change provisions relating to youth rehabilitation and treatment centers and provide for immediate changes of placement	13, 17, 20
LB274	Lowe	S (+72, 295, 415, 578)	Provide for taxation of ready-to-drink cocktails, the sale of mixed alcoholic beverages by certain retailers and farm wineries, and promotional farmers market special designated licenses under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	10, 14, 20
LB274A	Lowe	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB275	Brewer	S	Create the Semiquincentennial Commission	
LB275A	Brewer	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB276	Hunt	C	Eliminate a requirement that the physician be physically present in the same room when an abortion is performed	10
LB277	Hunt	C (>320)	Change provisions relating to rental deposits, damages, and overdue rent under the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant Act	4, 12, 17
LB278	Wayne	C	Change a penalty for possession under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act	
LB279	Bostar	C (>384)	Authorize certain activities that are eligible for assistance from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund	
LB280	Albrecht	C	Eliminate a residency requirement for the board of directors of an insurance corporation	
LB281	Albrecht	SF	Require child sexual abuse prevention programs for school students and staff	8, 12
LB282	Albrecht	C	Change provisions relating to obscenity	8
LB283	Briese	GF	Provide for year-round daylight saving time	
LB284	M. Cavanaugh	C	Provide requirements regarding federal funds under the Governor's Emergency Program	
LB285	Brewer	S (+514)	Change provisions relating to adjusting boundaries for elections and change and eliminate provisions regarding elections for various purposes	
LB286	Walz	C	Redefine a term relating to schools	
LB287	Walz	C	Change school finance base limitation and local effort rate provisions	
LB288	Walz	IPP	Change dates related to certification and distribution of state aid to schools	
LB289	Walz	C	Redefine a term in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB290	M. Cavanaugh	GF	Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act	
LB290A	M. Cavanaugh	GF	Appropriation Bill	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB291	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to property tax protests	
LB292	Friesen	GF	Change provisions relating to partial payments of property taxes	
LB293	Flood	C	Change the number of and qualifications for members of the Public Service Commission	
LB294	Flood	GF	Exempt certain agency deputy directors and legal counsel from the State Personnel System	
LB295	Wishart	IPP (>274)	Repeal prohibition on sale of alcoholic liquor to a person within a motor vehicle	
LB296	B. Hansen	S	Change provisions regarding access to patient records for Department of Health and Human Services institutions	
LB297	Lindstrom	S	Adopt the Nebraska Protection of Vulnerable Adults from Financial Exploitation Act	4, 9, 12
LB298	McDonnell	SF	Redefine public benefits and change provisions of the Employment Security Law relating to the disqualification of certain aliens	20
LB299	McDonnell	C (>432)	Adopt the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act and provide an income tax exemption for such benefits	17, 20
LB300	Slama	C	Change provisions relating to justification for the use of force	9
LB301	B. Hansen	GF (>236)	Change drug schedules and penalties and adopt federal drug provisions under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act	20
LB302	M. Hansen	S	Change provisions relating to administrative license revocation and reinstatement under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act	
LB303	M. Hansen	C	Provide a budget limitation exception as prescribed	
LB304	M. Hansen	C (>380)	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice	
LB305	Erdman	C	Change appointment and removal provisions for the secretary of the Game and Parks Commission	
LB306	Brandt	VO	Provide eligibility requirements for the low-income home energy assistance program	17, 20
LB306A	Brandt	VO	Appropriation Bill	
LB307	Pansing Brooks	S (+354)	Change provisions relating to transfer of a case to juvenile court and appointment of counsel for juveniles	14, 17, 20
LB308	Pansing Brooks	C	Provide grants for juvenile indigent legal defense	
LB309	Clements	C	Adopt the Assistance Animal Integrity in Housing Act	5
LB310	Clements	GF	Change inheritance tax rates and exemption amounts	7
LB311	Vargas	C	Change provisions relating to microdistilleries under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB312	Sanders	S	Change cemetery association membership eligibility and record-keeping requirements	
LB313	Sanders	S	Change provisions relating to late applications for homestead exemptions	
LB314	Pahls	C	Change provisions related to insurance coverage of telehealth	
LB315	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change penalties for assault by strangulation or suffocation and domestic assault	
LB316	J. Cavanaugh	IPP (>496)	Change provisions relating to limitations for a postconviction relief action	18
LB317	J. Cavanaugh	S	Provide for Nebraska History license plates and powers and duties for the Nebraska State Historical Society	8, 18, 20
LB317A	J. Cavanaugh	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB318	J. Cavanaugh	IPP	Increase the earned income tax credit	
LB319	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change penalties for theft offenses	8
LB320	J. Cavanaugh	S (+45, 46, 246, 268, 277, 402)	Change provisions relating to landlords and tenants	12, 17
LB320A	J. Cavanaugh	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB321	J. Cavanaugh	C	Prohibit defendant's discovery of victim's actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation as a defense to a crime	
LB322	Williams	S	Adopt the School Safety and Security Reporting System Act	6, 10, 14, 20
LB322A	Williams	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB323	Walz	SF	Change provisions of the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act relating to pandemics	
LB323A	Walz	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB324	Brandt	S	Change provisions of the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law	5, 11, 20
LB324A	Brandt	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB325	Albrecht	GF	Adopt the Art Therapy Practice Act	
LB326	Slama	C	Provide immunity for claims against first responders operating motor vehicles and arising from vehicular pursuits and provide for policies, training, and duties relating to vehicular pursuits	
LB327	Slama	IPP (>452)	Require a personal finance or financial literacy credit for high school graduation	5, 17
LB328	Arch	C	Change licensure application provisions under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	
LB329	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to taxes imposed on the average wholesale price of gasoline	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB330	Wayne	C	Raise the jurisdictional age limit for juvenile court to age twenty-one years for certain purposes	
LB331	Wayne	C	Prohibit contractual criminal enforcement of certain offenses related to animals	
LB332	Wayne	GF	Change provisions relating to the city council of a city of the metropolitan class	
LB333	Wayne	GF	Change provisions relating to possession of an electronic communications device in Department of Correctional Services facilities	6
LB334	Wayne	C	Adopt the Community Work Release and Treatment Centers Act and change provisions relating to the Board of Parole, the Department of Correctional Services, and the Office of Probation Administration	
LB335	Flood	C	Require announcement of the average cost of incarceration at sentencing for sentences served at the Department of Correctional Services	6
LB336	Hughes	S	Change fees for state park entry permits	4, 17, 20
LB337	Kolterman	S	Adopt the Step-Therapy Reform Act	9, 12
LB338	Bostelman	S (+398)	Change provisions regarding broadband service and provide requirements for and change provisions relating to funding for broadband infrastructure	13, 15, 17
LB339	Bostelman	C	Require a utility coordination plan for certain highway and bridge contracts	
LB340	Stinner	C	Create the medicaid nursing facilities program	
LB341	Stinner	C	Provide for transfers from the State Settlement Cash Fund	
LB342	Stinner	C (>380)	Appropriate funds to the State Department of Education	
LB343	Friesen	S	Change identification inspection provisions under the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act	
LB344	Friesen	GF	Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act and create the Underground Excavation Safety Committee	
LB344A	Friesen	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB345	Friesen	C	Provide a budget limitation exception as prescribed	
LB346	Wishart	C	Adopt the Fueling Station Tax Credit Act	
LB347	Lindstrom	C	Change provisions relating to an income tax deduction for dividends received from certain corporations	17
LB348	Morfeld	C (>501)	Change provisions relating to succession to real property by affidavit	
LB349	McKinney	C	Create El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, Malcolm X Day and establish a holiday	9
LB350	Linehan	C (>595)	Change provisions relating to distribution of sales tax revenue to the Game and Parks Commission Capital Maintenance Fund	17, 20
LB351	Linehan	S	Change provisions relating to quality scale ratings under the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act	
LB352	Lathrop	GF	Change the amounts of certain court fees	
LB353	Lathrop	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Correctional Services for a community corrections facility	
LB354	Lathrop	IPP (>307)	Require courts to issue decisions on motions to transfer jurisdiction in cases involving juveniles within thirty days after hearing	4, 17, 20
LB355	Lathrop	S	Change provisions relating to county judges, clerk magistrates, and civil procedure	
LB356	Hunt	C	Change provisions relating to disqualification for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	
LB357	Hunt	GF	Create the Nebraska Youth in Care Bill of Rights	4
LB358	Hunt	C	Change provisions relating to retaliatory conduct by a landlord under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB359	Pansing Brooks	GF	Change provisions regarding multicultural education as prescribed and provide powers for the State Board of Education	7
LB359A	Pansing Brooks	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB360	Pansing Brooks	C	Define and redefine terms relating to sexual assault offenses	
LB361	Dorn	C	State intent regarding appropriations to the State Department of Education	
LB362	Halloran	C	Change provisions relating to ballots for early voting under the Election Act	
LB363	Williams	S	Change provisions relating to banking, finance, securities, consumer protection, dividends, and installment sales and loans	
LB364	Linehan	GF	Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide tax credits	4, 17
LB365	Briese	IPP (>379)	Appropriate funds to the State Racing Commission	
LB366	Briese	S	Change the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act	17, 20
LB366A	Briese	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB367	Briese	C	Impose a tax on cash devices under the Mechanical Amusement Device Tax Act	
LB368	Sanders	S	Provide the Auditor of Public Accounts enforcement powers for failure of political subdivisions to file reports	4, 10, 12
LB369	Sanders	S	Provide the Auditor of Public Accounts access to working papers and audit files	
LB370	Sanders	C	Adopt the Personal Privacy Protection Act	10

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB371	Aguilar	S	Provide for games of chance under the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act at state, district, and county fair locations	5, 11, 15
LB372	Day	S	Change provisions relating to applications under the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act	
LB373	Pahls	S	Change the interest rate for minimum nonforfeiture amounts as prescribed	
LB374	DeBoer	C	Adopt the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Support Act	
LB375	Kolterman	C	Adopt the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Regulation and Transparency Act	9
LB376	M. Cavanaugh	SF	Authorize services and supports for children with developmental disabilities and their families and provide duties for the Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities	19, 20
LB376A	M. Cavanaugh	SF	Appropriation Bill	
LB377	DeBoer	GF	Change inheritance tax provisions	
LB378	DeBoer	GF	Require the Commissioner of Education to report data as prescribed	
LB379	Speaker Hilgers	S (+365)	Provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to appropriations	14, 15, 16
LB380	Speaker Hilgers	S (+27, 141, 192, 208, 264, 304, 342, 391, 421, 426, 449, 469, 493, 526, 585, 646, 662, 671)	Appropriate funds for the expenses of Nebraska State Government for the biennium ending June 30, 2023	14, 15, 16
LB381	Speaker Hilgers	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of members of the Legislature	14, 15, 16
LB382	Speaker Hilgers	S	Appropriate funds for salaries of constitutional officers	14, 15, 16
LB383	Speaker Hilgers	S	Appropriate funds for capital construction	14, 15, 16
LB384	Speaker Hilgers	S (+42, 142, 279, 465, 588)	Provide for and change provisions related to transfers of funds and funding for university and state college facilities, create and change permitted uses of funds, and create a grant program	14, 15, 16
LB385	Speaker Hilgers	S	Change provisions relating to the Cash Reserve Fund	14, 15, 16
LB386	Lathrop	S	Change judges' salaries	14, 16
LB386A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB387	Brewer	S (+6)	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits	4, 10, 20
LB388	Friesen	S (+456, 604)	Adopt the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act	6, 17, 20
LB388A	Friesen	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB389	Sanders	S	Require the issuance of teaching certificates and permits to military spouses	6, 10, 12
LB390	Murman	S	Provide for credentials based on reciprocity and change requirements for credentials under the Uniform Credentialing Act	12, 15
LB391	Bostar	C (>380)	Transfer funds to the Customized Job Training Cash Fund	14, 16
LB392	Stinner	C	Adopt the Prescribing Psychologist Practice Act	
LB393	Hughes	C	Eliminate the Next Generation Business Growth Act	
LB394	Morfeld	C	Adopt the Public Health Emergency Housing Protection Act and change deadlines for trials in actions for possession and forcible entry and detainer	5
LB395	Gragert	C (>507)	Change hunting provisions under the Game Law	12, 17
LB396	Brandt	S	Adopt the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act	8, 17, 20
LB396A	Brandt	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB397	Bostelman	C	Prohibit certain causes of action by motorists without liability insurance or convicted of DUI offenses, require the Department of Motor Vehicles to establish and maintain an online verification system for accessing certain private passenger motor vehicle insurance information, and authorize a disclosure of certain motor vehicle records	
LB398	Bostelman	C (>338)	Change provisions relating to broadband speeds and services	
LB399	Bostelman	C	Change provisions relating to rural water districts	
LB400	Arch	S	Change requirements related to coverage of telehealth by insurers and medicaid	10, 15
LB401	Arch	S	Change references to state hospitals	
LB402	DeBoer	C (>320)	Require a report by the Supreme Court regarding eviction proceedings	5, 12, 17
LB403	Slama	C (>501)	Change provisions relating to recovery of medical assistance debt from an estate	
LB404	Lowe	C	Change permit and renewal time periods under the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	
LB405	Lowe	S	Change provisions relating to village boards of trustees	
LB406	McDonnell	S	Create the Statewide Tourism And Recreational Water Access and Resource Sustainability Special Committee of the Legislature	17, 20

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB406A	McDonnell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB407	McDonnell	S	Include certain county correctional officers in provisions governing mental injuries and mental illnesses under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB408	Briese	GF	Adopt the Property Tax Request Act	16
LB409	Brewer	C	Provide a moratorium on construction of electric transmission lines and create the Electric Transmission Line Study Committee of the Legislature	5
LB410	Linehan	C	Change provisions relating to itemized deductions	
LB411	Lathrop	S	Require sharing of information with the designated health information exchange and change provisions related to the Health Information Technology Board	
LB411A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB412	M. Cavanaugh	IPP	Change a tax and assessment provision under the Nebraska Housing Agency Act	
LB413	Wishart	C	Require coverage of medications for substance use disorder treatment and addiction medicine services under the Medical Assistance Act	
LB414	Wishart	S	Change provisions of the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act	
LB415	Groene	IPP (>274)	Change provisions relating to microdistilleries under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	
LB416	M. Cavanaugh	C	Require implicit bias training under the Uniform Credentialing Act and provide for duties and funding relating to postpartum care and maternal health	
LB417	Halloran	C	Authorize possession of a firearm on school grounds by a full-time, off-duty law enforcement officer	9
LB418	Murman	C	Adopt the Solemn Covenant of the States to Award Prizes for Curing Diseases compact	
LB419	J. Cavanaugh	C	Require appointment of counsel in eviction proceedings and provide for a filing fee	
LB420	Pahls	C	Change provisions relating to presumptions regarding causes of death or disability of firefighters and firefighter-paramedics	
LB421	Stinner	C (>380)	State intent regarding appropriations for qualified educational debt under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act	
LB422	Briese	C	Change the sales tax rate and impose sales tax on additional services	5
LB423	Lathrop	S	Require registration of home inspectors	9, 14, 17
LB423A	Lathrop	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB424	Brewer	C	Provide and change zoning requirements for wind energy generation projects	8
LB425	Health & Human Services	C (>428)	Require the Department of Health and Human Services to complete a needs assessment and cost analysis for an inpatient adolescent psychiatric unit	5, 15, 20
LB426	Health & Human Services	C (>380)	Require the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a cost analysis for capital improvement and structural changes at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney and submit a report	
LB427	Health & Human Services	C (>428)	State intent that substance abuse and behavioral health treatment for juveniles by the Department of Health and Human Services not be delayed	15, 20
LB428	Health & Human Services	S (+425, 427, 429, 570)	Changes provisions relating to juvenile services under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Human Services	5, 15, 20
LB428A	Arch	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB429	Health & Human Services	C (>428)	Require notification by the Department of Health and Human Services to the Legislature prior to implementation of substantial changes to facilities and programs under the Office of Juvenile Services	5, 15, 20
LB430	Revenue	C	Change tax provisions relating to net book value	
LB431	Revenue	GF	Change taxation provisions relating to improvements on leased lands, the assessment of undervalued and overvalued property, methods for giving notice, and the collection of certain taxes and fees	
LB432	Revenue	S (+254, 299, 564, 597, 680)	Adopt the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act, change restricted funds provisions, provide a tax credit and an income tax exemption, change the corporate income tax rate, extend the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act application period, and redefine a term relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust	17, 19, 20
LB432A	Linehan	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB433	Revenue	C	Change the sales and use tax rate	
LB434	Revenue	C	Change provisions relating to tax expenditure reports and certain joint hearings of legislative committees	
LB435	B. Hansen	C	Require an official watermark on certain ballots under the Election Act	
LB436	B. Hansen	GF	Change provisions of the Athletic Training Practice Act	
LB437	B. Hansen	GF	Change provisions relating to public assistance and medicaid fraud	
LB438	M. Hansen	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Labor	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB439	M. Hansen	C	Change provisions relating to stacking of coverage under the Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Insurance Coverage Act	
LB440	M. Hansen	GF	Change provisions of the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act	
LB441	M. Hansen	C	Change provisions relating to compensation for individuals affected by COVID-19 under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	9
LB442	M. Hansen	GF	Create the Commission on Asian American Affairs	9
LB442A	M. Hansen	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB443	M. Hansen	GF	Exempt local foster care review boards from the Open Meetings Act	
LB444	M. Hansen	GF	Change provisions relating to credit against jail terms	6
LB445	M. Hansen	GF	Change requirements for peace officers taking juveniles into custody or interrogating juveniles and prohibit use of statements taken in violation of such requirements	
LB446	M. Hansen	GF	Adopt the Nebraska Housing Index and Financing Investment System Act	
LB447	M. Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to immunization under the Child Care Licensing Act	5
LB448	Morfeld	IPP	Impose a surcharge on operator's licenses and permits and state identification cards issued under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act for the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System	
LB449	Wishart	C (>380)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Environment and Energy	
LB450	McKinney	GF	Adopt the Nebraska Innovation Hub Act	
LB451	McKinney	S	Define terms and change provisions relating to unlawful employment practices under the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act	14, 17
LB452	McKinney	S (+327)	Adopt the Financial Literacy Act and provide graduation requirements and academic content standards	5, 17, 20
LB452A	McKinney	FR	Appropriation Bill	
LB453	McKinney	GF	Require landlords to comply with certain ordinances and change provisions relating to remedies under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB454	Friesen	GF	Adopt the School Property Tax Stabilization Act and change the valuation of agricultural land	18
LB454A	Friesen	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB455	Friesen	C	Adopt the Broadband Pole Attachment Act	
LB456	Friesen	C (>388)	Adopt the Nebraska Enhancing Broadband Act	
LB457	McCollister	C	Change provisions relating to deductions for certain sales and use tax refunds	
LB458	McCollister	C	Change provisions of the Sex Offender Registration Act	
LB459	M. Cavanaugh	IPP	Change provisions relating to the cigarette tax and the Tobacco Products Tax Act and distribute tax proceeds as prescribed	
LB460	Brandt	C	Authorize leasing of dark fiber and eliminate certain powers of the Public Service Commission	
LB461	Pansing Brooks	S	Require human trafficking informational posters in casinos	
LB462	Dorn	C	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	8
LB463	Arch	C	Change provisions relating to physical examinations of injured employees under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB464	Bostar	C	State intent regarding behavioral health aid funding	
LB465	Bostar	C (>384)	Change provisions relating to the Behavioral Health Services Fund	
LB466	Linehan	S	Require the proration of property taxes when residential real property is sold	
LB467	Bostar	GF	Adopt updated electrical standards	
LB468	Erdman	C	Provide compensation by the Game and Parks Commission for property damage caused by wildlife	
LB469	Erdman	C (>380)	State intent regarding appropriations for the Game and Parks Commission	
LB470	DeBoer	C (>501)	Adopt the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act	
LB471	DeBoer	GF	Change the termination date of the long-term restrictive housing work group within the Department of Correctional Services	
LB472	DeBoer	C	Require law enforcement officers to intervene when excessive force is used and require policies on excessive force	
LB473	DeBoer	GF	Adopt the Extraordinary Increase in Special Education Cost Act	
LB473A	DeBoer	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB474	Wishart	GF	Adopt the Medicinal Cannabis Act	10, 19
LB474A	Wishart	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB475	Wishart	C	Require an opinion from the Attorney General with respect to whether an initiative measure contains more than one subject	
LB476	Blood	S	Change provisions relating to the Stroke System of Care Act	
LB477	Bostar	C	Require the Secretary of State to provide an advisory opinion on the object statement and text of a proposed initiative or referendum measure	
LB478	Blood	C	Adopt the Cities of the First Class Firefighters Cash Balance Retirement Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB479	McKinney	S	Change the membership and duties of a committee and require a report under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	
LB480	McKinney	C	Change the minimum wage as prescribed	9
LB481	McKinney	C	Adopt the Marijuana Conviction Clean Slate Act, decriminalize possessory marijuana and synthetic cannabinoid offenses and drug paraphernalia offenses, and change related provisions	7
LB482	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees	
LB483	J. Cavanaugh	C	Provide for a climate change study and action plan	6
LB484	J. Cavanaugh	C	Provide for a new felony classification and change penalties for certain theft offenses	
LB485	DeBoer	S	Change provisions relating to child care assistance	6, 16, 20
LB485A	DeBoer	FR	Appropriation Bill	
LB486	Day	C	Require train crews of at least two individuals	
LB487	Arch	S	Change insurance coverage provisions for mental health conditions and serious mental illness	11, 15
LB488	Stinner	C	Change provisions relating to appropriations	
LB489	Wayne	GF	Require a financial stability and service capability analysis for certain state contracts	
LB490	M. Cavanaugh	C	Require youth rehabilitation and treatment centers to obtain a license from the Division of Public Health	
LB491	M. Cavanaugh	C	Change and eliminate provisions relating to lead agencies, pilot projects, and service areas for certain social services	
LB492	M. Cavanaugh	C	Create the Nebraska Integrated Juvenile Data Governing Body and the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Information System	
LB493	M. Cavanaugh	C (>380)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	8, 14, 16
LB494	M. Cavanaugh	C	Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for grants to establish and maintain a health care insurance claims and payment information data base	
LB495	Hilkemann	C	Require the Department of Health and Human Services to implement an increase in foster care reimbursement rates	
LB496	Hilkemann	SF (+316)	Change provisions relating to postconviction relief and require collection of DNA samples from persons arrested for crimes of violence or burglary	18
LB496A	Hilkemann	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB497	DeBoer	S	Provide for compensation under the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act for health care providers examining or treating victims of sexual assault, domestic assault, or child abuse	5, 14, 17
LB498	DeBoer	GF	Require the Public Service Commission to implement a broadband service testing and mapping program	
LB498A	DeBoer	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB499	DeBoer	C	Require an annual report on active cases by the Department of Correctional Services, Office of Probation Administration, and Division of Parole Supervision	6
LB500	Geist	S	Provide venue for prosecution of offenses committed using an electronic communication device	
LB501	Flood	S (+348, 403, 470, 593)	Adopt the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act, the Uniform Registration of Canadian Money Judgments Act, the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, and the Uniform Easement Relocation Act and change provisions relating to succession to real property and claims against the estate of a medical assistance recipient	
LB502	Flood	GF	Change sales tax incentives under the Nebraska Advantage Act	17
LB503	Flood	S	Require payment of attorney's fees by an objecting party and change provisions relating to trustees' sales under the Nebraska Trust Deeds Act	
LB504	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change certain penalty provisions for the suspension, revocation, or impoundment of a motor vehicle operator's license	
LB505	J. Cavanaugh	C	Limit habitual criminal enhancement to specified felonies	
LB506	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions relating to net metering provided by local distribution utilities	6
LB507	Bostelman	S (+190, 191, 395)	Change provisions relating to hunting permits, electors under the Irrigation District Act, and the Water Sustainability Fund and prohibit the use of treated seed in the production of agricultural ethyl alcohol	5, 12, 17
LB508	Bostelman	C	Provide motor vehicle tax exemptions for certain veterans and spouses	5
LB509	Lindstrom	S	Change provisions relating to the State Treasurer and treasury management	
LB510	Lindstrom	SF	Change provisions of the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	9
LB511	Lindstrom	C	Change provisions relating to cigarette tax stamps	
LB512	Brewer	C	Adopt the Critical Infrastructure Utility Worker Protection Act	
LB513	Brewer	C	Change qualifications and terms of public power district board members	
LB514	Brewer	GF (>285)	Change procedures for forming a new political party under the Election Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB515	McKinney	C	Adopt the Municipal Police Oversight Act	5
LB516	McKinney	GF	Change provisions relating to self-sufficiency contracts and work activity requirements under the Welfare Reform Act	
LB517	Hunt	C	Provide for a gender neutral designation on operator's licenses and state identification cards and provide for amendment of a birth certificate	
LB518	Morfeld	C	Change provisions relating to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment under the Student Discipline Act	
LB519	Morfeld	C	Provide immunity from arrest and prosecution for certain drug and alcohol offenses for witnesses and victims of sexual assaults	
LB520	Friesen	C	Provide for applications for the collocation of certain wireless facilities	
LB521	Friesen	S	Change provisions relating to applications for property tax exemptions	
LB522	Friesen	C	Change a motor vehicle identification inspection training provision under the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act	
LB523	Albrecht	GF	Change provisions relating to certain school taxes and special funds	
LB524	Brandt	C	Change provisions relating to the calculation of credits under the Nebraska Property Tax Incentive Act	7
LB525	Wishart	GF	Provide duties and requirements for transitional housing facilities and change powers of the Office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System	
LB526	Wishart	C (>380)	Change limitations on awards and state intent regarding appropriations under the Business Innovation Act	
LB527	Walz	S	Change provisions relating to transition services for students with a developmental disability	14, 20
LB527A	Walz	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB528	Walz	S (+3, 529, 558)	Provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to education	16, 20
LB529	Walz	SF (>528)	Change provisions for the distribution of lottery funds used for education, transfer powers and duties, create new acts and funds, and change education provisions	5, 12, 20
LB529A	Walz	SF	Appropriation Bill	
LB530	Lathrop	C	Require certain insurance policies to comply with federal minimum levels of financial responsibility for motor carriers	
LB531	Briese	C	Adopt the Nebraska Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Act	5, 17
LB532	Lowe	S	Change provisions relating to property under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and the School Employees Retirement Act and change a security deposit provision under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	
LB533	Day	S	Change provisions relating to public assistance	
LB534	Day	C	Change provisions relating to renewal of operators' licenses while in the foreign service of the United States	
LB535	Kolterman	C	Provide for notice to life insurance assignees of default, lapse, and termination	
LB536	Aguilar	C	Change provisions relating to distribution and use of certain proceeds from horseracing	
LB537	Geist	C	Change provisions relating to placement and commitment of juveniles	
LB538	Walz	IPP	Adopt the Community Schools Act and change the distribution of income from solar and wind agreements on school lands	7
LB539	Walz	C	Provide for a limit on the length of trains	9
LB540	Walz	S	Change terminology related to disability in civil rights provisions	
LB541	Walz	C	Provide for reimbursement for certain foster care services	
LB542	Walz	GF	Authorize the issuance of highway bonds under the Nebraska Highway Bond Act	9, 19
LB543	Brandt	GF	Adopt the Agricultural Equipment Right-To-Repair Act	8
LB544	Wayne	S	Adopt the Urban Redevelopment Act and provide tax incentives	12, 20
LB544A	Wayne	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB545	Wayne	C	Adopt the Games of Skill Act, provide for excise taxes, and use proceeds to reduce school district property tax levies	
LB546	Wayne	C	Adopt the Marijuana Control Act and the Marijuana Conviction Clean Slate Act	
LB547	Wayne	C	Adopt the Nebraska Small Business Act and provide tax incentives	
LB548	Wayne	C	Adopt the Nebraska Racial Justice Act and provide grounds for postconviction relief	
LB549	Wayne	IPP (>131)	Adopt the Aid to Municipalities Act	18, 20
LB550	Wayne	C	Change enrollment option limits and provisions for part-time enrollment in schools	
LB551	Wayne	C	Change and provide qualifications for and duties relating to certification of law enforcement officers, require accreditation of law enforcement agencies, prohibit chokeholds in law enforcement, require policies on excessive force, and create a public data base of law enforcement officer misconduct	5

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB552	Wayne	C	Clarify definitions relating to marijuana under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and schedule nabiximols as a Schedule III controlled substance	
LB553	Wayne	C	Adopt the Bed Bug Detection and Treatment Act for cities of the metropolitan class	6
LB554	Blood	C	Adopt the Licensed Professional Counselors Interstate Compact	
LB555	M. Hansen	GF	Change reporting requirements under the Municipal Density and Missing Middle Housing Act	
LB556	M. Hansen	IPP (>131)	Change provisions relating to redevelopment contracts under the Community Development Law	18, 20
LB557	M. Hansen	GF	Change provisions relating to public records and include body-worn camera recordings in certain circumstances	8
LB558	Vargas	IPP (>528)	Adopt the Alternative Certification for Quality Teachers Act	16, 20
LB559	Vargas	C	Change provisions relating to restrictive housing under the Nebraska Treatment and Corrections Act	
LB560	Briese	C (>561)	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act	11
LB561	Briese	S (+560)	Rename and change powers and duties of the State Racing Commission and provide regulation and enforcement regarding sports wagering and other gambling activities at licensed racetrack enclosures	5, 11, 13, 16, 19, 20
LB561A	Briese	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB562	Erdman	C	Relocate the Game and Parks Commission headquarters to the city of Sidney, Nebraska	5
LB563	McDonnell	C	Provide caseload limits for high-risk offenders supervised by probation officers and parole officers	
LB564	McDonnell	C (>432)	Redefine a term relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust	17, 20
LB565	McDonnell	C	Provide for a youth initiated mentoring pilot program	
LB566	McDonnell	S	Adopt the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act	18, 19, 20
LB566A	McDonnell	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB567	Business & Labor	GF	Change provisions relating to the maximum annual amount of benefits under the Employment Security Law	
LB568	Pansing Brooks	SF	Change provisions relating to truancy, juvenile courts, the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program, the Commission Grant Program, and compulsory education	19
LB569	Pansing Brooks	GF	Provide for certain treatment options for patients with Lyme disease	
LB570	Health & Human Services	IPP (>428)	Change certain Department of Health and Human Services model pilot project evaluation periods	15, 20
LB571	Halloran	C	Provide for backgrounder lot registration under the Livestock Brand Act	
LB572	Halloran	S	Change provisions of the Livestock Brand Act	6, 12, 20
LB573	Bostar	C	Change the definition of qualified facility for purposes of net metering	6
LB574	Bostar	IPP	Change motor vehicle identification inspection requirements	
LB575	Bostar	C	Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	
LB576	Bostar	C	Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska	
LB577	Bostar	C	Establish Election Day as a holiday and change provisions relating to early voting and automatic voter registration	9
LB578	Vargas	C (>274)	Impose a tax on ready-to-drink cocktails	6, 10, 14, 20
LB579	Moser	S	Change provisions relating to reports regarding highway construction by the Department of Transportation	6, 19, 20
LB580	Moser	C	Change provisions relating to the operation of games of chance under the Nebraska Racetrack Gaming Act	
LB581	B. Hansen	C	Change motorcycle, moped, and autocycle helmet provisions	5
LB582	Retirement	C (>147)	Change administration of the retirement system under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act	18, 20
LB583	Murman	S	Require electronic prescriptions for controlled substances	
LB584	Vargas	C	Adopt the Mobile Food Unit Act and change fees for a mobile food unit	
LB585	Vargas	C (>380)	Appropriate funds for local public health departments	14, 15, 16
LB586	Clements	C	Require an annual report regarding police and firefighter retirement plans in certain cities	
LB587	McDonnell	GF	Adopt the Career Mentoring Grant Act	
LB587A	McDonnell	GF	Appropriation Bill	
LB588	Stinner	C (>384)	Change, rename, and eliminate provisions of the University of Nebraska facilities programs and the state college facilities programs	7, 14
LB589	Groene	C	Change requirements for integrated management plans by natural resources districts	
LB590	Groene	C	Change time periods for ballots for early voting	
LB591	Groene	C	Require a permit for any natural resources district water augmentation project	
LB592	Stinner	GF	Change provisions of the Automated Medication Systems Act	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LB593	Slama	C (>501)	Adopt the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act and the Uniform Registration of Canadian Money Judgments Act	
LB594	Slama	C	Adopt the Rural Workforce Crisis Act	
LB595	Albrecht	S (+182, 350, 672)	Provide and change sales and use tax exemptions for certain products and agricultural machinery and equipment, exclude certain income from gross receipts, and change funding for and require reports regarding the Game and Parks Commission Capital Maintenance Fund	8, 17, 19, 20
LB596	Albrecht	C	Adopt the Nebraska Higher Blend Tax Credit Act	
LB597	Albrecht	C (>432)	Provide a tax credit for the parents of stillborn children	5, 17, 20
LB598	Wishart	GF	Adopt the Small Business Stabilization Grant Program Act	6
LB599	Lindstrom	GF	Change an exemption from the documentary stamp tax	
LB600	Brandt	C	Provide powers and duties for political subdivisions regarding broadband facilities and infrastructure	
LB601	McKinney	C (>51)	Require law enforcement agencies to maintain records regarding officer discipline and create a public data base of law enforcement officer misconduct	19, 20
LB602	Pahls	C	Provide restrictions regarding insurance coverage and consumer care involving aftermarket parts for motor vehicles	7
LB603	Aguilar	C	Adopt the Organized Consumer Product Theft Protection Act	
LB604	Geist	C (>388)	Adopt the Nebraska Accelerated Broadband Deployment Grant Program Act and change telecommunications provisions	
LB605	Wishart	C	Create the Outdoor Recreation and Education Study Committee of the Legislature	
LB606	Hilgers	C	Clarify terms relating to power districts	
LB607	Hilgers	C	Correct references to a federally defined term relating to education	
LB608	Hilgers	C	Eliminate obsolete provisions relating to the State Racing Commission	
LB609	Hilgers	C	Change provisions relating to the Uniform Credentialing Act	
LB610	Hilgers	C	Change provisions relating to improper issuance of a certificate of registration under the Motor Vehicle Registration Act	
LB611	Hilgers	C	Correct a reference to a defined term relating to property taxes	
LB612	Lathrop	C	Change motor vehicle liability insurance and financial responsibility requirements	7
LB613	Erdman	C	Change provisions relating to hearings and decisions on appeals under the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act	
LB614	Erdman	C	Eliminate registered feedlot provisions under the Livestock Brand Act	
LB615	Erdman	C	Provide for the election of members of the Game and Parks Commission	
LB616	Hughes	S	Change abandoned motor vehicle provisions	5, 15, 17
LB617	Hughes	C	Change a provision relating to the authority of the Game and Parks Commission	
LB618	Hughes	C	Change provisions relating to state park permits	
LB619	Sanders	C	Change excavation requirements under the One-Call Notification System Act	
LB620	Vargas	C	Limit use of restrictive housing and solitary confinement	
LB621	Friesen	C	Adopt the Social Media Fairness Act	8
LB622	Friesen	C	Limit the growth of real property valuations and provide for adjustments to assessed values	
LB623	Vargas	C	Adopt the Remote Instruction Act	6
LB624	McCullister	C	Provide for earned time credit reductions to the minimum terms of sentences of offenders at facilities of the Department of Correctional Services	6
LB625	Vargas	IPP	Impose a surtax on certain taxable income and use the tax proceeds for early childhood education	
LB626	Vargas	GF	Change provisions of the Child and Maternal Death Review Act	
LB627	Morfeld	C	Change provisions relating to qualified voters for certain public power district elections	
LB628	Morfeld	S	Change provisions relating to faculty licenses under the Dentistry Practice Act	
LB629	Morfeld	GF	Create a grant program to provide financial assistance to entities affected by event cancellations	
LB630	Bostar	S	Provide for a study of the efficacy of commercial air filters in classrooms	9, 17, 19, 20
LB630A	Bostar	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB631	Bostar	GF	Prohibit counties from prohibiting the use of residential property as short-term rentals	6
LB632	Bostar	C	Provide for a low-income student or first-generation college student internship program	
LB633	Vargas	C	Change provisions of the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act	
LB634	J. Cavanaugh	C	Provide a cause of action for unsafe disposal of treated seed	
LB635	J. Cavanaugh	C	Change provisions regarding nomination and election of certain partisan candidates	
LB636	J. Cavanaugh	C	Eliminate cash bail bonds, appearance bonds, and related provisions	9
LB637	Vargas	C	Change provisions relating to the control of contagious or infectious disease	7

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LB638	Health & Human Services	C	Require a report by the State Court Administrator regarding juveniles discharged from youth rehabilitation and treatment centers	
LB639	Day	S	Adopt the Seizure Safe Schools Act	9, 13, 20
LB640	Day	C	Change provisions related to early childhood education in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	
LB641	Day	GF	Change provisions regarding school district salaries during an epidemic	
LB642	Day	C	Provide for reimbursements to school districts and educational service units for mental health expenditures	
LB643	B. Hansen	C	Protect an individual liberty right to accept or decline a vaccination under a mandatory directive	5
LB644	B. Hansen	S (+189)	Adopt the Property Tax Request Act, change dates relating to tax levies, and change provisions relating to property tax refunds	6, 14, 17, 20
LB645	B. Hansen	C	Provide for enhanced penalties for violations of directed health measures committed by public officials	
LB646	Flood	C (>380)	Change the maximum amount of certain Nebraska Career Scholarships	
LB647	Flood	IPP (>131)	Change powers of cities of the first class	20
LB648	Flood	C	Adopt the Transactions in Digital Assets Act	
LB649	Flood	S	Adopt the Nebraska Financial Innovation Act and provisions for controllable electronic records under the Uniform Commercial Code	19, 20
LB649A	Flood	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB650	Flood	S	Adopt the Nebraska Geologic Storage of Carbon Dioxide Act	6, 13, 15, 20
LB650A	Flood	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB651	Wayne	C	Provide a termination date for the enrollment option program	
LB652	Wayne	C	Adopt the Historically Underutilized Business Program Act	
LB653	Wayne	C	Require goals for using historically underutilized businesses under the Community Development Law	
LB654	Wayne	C	Adopt the Public Entities Investment Trust Act	
LB655	Wayne	C	Change tax provisions relating to cigars, cheroots, and stogies	
LB656	Wayne	IPP	Authorize municipalities to provide broadband and Internet services	6, 13, 17
LB657	Vargas	C	Require the office of Legislative Research to prepare racial impact statements for legislative bills	9
LB658	McDonnell	C	Require the Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System to commission a study	
LB659	McDonnell	C	Create the Workforce Development Committee of the Legislature	
LB660	McDonnell	GF	Change collective-bargaining provisions relating to the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges	
LB661	McDonnell	GF	Prohibit assault on a public transportation driver and clarify provisions relating to assault on officers, emergency responders, certain employees, and health care professionals	
LB662	McDonnell	C (>380)	State intent regarding appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services	
LB663	Geist	C	Require the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice to create a mental health indicator in a criminal justice information system to alert emergency dispatch operators	5
LB664	Groene	S	Change distributions from the Mutual Finance Assistance Fund	
LB664A	Groene	S	Appropriation Bill	
LB665	Business & Labor	IPP	Deny claims against the state	
LB666	Business & Labor	S	Provide for payment of claims against the state	14, 15, 16
LB667	Halloran	C	Provide for confidentiality of and access to certain injury reports under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	
LB668	Hughes	C	Relocate the headquarters of the Game and Parks Commission	5
LB669	Vargas	S	Adopt the Veteran Promise Act and change residency requirements for postsecondary education for veterans and spouses and dependents of veterans	16, 17, 20
LB670	Murman	C	Authorize design and placement of highway memorial signs	
LB671	Murman	C (>380)	State intent regarding appropriations to the University of Nebraska	
LB672	Murman	C (>595)	Change the sales and use tax exemption on agricultural machinery and equipment	8, 17, 20
LB673	Murman	IPP	Adopt the Education Behavioral Awareness and Support Act and change the determination and certification of state aid to schools	6, 12
LB674	Linehan	IPP	Change provisions relating to the allocation and use of credits under the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act	
LB675	Linehan	C	Adopt the Education Lobbyist Pay Transparency Act	
LB676	Linehan	C	Redefine a term relating to cigarette taxes	

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LB677	Linehan	C	Change provisions relating to eligibility for transitional child care assistance	
LB678	Linehan	W	Adopt the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Regulation Act	
LB679	Linehan	C	Require the Tax Commissioner to collect lodging taxes as prescribed	
LB680	Linehan	C (>432)	Change the corporate income tax rate	8, 17, 20
LB681	Linehan	IPP	Include elementary and secondary schools in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and change tax benefits	9
LB682	Linehan	S	Change the New Markets Job Growth Investment Act	
LB683	Wayne	C	Change provisions relating to net metering	
LB684	Clements	C	Allow public school employees to join or terminate membership in a labor organization as prescribed	6
LR2CA	Wayne	C	Constitutional amendment to legalize cannabis for persons twenty-one and older and to require legislation	7
LR3CA	Slama	C	Constitutional amendment to require verification of identity prior to voting	7
LR10CA	Cavanaugh, M.	C	Constitutional amendment to remove felony convictions other than treason from being a disqualification for voting	8
LR11CA	Erdman	GF	Constitutional amendment to require enactment of a consumption tax and prohibit certain other forms of taxation	18
LR13CA	Brewer	C	Constitutional amendment to limit the percentage of funding for schools that comes from property taxes	
LR14	Halloran	GF	Resolution to Congress for convention of the states to propose amendments to the United States Constitution	16
LR18CA	Wayne	C	Constitutional amendment to change legislative term limits to three consecutive terms	
LR20CA	Pansing Brooks	GF	Constitutional amendment to remove provisions regarding marriage from the Constitution of Nebraska	4
LR21CA	Briese	C	Constitutional amendment to require the State of Nebraska to pay all classroom expenses related to the operation of public elementary and secondary schools	9
LR22CA	Linehan	C	Constitutional amendment to limit the total amount of property tax revenue that may be raised by political subdivisions	4
LR23	Erdman	C	Interim study to examine the progress of natural resources districts in fulfilling their originally intended purpose	
LR24CA	Wishart	C	Constitutional amendment to change the one-subject requirement for initiative measures	
LR25	Health & Human Services	P	Provide for appointment by the Executive Board of a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center Special Oversight Committee of the Legislature	8, 12
LR26CA	Lindstrom	C	Constitutional amendment to allow the Legislature to authorize, regulate, and tax sports wagering	5
LR27CA	M. Hansen	C	Constitutional amendment to provide legislative authority in emergencies resulting from a pandemic	
LR29	M. Cavanaugh	P	Provide for appointment by the Executive Board of a special committee to be known as the Eastern Service Area Child Welfare Contract Special Investigative and Oversight Committee of the Legislature	6, 13
LR34	Slama	C	Interim study to examine the structure and funding of the Nebraska Environmental Trust	
LR69	Wayne	C	Interim study to receive reports and public input under the Municipal Density and Missing Middle Housing Act	
LR76	M. Hansen	C	Interim study of court fees as a funding source for the court system and the judicial branch	
LR83	M. Hansen	C	Interim study to examine the gubernatorial appointment process of members to boards, commissions, and similar entities	
LR97	M. Hansen	C	Interim study to determine whether further revision to the Nebraska grand jury laws is necessary	
LR100	Williams	C	Interim study to determine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated	
LR101	Williams	C	Interim study to examine whether legislation should be enacted to provide for comprehensive regulation of pharmacy benefit managers	
LR104	Pahls	C	Interim study to examine barriers related to early detection of colorectal cancer in Nebraska	
LR105	Kolterman	C	Interim study to examine the public employees' retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board	
LR106	Kolterman	C	Interim study to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions as required by section 13-2402	
LR107	Groene	C	Request cooperation relating to prevention of unconstitutional abuse of power by state and federal governments	18, 20

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LR110	Lathrop	C	Interim study to investigate the advertisement and use of unproven stem cell injections as a therapy for health disorders	
LR115	Lowe	C	Interim study to examine and review liquor laws in Nebraska	
LR116	Williams	C	Interim study to review the credentialing requirements in the Public Accountancy Act in furtherance of the purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act	
LR117	Bostelman	C	Interim study to examine surface water irrigation projects and infrastructure	
LR118	Hunt	C	Request cooperation relating to defending the United States Capitol Building and our democratic election process	20
LR121	Hunt	C	Request cooperation relating to defending the Constitution of the United States and the American people against future pandemics	20
LR122	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to examine the statutes governing cities of the metropolitan class	
LR123	Urban Affairs	C	Interim study to review the occupational regulations for radon measurement specialists and radon mitigation specialists	
LR124	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the designation of extremely blighted areas under the Community Development Law	
LR125	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the designation of enhanced employment areas under the Community Development Law	
LR126	Wayne	C	Interim study to examine issues relating to the designation of blighted areas and extremely blighted areas under the Community Development Law	
LR127	Hilkemann	C	Interim study to identify a more equitable scale for motor vehicle taxation	
LR129	Wishart	C	Interim study to review staffing at the Department of Correctional Services	
LR130	Hunt	C	Request cooperation regarding taking decisive action to minimize the impacts of climate change and to prevent further damage to our planet and our ecosystems	20
LR131	M. Hansen	C	Interim study to examine the lack of affordable housing in Nebraska	
LR134	Redistricting	P	Adopt the proposed guidelines to be used by the Legislature during the 2021 redistricting process	20
LR135	Hunt	C	Request cooperation in defending the sacred right of all American citizens to vote in free and fair elections	
LR136	Brewer	C	Interim study to examine and evaluate the causes, costs, and impacts of rolling electrical power outages during the extreme weather events of February 2021	
LR137	Aguilar	C	Interim study to assess the operations and practices of the Central Nebraska Veterans' Home	
LR138	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine remedies available for incarcerated persons who have property lost, stolen, or damaged during their confinement	
LR139	M. Hansen	C	Interim study to examine the financial health of individuals in Nebraska's workforce over one year into the COVID-19 pandemic	
LR140	M. Hansen	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's unemployment insurance system	
LR141	DeBoer	C	Interim study to create a select interim committee of the Legislature known as the School Finance Study Committee	
LR142	M. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to determine whether legislation should be enacted to provide for additional supports and further address the issue of maternal depression in Nebraska	
LR143	Stinner	C	Interim study to examine the mental and behavioral health needs of Nebraskans, assess the shortages of providers, and determine what is needed to ensure an adequate behavioral health service delivery system	
LR145	Stinner	C	Interim study of the adequacy of current aged and disabled medicaid waiver assisted-living provider rates	
LR147	J. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine the transfer of state-owned property to local political subdivisions	
LR148	Day	C	Interim study to examine the duties of education support professionals in Nebraska	
LR149	Day	C	Interim study to examine the potential for statewide early childhood autism spectrum disorder screening	
LR151	Murman	C	Interim study to examine whether the Solemn Covenant of the States to Award Prizes for Curing Diseases compact should be adopted	
LR152	Bostelman	C	Interim study to evaluate the need for laws that would allow the Department of Environment and Energy to respond to emergency situations related to pesticide-treated seed or grain	
LR154	McDonnell	C	Interim study to evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on Nebraska's workforce	
LR155	McDonnell	C	Interim Study to examine issues related to the operation of autonomous vehicles in Nebraska	
LR156	Pansing Brooks	C	Interim study to examine mental health and addiction issues within the Nebraska criminal justice system	
LR157	Pansing Brooks	C	Interim study to examine how Nebraska schools can recruit teachers and administrators who accurately reflect the proportion of students of color attending Nebraska schools	

BILL STATUS



S = signed by the governor, P = passed by the Legislature, V = vetoed,
 LV - line-item vetoed, VO = veto overridden, FR = final reading, SF = select file,
 GF = general file, C = held in committee, IPP = indefinitely postponed,
 W = withdrawn, > = amended into bill #, + = includes bill #
 ISSUES: coverage in issue # of the 2021 Unicameral Update

BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR158	Blood	C	Interim study to examine the accuracy of payments by the Department of Labor to recipients of state and federal benefit programs	
LR161	McKinney	C	Interim study to examine the impact of natural hair discrimination in Nebraska educational settings	
LR162	Stinner	C	Interim study to examine the School Readiness Tax Credit Act	
LR163	Stinner	C	Interim study to examine postacute placement challenges in Nebraska's health care system	
LR164	Wishart	C	Interim study to examine problem solving courts	
LR165	Wishart	C	Interim study to explore ways of improving dental benefits under the medical assistance program	
LR166	Day	C	Interim study to review the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act	
LR167	Day	C	Interim study to examine possible solutions to address conflicts between the child welfare system and custody decisions made in civil cases	
LR170	McKinney	C	Interim study to examine the potential impact that innovation hubs could have in Nebraska	
LR171	McKinney	C	Interim study to examine the rights, roles, and responsibilities of Nebraska county election officials, state election officials, and relevant court and corrections personnel in carrying out state law regarding voting rights for former felony offenders	
LR172	McKinney	C	Interim study to examine the negative impacts of an oversaturation of nonprofit organizations and philanthropy in densely populated areas of high poverty	
LR173	Blood	C	Interim study to examine the organizational structure and funding of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center	
LR174	Briese	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee	
LR175	Briese	C	Interim study to examine and review the game of keno	
LR176	Briese	C	Interim study to examine the statutes governing horseracing and the State Racing Commission	
LR177	Briese	C	Interim study to examine the State Athletic Commissioner and review occupational licenses and regulations for professional boxers and professional boxing promoters	
LR178	Wishart	C	Interim study to solicit input from Nebraskans regarding funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021	
LR179	M. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine funding mechanisms in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021	
LR180	Walz	C	Interim study to examine the identification of at-risk and economically disadvantaged students as a qualification factor for state-funded, education-related programs	
LR181	Walz	C	Interim study to examine home visitation for families in Nebraska	
LR182	Walz	C	Interim study to examine the school enrollment options available to students	
LR183	J. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska law relating to body-worn cameras worn by law enforcement agents	
LR184	Wishart	C	Interim study to examine the contract process and rates paid to family service providers in the Northern, Southeast, Central, and Western Service Areas of Nebraska	
LR185	Brandt	C	Interim study to examine the feasibility of an agricultural school or educational center in Nebraska	
LR186	Brandt	C	Interim study to examine nonprofit movie theaters and tax-exempt status	
LR187	J. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine liquor laws in Nebraska	
LR188	J. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine issues related to adopting reward-based conservation programs	
LR189	McCollister	C	Interim study to examine sex offender registration in Nebraska	
LR190	McCollister	C	Interim study to examine the work participation requirements in the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program in Nebraska	
LR191	McCollister	C	Interim study to examine the effect of universal recognition of occupational licenses on populations frequently negatively impacted by occupational licensing in the state	
LR192	Groene	C	Interim study to review methods of water augmentation and develop statutory definitions	
LR193	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine broadband mapping and broadband speed testing in Nebraska	
LR194	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine methods of ending domestic and sexual violence in Nebraska	
LR196	Blood	C	Interim study to examine the potential applications for blockchain technology in agricultural operations	
LR198	Hunt	C	Interim study to examine Nebraska's practices relating to social security benefits owed to certain children in the foster care system	
LR199	Slama	C	Interim study to examine the creation of a rural economic development program	
LR200	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund	
LR201	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee	

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BILL	INTRODUCER	STATUS	ONLINE DESCRIPTION	ISSUES
LR202	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine federal legislation regarding COVID-19 pandemic assistance	
LR203	Flood	C	Interim study to examine medicaid expansion and behavioral health	
LR204	Flood	C	Interim study to examine a coding curriculum for students in Nebraska	
LR205	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine the use of mediation and residential eviction	
LR206	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine workers' compensation	
LR207	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine methods for preventing the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus	
LR208	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine commercial property assessed clean energy financing in Nebraska	
LR209	McDonnell	C	Interim study to examine the appropriations necessary for creating public health crisis zones	
LR210	McKinney	C	Interim study to examine poverty and incarceration and the appropriations necessary to reduce both	
LR211	Lowe	C	Interim study to examine issues related to adopting construction codes	
LR212	McDonnell	C	Interim study to examine the health care workforce shortage in Nebraska	
LR213	Day	C	Interim study to examine the mental and behavioral health needs of Nebraska students and the role of school psychologists	
LR214	Morfeld	C	Interim study to examine state regulated health plans and state employee health plans and copay accumulator adjustment programs	
LR215	Hansen, M.	C	Interim study to examine county fees and fines set by statute and the cost for administering the associated services	
LR218	DeBoer	C	Interim study to examine issues related to pay and benefits of legislative staff	
LR221	Vargas	C	Interim study to examine maternal and infant mortality and morbidity	
LR223	Wishart	C	Interim study to examine how to slow or stop the spread of the emerald ash borer	
LR225	Government, Military Veterans Affairs	C	Interim study to review occupational regulation of truth and deception examiners pursuant to the Occupational Board Reform Act	
LR226	M. Cavanaugh	C	Interim study to examine ways the Legislature provides oversight of state agencies	
LR227	Linehan	C	Interim study to examine learning communities and learning community coordinating councils	
LR228	Albrecht	C	Interim study to examine the educational environment in Nebraska	
LR230	Murman	C	Interim study to examine a potential constitutional amendment to limit property taxation to residential property only	
LR231	Lathrop	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee	
LR232	Friesen	C	Interim study to examine the assessment procedures of county assessors for each class of property and whether the assessment process would benefit from other parties assessing certain classes of property	
LR233	Friesen	C	Interim study to review issues relating to the collection of agricultural data in precision farming	
LR234	Friesen	C	Interim study to examine issues related to the regulation and taxation of electric vehicles	
LR235	Friesen	C	Interim study to review the occupational regulations for motor vehicle dealers	
LR236	Friesen	C	Interim study to review issues relating to the Nebraska Expressway System	
LR237	Vargas	C	Interim study to examine existing statutes regarding directed health measures	
LR239	Health & Human Services	C	Interim study to examine the effectiveness of medicaid waivers in Nebraska overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services	
LR246	Natural Resources	C	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Committee	
LR261	Revenue	C	Interim study to examine the structure and administration of and compliance with certain taxes	

LEGISLATIVE GLOSSARY

“A” Bill - see Appropriation Bill.

Amendment On File - an amendment of 10 or more pages, not printed separately or in the Journal, that is available in the Clerk’s Office (Room 2018).

Amendment Printed Separate - an amendment of 10 or more pages, printed separately from the Journal, that is available in the Bill Room (Room 1102).

Appropriation Bill (“A” Bill) - a bill to appropriate funds to finance another bill bearing the same number.

Attorney General’s Opinion - a written analysis of a question of law prepared by the attorney general for the governor, the head of an executive department or any state senator.

Bill - see Legislative Bill.

Bracket - to delay consideration of a bill.

Call of the House - a procedure used to compel attendance of unexcused senators in the chamber.

Carry-over Legislation - bills and resolutions introduced during the regular session in an odd-numbered year and held over for consideration during the regular session in an even-numbered year.

Chair - the presiding officer.

Cloture - a parliamentary action to cease debate on a bill and vote immediately on its advancement. A motion for cloture may be made after eight hours of debate on most bills and after 12 hours on appropriation bills introduced by the Appropriations Committee.

Constitutional Amendment Resolution - a proposal to amend the state constitution, ratify or reject an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, or petition Congress about amending the U.S. Constitution. State CA resolutions have the suffix “CA” by the resolution number, and they must be approved by the voters as well as the Legislature.

Consent Calendar - a portion of the agenda in which relatively noncontroversial bills are considered and quickly advanced to the next legislative stage. Usually, a bill on consent calendar can be debated for no more than 15 minutes.

“E” Clause - see Emergency Clause.

E&R - see Enrollment and Review.

Emergency Clause (“E” Clause) - a provision that allows a bill or a portion of a bill to take effect immediately after the governor signs it or after the Legislature overrides the governor’s veto.

Engrossment - the process of preparing a bill for Final Reading by incorporating all adopted amendments.

Enrollment and Review (E&R) - the process of incorporating adopted amendments into a bill and reviewing the bill for technical and grammatical accuracy.

Executive Session - a closed meeting of a committee to discuss and act on bills and resolutions. An executive session is open only to committee members, committee staff and the media.

Final Reading - the third and last stage at which a bill is considered by the entire Legislature. The clerk reads the entire bill aloud, unless final reading is waived, and senators vote without debate on whether to submit the bill to the governor.

Fiscal Note - a statement prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Office estimating the effect a bill would have on state and/or local expenditures and revenue.

Floor - the area of the legislative chamber where the senators sit. When a committee advances a bill “to the floor,” it means the bill is being sent to the full Legislature for consideration.

General File - the first stage at which a bill is considered by the full Legislature. Bills on General File may be amended, returned to committee, indefinitely postponed or advanced to Select File.

Hearing - a regularly scheduled committee meeting to receive public comment on proposed bills and resolutions.

House Under Call - the term used when all unexcused senators are required to be in their seats in the chamber and unauthorized personnel must leave the floor.

Indefinitely Postpone (IPP) - to kill a bill.

Interim - the period between regular legislative sessions.

Interim Study Resolution - a resolution authorizing a committee to study an issue following adjournment of a legislative session.

IPP - see Indefinitely Postpone.

Journal - see Legislative Journal.

Laws of Nebraska (Session Laws) - bound compilation of all laws and constitutional amendment resolutions passed in a legislative session, the state Constitution, and subject and section indexes.

Legislative Bill (LB) - a proposal to create, change or delete one or more laws.



Legislative History - the committee and floor debate records for any bill. A history includes transcripts of the bill's hearing and all floor debate.

Legislative Journal - official record of legislative floor action, including all motions, the number of yeas and nays on each vote, etc.

Legislative Resolution (LR) - a proposal to make a formal expression of opinion, intent or recognition; amend the state or federal constitution; or authorize a study of an issue during the interim. See also Constitutional Amendment Resolution, Interim Study Resolution.

Line-Item Veto - the power of the governor to make specific reductions in any part of a budget bill passed by the Legislature.

Machine Vote - a vote taken by electronic voting system. The voting board shows how each senator voted, but only vote totals are entered in the Legislative Journal.

Major Proposal - a bill or constitutional amendment resolution that the speaker designates as important enough for scheduling priority. Each session, up to five bills may be chosen as major proposals, all of which must be senator priority bills and must get the approval of two-thirds of the Executive Board.

One-liner - a one-line description of a bill or resolution.

Override a Veto - see Veto Override.

President of the Legislature - the lieutenant governor. While senators address whomever is in the chair as Mr. or Madam President, the lieutenant governor alone holds the official title.

Presiding Officer - the senator currently presiding over legislative proceedings.

Priority Bill - a bill that has priority status and generally is considered ahead of other bills in debate. Each senator may select one priority bill, each committee may select two priority bills, and the speaker may select up to 25 priority bills.

Record Vote - a vote on which a record is kept of how each senator voted. The vote is taken by electronic voting system and the senators' names and corresponding votes are then printed in the Legislative Journal.

Regular Session - the annual session that begins the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January.

Resolution - see Legislative Resolution.

Revisor Bill - a bill, prepared by the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, proposing a technical correction or the repeal of an obsolete statute.

Roll Call Vote - a vote during which the senators vote one at a time as the clerk reads their names. Senators cast their votes verbally, and their names and corresponding votes

may be printed in the Legislative Journal.

Select Committee - a permanent committee with a subject-matter jurisdiction related to the administration of the Legislature.

Select File - the second stage at which a bill is considered by the entire Legislature. Bills on Select File may be amended, returned to committee, indefinitely postponed or advanced to Final Reading.

Session - a period of time, usually a number of days, during which the Legislature meets and transacts business.

Session Laws - compilation of all laws and constitutional amendment resolutions passed in a session.

Sine Die - without setting a future date for reconvening. When the Legislature adjourns sine die, the legislative session is finished for the year.

Slip Law - a bill or constitutional amendment resolution printed individually in its approved form after being enacted into law or submitted to voters.

Speaker of the Legislature - the officer of the Legislature, elected from among the senators, who prepares the daily agenda and the session calendar and presides in the absence of the lieutenant governor.

Special Committee - a committee created by law for a specific reason. Except for the Executive Board, special committees have no jurisdiction over bills or resolutions.

Special Session - a limited legislative session called for a specific purpose by the governor or two-thirds (33 members) of the Legislature.

Standing Committee - a permanent committee with subject-matter jurisdiction related to an area of public policy. Almost all bills and resolutions are referred to one of the 14 standing committees.

Summary Sheet - a daily list of all legislative activity that has taken place in one legislative day, including action taken on bills and resolutions.

Veto - the power of the governor to reject bills passed by the Legislature. The governor has five days, excluding Sundays, to either sign or veto a bill. The Legislature then has an opportunity to override the veto.

Veto Override - the power of the Legislature to pass a bill over the governor's veto. A veto override requires the approval of three-fifths (30 members) of the Legislature.

Voice Vote - a vote in which senators cast their votes orally and no totals are recorded.

Worksheet - a list, prepared daily, that indicates the status of all bills and resolutions at the end of that legislative day.



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ABOUT THE UPDATE

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