

AMENDMENTS TO LB754

Introduced by Government, Military and Veterans Affairs.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 Section 1. (1) The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs is
4 created. The commission shall consist of the following voting members:

5 (a) The Director of Economic Development;

6 (b) The Adjutant General or his or her designee;

7 (c) The Director of Veterans' Affairs; and

8 (d) Three residents of the State of Nebraska, one from each
9 congressional district. At least one of the three residents shall have
10 current or prior military experience and at least one shall have a
11 background in business.

12 (2) The commission shall have the following nonvoting, ex officio
13 members:

14 (a) The chair of the State Committee of Employer Support of the
15 Guard and Reserve;

16 (b) The commander of the 55th Wing of the Air Combat Command or his
17 or her designee;

18 (c) The commander of the United States Strategic Command or his or
19 her designee; and

20 (d) The commander of the 557th Weather Wing of the United States Air
21 Force or his or her designee.

22 (3) The members of the commission described in subdivision (1)(d) of
23 this section shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall
24 designate the initial terms of the members described in subdivision (1)
25 (d) of this section so that one member serves for a term of two years,
26 one member serves for a term of three years, and one member serves for a
27 term of four years. Succeeding appointments shall be for terms of four

1 years and shall be made in the same manner as the original appointments.
2 The terms of the members shall begin on October 1 of the year in which
3 they are appointed unless appointed to fill a vacancy. Appointments to
4 fill a vacancy, occurring other than by the expiration of a term of
5 office, shall be made for the unexpired term of the member whose office
6 is vacated.

7 Sec. 2. The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs shall have
8 the authority to receive and administer funds from state, federal, and
9 other sources. Additionally, the commission shall:

10 (1) Address matters of military significance to Nebraska;

11 (2) Maintain a cooperative and constructive relationship between
12 state agencies and the military and veteran entities in Nebraska as
13 necessary to ensure coordination and implementation of unified and
14 comprehensive statewide strategies involved with, or affected by, the
15 military;

16 (3) Focus on and, when designated, serve as lead agency on:

17 (a) Defense economic adjustment and transition information and
18 activities;

19 (b) Exploring operating costs, missions, and strategic value of
20 federal military installations located in the state;

21 (c) Employment issues for communities that depend on defense bases
22 and defense-related businesses; and

23 (d) Assistance provided to communities that have experienced a
24 defense-related closure or realignment;

25 (4) Advise the Governor, the Legislature, and other appropriate
26 governmental officials on all matters in which the military services and
27 the state have mutual interests, needs, and concerns;

28 (5) Promote and optimize state and United States Department of
29 Defense initiatives that will improve the military value of the Nebraska
30 National Guard, active and reserve military force structure and
31 installations, and the quality of life for military personnel residing in

1 Nebraska;

2 (6) Partner with local communities to conduct ongoing analyses of
3 current and proposed changes to the mission, military force structure,
4 and alignment of the United States Department of Defense;

5 (7) Recommend state, federal, and local economic development
6 projects to promote, foster, and support economic progress through a
7 military presence in Nebraska;

8 (8) Assist the private sector in developing derivative investments,
9 employment, and educational opportunities associated with high technology
10 programs and activities at Nebraska's military installations;

11 (9) Partner with local communities to develop methods to improve
12 private and public employment opportunities for former members of the
13 military and their families residing in this state; and

14 (10) Identify and support ways to provide sound infrastructure,
15 adequate housing, education, and transition support into Nebraska's
16 workforce for military members and their families, retired military
17 personnel, and veterans.

18 Sec. 3. The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs shall elect
19 a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary from among its members.

20 The commission shall meet two times each year at such times and
21 places as shall be determined by the chairperson and shall keep a record
22 of its proceedings. The chairperson may call special meetings at any time
23 he or she deems necessary. The secretary shall mail written notice of the
24 time and place of all meetings in advance to each voting and nonvoting,
25 ex officio member of the commission. The secretary shall also provide
26 notice of all meetings as provided under section 84-1411.

27 Sec. 4. (1) Members of the Commission on Military and Veteran
28 Affairs shall receive no compensation for their services as members of
29 the commission other than their salary, but shall be reimbursed for
30 actual and necessary expenses.

31 (2) Reimbursement for expenses shall be as provided in sections

1 81-1174 to 81-1177.

2 Sec. 5. (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall hire a
3 military affairs liaison for the Commission on Military and Veteran
4 Affairs and fix his or her salary. The department shall provide
5 administrative support to the commission as needed. The liaison shall
6 have military experience and serve at the pleasure of the commission. The
7 liaison shall not be subject to Chapter 81, article 13.

8 (2) The liaison shall be responsible for the administrative
9 operations of the commission and shall perform such other duties as may
10 be delegated or assigned by the commission.

11 (3) The commission may obtain the services of experts and
12 consultants as necessary to carry out its duties.

13 Sec. 6. The Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs shall
14 prepare an annual report summarizing the military assets of Nebraska,
15 including installations and missions, and the economic impact of the
16 military assets in Nebraska. The report shall also include
17 recommendations for preserving and sustaining military assets and
18 missions existing in Nebraska and recommendations for actions which the
19 state can take to encourage expanding such assets and missions. The
20 commission shall submit the report electronically to the Legislature, the
21 Governor, and the commanding officer of every military base in Nebraska
22 on or before November 15 of each year.