



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2002  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 864**

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**Chairperson:** Senator David M. Landis  
**Committee:** Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
**Date of Hearing:** January 22, 2002

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

The purpose of LB 864 is to amend the Public Accountancy Act relating to provisions of maximum fees for examination and licensure for Certified Public Accountants. The bill would raise ceilings for fees that may be charged by the Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy to carry out its mission to protect the public, but does not mandate an increase in any current fees being charged. The statutory maximum for examination fees has not changed since 1979. The statutory maximum for most of the licensing fees has not changed since 1979 either. It has taken over 20 years of gradual fee increases for the Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy to reach the current statutory maximums.

Sections 1 and 2 amend sections 1-119 and 1-120 of Nebraska Statute to increase the maximum amount that can be charged to sit for the Uniform CPA Examination by the Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy from \$200 to \$400, and for reexamination from \$50 to \$100 per subject. This sections would also provide for a candidate to sit for the CPA examination when it is computerized and to pay fees directly to third party vendors of the exam.

Section 3 amends section 1-124 of the statutes to increase the maximum amount that could be charged for the issuance of a reciprocal certificate as a certified public accountant from \$200 to \$400.

Section 4 amends section 1-135 of the statues to increase the maximum fee for registration of a public accountancy office from \$50 to \$100. It also amends the charging of a fee to include each office of a CPA firm, thus ensuring a more equitable distribution of the economic burden of enforcement.

Section 5 amends section 1-136 of the statutes to increase the maximum fee for licensure of individuals and firms. Section 5 (2)(a) would increase the maximum fee for annual CPA firm permits from \$100 to \$150. Sections 5 (2)(b) and (3) would increase the maximum biennial fee of \$200 to \$300 for the issuance and renewal of an individual's permit to practice (an annual increase from \$100 to \$150); while Section 5 (4) would increase the maximum fee for an individual's registration from 40% to 50% of the fee charged for an active permit.

Section 6 repeals the original sections of the statutes.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Jon Bruning**