

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT (CORRECTED)**  
**LB426**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday January 30, 2023  
**Committee On:** Business and Labor  
**Introducer:** Riepe  
**One Liner:** Change the number of judges on the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Blood, Halloran, Hansen, B., Hunt, Ibach, McKinney, Riepe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Merv Riepe  
Daniel Fridrich  
Corey Steel  
Kristen Hassebrook  
Bob Hallstrom

**Representing:**

District 12  
Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court  
Administrative Office of Courts and Probation  
Nebraska State Bar Association  
National Federation of Independent Business, Nebraskans  
for Workers Compensation Equity and Fairness

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Brody Ockander

**Representing:**

Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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

LB426 would reduce the number of judges on the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court from seven to six. The number of judges that sit on the Court is set by statute. The workload of the judges of the Compensation court has been reduced due to statutory changes, declining litigation and a reduction of workplace injuries. In order to promote the efficient administration of justice, the number of judges should be reduced from seven to six to reflect the reduced workload of the adjudication branch of the Court.

Section 1: Removes language identifying the Workers' Compensation Court consisting of seven judges.

Section 2: Amends the number of judges from 7 to 6. Removes outdated language no longer relevant to the court.

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Merv Riepe, Chairperson