FORTY-NINTH DAY - MARCH 25, 2025

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION

FORTY-NINTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Tuesday, March 25, 2025

PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Reverend Louden Redinger, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Lincoln.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Senator Ibach.

ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 10:00 a.m., Speaker Arch presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senator Moser who was excused; and Senators DeBoer, Dover, Guereca, Hunt, and Sanders who were excused until they arrive.

CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the forty-eighth day was approved.

MOTION(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Kauth filed the following motions to <u>LB532</u>: MO120

Indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

MO121

Bracket until June 9, 2025.

MO122

Recommit to the Business and Labor Committee.

Senator Kauth filed the following motions to <u>LB530</u>:

MO123

Indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

MO124

Bracket until June 9, 2025.

MO125

Recommit to the Judiciary Committee.

Senator Kauth filed the following motions to <u>LR12CA</u>:

MO126

Indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

MO127

Bracket until June 9, 2025.

MO128

Recommit to the Revenue Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Health and Human Services

LEGISLATIVE BILL 275. Placed on General File. **LEGISLATIVE BILL 668.** Placed on General File.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Nebraska Rural Health Advisory Commission: Jeffrey D Harrison Rebecca Schroeder Roger Wells Diva Wilson

Aye: 7. Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Hardin, Meyer, Quick, Riepe. Nay: 0. Absent: 0. Present and not voting: 0.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

State Board of Health:

Mark Bertch J Paul Cook Staci Hubert Patricia Kucera Brett Lindau Kimberly Stuhmer

Kenneth Tusha

Aye: 7. Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Hardin, Meyer, Quick, Riepe. Nay: 0. Absent: 0. Present and not voting: 0.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Health Information Technology Board: Drew D Gonshorowski

Aye: 7. Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Hardin, Meyer, Quick, Riepe. Nay: 0. Absent: 0. Present and not voting: 0.

The Health and Human Services Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Kay Crabtree John Culver Valerie Hitz Richard McCowin Julie Ann Mruz

Aye: 7. Ballard, Fredrickson, Hansen, Hardin, Meyer, Quick, Riepe. Nay: 0. Absent: 0. Present and not voting: 0.

(Signed) Brian Hardin, Chairperson

Business and Labor

LEGISLATIVE BILL 455. Placed on General File with amendment.

- 1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
- 2 sections:
- 3 Section 1. Section 48-118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 4 amended to read:
- 5 48-118 (1) When a third person is liable to the employee or to the
- 6 dependents for the injury or death of the employee, the employer or
- 7 workers' compensation insurer shall be subrogated to the right of the
- 8 employee or to the dependents against such third person. The recovery by
- 9 such employer or workers' compensation insurer shall not be limited to 10 the amount payable as compensation to such employee or dependents, but
- 11 such employer or workers' compensation insurer may recover any amount
- 12 which such employee or his or her dependents should have been entitled to 13 recover.
- 14 (2) Any recovery by the employer or workers' compensation insurer
- 15 against such third person, in excess of the compensation paid by the
- 16 employer or workers' compensation insurer after deducting the expenses of
- 17 making such recovery, including reasonable attorney's fees, shall be paid
- 18 forthwith to the employee or to the dependents <u>pursuant to subsections</u>
- 19 (2) and (3) of section 48-118.04.and shall be treated as an advance

- 20 payment by the employer on account of any future installments of
- 21 compensation.
- 22 (3) Nothing in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act shall be
- 23 construed to deny the right of an injured employee or of his or her
- 24 personal representative to bring suit against such third person in his or
- 25 her own name or in the name of the personal representative based upon
- 26 such liability, but in such event an employer or workers' compensation
- 27 insurer having paid or paying compensation to such employee or his or her
- 1 dependents shall be made a party to the suit for the purpose of
- 2 reimbursement, under the right of subrogation, of any compensation paid.
- 3 (4) For purposes of sections 48-118 to 48-118.05, third person shall
- 4 include, but is not limited to, an insurer that issued a policy that
- 5 includes uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage insuring the injured
- 6 employee, his or her employer, or both the injured employee and his or
- 7 her employer.
- 8 Sec. 2. Section 48-118.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 9 amended to read:
- 10 48-118.04 (1) A settlement of a third-party claim or suit under the
- 11 Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act is void unless:
- 12 (a) Such settlement is agreed upon in writing by the employee or his
- 13 or her personal representative and the workers' compensation insurer of
- 14 the employer, if there is one, and if there is no insurer, then by the
- 15 employer; or
- 16 (b) In the absence of such agreement, the court before which the
- 17 action is pending or, if no action is pending, the district court in
- 18 which such action could be brought or the Nebraska Workers' Compensation
- 19 Court, determines that the settlement offer is fair and reasonable
- 20 considering liability, damages, and the ability of the third person and
- 21 his or her liability insurance carrier to satisfy any judgment.
- 22 (2) If the employee or his or her personal representative or the
- 23 employer or his or her workers' compensation insurer do not agree in
- 24 writing upon distribution of the proceeds of any judgment or settlement,
- 25 the court before which the action is pending or, if no action is pending,
- 26 the district court in which such action could be brought or the Nebraska
- 27 Workers' Compensation Court, upon application, shall order thea fair and
- 28 equitable distribution of the proceeds as follows: of any judgment or
- 29 settlement.
- 30 (a) After deducting the reasonable expenses of making the recovery,
- 31 including reasonable attorney's fees, one-third of the remainder shall be
- 1 paid to the employee or his or her personal representative;
- 2 (b) Out of the balance remaining after the deduction and payment
- 3 specified in subdivision (a) of this subsection, the employer or workers'
- 4 compensation insurer shall be paid for all compensation payments that
- 5 have been made by the employer or workers' compensation insurer; and
- 6 (c) Any balance remaining after the distributions described in
- 7 subdivisions (a) and (b) of this subsection have been made shall be paid
- 8 to the employee or his or her personal representative.
- 9 (3) Payment to the employee or his or her personal representative
- 10 under subsection (2) of this section shall be treated as an advance
- 11 payment by the employer of any future installments of compensation owed
- 12 by the employer to the employee. The amount of the advance payment shall
- 13 be reduced by the amount of compensation which would have been owed by
- 14 the employer but for the payment to the employee specified under
- 15 subsection (2) of this section. In the event the employee or his or her
- 16 personal representative and the employer or workers' compensation insurer
- 17 do not agree that the advance payment has been exhausted, the employee or
- 18 his or her personal representative shall make application to the Nebraska 19 Workers' Compensation Court for a determination of exhaustion. When the
- 20 amount of the advance payment is exhausted, the employer or workers'
- 21 compensation insurer shall resume payment of all additional benefits owed

- 22 to the employee under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act.
- 23 Sec. 3. Section 48-144.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 24 amended to read:
- 25 48-144.01 (1) In every case of reportable injury arising out of and
- 26 in the course of employment, the employer or workers' compensation
- 27 insurer shall file a report thereof with the Nebraska Workers'
- 28 Compensation Court. Such report shall be filed within ten days after the 29 employer or insurer has been given notice of or has knowledge of the
- 31 (2)(a) To protect the confidentiality of the employee, a report made
- 1 under subsection (1) of this section shall not be disclosed, redisclosed,
- 2 released, disseminated, or otherwise published with the employee's confidential information except as otherwise provided in this subsection
- 4 or as necessary for the compensation court to administer and enforce or
- 5 perform its lawful duties under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act.
- 6 (b) The information reported pursuant to subsection (1) of this
- 7 section may be made available to the employee for whom the report is
- 8 made, with or without a request from the employee. If the employee is
- 9 deceased, any right or obligation under this subdivision shall extend to
- 10 the employee's personal representative as defined in section 30-2209. The
- 11 compensation court may provide any or all information from that report to
- 12 the employee or such personal representative.
 13 (c) The information reported pursuant to subsection (1) of this
- 14 section is subject to disclosure by the compensation court pursuant to
- 15 sections 84-712 to 84-712.09, except as to the employee's confidential
- 16 information and any other personally identifiable information. A request
- 17 to obtain a report filed under subsection (1) of this section or for any
- 18 information contained in such report may be fulfilled by the compensation 19 court pursuant to sections 84-712 to 84-712.09 so long as the
- 20 confidential information and any other personally identifiable
- 21 information is redacted from such report or extract.
- 22 (d) An employee may elect to waive confidentiality of reports under
- 23 subsection (1) of this section involving such employee. A waiver of
- 24 confidentiality shall permit disclosure of the employee's confidential
- 25 information. An election to waive, once made, shall remain in effect
- 26 notwithstanding any change in employment by such employee unless the
- 27 election to waive is revoked by the employee. An election to waive
- 28 confidentiality or revocation of that waiver shall be made in a form and
- 29 manner prescribed by the administrator of the compensation court.
- 30 (e) At the discretion of the compensation court, information from
- 31 the report made pursuant to subsection (1) may be used in any pending
- 1 matter before the compensation court involving the employee.
- 2 (f) In response to a public records request pursuant to sections
- 3 84-712 to 84-712.09, any report made pursuant to subsection (1) of this
- 4 section that includes the employee's confidential information may be
- 5 provided by the compensation court:
- 6 (i) To an attorney or authorized agent representing the employee as
- 7 to any workers' compensation claim or claim involving personal injury. An
- 8 attorney or authorized agent representing the employee shall provide a
- 9 written authorization to obtain a report from the employee if requested
- 10 by the compensation court;
- 11 (ii) To the employer, workers' compensation insurer, risk management
- 12 pool, or third-party administrator involved in the reported injury or an
- 13 attorney or authorized agent who represents the employer, workers'
- 14 compensation insurer, risk management pool, or third-party administrator.
- 15 An attorney or authorized agent representing the employer, workers'
- 16 compensation insurer, risk management pool, or third-party administrator
- 17 shall provide a written authorization to obtain a report from the
- 18 employer, workers' compensation insurer, risk management pool, or third-
- 19 party administrator if requested by the compensation court;

- 20 (iii) To an attorney or authorized agent of an insurer or a third-
- 21 party administrator who is involved in administering any claim for
- 22 insurance benefits related to any injury of the employee whose report is
- 23 filed with the compensation court. An attorney or authorized agent of
- 24 such insurer or third-party administrator shall provide a written
- 25 authorization to obtain a report from the insurer or third-party
- 26 administrator if requested by the compensation court;
- 27 (iv) To an attorney representing a party to a lawsuit filed by or on
- 28 behalf of the employee whose report is filed with the compensation court.
- 29 An attorney representing a party to such a lawsuit shall provide a
- 30 written authorization to obtain a report from the party if requested by
- 31 the compensation court;
- 1 (v) To a federal or state governmental unit at the request of the
- 2 governmental unit if the information sought to be disclosed is necessary
- 3 for the receiving federal or state governmental unit to operate a program
- 4 or carry out a purpose specifically authorized by federal or state
- 5 statute, including, but not limited to, the investigation of a fraud,
- 6 criminal offense, or licensing or regulatory violation, child support
- 7 enforcement, or to act upon an application for benefits submitted by the
- 8 employee who is the subject of the report under subsection (1) of this
- 9 section;

866

- 10 (vi) To a person engaged in bona fide statistical research,
- 11 including, but not limited to, actuarial studies and health or safety
- 12 investigations which are authorized by federal or state statute or
- 13 regulation or other federal or state governmental units. The employee's
- 14 confidential information or any other personally identifiable information
- 15 shall not be disclosed unless the researcher has entered into a
- 16 confidentiality agreement with the compensation court and has agreed that
- 17 any research findings or reports will not disclose the employee's
- 18 confidential information or any other personally identifiable
- 19 information;
- 20 (vii) To a nonprofit organization that certifies to the
- 21 administrator of the compensation court under penalty of perjury that the
- 22 purpose of using the confidential information is to offer financial
- 23 assistance to dependents of the employee or to send condolences to,
- 24 provide memorials for, or offer grief counseling to family members of an
- 25 employee whose injury or death was caused by a workplace incident;
- 26 (viii) When release of the report is ordered by a court of competent
- 27 jurisdiction; or
- 28 (ix) When a request to obtain a report filed under subsection (1) of
- 29 this section is made by a treating physician or other health care
- 30 provider who has rendered treatment to an employee or is seeking
- 31 authorization for treatment or special services and the information
- 1 sought to be disclosed relates to the compensability of a claim related
- 2 to such treatment or authorization for special services or billing for 3 services provided.
- 4 (g) Any request to obtain a report filed under subsection (1) of
- 5 this section shall be made in a form and manner prescribed by the
- 6 administrator of the compensation court.
- 7 (3)(2) For purposes of this section:
- 8 (a) Reportable injury means an injury or diagnosed occupational
- 9 disease which results in: (i) Death, regardless of the time between the
- 10 death and the injury or onset of disease; (ii) time away from work; (iii)
- 11 restricted work or termination of employment; (iv) loss of consciousness;
- 12 or (v) medical treatment other than first aid;
- 13 (b) Restricted work means the inability of the employee to perform
- 14 one or more of the duties of his or her normal job assignment. Restricted
- 15 work does not occur if the employee is able to perform all of the duties
- 16 of his or her normal job assignment, but a work restriction is assigned
- 17 because the employee is experiencing minor musculoskeletal discomfort and

- 18 for the purpose of preventing a more serious condition from developing;
- 19 (c) Medical treatment means treatment administered by a physician or
- 20 other licensed health care professional; and
- 21 (d) First aid means:
- 22 (i) Using a nonprescription medication at nonprescription strength.
- 23 For medications available in both prescription and nonprescription form,
- 24 a recommendation by a physician or other licensed health care
- 25 professional to use a nonprescription medication at prescription strength 26 is not first aid;
- 27 (ii) Administering tetanus immunizations. Administering other
- 28 immunizations, such as hepatitis B vaccine and rabies vaccine, is not
- 29 first aid;
- 30 (iii) Cleaning, flushing, or soaking wounds on the surface of the 31 skin;
- 1 (iv) Using wound coverings, such as bandages and gauze pads, and
- 2 superficial wound closing devices, such as butterfly bandages and steri-
- 3 strips. Using other wound closing devices, such as sutures and staples,
- 4 is not first aid;
- 5 (v) Using hot or cold therapy;
- 6 (vi) Using any nonrigid means of support, such as elastic bandages,
- 7 wraps, and nonrigid back belts. Using devices with rigid stays or other
- 8 systems designed to immobilize parts of the body is not first aid;
- 9 (vii) Using temporary immobilization devices, such as splints,
- 10 slings, neck collars, and back boards, while transporting accident
- 11 victims;
- 12 (viii) Drilling of a fingernail or toenail to relieve pressure or
- 13 draining fluid from a blister;
- 14 (ix) Using eye patches;
- 15 (x) Removing foreign bodies from the eye using only irrigation or a
- 16 cotton swab;
- 17 (xi) Removing splinters or foreign material from areas other than
- 18 the eye by irrigation, tweezers, cotton swabs, or other simple means;
- 19 (xii) Using finger guards;
- 20 (xiii) Using massages. Using physical therapy or chiropractic
- 21 treatment is not first aid; and
- 22 (xiv) Drinking fluids for relief of heat stress; and-
- 23 (e) Confidential information means an employee's name, address,
- 24 telephone number, and email address.
- 25 Sec. 4. Original sections 48-118, 48-118.04, and 48-144.01, Reissue
- 26 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.

(Signed) Kathleen Kauth, Chairperson

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 80. Introduced by DeKay, 40.

WHEREAS, the 2025 Nebraska School Activities Association Class D-2 Boys State Basketball Championship was held on March 15, 2025, at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the St. Mary's Catholic High School boys basketball team won the 2025 Class D-2 Boys State Basketball Championship; and

WHEREAS, the St. Mary's Catholic High School Cardinals defeated the Wynot High School Blue Devils in the championship game by a score of 63-51; and

WHEREAS, this is the Cardinal's second state championship title and they end the season with a 24-5 record; and

WHEREAS, such a team achievement is made possible through the support of parents, teachers, administrators, classmates, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates the St. Mary's Catholic High School boys basketball team on winning the 2025 Class D-2 Boys State Basketball Championship.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the St. Mary's Catholic High School boys basketball team.

Laid over.

MESSAGE(S) FROM THE GOVERNOR

March 19, 2025

Mr. President, Speaker Arch and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. President, Speaker Arch, and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individual is being appointed as a member of the State Electrical Board - Inspector:

Tyler C Ritz, 6216 E Cedar Hills Pl, Kearney, NE 68845

The aforementioned appointee is respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely, (Signed) Jim Pillen Governor

Enclosures

March 19, 2025

Mr. President, Speaker Arch and Members of the Legislature State Capitol Lincoln, NE 68509 Dear Mr. President, Speaker Arch, and Members of the Legislature:

Contingent upon your approval, the following individuals are being appointed as members of the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards:

Nathan J Sorben, 9930 N 151st Street, Waverly, NE, 68462, Department of Transportation

Kyle Anderson, 5409 North 284th Circle, Valley, NE 68064, Lay Member - District 2

The aforementioned appointees are respectfully submitted for your consideration. Copies of the certificate and background information are included for your review.

Sincerely, (Signed) Jim Pillen Governor

Enclosures

ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

Speaker Arch announced the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee will hold its hearing on Friday, March 28, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., in Room 1524 instead of Room 1525.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 41A. Title Read. Considered.

Senator Riepe offered AM739, found on page 855.

The Riepe amendment was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 38 ayes, 0 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

RESOLUTION(S)

Pursuant to Rule 4, Sec. 5(b), LRs 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75 were adopted.

SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LRs 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75.

SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 527A. Senator Jacobson filed following amendment:

AM781

- 1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
- 2 sections:
- 3 Section 1. There is hereby appropriated (1) \$5,765,385 from the
- 4 Medicaid Access and Quality Fund and \$12,279,638 from federal funds for
- 5 FY2025-26 and (2) \$11,758,984 from the Medicaid Access and Quality Fund
- 6 and \$25,045,347 from federal funds for FY2026-27 to the Department of
- 7 Health and Human Services, for Program 344, to aid in carrying out the 8 provisions of Legislative Bill 527, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First
- 9 Session, 2025.
- 10 There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2025-26 11 \$5,765,385 Cash Funds and \$12,279,638 federal funds for state aid, which
- 12 shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the
- 13 appropriation to this program for FY2026-27 \$11,758,984 Cash Funds and
- 14 \$25,045,347 federal funds for state aid, which shall only be used for
- 15 such purpose.
- 16 No expenditures for permanent and temporary salaries and per diems
- 17 for state employees shall be made from funds appropriated in this
- 18 section.
- 19 Sec. 2. There is hereby appropriated (1) \$57,392,193 from the 20 Medicaid Access and Quality Fund and \$105,013,007 from federal funds for
- 21 FY2025-26 and (2) \$117,056,172 from the Medicaid Access and Quality Fund
- 22 and \$214,182,801 from federal funds for FY2026-27 to the Department of
- 23 Health and Human Services, for Program 348, to aid in carrying out the
- 24 provisions of Legislative Bill 527, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First
- 25 Session, 2025.
- 26 There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2025-26
- 27 \$57,392,193 Cash Funds and \$105,013,007 federal funds for state aid,
- 1 which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the 2 appropriation to this program for FY2026-27 \$117,056,172 Cash Funds and
- 3 \$214,182,801 federal funds for state aid, which shall only be used for
- 4 such purpose.
- 5 No expenditures for permanent and temporary salaries and per diems
- 6 for state employees shall be made from funds appropriated in this
- 8 Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
- 9 passed and approved according to law.

The Jacobsen amendment was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

SENATOR DORN PRESIDING

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 135. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 529. Placed on Select File with amendment.

ER27

- 1 1. On page 1, strike beginning with "Nebraska" in line 1 through
- 2 line 7 and insert "State Procurement Act; to amend section 73-803,
- 3 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to redefine a term; to
- 4 provide for applicability; to repeal the original section; and to declare 5 an emergency.".

LEGISLATIVE BILL 326. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 457. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 84. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 355. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 97. Placed on Select File with amendment.

ER26 is available in the Bill Room.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 22A. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 148A. Placed on Select File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 245. Placed on Select File with amendment.

ER28

- 1 1. In the Standing Committee amendments, AM501: 2 a. On page 3, line 27, strike "parts" and strike "they" and insert
- 3 "such regulations";
- 4 b. On page 4, line 8, after the period insert paragraphing and 5 "(2)"; and
- 6 c. On page 8, line 16, strike "if" and insert "whether".
- 7 2. On page 1, strike beginning with "the" in line 1 through line 16
- 8 and insert "public health and welfare; to amend sections 81-2,239,
- 9 81-2,244.01, 81-2,245.01, 81-2,254, 81-2,257, 81-2,259, 81-2,268, 10 81-2,270, 81-2,271, 81-2,274, 81-2,277, 89-186, 89-187, 89-187.02, and
- 11 89-187.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change and eliminate
- 12 provisions of the Nebraska Pure Food Act; to change provisions of the
- 13 Weights and Measures Act; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original
- 14 sections; to outright repeal sections 81-2,272.01, 81-2,272.10, 15 81-2,272.24, and 81-2,272.32, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; and
- 16 to declare an emergency.".

LEGISLATIVE BILL 295. Placed on Select File with amendment.

- 11. On page 1, line 1, strike the first "relating to"; in line 3 2 strike "81-2017,"; in line 5 after "24-701," insert "24-703,"; and strike 3 beginning with "to" in line 17 through the semicolon in line 18 and
- 4 insert "to change provisions relating to contributions to the Nebraska
- 5 Retirement Fund for Judges; to change provisions relating to lump sum
- 6 payments under the School Employees Retirement Act;"
- 7 2. On page 2, line 1, after the semicolon insert "to prohibit the
- 8 use of names, logos, and symbols as provided;"; and in line 2 strike
- 9 "and" and insert "to provide operative dates;" and after "sections"
- 10 insert "; and to declare an emergency".

(Signed) Dunixi Guereca, Chairperson

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

LEGISLATIVE BILL 224. Placed on General File.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 89. Placed on General File with amendment.

- 1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
- 2 sections:
- 3 Section 1. Sections 1 to 10 of this act shall be known and may be
- 4 cited as the Stand With Women Act.
 5 Sec. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- 6 (1) Males and females possess unique and immutable differences that
- 7 manifest prior to birth and increase as they age and experience puberty;
- 8 (2) Differences between the sexes are enduring and may, in some
- 9 circumstances, warrant the creation of separate social, educational,
- 10 athletic, or other spaces in order to ensure safety and to allow members
- 11 of each sex to succeed and thrive;
- 12 (3) Physical differences between males and females have long made
- 13 separate and sex-specific sports teams important so that female athletes
- 14 can have equal opportunities to compete in sports while reducing the risk
- 15 of physical injury;
- 16 (4) Physical advantages for males relevant to sports include, on
- 17 average, a larger body size with more skeletal muscle mass, a lower
- 18 percentage of body fat, and a greater maximal delivery of anaerobic and
- 19 aerobic energy;
- 20 (5) Even at young ages, males typically score higher than females on
- 21 cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and
- 22 speed and agility. These differences become more pronounced during and
- 23 after puberty as males produce higher levels of testosterone. On average,
- 24 male athletes are bigger, faster, stronger, and more physically powerful
- 25 than their female counterparts. This results in a significant sports
- 26 performance gap between the sexes;
- 27 (6) Testosterone provides benefits in relation to athletic
- 1 performance;
- 2 (7) Studies have shown that the benefits that natural testosterone
- 3 provides to male athletes are not significantly diminished through the
- 4 use of testosterone suppression. Testosterone suppression in males does
- 5 not result in a level playing field between male and female athletes;
- 6 (8) Because of the physical differences between males and females,
- 7 having separate athletic teams based on the sex of the athlete reduces
- 8 the chance of injury to female athletes, promotes equality between the 9 sexes, provides opportunities for female athletes to compete against
- 10 their female peers rather than against male athletes, and allows female
- 11 athletes to compete on a fair playing field for scholarships and other
- 12 athletic accomplishments;
- 13 (9) Providing for separate restrooms and locker rooms for females
- 14 and males advances the important governmental objective of protecting the
- 15 privacy of individuals and shielding students' bodies from the opposite
- 16 sex; and
- 17 (10) Inconsistencies in court rulings and policy initiatives with
- 18 respect to the definitions of sex, male, female, man, and woman have led
- 19 to endangerment of single-sex spaces and resources, necessitating
- 20 clarification of certain terms.
- 21 Sec. 3. For purposes of the Stand With Women Act:
- 22 (1) Athletic association means a corporation, association, or
- 23 organization which has as one of its primary purposes the sponsoring or
- 24 administration of extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or
- 25 competitions;
- 26 (2) Boy means an adolescent human male;
- 27 (3) Designate means to post signage or otherwise provide indication
- 28 at or near the entrance to the restroom or locker room that is readily
- 29 visible and states that the restroom or locker room is designated as one
- 30 of the following: For use by females, for use by males, single occupancy,

- 31 or for use by families;
- 1 (4) Female means an individual who naturally has, had, will have, or
- 2 would have, but for a congenital anomaly or intentional or unintentional
- 3 disruption, the reproductive system that at some point produces,
- 4 transports, and utilizes eggs for fertilization. Female includes a woman
- 5 and a girl;
- 6 (5) Girl means an adolescent human female;
- 7 (6) Male means an individual who naturally has, had, will have, or
- 8 would have, but for a congenital anomaly or intentional or unintentional
- 9 disruption, the reproductive system that at some point produces,
- 10 transports, and utilizes sperm for fertilization. Male includes a man and
- 11 a boy;
- 12 (7) Man means an adult human male;
- 13 (8) Postsecondary educational institution means a university,
- 14 college, or community college located in Nebraska that is a member
- 15 institution of an accrediting body recognized by the United States
- 16 Department of Education;
- 17 (9) Private school means any private, denominational, or parochial
- 18 school offering instruction in elementary or high school grades;
- 19 (10) Public school means any public school offering instruction in
- 20 elementary or high school grades;
- 21 (11) Sex means an individual's sex, either male or female;
- 22 (12) State agency means any department, agency, board, bureau, or
- 23 commission of the state or any other entity whose primary function is to
- 24 act as an instrumentality or agency of the state; and
- 25 (13) Woman means an adult human female.
- 26 Sec. 4. (1) The governing body of a public school shall designate
- 27 each group restroom within each school building as one of the following:
- 28 For use by females, for use by males, single occupancy, or for use by
- 29 families.
- 30(2) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the
- 31 governing body of a public school shall not:
- 1 (a) Allow a male to use a restroom designated for use by females; or
- 2 (b) Allow a female to use a restroom designated for use by males.
- 3 (3) The governing body of a public postsecondary educational
- 4 institution shall designate each group restroom within each school
- 5 <u>building as one of the following:</u> For use by females, for use by males,
- 6 single occupancy, or for use by families.
- 7 (4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the
- 8 governing body of a public postsecondary educational institution shall 9 not:
- 10 (a) Allow a male to use a restroom designated for use by females; or
- 11 (b) Allow a female to use a restroom designated for use by males.
- 12 (5) This section shall not apply to:
- 13 (a) An individual entering a restroom under the following
- 14 circumstances:
- 15 (i) Entrance for custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes so
- 16 long as such individual takes reasonable steps to ensure that no
- 17 individual of the opposite sex is in a state of undress prior to entering
- 18 the restroom; or
- 19 (ii) Entrance to render emergency assistance; or
- 20 (b) A parent or caregiver bringing a minor child or an individual
- 21 with a disability that is of the opposite sex of such parent or caregiver
- 22 into a restroom designated for such parent's or caregiver's sex.
- 23 (6) The governing body of a public school or a public postsecondary
- 24 educational institution or any official or employee of a public school or
- 25 a public postsecondary educational institution shall not retaliate
- 26 against any individual for reporting in good faith a violation of this
- 27 section or related rules, regulations, or policies.
- 28 Sec. 5. (1) The governing body of a public school shall designate

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

- 29 each locker room within each school building as one of the following: For
- 30 use by females, for use by males, or single occupancy.
- 31 (2) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the
- 1 governing body of a public school shall not:
- 2 (a) Allow a male to enter or use a locker room designated for and
- 3 being used at such time by one or more females; or
- 4 (b) Allow a female to enter or use a locker room designated for and
- 5 being used at such time by one or more males.
- 6 (3) The governing body of a public postsecondary educational
- 7 institution shall designate each locker room within each school building
- 8 as one of the following: For use by females, for use by males, or single 9 occupancy.
- 10 (4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the
- 11 governing body of a public postsecondary educational institution shall
- 12 not:
- 13 (a) Allow a male to enter or use a locker room designated for and
- 14 being used at such time by one or more females; or
- 15 (b) Allow a female to enter or use a locker room designated for and
- 16 being used at such time by one or more males.
- 17 (5) This section shall not apply to an individual entering a locker
- 18 room under the following circumstances:
- 19 (a) Entrance for custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes so
- 20 long as such individual takes reasonable steps to ensure that no
- 21 individual of the opposite sex is in a state of undress prior to entering
- 22 the locker room;
- 23 (b) Entrance to render emergency assistance; or
- 24 (c) Entrance by a coach, athletic trainer, or other authorized
- 25 official or school employee so long as such individual takes reasonable
- 26 steps to ensure that no individual of the opposite sex is in a state of
- 27 undress prior to entering the locker room.
- 28 (6) The governing body of a public school or a public postsecondary
- 29 educational institution or any official or employee of a public school or
- 30 a public postsecondary educational institution shall not retaliate
- 31 against any individual for reporting in good faith a violation of this
- 1 section or related rules, regulations, or policies.
- 2 Sec. 6. (1) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or
- 3 sport sponsored by a public school, a private school whose students or
- 4 teams compete against a public school in an interscholastic or intramural
- 5 sport, or a private school that is a member of an athletic association,
- 6 the team or sport shall be expressly designated as one of the following
- 7 based on sex:
- 8 (a) Males, men, or boys;
- 9 (b) Females, women, or girls; or
- 10 (c) Coed or mixed.
- 11 (2)(a) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport
- 12 sponsored by a public school, a private school whose students or teams
- 13 compete against a public school in an interscholastic or intramural
- 14 sport, or a private school that is a member of an athletic association, a
- 15 team or sport designated for females, women, or girls shall not be open
- 16 to a male student.
- 17 (b) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport
- 18 sponsored by a public school, a private school whose students or teams
- 19 compete against a public school in an interscholastic or intramural
- 20 sport, or a private school that is a member of an athletic association, a
- 21 team or sport designated for males, men, or boys shall not be open to a
- 22 female student unless there is no female team offered or available for 23 such sport for such female student.
- 24 (3) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport
- 25 sponsored by a public postsecondary educational institution, a private
- 26 postsecondary educational institution whose students or teams compete

- 27 against a public postsecondary educational institution, or a private
- 28 postsecondary educational institution that is a member of an athletic
- 29 association, the team or sport shall be expressly designated as one of
- 30 the following based on sex:
- 31 (a) Males, men, or boys;
- 1 (b) Females, women, or girls; or
- 2 (c) Coed or mixed.
- 3 (4)(a) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport
- 4 sponsored by a public postsecondary educational institution, a private
- 5 postsecondary educational institution whose students or teams compete
- 6 against a public postsecondary educational institution, or a private
- 7 postsecondary educational institution that is a member of an athletic
- 8 association, a team or sport designated for females, women, or girls
- 9 shall not be open to a male student.
- 10 (b) For an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport
- 11 sponsored by a public postsecondary educational institution, a private
- 12 postsecondary educational institution whose students or teams compete
- 13 against a public postsecondary educational institution, or a private
- 14 postsecondary educational institution that is a member of an athletic
- 15 association, a team or sport designated for males, men, or boys shall not
- 16 be open to a female student unless there is no female team offered or
- 17 available for such sport for such female student.
- 18 (5) In order to participate in an interscholastic or intramural
- 19 athletic team or sport that is designated for males, men, or boys or
- 20 designated for female, women, or girls and that is sponsored by (a) a
- 21 public school or a public postsecondary educational institution or (b) a
- 22 private school or a private postsecondary educational institution subject
- 23 to the Stand With Women Act, a student shall provide to such school or
- 24 postsecondary educational institution confirmation of such student's sex
- 25 on a document signed by a doctor or signed under the authority of a
- 26 doctor.
- 27 (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the
- 28 eligibility of any student to participate in any interscholastic or
- 29 intramural athletic teams or sports designated as coed or mixed.
- 30 Sec. 7. A government entity, licensing or accrediting organization,
- 31 or athletic association shall not entertain a complaint, open an
- 1 investigation, or take any other adverse action against a public or
- 2 private school or a public or private postsecondary educational
- 3 institution for maintaining any separate interscholastic or intramural
- 4 athletic team or sport for female students.
- 5 Sec. 8. The governing body of each public school and public
- 6 postsecondary educational institution and each private school and private
- 7 postsecondary educational institution subject to the Stand With Women Act
- 8 shall adopt a policy implementing the Stand With Women Act. Such policy
- 9 shall include provisions regarding the conduct of visitors and the
- 10 public.
- 11 Sec. 9. Each state agency in the adoption and promulgation of
- 12 administrative rules and regulations, the enforcement of administrative
- 13 decisions, and the adjudication of disputes by administrative agencies
- 14 shall define an individual's sex as either a male or female.
- 15 Sec. 10. An individual born with a diagnosis of a disorder or
- 16 difference in sex development shall have the relevant legal protections
- 17 and accommodations afforded under the federal Americans with Disabilities
- 18 Act of 1990, as amended.
- 19 Sec. 11. If any section in this act or any part of any section is
- 20 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect
- 21 the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 345. Placed on General File with amendment.

<u>AM710</u>

- 1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
- 3 Section 1. Section 75-104, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 4 2024, is amended to read:
- 5 75-104 (1) Until January 7, 20274, 2007, the annual salary of each
- 6 commissioner shall be fifty thousand dollars. Commencing January 4, 2007,
- 7 the annual salary of each commissioner shall be seventy-five thousand
- 8 dollars. Commencing January 7, 2027, the annual salary of each
- 9 commissioner shall be one hundred eighteen thousand dollars.
- 10 (2) Each commissioner shall be entitled to receive from the state
- 11 his or her mileage expenses incurred while traveling in the line of duty
- 12 to and from his or her residence to the office of the Public Service
- 13 Commission in Lincoln pursuant to the following conditions:
- 14 (a) The Public Service Commission has adopted and promulgated rules
- 15 and regulations establishing guidelines for allowable reimbursement of
- 16 such mileage expenses, except that such mileage rate shall not exceed the
- 17 mileage rate established by the Department of Administrative Services
- 18 pursuant to section 81-1176;
- 19 (b) The request for such reimbursement falls within such guidelines; 20 and
- 21 (c) The total amounts authorized for such reimbursement of mileage
- 22 expenses in any fiscal year does not cause the total expenses to exceed
- 23 the total funds appropriated to the program established for
- 24 commissioners' expenses. In addition thereto, the commissioners,
- 25 executive director, clerks, and other employees of the commission shall
- 26 be reimbursed for expenses, including the cost of transportation while
- 27 traveling on the business of the commission, to be paid in the same
- 1 manner as other requests for payment or reimbursement from the state. In
- 2 computing the cost of transportation for the commissioners, executive
- 3 director, clerks, and other employees, no mileage or other traveling
- 4 expense shall be requested or allowed unless sections 81-1174 to 81-1177
- 5 are strictly complied with.
- 6 Sec. 2. Section 84-201.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 7 amended to read:
- 8 84-201.01 Until January 7, 20274, 2007, the annual salary of the
- 9 Attorney General shall be seventy-five thousand dollars. Commencing
- 10 January 4, 2007, the annual salary of the Attorney General shall be
- 11 ninety-five thousand dollars. Commencing January 7, 2027, the annual
- 12 salary of the Attorney General shall be one hundred forty-nine thousand
- 13 dollars. The salary of the Attorney General shall be payable in equal 14 monthly installments.
- 15 Sec. 3. Section 84-721, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 16 amended to read:
- 17 84-721 Until January 7, 20274, 2007, there shall be paid as salaries
- 18 to certain constitutional officers as follows: Secretary of State, the
- 19 sum of sixty-five thousand dollars per year; Auditor of Public Accounts,
- 20 the sum of sixty thousand dollars per year; State Treasurer, the sum of
- 21 sixty thousand dollars per year; and Lieutenant Governor, the sum of
- 22 sixty thousand dollars per year. Commencing January 4, 2007, there shall
- 23 be paid as salaries to certain constitutional officers as follows:
- 24 Secretary of State, the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars per year; 25 Auditor of Public Accounts, the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars per
- 26 year; State Treasurer, the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars per year;
- 27 and Lieutenant Governor, the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars per
- 28 year. Commencing January 7, 2027, there shall be paid as salaries to
- 29 certain constitutional officers as follows: Secretary of State, the sum
- 30 of one hundred thirty-three thousand dollars per year; Auditor of Public
- 31 Accounts, the sum of one hundred thirty-three thousand dollars per year;
- 1 State Treasurer, the sum of one hundred thirty-three thousand dollars per
- 2 year; and Lieutenant Governor, the sum of one hundred eighteen thousand

- 3 dollars per year. Such salaries shall be payable in equal monthly
- 4 installments.
- 5 Sec. 4. Original sections 84-201.01 and 84-721, Reissue Revised
- 6 Statutes of Nebraska, and section 75-104, Revised Statutes Cumulative
- 7 Supplement, 2024, are repealed.

(Signed) Bob Andersen, Vice Chairperson

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Clements filed the following amendments to <u>LB468</u>:

FA54

Strike Section 1.

FA55

Strike Section 1.

FA56

Strike Section 1.

Senator Ibach filed the following amendment to <u>LB646</u>: AM762

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM638)

- 1 1. On page 2, line 7, strike "Beginning on January 1, 2026, any" and 2 insert "Any".
- 3 2. On page 3, after line 4 insert the following new subsection:
- 4 "(6) Any exemption certification issued under this section shall not
- 5 be valid prior to January 1, 2026."; and in lines 24 and 29 strike "2029" 6 and insert "2028".

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 81. Introduced by Storm, 23; Andersen, 49; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; Juarez, 5; Lonowski, 33; McKeon, 41; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Sorrentino, 39; Strommen, 47.

WHEREAS, the 2025 Nebraska School Activities Association Class C-1 Boys State Basketball Championship was held on March 15, 2025, at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the Ashland-Greenwood High School boys basketball team won the 2025 Class C-1 Boys State Basketball Championship; and

WHEREAS, the Ashland-Greenwood Bluejays defeated the Concordia Mustangs in the championship game by a score of 53-39; and

WHEREAS, the Ashland-Greenwood basketball team finished the season with a record of twenty-three wins and five losses; and

WHEREAS, such a team achievement is made possible through the support of parents, teachers, administrators, classmates, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates the Ashland-Greenwood High School boys basketball team on winning the 2025 Class C-1 Boys State Basketball Championship.
- 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ashland-Greenwood High School boys basketball team.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 82. Introduced by Storm, 23; Andersen, 49; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; Juarez, 5; McKeon, 41; Meyer, 17; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Sorrentino, 39.

WHEREAS, the 2025 Nebraska School Activities Association State Wrestling Tournament was held from February 18 through February 20 at the CHI Health Center Omaha; and

WHEREAS, the Yutan High School girls wrestling team secured the Class B State Wrestling Championship title; and

WHEREAS, Yutan's victory was secured by medalists Alexis Pehrson at 135 pounds and Amalea Vaughn-Lantzer at 155 pounds; and

WHEREAS, Yutan's victory was also secured by gold medalists Addisyn Darling at 110 pounds, Aubrie Pehrson at 125 pounds, and Jordyn Campbell at 130 pounds; and

WHEREAS, such a team achievement is made possible through the support of teachers, administrators, parents, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates the members of Yutan's wrestling team on winning the 2025 Class B State Wrestling Championship.
 - 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Yutan High School.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 83. Introduced by Jacobson, 42.

WHEREAS, Judy Ridenour has faithfully served as a member of the Upper Loup Natural Resources District (NRD) Board of Directors since 1990, providing thirty-four years of enthusiastic and passionate leadership in the conservation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Judy has contributed valuable insight not only from her perspective as a Director but also as a producer and conservationist, applying her firsthand experience to support the mission of the District; and

WHEREAS, as a producer, Judy has demonstrated her commitment to conservation by implementing numerous practices on her own property, including the establishment of windbreaks to provide protection for livestock and create a vital wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, Judy has actively monitored the health of her ranch through regular water quality testing for nitrates and bacteria and has consistently recorded and submitted daily precipitation data through the NeRain program; and

WHEREAS, as a Director, Judy has held several leadership roles within the Upper Loup NRD, contributing her time and expertise through active participation on various committees and through her service as a Delegate to the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) since 2004; and

WHEREAS, Judy has been a longstanding member of the NARD Native Vegetation Forestry Subcommittee, served on the Program and Planning Committee, and has sponsored educational sessions at the NARD Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, Judy played an integral role in the development of the Upper Loup NRD Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations, dedicating countless hours to attending additional meetings and offering her thoughtful input; and

WHEREAS, as a lifelong resident of Mullen, Nebraska, Judy's deep appreciation for the Sandhills and its natural resources is reflected in her unwavering commitment to the Upper Loup NRD and the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts; and

WHEREAS, Judy is recognized for her progressive thinking, strong support of education and recycling initiatives, and unmatched dedication to natural resources conservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Judy Ridenour for being named Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts Director of the Year.
 - 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Judy Ridenour.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 84. Introduced by Hughes, 24.

WHEREAS, Larry Moore of Ulysses, Nebraska, has been selected for induction into the Nebraska Natural Resources Districts (NRD) Hall of Fame in the Director category in recognition of his extraordinary dedication and nearly five decades of service to the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District and the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Larry Moore faithfully served on the board of directors of the Upper Big Blue NRD from 1975 to 2022, provided nearly forty-seven years of continuous leadership and guidance, continues to contribute his knowledge and experience by attending NRD board meetings, and offers valuable insights on issues of concern; and

WHEREAS, Moore shows his deep commitment to the principles of conservation by demonstrating a lifelong passion for soil and wildlife stewardship; upholding a family tradition of public service through his

thoughtful leadership; and commitment to respectful debate, sound deliberation, and responsible decisionmaking; and

WHEREAS, Moore has been a leader in conservation practices on his farm implementing no-till methods and cover crops to maintain year-round soil coverage; and

WHEREAS, Moore has invested in water conservation on his farm for decades, transitioning from gravity irrigation to center pivots, installing soil moisture sensors, and adopting advanced irrigation scheduling technology to maximize efficiency and protect groundwater quality by minimizing water use and nutrient leaching; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as an NRD director, Moore demonstrated outstanding leadership, serving on every standing and special committee of the board, and holding the offices of chairperson for six years and vice chairperson for one year, always with the goal of strengthening the district and Nebraska's unique locally led NRD system; and

WHEREAS, Moore consistently prioritized attending board and committee meetings, statewide NRD events, and national conferences, representing both the Upper Big Blue NRD and Nebraska Association of Resources Districts with distinction while continually working to expand his understanding of water and soil resource issues to better serve his constituents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Legislature congratulates Larry Moore on his induction into the Nebraska Natural Resources Hall of Fame.
 - 2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Larry Moore.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 17. Read. Considered.

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

LR17 was adopted with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 10 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 185. Placed on Final Reading. **LEGISLATIVE BILL 293A.** Placed on Final Reading.

(Signed) Dunixi Guereca, Chairperson

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Raybould filed the following amendments to <u>LB113</u>: AM626

- 1 1. Insert the following new section: 2 Section. 1. Section 53-101.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 3 is amended to read:
- 4 53-101.05 (1) The Nebraska Liquor Control Act shall be liberally
- 5 construed to the end that the health, safety, and welfare of the people
- 6 of the State of Nebraska are protected, and temperance in the consumption
- 7 of alcoholic liquor is fostered and promoted by sound and careful control 8 and regulation of the manufacture, sale, and distribution of alcoholic
- 10 (2) The Nebraska Liquor Control Act shall not be interpreted in a
- 11 manner that would provide a competitive advantage for one manufacturer
- 12 over another manufacturer, for one wholesaler over another wholesaler, or
- 13 for one retailer over another retailer. To the extent the provisions of
- 14 the act conflict to give a competitive advantage to one licensee over
- 15 another, then the conflicting provisions shall be construed in a manner
- 16 that gives effect to the more restrictive provision of the act that
- 17 reflects the independent nature of manufacturers, wholesalers, and
- 18 retailers. The act shall also be construed in a manner that the health,
- 19 safety, and welfare of the people of the State of Nebraska are protected,
- 20 and temperance in the consumption of alcoholic liquor is fostered and
- 21 promoted by sound and careful control and regulation of the manufacture,
- 22 sale, and distribution of alcoholic liquor. If the conflicting provisions
- 23 cannot be so construed, then the less restrictive provision shall be
- 24 considered invalid.
- 25 2. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer
- 26 accordingly.

AM625

- 1 1. Insert the following new sections:
- 2 Section 1. Section 53-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 3 2024, is amended to read:
- 4 53-101 Sections 53-101 to 53-1,122 and section 2 of this act shall
- 5 be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Liquor Control Act.
- 6 Sec. 2. The holders of a craft brewery or microdistillery license
- 7 shall not sell alcoholic liquor that was manufactured by such licensee at
- 8 retail for a price less than the greater of (1) the cost of production of
- 9 such alcoholic liquor, (2) the price such alcoholic liquor was sold to
- 10 unaffiliated retailers through self-distribution, or (3) the price such
- 11 alcoholic liquor was sold to a licensed wholesaler.
- 12 2. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer
- 13 accordingly.

Senator DeKay filed the following amendment to LB437: AM778

- (Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM659)
- 1 1. Insert the following new section:
- 2 Sec. 8. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed
- 3 and approved according to law.

Senator DeKay filed the following amendment to LB245: AM759

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM501)

1 1. On page 17, line 14, after "nearest" insert "one-half".

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 85. Introduced by Dorn, 30; Andersen, 49; Brandt, 32; Kauth, 31.

WHEREAS, Paul Hay and Randy Pryor received the 2024 Nebraska Natural Resources Outstanding Water Conservation Award; and

WHEREAS, Hay and Pryor, Emeritus Extension Educators, have dedicated nearly four decades to advancing agricultural education, conservation, and sustainable farming practices in Southeast Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Hay and Pryor have been instrumental in organizing and leading field days, trainings, on-farm research, county fairs, Earth Festivals, 4-H camps, and community engagement activities, embodying a lifelong commitment to education and conservation; and

WHEREAS, their complementary teaching styles and collaborative efforts have fostered an enduring legacy of knowledge-sharing, innovation, and mentorship within the agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, as early advocates of no-till farming, Hay and Pryor worked tirelessly to educate producers on the benefits of residue management, moisture retention, erosion control, and reduced input costs, fundamentally shaping conservation-minded farming in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, their partnership with the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District facilitated the promotion of evapotranspiration gauges, moisture sensors, and other precision agricultural technologies, furthering water conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, Paul Hay, a dedicated extension educator for forty-two years, profoundly impacted generations of producers and 4-H members through his leadership in plant science projects and postumously received the award; and

WHEREAS, Randy Pryor, a lifelong advocate for conservation and mechanized agriculture, dedicated thirty-seven years to supporting Nebraska farmers by advancing no-till practices, diverse crop rotations, irrigation management, and soil health initiatives.

NOW, THÉREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST

- 1. That the Legislature recognizes Paul Hay and Randy Pryor for their extraordinary contributions to agricultural education, soil conservation, and water management.
- 2. That copies of this resolution be sent to Randy Pryor and the family of Paul Hay.

Laid over.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Add Cointroducer(s)

Unanimous consent to add Senator(s) as cointroducer(s). No objections. So ordered.

Senator Spivey name added to LB676.

WITHDRAW - Cointroducer(s)

Senator Jacobson name withdrawn from LB646.

VISITOR(S)

Visitors to the Chamber were members of JAG Nebraska; students from St. Stephen the Martyr, Omaha; students from Mary our Queen Catholic School; Omaha; students from Trinity Lutheran School, Fremont; Leadership Tomorrow: Class 39, Hall County.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:55 a.m., on a motion by Senator Bosn, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

Brandon Metzler Clerk of the Legislature