### ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION

# SEVENTY-SIXTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska Friday, May 9, 2025

#### PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Pastor Haywood Wright, Jr., Victorious Living Ministries, Omaha.

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Senator Dorn.

### ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., Speaker Arch presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Bostar, Brandt, Conrad, Hardin, Hunt, Juarez, Raybould, and Spivey who were excused until they arrive.

#### **CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL**

The Journal for the seventy-fifth day was approved.

#### REPORTS

Agency reports electronically filed with the Legislature can be found on the <u>Nebraska Legislature's website</u>.

# **REPORT OF REGISTERED LOBBYISTS**

Following is a list of all lobbyists who have registered as of May 8, 2025, in accordance with Section 49-1481, Revised Statutes of Nebraska. Additional lobbyists who have registered will be filed weekly.

(Signed) Brandon Metzler Clerk of the Legislature Brashear, Kurth A. Rembolt Ludtke, LLP Gunsalus, Catherine Heritage Action for America (Withdrawn 05/08/2025) Harding, Mariel Reproductive Health Collaborative Nebraska (Withdrawn 05/07/2025) Reed, Annissa CTIA - The Wireless Association Sutton, Eric Nebraska Medical Association Tut, Buey Spark

# SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 260. ER78, found on page 1379, was offered.

ER78 was adopted.

Senator Clements withdrew FA156, found on page 1262.

Senator Clements offered the following amendment: AM1362

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM831) 1 1. On page 6, strike lines 27 though 29 and insert the following new

2 paragraph:

- 3 "There is included in the appropriation to this program for
- 4 FY2024-25 \$6,822,827 Cash Funds estimate for state aid, which shall only

5 be used for such purpose. Cash Fund expenditures for this program shall

6 not be limited to the amounts shown and shall be no greater than the

7 amount certified pursuant to subsection (3) of section 85-1543.".

- 8 2. On page 11, line 14, strike "1,276,856,501" and insert
- $10^{-1} = 100^{-1} = 10^$

11 "\$1,276,856,451".

The Clements amendment was adopted with 38 ayes, 0 nays, 9 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 262. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 263. Senator Clements withdrew FA158, found on page 1262.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

#### **GENERAL FILE**

LEGISLATIVE BILL 371. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 34 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 490. Title read. Considered.

Senator McKeon offered AM213, found on page 796.

The McKeon amendment was adopted with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 8 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 40 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 422. Title read. Considered.

Committee <u>AM841</u>, found on page 1031, was offered.

The committee amendment was adopted with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 43 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 499. Title read. Considered.

Committee AM438, found on page 735, was offered.

The committee amendment was adopted with 38 ayes, 0 nays, 8 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 558. Title read. Considered.

Senator von Gillern offered AM1317, found on page 1328.

The von Gillern amendment was adopted with 37 ayes, 0 nays, 9 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 34 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

#### SELECT FILE

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 120.** Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 614. ER71, found on page 1322, was offered.

ER71 was adopted.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 385. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 69. ER72, found on page 1326, was offered.

ER72 was adopted.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 470.** Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

### **BILLS ON FINAL READING**

# **Dispense With Reading at Large**

Pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 8, the Legislature approved the dispensing of the reading at large of LB90 with 45 ayes, 1 nay, 2 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The following bills were put upon final passage:

### **LEGISLATIVE BILL 90.**

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to improvement districts; to amend sections 16-617, 16-617.01, 16-618, 16-619, 16-620, 16-621, 16-622, 16-623, and 16-624, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to establishment and creation of improvement districts, funding and costs of improvements, included property, notice of creation, objections of property owners, bids, special assessments, and bonds; to redefine a term; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 48:

SEVENTY-SIXTH DAY - MAY 9, 2025

1389

Andersen	Clouse	Hansen	McKeon	Sanders
Arch	Conrad	Hardin	McKinney	Sorrentino
Armendariz	DeBoer	Holdcroft	Meyer	Spivey
Ballard	DeKay	Hughes	Moser	Storer
Bosn	Dorn	Ibach	Murman	Storm
Bostar	Dover	Jacobson	Prokop	Strommen
Brandt	Dungan	Juarez	Quick	von Gillern
Cavanaugh, J.	Fredrickson	Kauth	Raybould	Wordekemper
Cavanaugh, M.	Guereca	Lippincott	Riepe	•
Clements	Hallstrom	Lonowski	Rountree	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Excused and not voting, 1:

Hunt

A constitutional majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed and the title agreed to.

The following bills were read and put upon final passage:

### **LEGISLATIVE BILL 183.**

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act; to amend sections 69-1311 and 69-1317, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to abandoned property notices and access to records; and to repeal the original sections.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 47:

Andersen	Conrad	Hardin	McKinney	Sorrentino
Arch	DeBoer	Holdcroft	Meyer	Spivey
Armendariz	DeKay	Hughes	Moser	Storer
Ballard	Dorn	Ibach	Murman	Storm
Bosn	Dover	Jacobson	Prokop	Strommen
Bostar	Dungan	Juarez	Quick	von Gillern
Brandt	Fredrickson	Kauth	Raybould	Wordekemper
Cavanaugh, J.	Guereca	Lippincott	Riepe	_
Clements	Hallstrom	Lonowski	Rountree	
Clouse	Hansen	McKeon	Sanders	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Excused and not voting, 2:

Cavanaugh, M. Hunt

A constitutional majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed and the title agreed to.

# **LEGISLATIVE BILL 419.**

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to veterans; to amend sections 80-316 and 80-401.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to eligibility for admission to veterans homes and veterans aid; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 47:

Andersen	Conrad	Hardin	McKinney	Sorrentino
Arch	DeBoer	Holdcroft	Meyer	Spivey
Armendariz	DeKay	Hughes	Moser	Storer
Ballard	Dorn	Ibach	Murman	Storm
Bosn	Dover	Jacobson	Prokop	Strommen
Bostar	Dungan	Juarez	Quick	von Gillern
Brandt	Fredrickson	Kauth	Raybould	Wordekemper
Cavanaugh, J.	Guereca	Lippincott	Riepe	
Clements	Hallstrom	Lonowski	Rountree	
Clouse	Hansen	McKeon	Sanders	

Voting in the negative, 0.

Excused and not voting, 2:

Cavanaugh, M. Hunt

A constitutional majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed and the title agreed to.

# **LEGISLATIVE BILL 519.**

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to correctional services; to amend section 83-4,114.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require independent confirmatory testing of potential items of contraband drugs; and to repeal the original section.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 46:

Andersen	Conrad	Hardin	McKinney	Spivey
Arch	DeBoer	Holdcroft	Meyer	Storer
Armendariz	DeKay	Hughes	Moser	Storm
Ballard	Dorn	Ibach	Murman	Strommen
Bosn	Dover	Jacobson	Prokop	von Gillern
Bostar	Dungan	Juarez	Quick	Wordekemper
Brandt	Fredrickson	Kauth	Raybould	
Cavanaugh, J.	Guereca	Lippincott	Rountree	
Clements	Hallstrom	Lonowski	Sanders	
Clouse	Hansen	McKeon	Sorrentino	

Voting in the negative, 1:

Riepe\*

Excused and not voting, 2:

Cavanaugh, M. Hunt

\* Senator was Present not Voting at the time of the recorded vote (Rule 6, Sec. 9).

A constitutional majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed and the title agreed to.

# **Dispense With Reading at Large**

Pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 8, the Legislature approved the dispensing of the reading at large of LB635 with 43 ayes, 1 nay, 3 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

The following bill was put upon final passage:

#### LEGISLATIVE BILL 635.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the State Athletic Commissioner; to amend sections 81-8,129, 81-8,130, 81-8,130.01, 81-8,132, 81-8,133, 81-8,133.01, 81-8,134, 81-8,135, 81-8,138, and 81-8,139, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to authorize the regulation of professional bare-knuckle mixed martial arts, professional mixed martial arts on ice, professional muay thai, amateur muay thai, and amateur kickboxing; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 45:

Andersen	Conrad	Hardin	McKeon	Rountree
Arch	DeBoer	Holdcroft	McKinney	Sanders
Ballard	DeKay	Hughes	Meyer	Sorrentino
Bosn	Dorn	Ibach	Moser	Spivey
Bostar	Dover	Jacobson	Murman	Storer
Brandt	Dungan	Juarez	Prokop	Storm
Cavanaugh, J.	Guereca	Kauth	Quick	Strommen
Clements	Hallstrom	Lippincott	Raybould	von Gillern
Clouse	Hansen	Lonowski	Riepe	Wordekemper

Voting in the negative, 2:

Armendariz\* Fredrickson\*

Excused and not voting, 2:

Cavanaugh, M. Hunt

\* Senator was Present not Voting at the time of the recorded vote (Rule 6, Sec. 9).

A constitutional majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed and the title agreed to.

## PRESIDENT SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the President signed the following: LBs 90, 183, 419, 519, and 635.

### **AMENDMENT(S)** - Refile in Journal

Senator Andersen refiled his amendment, <u>AM1205</u>, found on page 1268 and withdrawn on page 1382, to <u>LB644</u>.

# **GENERAL FILE**

LEGISLATIVE BILL 454. Title read. Considered.

Committee AM547, found on page 788, was offered.

Senator Quick offered <u>AM952</u>, found on page 1027, to the committee amendment.

The Quick amendment, to the committee amendment, was adopted with 34 ayes, 0 nays, 14 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The committee amendment, as amended, was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, and 16 present and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 35 ayes, 0 nays, and 14 present and not voting.

# LEGISLATIVE BILL 217. Title read. Considered.

Senator Fredrickson offered AM1031, found on page 1149.

The Fredrickson amendment was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, and 16 present and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 36 ayes, 0 nays, and 13 present and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 77. Title read. Considered.

Committee AM1187, found on page 1245, was offered.

Senator Bostar offered <u>AM1261</u>, found on page 1382, to the committee amendment.

The Bostar amendment, to the committee amendment, was adopted with 31 ayes, 0 nays, and 18 present and not voting.

The committee amendment, as amended, was adopted with 32 ayes, 0 nays, and 17 present and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 37 ayes, 0 nays, and 12 present and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 391. Title read. Considered.

Committee AM187, found on page 736, was offered.

The committee amendment was adopted with 34 ayes, 0 nays, and 15 present and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 34 ayes, 0 nays, and 15 present and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 391A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 34 ayes, 0 nays, and 15 present and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 707. Title read. Considered.

Committee AM1336, found on page 1349, was offered.

The committee amendment was adopted with 34 ayes, 0 nays, and 15 present and not voting.

Senator von Gillern withdrew AM615, found on page 796.

Senator von Gillern withdrew AM1282, found on page 1332.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 37 ayes, 0 nays, and 12 present and not voting.

# SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 434. ER56, found on page 1266, was offered.

ER56 was adopted.

Senator Wordekemper offered AM1334, found on page 1347.

The Wordekemper amendment was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

Senator Jacobson offered the following amendment: <u>FA201</u> On page 5, line 15, strike new language.

## SENATOR DEBOER PRESIDING

Senator Jacobson moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 24 ayes, 0 nays, and 25 not voting.

The Jacobson amendment was adopted with 25 ayes, 6 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

The Chair declared the call raised.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

# PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

Presented to the Governor on May 9, 2025, at 10:12 a.m. were the following: LBs 90, 183, 419, 519, and 635.

(Signed) Mataya Douty Clerk of the Legislature's Office

## **AMENDMENT(S)** - **Print in Journal**

Senator Arch filed the following amendment to <u>LB376</u>: <u>AM1312</u> is available in the Bill Room.

Senator Clements filed the following amendment to LB261:

<u>AM1320</u> is available in the Bill Room.

### **MOTION(S)** - Print in Journal

Senator Conrad filed the following motions to <u>LB468</u>: <u>MO241</u> Bracket until June 9, 2025.

MO242 Recommit to the Revenue Committee.

MO243 Indefinitely postpone.

## **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

The following bills were read for the first time by title:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 316A. Introduced by Kauth, 31.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 316, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session, 2025.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 608A. Introduced by Bostar, 29.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 608, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, First Session, 2025.

#### **RESOLUTION(S)**

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 154.** Introduced by Hardin, 48; Armendariz, 18; Ballard, 21; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; Conrad, 46; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Dungan, 26; Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Hallstrom, 1; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Juarez, 5; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; McKinney, 11; Meyer, 17; Moser, 22; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Quick, 35; Raybould, 28; Rountree, 3; Sanders, 45; Sorrentino, 39; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47; von Gillern, 4; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, David L. Wilson, County Attorney of Kimball County, has served with distinction and unwavering dedication to the people of Kimball County for more than thirty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, during Wilson's tenure, he upheld the highest standards of justice, professionalism, and integrity, guiding the county through complex legal matters and ensuring the fair and equitable application of the law; and WHEREAS, Wilson has been a mentor to countless attorneys and legal professionals, nurturing a culture of excellence and public service throughout the Nebraska Panhandle; and

WHEREAS, Wilson has played a vital role in enhancing public safety, protecting the rights of victims, and collaborating with law enforcement and community leaders to address the evolving needs of the county; and

WHEREAS, Wilson has earned the respect and admiration of colleagues, judges, law enforcement, and the broader community through his tireless commitment and steadfast leadership; and

WHEREAS, the occasion of his retirement marks the conclusion of an extraordinary career in public service and provides an opportunity to honor his many contributions and achievements.

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

1. That the Legislature extends its sincere congratulations and deepest gratitude to David L. Wilson upon his retirement after more than thirty-seven years of dedicated service as the County Attorney of Kimball County.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to David L. Wilson.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 155. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Bosn, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the reports the Department of Correctional Services is statutorily required to submit to the Legislature. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an analysis of the reports currently required to be submitted by the department to the Legislature or specific committees of the Legislature to determine the current utility of such reports and if they are effective or duplicative and to recommend legislation on any modifications of such reports, if appropriate.

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

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 156.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues that emerged during the Judiciary Committee hearing on March 28, 2025, for Legislative Bill 600, One Hundred Ninth Legislature,

First Session, 2025. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Speeding-related safety problems in highway work zones in Nebraska;

(2) The use of a speed safety camera program in highway work zones in Nebraska to curb excessive speeding in highway work zones;

(3) Consideration of a penalty structure to enforce violations when a speed safety camera program is in use in highway work zones in Nebraska, including, but not limited to, whether penalties will be enforced against drivers or vehicle owners, whether those penalties could be civilly or criminally enforced, and the issues resulting from multiple penalties for speeding in a highway work zone;

(4) The rules and regulations necessary to implement such a program, including, but not limited to: When a speed safety camera program will be in use; requirements for administration, oversight, equipment testing and maintenance, and any vendor agreement; violators' or vehicle owners' rights and responsibilities; data sharing and privacy of camera footage requirements; and appropriate driver notification signage;

(5) Other states' use of speed safety camera programs in highway work zones; and

(6) Other issues discussed during the Judiciary Committee hearing on Legislative Bill 600.

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

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 157.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine and monitor issues relating to broadband and broadband deployment in Nebraska. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Projects being undertaken as a part of any state or federal effort for the expansion of broadband availability in Nebraska, including, but not limited to, an examination of changing federal requirements for various programs and any delays such changes may cause;

(2) Cooperation across jurisdictions on the shared goal of ensuring broadband is available for all Nebraskans;

(3) Resiliency and redundancy in the broadband networks being built to ensure Nebraskans have consistent access to broadband services;

(4) The changing regulatory landscape with regard to broadband services, the necessity of the state to provide oversight to protect the interests of Nebraska consumers, the necessity of related regulations in Nebraska, and where efficiencies can be found to speed up the deployment of broadband services; and

(5) Other issues relating to broadband expansion in Nebraska.

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

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 158. Introduced by Storer, 43; Brandt, 32.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the process for and feasibility of the State of Nebraska assuming the administration of the seventy-six mile stretch of the Niobrara River that has been designated as a national scenic river. Since its designation in 1991, the Niobrara National Scenic River has been administered by the National Park Service. Unlike many national park sites, the National Park Service owns very little of the land along the Niobrara. Management of the river, including natural features and recreation, is primarily through partnerships with and facilitation of landowner stewardship efforts.

The interim study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Administration of national scenic rivers by other states;

(2) The process needed to transfer the administration of the Niobrara National Scenic River from the National Park Service to the State of Nebraska;

(3) Rules and regulations in place or necessary to protect or administer the Niobrara River;

(4) The current status of the water supply of the basin to determine whether the water will remain at a level necessary to support the needs of the users, including any studies, management plans, or water rights obtained that impact river flow; and

(5) The role of state departments, the Game and Parks Commission, Cherry, Keya Paha, Brown, and Rock counties, the Niobrara Council, and the affected natural resources districts in the future administration of the Niobrara River.

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

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 159.** Introduced by Brandt, 32.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine how the nameplate capacity tax affects the development, operation, and long-term viability of privately developed renewable energy generation facilities located in Nebraska. Among several criteria, the study shall evaluate whether the current nameplate capacity tax framework and rate of three thousand five hundred eighteen dollars per megawatt continues to support Nebraska's energy infrastructure goals and renewable energy development objectives while ensuring fair compensation to localities hosting these facilities. As part of this evaluation, the study shall determine whether the current nameplate capacity tax rate remains appropriate given changes in renewable energy technologies, development costs, and market conditions since the tax's implementation in 2010, or whether adjustments should be made to better align with Nebraska's energy development priorities. The study shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) An analysis of how the nameplate capacity tax has influenced renewable energy development across Nebraska since its creation in 2010, including an analysis of revenue collected and distributed;

(2) An assessment of whether the current nameplate capacity tax structure continues to serve its original purpose of supporting renewable energy infrastructure development by replacing traditional property taxes while maintaining appropriate compensation to localities;

(3) An evaluation of changes in renewable energy development costs, technological efficiencies, and expected facility lifespans and how these and other factors may necessitate adjustments to the current nameplate capacity tax rate;

(4) An analysis of how Nebraska's renewable energy tax framework affects the competitiveness of the state's energy industry compared to other taxes imposed on energy production from other sources in the state;

(5) A determination of whether the nameplate capacity tax is competitive with taxes imposed directly or indirectly on renewable energy development in other states, particularly other states within the Southwest Power Pool;

(6) An analysis of anticipated impacts to businesses, counties, and the energy development landscape if the nameplate capacity tax rate were increased or decreased; and

(7) A recommendation of whether the nameplate capacity tax should be increased, decreased, or remain the same, based on the criteria included in the study and its impact on Nebraska's energy infrastructure and development goals.

In conducting this interim study, the Natural Resources Committee may confer with state agencies, county officials, other standing committees of the Legislature, and owners and operators of privately developed renewable energy generation facilities.

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

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 160. Introduced by Sanders, 45.

WHEREAS, the Bellevue West High School girls soccer team participated in the Metro Conference at Collin Stadium; and

WHEREAS, the Bellevue West Thunderbirds defeated the Omaha Westside Warriors; and

WHEREAS, a wind-aided goal by junior Maddy Morgan sealed the win with a 1-0 score; 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 Bellevue West High School girls soccer team on winning the Metro Conference.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Bellevue West High School girls soccer team.

Laid over.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 161.** Introduced by Prokop, 27; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Brandt, 32; Clements, 2; Conrad, 46; Dorn, 30; Dungan, 26; Raybould, 28.

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Stars hockey team completed a historic and record-setting 2024-25 season marked by exceptional team and individual accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Stars captured their fourth Anderson Cup in team history which is awarded to the team with the best regular season record in the United States Hockey League (USHL); and

WHEREAS, the team set franchise records with forty-four wins and two hundred seventy-two goals scored in a single season; and WHEREAS, the Lincoln Stars energized the community by selling out the Ice Box three times during the season for the first time since 2019; and

WHEREAS, General Manager and Head Coach Rocky Russo was named USHL General Manager and Head Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, goaltender Yan Shostak was named USHL Goaltender of the Year and selected for the All-USHL First Team; and

WHEREAS, William Prowse was named to the All-USHL Rookie Team as a goaltender, Jack Pechar earned All-USHL Second Team honors as a forward, and Etienne Lessard was named to the All-USHL Third Team as a defenseman; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Stars' achievements reflect the dedication and hard work of the players, coaches, staff, and the unwavering support of fans, families, and the Lincoln community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the value of athletics in building character, leadership, and community spirit.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the Lincoln Stars hockey team on winning the 2024–2025 Anderson Cup and completing a record-setting season.

2. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Lincoln Stars organization, Head Coach Rocky Russo, Yan Shostak, William Prowse, Jack Pechar, and Etienne Lessard.

Laid over.

# SELECT FILE

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 19CA.** Senator Dover offered <u>AM1353</u>, found on page 1377.

The Dover amendment was adopted with 31 ayes, 0 nays, 14 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Lippincott offered the following amendment: AM1233

1 1. On page 1, line 8, strike "four", show as stricken, and insert

2 "<u>eight</u>"; and in line 19 before the period insert "and change the period

3 of ineligibility from four years to eight years after a person serves

4 three consecutive terms".

The Lippincott amendment lost with 5 ayes, 24 nays, 16 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 261. Placed on Select File.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 264.** Placed on Select File with amendment. <u>ER77</u> is available in the Bill Room.

(Signed) Dunixi Guereca, Chairperson

#### SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 647. ER70, found on page 1321, was offered.

ER70 was adopted.

Senator Sanders asked unanimous consent to withdraw <u>FA80</u>, found on page 963, and replace it with substitute amendment, <u>AM1360</u>, available in the Bill Room.

No objections. So ordered.

#### **SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING**

The Sanders amendment was adopted with 33 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Senator Raybould withdrew AM1255, found on page 1314.

Senator Sorrentino withdrew AM1311, found on page 1353.

Senator Dungan offered the following amendment: <u>FA200</u> Strike Sections 21, 22, 25, 30, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57.

Senator Brandt moved the previous question. The question is, "Shall the debate now close?"

Senator von Gillern moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 22 ayes, 0 nays, and 27 not voting.

The Brandt motion to cease debate prevailed with 26 ayes, 1 nay, 16 present and not voting, and 6 excused and not voting.

Senator Dungan requested a roll call vote on his amendment.

Voting in the affirmative, 16:

SEVENTY-SIXTH DAY - MAY 9, 2025

Bostar Conrad Guereca Prokop DeBoer Raybould Brandt Hunt Cavanaugh, J. Dungan Rountree Juarez Cavanaugh, M. Fredrickson Spivey McKinney

Voting in the negative, 28:

Andersen Arch Ballard Bosn Clements	DeKay Dorn Dover Hansen Hardin	Hughes Ibach Jacobson Kauth Lippincott	Meyer Moser Murman Riepe Sanders	Storm Strommen von Gillern Wordekemper
Clouse	Holdcroft	Lonowski	Sorrentino	

Excused and not voting, 5:

Armendariz Hallstrom McKeon Quick Storer

The Dungan amendment lost with 16 ayes, 28 nays, and 5 excused and not voting.

The Chair declared the call raised.

Pending.

# **COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

Enrollment and Review

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 513.** Placed on Select File. **LEGISLATIVE BILL 534.** Placed on Select File.

(Signed) Dunixi Guereca, Chairperson

### **REFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Legislative Council Executive Board submits the following report:

Andersen, Joshua N - Nebraska Environmental Trust Board - Natural Resources

Bradley, Jesse - Director - Department of Water, Energy and Environment - Natural Resources

Manning, Matthew T - Chief Water Officer - Department of Water, Energy and Environment - Natural Resources

Waugh, Bryan D - Superintendent - Nebraska State Patrol - Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

> (Signed) Ben Hansen, Chairperson Executive Board

#### **NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)**

Health and Human Services

Room 2102 12:00 PM

Monday, May 19, 2025 Roy Christensen - Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

(Signed) Brian Hardin, Chairperson

#### SELECT FILE

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 647.** Senator M. Cavanaugh requested a machine vote on the advancement of the bill.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment with 28 ayes, 6 nays, 10 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

#### **AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal**

Senator Meyer filed the following amendment to <u>LB382A</u>: <u>AM1361</u> 1 l. Strike original section 1. 2 2. Renumber the remaining section accordingly.

#### **RESOLUTION(S)**

#### LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 162. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine necessary reforms to Nebraska's criminal and prison systems in light of the Nebraska Supreme Court's decision in State ex rel. Hilgers v. Evnen, 318 Neb. 803 (2025), which upheld the constitutionality of accelerated and geriatric parole eligibility provisions enacted by Laws 2023, LB50. The study will focus on the implications of this ruling for parole eligibility, sentencing structure, overcrowding in correctional facilities, reentry planning, and equitable application of parole policies for all incarcerated individuals. The study shall include, but is not limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The projected impact of the accelerated and geriatric parole eligibility provisions upheld by the Nebraska Supreme Court on the state's prison population, parole board capacity, and reentry services;

(2) The implementation status and timeline for applying the provisions of Laws 2023, LB50, to eligible incarcerated individuals and ensuring timely parole hearings;

(3) The existing barriers to parole for individuals serving long-term consecutive or mandatory sentences and recommendations to enhance fairness and transparency in eligibility determinations;

(4) The development of a uniform, service-based needs assessment process for individuals eligible for parole that includes, but is not limited to, mental health, educational, vocational, and trauma-informed evaluations;

(5) The coordination between the Department of Correctional Services, the Board of Parole, and reentry organizations to ensure a smooth transition for individuals released under the new eligibility framework; and

(6) How Laws 2023, LB50, aligns with or departs from best practices in other states that have implemented parole reforms aimed at reducing incarceration, improving rehabilitation, and preventing recidivism.

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

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 163.** Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of lead and other environmental pollutants on the health and well-being of Nebraska communities, particularly those located in historically marginalized or economically distressed areas. The study shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) An evaluation regarding how exposure to such pollutants correlates with increased rates of juvenile justice system involvement, lower educational attainment, and long-term negative health outcomes;

(2) An assessment as to how exposure to such pollutants correlates with increased rates of juvenile justice system involvement, lower educational attainment, and long-term negative health outcomes; and

(3) An examination of the geographic distribution of environmental hazards in relation to community demographics, school performance, and juvenile justice system statistics.

In conducting this interim study, the Urban Affairs Committee may confer with state and local agencies, public health professionals, education stakeholders, juvenile justice experts, and community organizations to examine the prevalence and impact of lead and other pollutants in Nebraska neighborhoods.

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

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 164. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine to what extent inmates between five and twenty-one years of age, that are under the care of the Department of Correctional Services, are being provided educational services and what statutory or regulatory changes are necessary to ensure these inmates receive educational instruction. This study shall include, but is not limited to, determining how many such incarcerated individuals are participating in educational programs, including a General Educational Development program to earn their high school equivalency diploma, offered by the department as well as through partnerships with educational institutions such as Southeast Community College.

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

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 165. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the concentration and impact of nonprofit organizations in historically marginalized communities, specifically North and South Omaha. This study will explore how the development of a nonprofit industrial complex, a system in which nonprofit organizations operate in ways that often maintain existing power structures and rely heavily on philanthropic or government funding, may be hindering sustainable economic growth and upward mobility for residents of historically marginalized communities. The study shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) The geographic density and types of nonprofit organizations operating in North and South Omaha;

(2) The role of nonprofit organizations in shaping local economies, employment pipelines, and community development efforts;

(3) The extent to which nonprofit organization programming aligns with the expressed needs of residents and how outcomes are measured;

(4) Whether nonprofit organizations are displacing or duplicating the roles of local businesses, grassroots organizations, or public institutions;

(5) The funding landscape, including public and philanthropic investments, and the accountability and transparency measures tied to such funding;

(6) The governance structure of major nonprofit organizations, including levels of community representation on boards and in executive leadership; and

(7) How the nonprofit industrial complex may perpetuate dependency, dilute authentic community leadership, and inhibit long-term systemic change.

In conducting this interim study, the Urban Affairs Committee may confer with residents, business owners, community leaders, and public agencies on whether the current nonprofit landscape fosters or hinders trust, prosperity, and opportunity within these neighborhoods.

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

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

# VISITOR(S)

Visitors to the Chamber were Cheryl and Issac Rountree, Omaha; Vickie Wright, Omaha; David and Karen Wilson, Kimball; students from Laurel Concord Coleridge, Laurel; Robert Navarro, Georgia; students from Central City Elementary, Central City.

The Doctor of the Day was Dr. Hunter Allen, North Platte.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 1:28 p.m., on a motion by Senator Moser, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 12, 2025.

Brandon Metzler Clerk of the Legislature