ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB62

Hearing Date: Thursday January 20, 2011

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer: Heidemann

One Liner: Change budget revision and salary approval provisions for counties

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Avery, Brasch, Janssen, Karpisek, Pahls, Price, Schumacher,

Sullivan

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Senator Lavon Heidemann Introducer

Timothy Nelsen Otoe County Commissioners
Terry Keebler Johnson County Commissioners

Pamela Lancaster Hall County - Supervisor

Larry Dix Nebraska Association of County Officials

Opponents: Representing:

Rodney Wetovick Nance County Attorney

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 62 amends the County Budget Act to provide that a county board will not eliminate or unduly hinder a county officer in the conduct of his or her duties. If an office is going to be negatively affected by the budget revision, the office will have the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the revision is arbitrary, unreasonable, or capricious.

The county board will consider all budget revisions and the board's decisions will not be overturned unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the action of the board is not in the best interests of the county.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment provides that the county board will consider all budget revisions of every county office or department.

The amendment removes language stating that the board's decisions would not be overturned unless there was evidence that the action of the board was not in the best interests of the county. The language requiring the office or department to prove by clear and convincing evidence that a budget revision by the county board is arbitrary, unreasonable or capricious remains in the bill.

Bill Avery, Chairperson