

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2022
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB927

Hearing Date: Thursday February 10, 2022
Committee On: Revenue
Introducer: Pahls
One Liner: Change provisions relating to the use of state assistance and a limitation on state assistance under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Briese, Flood, Lindstrom, Linehan, Pahls
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Friesen

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:
Senator Rich Pahls
Jack Cheloha
Stephen Curtiss
Lynn Rex
Vinny Palermo

Representing:
Introducer
City of Omaha
City of Omaha
League of Nebraska Municipalities
City of Omaha

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB927 makes several changes to the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act.

First, it amends the definition of a convention and meeting center facility to add parking facilities that are nearby, but not connected to the convention and meeting center facility. The parking facility must be for the use of the facility. It must also be within 600 yards of the convention and meeting center facility.

The bill also provides that state assistance may be used to acquire, construct, improve or equip nearby parking facilities.

Finally, it increases the amount of state assistance from \$75 million to \$150 million for any one project.

Explanation of amendments:

The amendment creates a one-year requirement for a municipality to receive a grant under the Civic and Community Center Financing Act only if it partners with a certified creative district and is not otherwise prohibited from receiving a grant. Such a

grant shall not be less than \$100,000 or more than \$250,000 regardless of population. After June 30th, 2024 this provision no longer applies. The amendment also requires an application for such grants must include a notification of approval from the Nebraska Arts Council. Finally, the amendment incorporates the provisions of LB818, which would allow the Ralston Arena to include parking structures under their turnback provision, increases the limit on the total sales tax turnback from \$50 million to \$100 million, and strikes the requirement that the state assistance be paid within 20 years of the issuance of the first bond for the facility.

Provisions/portions of LB818 were amended into LB927.

LB818 was heard on February 10, 2022, at 1:30 PM in Room 1524.

Testifiers

Proponents:

- Senator Lou Ann Linehan, Introducer
- Rick Hoppe, City of Ralston
- Andy Pollock, Nebraska Travel Association
- Lynn Rex, League of Nebraska Municipalities

Opponents - NONE

Neutral - NONE

Summary for LB818:

LB818 makes changes to the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act.

First, it amends the definition of an "eligible sports arena facility" to add parking facilities that are nearby, but not connected to the facility. The parking facility must be for the use of the sports facility. It must also be within 700 yards of the sports facility.

The bill also provides that state assistance may be used to acquire, construct, improve or equip nearby parking facilities.

Finally, LB818 increases the total amount of state assistance from \$50 million to \$100 million. It strikes existing law that requires the state assistance to be paid within 20 years of the issuance of the first bond for the facility.

The Committee voted to amend LB818 into LB927.

8 Yes - Linehan, Lindstrom, Albrecht, Bostar, Briese, Flood, Friesen, Pahls

Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson