

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 758**

Introduced by Scheer, 19.

Read first time January 08, 2020

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the State Capitol; to amend sections
- 2 72-2201 and 72-2202, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to
- 3 restate intent; to name the courtyards; to harmonize provisions; and
- 4 to repeal the original sections.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 72-2201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
2 amended to read:

3 72-2201 Sections 72-2201 to 72-2214 and section 3 of this act shall  
4 be known and may be cited as the Nebraska State Capitol Preservation and  
5 Restoration Act.

6 Sec. 2. Section 72-2202, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
7 amended to read:

8 72-2202 (1) In 1919, the Nebraska State Capitol Commission began the  
9 search for an architect to design a new State Capitol to replace the  
10 existing structure in Lincoln. New York architect Bertram Grosvenor  
11 Goodhue was selected as the chief architect, and construction began in  
12 April 1922. During the ten-year construction period, the Nebraska State  
13 Capitol Commission, comprised at that time of the Governor, the State  
14 Engineer, and three appointed members, oversaw the building's  
15 construction, with the final phase completed in 1932. The final cost of  
16 construction was nine million eight hundred thousand dollars.

17 (2) Considered one of the world's greatest architectural  
18 achievements, the Nebraska State Capitol contains all three branches of  
19 government and is an inspiring monument for all Nebraskans. No other  
20 building in the State of Nebraska is as recognized and open to all  
21 Nebraskans as the State Capitol. The State Capitol combines innovative  
22 design, artistry in the form of carvings and mosaics, and original  
23 inscriptions expressing the hopes and values of Nebraskans.

24 (3) Because of the history and unique beauty of the State Capitol,  
25 it is the intent of the Legislature that the Office of the Nebraska  
26 Capitol Commission, created pursuant to the Nebraska State Capitol  
27 Preservation and Restoration Act, provide the highest quality  
28 preservation, restoration, and enhancement of and long-term planning for  
29 the State Capitol and capitol grounds for the perpetual use by state  
30 government and the enjoyment of all persons.

31 Sec. 3. (1) The courtyards of the State Capitol are hereby named

1 for the artists who created the State Capitol as provided in this  
2 section.

3 (2) The northeast courtyard is named the Bertram Goodhue courtyard  
4 recognizing his design for the building.

5 (3) The southeast courtyard is named the Hartley Burr Alexander  
6 courtyard recognizing his development of original inscriptions and themes  
7 for decoration of the building.

8 (4) The southwest courtyard is named the Hildreth Meière courtyard  
9 recognizing her designs for mosaics appearing throughout the building.

10 (5) The northwest courtyard is named the Lee Lawrie courtyard  
11 recognizing his stone carvings and the iconic Sower atop the building.

12 Sec. 4. Original sections 72-2201 and 72-2202, Reissue Revised  
13 Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.