

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2020**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB850**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday January 30, 2020  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Pansing Brooks  
**One Liner:** Authorize placement of a monument to the First Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Infantry at Fort Donelson National Battlefield

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Blood, Brewer, Hansen, M., Hilgers, Hunt, Kolowski, La Grone, Lowe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Patty Pansing Brooks  
Gayla Koerting  
Tom Dawson  
Steve Guenzel  
Eric Bachenberg

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Lincoln CWRT  
Self  
Civil War Round Table of NE  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

This bill contains legislative findings that recite historical details of the Battle of Fort Donelson, declare the importance of this battle in the course of the Civil War, and commend to Nebraskans the merits of commemorating the laudable conduct of the Regiment's role in the conflict.

The bill would direct the Nebraska Secretary of State to submit a written request to the United States Secretary of the Interior that a monument commemorating the First Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Infantry be placed at the Fort Donelson Memorial Battlefield. The bill would also create a committee to plan for the production and placement of the monument. The monument committee would create a report on the monument plans and submit it to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature before December 31 of each year until the monument committee terminates upon completion of its purpose.

Finally, the bill provides that the monument committee shall be funded by private funds and administered by a private foundation. It forbids the use of general funds for this purpose.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 2226 modifies LB 850 to give appointment authority for monument committee replacements to the Secretary of State instead of to the Chair of the Government Committee. There is also a revisor change modifying how the words "general funds" are capitalized.

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Tom Brewer, Chairperson