



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Committee Statement
LB 1206

Hearing Date: March 1, 2006

Committee On: Revenue

Introducer(s): (Louden, Combs, Cornett, Kopplin, Pahls)

Title: Increase the tax on alcoholic liquor to provide for citizen safety grants

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5	Yes	Senators Baker, Janssen, Landis, Raikes and Redfield
1	No	Senator Preister
2	Present, not voting	Senators Connealy and Cornett
0	Absent	

Proponents:

Senator LeRoy Louden
J. Rock Johnson

Representing:

Introducer
Herself

Opponents:

Tim Keigher

Walter Radcliffe
Gordon Kissel
Mary Campbell
John Lindsay
Kathy Siefken
Jim Moylan

Representing:

Nebraska Petroleum Marketers & Convenience
Stores Association and Miller Brewing Company
Nebraska Liquor Wholesalers Association
Anheuser Busch
Nebraska Beer Wholesalers Association
Finocchiaro Wine Company
Nebraska Grocery Industry Association
Nebraska Licensed Beverage Association

Neutral:

Hobert Rupe

Representing:

Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1206 would have created the Citizen Safety Grant Fund Program Act. The grant program was to be administered by the Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. A law enforcement agency could have applied to the Commission for grants for hiring additional law

enforcement personnel, purchasing equipment or services, or other uses. Applications for grants were to include violent crime statistics for the jurisdiction of the agency.

The Commission reviewed grant requests based on rules and regulations of the Commission which must be adopted under the bill. Grants could have been awarded beginning September 1, 2006, depending on the amount of funds in the Citizen Safety Grant Fund, created by section 4 of the bill. The Fund was to contain the revenue generated by the alcoholic beverages tax increases in section 7.

Section 7 would have amended section 53-160 to increase the alcoholic beverages excise tax. The tax increased as follows:

Beverage	Current	LB 911	% Change
Beer	31 cents/gallon	36 cents/gallon	16%
Wine	\$0.95/gallon	\$0.98/gallon	3%
Farm Wine	6 cents/gallon	6 cents/gallon	N/C
Spirits	\$3.75/gallon	\$3.82/gallon	2%

This section also required the proceeds from the increases be deposited in the Citizen Safety Grant Fund instead of the General Fund.

The increase was to be operative July 1, 2006 and the bill carried the emergency clause.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator David Landis, Chairperson