



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 960

Chairperson: Senator Lavon Heidemann
Committee: Appropriations
Date of Hearing: February 4, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 960, introduced by the Speaker at the request of the Governor, is a part of the Governor's mid-biennium budget recommendations. The bill includes the following provisions:

1. Appropriates the financing necessary for FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09 for state agencies to implement the August 14, 2007 Commission on Industrial Relations (CIR) ruling concerning the labor agreement between the State of Nebraska and NAPE/AFSCME, Local 61.
2. Appropriates funds for FY 2008-09 for agencies covered by the State Classified System Personnel Rules and Regulations to address rules-covered employee pay compression and pay equity issues resulting from the implementation of the CIR ruling.
3. Eliminates the FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09 General Fund placeholder appropriations contained in LB 321, Section 222. These appropriations, located in the Department of Administrative Services, reserved the estimated General Fund cost, above the 2.5% contained in agency program appropriations, of implementing a State of Nebraska and NAPE/AFSCME labor agreement for the 2007-2009 biennium since resolution of the impasse was not achieved by the end of the 2007 legislative session.
4. Appropriates funds for state agencies to finance the employer share of increased health insurance benefit costs for FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09.

Detailed information regarding the Governor's budget recommendations can be found in the document entitled "Mid-Biennium Budget Adjustments, 2007-2009 Biennium" dated January 15, 2008, and may be viewed on the Department of Administrative Services – Budget Division's website at: http://www.budget.ne.gov/das_budget/publications/bpubs.htm

Principal Introducer:

Speaker Mike Flood
at the request of the Governor