Hearing Date: Thursday January 25, 2024
Committee On: Revenue
Introducer: Bostar
One Liner: Adopt the Caregiver Tax Credit Act

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Kauth, Linehan, Meyer, Murman, von Gillern
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Dungan

Testimony:
Proponents: Senator Eliot Bostar
Suzan DeCamp
Sarah Rasby
Susan Campbell
Edison McDonald
Matt Prokop
Joyce Beck
Maggie Miller-Jenkins

Representing: Opening Presenter
AARP Nebraska
AARP Nebraska
Self
The Arc of Nebraska
ALS Association
Self
Self

Opponents: Representing:
Neutral: Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:
LB 937 creates the Caretaker Tax Credit Act to allow family caregivers of those needing assistance to receive a nonrefundable tax credit for eligible expenses of fifty percent (50%) of those expenses, with a maximum credit amount of either two thousand or three thousand dollars, depending on the status of the family member, from their Nebraska income tax.

Section 1. Creates a new statute providing for a name and citation for the Caretaker Tax Credit Act.
Section 2. Creates a new statute defining activities of daily living; eligible expenditure; eligible family member; and family caregiver.
Section 3. Creates a new statute creating a new nonrefundable tax credit for a family caregiver’s eligible expenses incurred in the care of an eligible family member; the credit will be fifty percent (50%) of the eligible expenses incurred, with a maximum amount in any tax year of $2,000.00 unless the eligible family member is either a veteran or has a diagnosis of dementia, in which case the maximum amount is $3,000.00. If two or more caregivers claim the same credit, the maximum amount is split equally between the caregivers.

Section 4. Creates a new statute that allows the Department of Revenue to create rules and regulations to carry out the Act.


Explanation of amendments:
AM 3132 incorporates the provisions of 10 other tax related bills and AM 2595 into LB 937. The bills and amendments included are LB 606 (As amended to include a cap), LB 901, LB 1002 (As amended to limit the credit to certain increases) LB 1022 (As amended to include a cap), LB 1025 (as amended by AM 2210), LB 1040, LB 1072 (As amended by a modified version of AM 2921 that makes the credit nonrefundable), LB 1084 (As amended to add a cap and limit eligibility and requirements), LB 1158, LB 1184 (As amended by AM 2486 to include uranium within the Act; AM 2596 to add a cap to the tax credit; and an amendment to only amend the tax credit portion of the bill into LB 937).

Motion to amend LB 937 with AM 3132
Voting Result: 7-0-0-1
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None
Present Not Voting: Senator Dungan

AM 2595 amends LB 937 to cap the credit at two and half million dollars ($2,500,000), to limit income to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($150,000), and to make the credit nonrefundable.

Motion to Include AM 2595 to LB 937 as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None

LB 606 establishes the Nebraska Pregnancy Help Act (hereinafter the “Act”). The Act affords a credit to taxpayers who contribute money to an Eligible Charitable Organization (hereinafter an “ECO”) that remains in compliance with the requirements to be certified as an ECO. The amendment modifies LB 606 for the tax credit to be capped at 2 million dollars.

Motion to Include LB 606 as amended as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 6-2-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: Senators Bostar, Dungan

Testifiers on LB 606:
Proponents:
Laura Buddenberg, Essential Pregnancy Services
Gina Tomes, Bethlehem House, Maternity Home Consulting
Gaye Tillotson, Collage Center
Joey Ruff, Collage Center
Karen Bowling, Nebraska Family Alliance  
Sandy Danek, Nebraska Right to Life  
Stephanie Johnson, Nebraskans for Founders Values  
Marion Miner, Nebraska Catholic Conference  
Merylyn Bartels, Self  
Opponents:  
Joey Adler Ruane, OpenSky  
Clair Wiebe, Planned Parenthood NorthCentral States  
Mindy Rush Chipman, ACLU of Nebraska  
Nyoma Thompson, I Be Black Girl  
Erin Feichtinger, Women's Fund of Omaha  
Carina McCormick, Self  
Shirley Niemeyer, Self

LB 901 amends Neb. Rev. Stat. 77-2704.12 to allow nonprofits that purchase property and develop the property or contract for development of the property and then transfers the property or the contract is completed to have a sales and use tax exemption that the end user of the property would normally receive.

Motion to Include LB 901 as part of AM 3132  
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0  
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern  
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 901:  
Proponents:  
Stacy Watson, Lutz

LB 1002 amends the Nebraska Biodiesel Tax Credit Act to increase the yearly tax credits under the Act to five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) per year starting in 2025. The amendment adjusts the amount increased under the Act to one and a half million dollars ($1,500,000) for FY 24-25, and two million dollars ($2,000,000) for FY 25-26 and beyond.

Motion to Include LB 1002 as amended as part of AM 3132  
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0  
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern  
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 1002:  
Proponents:  
Dennis Fujan, Ag Leaders/ Nebraska Soy Growers  
Randy Gard, Nebraska Petroleum marketers and Convenience Store Association, Nebraska State Chamber, Nebraska Grocery Industry Association  
John Hansen, Nebraska Farmers Union

LB 1022 creates the Cast and Crew Nebraska Act to create a refundable income tax credit for production companies producing new films, video, or digital projects and was amended by the Committee to have a 1.5 million dollar cap.

Motion to Include LB 1022 as amended as part of AM 3132  
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0  
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 1022:
Proponents:
Bob Maass, Self
Sheriff Aaron Hanson, Douglas County Sheriff
Katy Bodenhamer, Self
Hassan Biggus, Eastern Nebraska Film Office
Kate Robertson-Pryor, Self
Cale Ferrin, Self
Raven Wiley, Self
Michael G White, Self
Sharonda Harris-Marshall, NFA
Travis Beck, Self
Maher Jafari, Self
Kirk Zeller, Eastern Nebraska Film Office
Shelby Hagerdon, Self

LB 1025 creates the Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Support Act. The bill creates income tax credits for employers and support professionals that provide employment and support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as defined under the Act. AM 2210 modifies LB 1025 to change a definition and harmonize provisions with the change.

Motion to Include LB 1025 as amended as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 1025:
Proponents:
Cindie Serrano, Lincoln Premium Poultry, State Chamber, Omaha Chamber, Lincoln Chamber
Jennifer Meints, Hands of Heartland
Erin Phillips, Arc of Nebraska
Patrick Hayes, Elite Disability Services / NASP
Edison McDonald, The Arc of Nebraska
Opponents:
Joe Valenti, Self

LB 1040 amends Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-27,241 to provide up to one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) to food donation tax credits, and rewords language passed in LB 727 regarding this tax credit.

Motion to Include LB 1040 as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 7-1-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: Senator Albrecht

Testifiers on LB 1040:
Proponents:
Kelly Ptacek, Foodbank of the Heartland
Alicia Christensen, Together

LB 1072 creates a new statute providing a sales and use tax credit for the sale of qualifying sustainable aviation fuel. The amendment, a modified version of AM 2921 that changes AM 2921 to make the tax credit non refundable; AM 2921 creates an income tax credit on the sale or use of a qualified mixture of sustainable aviation fuel.

Motion to Include LB 1072 as amended as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 7-1-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: Senator Albrecht

Testifiers on LB 1072:
Proponents:
Dawn Caldwell, Renewable Fuels Nebraska, Nebraska Soybeans Association, Nebraska Farm Bureau
Reid Wagner, Nebraska Ethanol Board
John K Hansen, Nebraska Farmers Union

LB 1084 creates the Nebraska Shortline Rail Modernization Act, to establish income tax credits for maintenance expenditures for shortline railway projects. The amendment caps the fund and limits eligibility to Class 3 railroads only. Additionally, it also limits the credits to only for maintenance of existing shortline rail.

Motion to Include LB 1084 as amended as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 1084:
Proponents:
Tres Meyer, Nebraska Central Railroad Company, Nebraska State Chamber
Kent ManningManning Rail INC
Jeff Krejdl, Nebraska Cooperative Council, Ag Valley Cooperative, Non-Stock
Adam Feser, Nebraska Cooperative Council
Neutral:
Andrew Foust, Smart-TD

LB 1158 creates the Medical Debt Relief Act to have a contracted medical debt relief coordinator negotiate with health care providers to purchase debt for low-income taxpayers that are unable to pay such debts, thereby relieving such taxpayers of that debt. The coordinator and program is funded by donations from private donors. This program would be administered through the State Treasurer.

Motion to Include LB 1158 as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 5-2-0-1
Voting Aye: Senators Bostar, Dungan, Linehan, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: Senator Albrecht, Senator Kauth
Present Not Voting: Senator Murman

Testifiers on LB 1158:
Proponents:
Julia Keown, Nebraska Nurses Association

Committee Statement: LB937
Revenue Committee
LB 1184 as amended creates the Reverse Osmosis System Tax Credit Act, to establish income tax credits for installation of a reverse osmosis system at a primary residence of a taxpayer, and establishes a requirement for a real-time nitrate management plan for the Departments of Natural Resources and Environment and Energy. The amendment limited the portion amended into LB 937 to the tax credit for installation of such systems.

Motion to Include LB 1184 as amended as part of AM 3132
Voting Result: 8-0-0-0
Voting Aye: Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Murman, Meyer, von Gillern
Voting Nay: None

Testifiers on LB 1184:
Proponents:
Al Davis, Nebraska Chapter Sierra Club
Julie Bushell, Eathos Connected, LLC
Jackson Stansell, Sentinel Fertigation
Dean Edson, Nebraska Association of Resource Districts
Kenneth Winston, Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light
John Hansen, Nebraska Farmers Union
Rebecca Wells, Self

Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson