

**SEVENTH DAY - JANUARY 15, 2026****LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL****ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION****SEVENTH DAY**

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Thursday, January 15, 2026

**PRAYER**

The prayer was offered by Father Ryan Lewis, St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, Omaha.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Senator Sanders.

**ROLL CALL**

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:45 a.m., President Kelly presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senator F. Meyer, who was excused; and Senators Bostar, J. Cavanaugh, Dover, Hansen, Hunt, and Spivey who were excused until they arrive.

**CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL**

The Journal for the sixth day was approved.

**MESSAGE(S) FROM THE GOVERNOR**

January 14, 2026

Fredric C Meyer  
1580 Hwy 281  
St Paul, NE 68873-3410

Dear Senator Meyer:

It is my pleasure to appoint you as a member of the Nebraska Legislature representing District 41 effective January 14, 2026. Your knowledge and input are valuable and your willingness to serve in this important position is

appreciated. Working together we can make wise decisions while keeping the best interests of our citizens in mind.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,  
(Signed) Jim Pillen  
Governor

Enclosures

### **GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT**

Greetings To All Who Shall See These Presents Know Ye, that I Jim Pillen, on behalf of the State of Nebraska and as Governor, do hereby appoint Fredric C Meyer as a member of the Nebraska Legislature representing District 41.

Reposing special trust in your ability, integrity and patriotism, I do authorize and empower you to discharge the duties of said appointment, according to law.

This appointment shall take effect on January 14, 2026, and continue until January 5, 2027, provided you shall satisfactorily perform all the duties imposed by law.

(Signed) Jim Pillen  
Governor

(Signed) Robert Even  
Secretary of State

### **OFFICIAL OATH**

STATE OF NEBRASKA    )  
                                  ) ss.  
County of Lancaster    )

"I, Fredric C. Meyer, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, and will faithfully discharge the duties of Member of the Legislature, District 41 according to the best of my ability, and that at the election at which I was chosen to fill said office, I have not improperly influenced in any way the vote of any elector, and have not accepted, nor will I accept or receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing from any corporation, company or person, or any promise of office, for any official act or influence (for any vote may give or withhold on any bill, resolution, or appropriation)."\*

(Signed) Fredric C. Meyer

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

(SEAL)

(Signed) Robert B. Evnern  
Secretary of State

\*Constitution of the State of Nebraska, Article XV, Section One.  
For Executive, Judicial Officers and Members of the Legislature.

#### REFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Legislative Council Executive Board submits the following report:

<b>LB/LR</b>	<b>Committee</b>
LB989	Appropriations
LB990	Revenue
LB991	Transportation and Telecommunications
LB992	Appropriations
LB993	Judiciary
LB994	Judiciary
LB995	Judiciary
LB996	Judiciary
LB997	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LB998	Revenue
LB999	Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LB1000	Judiciary
LB1001	General Affairs
LB1002	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LB1003	Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LB1004	General Affairs
LB1005	Transportation and Telecommunications
LB1006	Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LB1007	Judiciary
LB1008	Revenue
LB1009	Business and Labor
LB1010	Judiciary
LB1011	Business and Labor
LB1012	Health and Human Services
LB1013	Health and Human Services
LB1014	Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LB1015	Business and Labor
LB1016	Health and Human Services
LB1017	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LB1018	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LB1019	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LB1020	Judiciary
LB1021	Revenue
LB1022	Education

LB1023 Revenue  
LB1024 Education  
LB1025 Revenue  
LB1026 Natural Resources  
LB1027 Natural Resources  
LB1028 Agriculture  
LB1029 Education  
LB1030 Appropriations  
LB1031 Appropriations  
LR299CA Judiciary  
LR300 Executive Board

(Signed) Ben Hansen, Chairperson  
Executive Board

**MESSAGE(S) FROM THE GOVERNOR**

January 12, 2026

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 reappointed as members of the State Highway Commission:

Heath Mello, 3424 South 94<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68124, District 2-Democrat  
James W Hawks, 3121 West Philip Avenue, North Platte, NE 69101, District 6-Republican

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

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

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1032:

[FA691](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1033:

[FA692](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1034:

[FA693](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1035:

[FA694](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1036:

[FA695](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1037:

[FA696](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1038:

[FA697](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1039:

[FA698](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1040:

[FA699](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1041:

[FA700](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1042:

[FA701](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1043:

[FA702](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1044:

[FA703](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1045:

[FA704](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1046:

[FA705](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1047:

[FA706](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1048:

[FA707](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1049:

[FA708](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1051:

[FA709](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1052:

[FA710](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1053:

[FA711](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1054:

[FA712](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1055:

[FA713](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1056:

[FA714](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1057:

[FA715](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1058:

[FA716](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1059:

[FA717](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1060:

[FA718](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1061:

[FA719](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1062:

[FA720](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1063:

[FA721](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1064:

[FA722](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1065:

[FA723](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1066:

[FA724](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1067:

[FA725](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1068:

[FA726](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1069:

[FA727](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to LB1070:

[FA728](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

**NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)**

Nebraska Retirement Systems  
Room 1524 12:00 PM

Friday, January 30, 2026

LB824

LB743

LB822

(Signed) Beau Ballard, Chairperson

Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
Room 1507 1:30 PM

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

LB836

LB837

LB838

LB783

(Signed) Mike Jacobson, Chairperson

**MOTION - Escort Governor**

Senator Clements moved that a committee of five be appointed to escort the Governor of the State of Nebraska to the Legislative Chamber to deliver his State of the State Address.

The motion prevailed.

The Chair appointed Senators Hallstrom, Holdcroft, Ibach, Quick, and Rountree to serve on said committee.

**STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS**

President Kelly, Speaker Arch, members of the 109th Legislature, tribal leaders, distinguished guests, and fellow Nebraskans.

One year ago I stood before you just days after suffering major injuries while horseback riding with my family. It was a life-giving experience—and one that came close to my life's journey ending—but the upside was that it reaffirmed in me a spirit of faith, hope, love, and gratitude. Nebraskans are truly amazing. I can't thank you all enough for your prayers.

I have incredible gratitude for the people of our state, but most of all I need to give a shoutout to my bride and our amazing First Lady, Suzanne, for supporting me through every hardship and struggle I've endured this past year. Just as I thank her for all she does for me—and for putting up with me—I thank the family and loved ones behind all the public servants in this



room for making it possible for you to come here to work for a better Nebraska. By the way, it's a lot less painful to stand up here this year, so I hope you'll forgive me while I talk a little longer than normal.

2025 was an immensely consequential year for our country and for our state. Much of the hard work that we have done—both in this chamber and across my administration—has come into full effect for the benefit of our people. We have worked tirelessly to shrink government so that it better serves Nebraskans – improving outcomes, while cutting costs and waste just like a business. We have made tremendous progress, and are working to instill a culture of efficiency and reform. We have finished the job of bringing our workforce back to the office after the pandemic, and reduced our reliance on costly contractors providing duplicative and bloated work on projects and services that provide little value for Nebraskans. We have honored the individual freedoms promised by our founding fathers, especially those of religious freedom and the Second Amendment. Through rules issued by my administration, we are enforcing what this body worked so hard and endured so much to pass—protections for Nebraska kids from radical sex-change treatments.

Today, because of the massive victories I stood with the pro-life community to achieve and enshrine in our Constitution – more babies in this state are being protected from the tragedy of abortions than anytime since *Roe v. Wade*.

New leadership in Washington has created countless new opportunities for Nebraska. From moving forward on long-overdue energy development and regulatory reforms to speed road construction, to generational investments in the rural economy, the Trump administration has proven its commitment to strengthening the parts of America which, like Nebraska, feed, fuel, and build this great nation. Because of that commitment, I have proudly built relationships throughout his Administration focused on how we can do great things for Nebraska's future.

We have already seen the fruits of those partnerships. Nebraska was first in the nation to get a waiver to ban pop and energy drinks – which aren't food groups, by the way – from government-subsidized nutrition programs. We were first in the nation to take advantage of the One Big Beautiful Bill opportunity to require able-bodied adults to work before they access welfare.

I was the first Governor in the country to sign an Executive Order indicating Nebraska's intent to opt into the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit – a move that could bring millions of federal dollars into our state to support all kids in our schools – public, private, and homeschool. It's a gamechanger.

And most recently, we were in the TOP TEN states for federal investments from the groundbreaking Rural Health Transformation program, receiving over \$218 million. This stuff is a win-win for Nebraska and a win-win for America.

Our partnerships with President Trump and his cabinet are also keeping Nebraskans – and families around our country – safe. Because of our shared commitment to border security and immigration enforcement, Nebraska became one of the first states in the nation to establish an ICE detention facility to help get criminal illegal aliens off our streets. We have a simple message: Nebraska is proud to be doing our part to get the border secure and to protect America's kids from criminals who traffic people, gang violence, and drugs like fentanyl and meth.

The need for going after those criminal illegal aliens could not be more clear today. Right here in Nebraska, in just the last few weeks, we have seen several examples of the danger these individuals—and the cartel terrorist and criminal organizations they support—pose to our country. One recent incident in Omaha demonstrated not only their danger, but also showcased the great risks that our men and women in blue face every time they put on the uniform. On December 3rd, a convicted felon and El Salvadoran national in our country illegally, was being hunted by the Omaha Police Gang Unit after he shot an innocent man in a grocery store. They followed him to a gas station in a different part of town, and confronted him in the restroom. After the officers ordered him to surrender, he came out of a stall, guns blazing – shooting and hitting three police officers. This criminal met his end in that gas station restroom, and, by the grace of God, none of the officers were killed.

We have with us today the six Officers from the great Omaha Police Department who bravely confronted that criminal: Detective Jordan Brandt, Detective Christopher Brown, Detective Kyle Graber, Sergeant Jonathan Holtrop, Sergeant Emilio Luna, and Detective Brock Rengo. These men represent all of the brave Nebraska law enforcement officers who answer the call to protect our people and hold the line against anarchy. Please join me in welcoming them and honoring their service – Officers, please stand to be recognized.

Although the challenges we face as a nation are great—in spite of a few Debbie Downers—the facts are crystal clear: This is an extraordinary moment for Nebraska. After the volatility of the last few years—driven in large part by the rampant inflation of the Biden Presidency—Nebraska's economy has grown faster than most states, posting the sixth highest quarterly GDP growth rate in the country according to the most recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

After years of troubling declines in net migration to Nebraska, we are finally seeing a positive trend, showing that our growth is stable, steady, and healthy. Nebraska is now setting population records. We've seen significant growth in our urban cores and throughout our state. And, for the first time ever, we now have more than 2 million Nebraskans living the Good Life!

Our economy is broad, led by the industries of agriculture, banking, manufacturing, healthcare, construction, and insurance – we remain a recession proof state. We can bet the farm that Nebraska is primed to grow.

Our ethanol industry has been championed by the Trump administration and is playing a key role in American energy dominance and security. Today, we can proudly say that Nebraska ethanol is number one in America.

The investments we've made in our roads and infrastructure are paying off, and I'm looking forward to being in Norfolk in just a few days to announce that we have accelerated the long-overdue completion of the critical Highway 275 corridor in Northeast Nebraska – from Norfolk to Omaha.

And our cattle industry—the backbone of Nebraska ag—is thriving. Absolutely hitting it out of the park. We are number one in America! And if there's one thing I know we can all agree on: it's a great day anytime Nebraska beats Texas.

For these and countless other reasons, the state of our state is as strong as ever. But with the work of the leaders in this chamber, I believe we can make it even stronger.

This session will be short, but if we set aside politics, stick to principles, and use our time wisely, it can be great. First and foremost, we must continue to emphasize through both our actions and policies, that The Good Life is Open for Business.

2025 included Nebraska's first recognition of a home-grown “unicorn company”—a privately held startup that has achieved a valuation of over one billion dollars. This type of feat takes grit, innovation, a great product with greater execution, and massive investor confidence. The team behind CompanyCam—founded by the Hansen family who runs a Lincoln roofing company that needed a better process to document job sites—have done just that, building a construction management app startup right here in Nebraska, creating careers and opportunities for the people of our state. Members of the CompanyCam team are here with us today – please stand to be recognized – and I ask you to join me in congratulating these Nebraskans on their historic success.

There are countless other examples of Nebraskans across our state who just get to work, building success in our communities. They, along with so many other innovators, are proof of what is possible here if we continue to build a climate where businesses are free to form, free to grow, and free to thrive. With an already low-regulation environment and plummeting tax rates, we've done much to make Nebraska even more open for business.

One area where we must do better is to ensure Nebraska is not a haven for opportunistic trial lawyers chasing jackpot litigation. The costs that hardworking business owners and their teams must bear to defend against junk lawsuits can be debilitating. We must shield against that in Nebraska.

Senators Bosn, Hallstrom, Sorrentino, and Kauth have introduced a series of tort reform bills that will make sure that Nebraska is not a place where the risk of frivolous lawsuits destroys the freedom for job creators to thrive. Growing Nebraska's workforce is critical, and we must support businesses that recruit new Nebraskans to come here and put down roots. It's the market, and we have to compete to win. We're doing that work.

Throughout last year, my team worked closely with business and Chamber of Commerce leaders and economic development experts to develop the Grow the Good Life Incentive, which will provide significant tax credits to businesses of all sizes that grow their business and bring new, high paying careers here to Nebraska. This groundbreaking incentive will be second to none, giving businesses a 10% tax credit for a full decade when they grow their business by bringing NEW, highly paid people to our state. Senator von Gillern is carrying this key economic development bill, and I look forward to signing it into law so that we can give our businesses and industry a powerful tool to grow here. We can—and will—compete with anyone.

Electrical power is one of the great keys to economic prosperity in the coming years. Because of the growth in artificial intelligence and other energy-intensive industries, regions that find a way to produce vastly more electricity than they do now will thrive, while those who fail will shrink. Gone are the days when “data center” meant a giant warehouse of servers storing our emails and cat videos in the cloud, hogging power but employing very few people. The facilities of the future, let's call them “AI factories,” are critical not just for our information economy, but for our national security. We simply can't lose them to our foreign adversaries. Nebraska will win the electricity and AI power game. There's no other option.

The good news is, we are already blessed with a strong foundation. Our unique, only-in-Nebraska public power system has built the most affordable and reliable grid in America, but we need to keep it that way. One major way is to remove the red tape and obstacles for large power users—like artificial intelligence, aviation fuel, or bioeconomy plants—to build their own power plant and sell excess electricity onto the grid. This “behind the meter” generation is important, and with a few modest changes in our public power laws, we can make it possible here in Nebraska now. Senator DeKay is carrying a bill to make this happen, and I thank the senator for helping to power our economy going forward. We must continue our work to reduce the tax burden on Nebraskans, whether they live in Omaha or Ogallala.

Our tax policy is broken. We have to come together to fix it. We have made progress in three years, from delivering the largest tax cut in state history, to capping local government tax collections, to making property tax relief accessible to all, not just those with pricey accountants and lawyers. We stopped the disgrace of taxing our seniors on their social security income,

for crying out loud, and removed Community Colleges from the property tax rolls in order to strengthen our great community colleges. But the work is far from complete, and the people of this state expect this Legislature to continue its work of fixing our property tax crisis. I believe that tax cuts work. I believe they give Nebraska families and small businesses a boost. Unfortunately, over the past four decades, much of what Nebraska has done is create carveouts, subsidies, loopholes, and exemptions. What we thought was a tax cut was actually a tax shift. To truly deliver a real and durable tax cut, we must simultaneously deliver an equal decrease in government spending. This legislature has the opportunity to lead reform efforts and join me in passing a budget that delivers lasting and transformative tax relief to Nebraska's homeowners, farmers, and ranchers.

I have proposed, and Speaker Arch has introduced on my behalf, a budget that does that. And it does so by cutting spending. From streamlining welfare programs to smartly aligning our correctional facility resources to meet our current population needs, we are delving into parts of the state's budget and shining the light in unprecedented ways. The result of this budget work will mean a five hundred million dollar improvement to the state's bottom line in this biennium. For those doing the math, take note: this proposal eliminates the make-believe budget crisis that so many critics have imagined over the last few months. Not only does this budget keep Nebraska on a thriving fiscal course for our state checking account, our state savings accounts are in a historically strong position. Simply put, the breathless doomsday stories are not to be believed — Nebraska's fiscal health is beyond question.

The state of Nebraska, today, has a general fund reserve of nearly two billion dollars and the highest credit rating in our history. Let me repeat that — nearly 2 billion dollars in the bank and our highest credit rating, ever. Later this year, we will make transfers for additional property tax relief — and even after that we will still have over 1.3 billion dollars in unobligated reserves.

Beyond a healthy reserve, it's not the job of state government to hoard taxpayer money. We must give it back — or put it to work — for Nebraskans. Across state government, we're making progress:

Saving money by eliminating or merging duplicative or costly parts of government.

Funding promising, Nebraska-born businesses, creating high paying careers, and investing in workforce development by repurposing stagnant cash.

Running government like a business, identifying inefficiencies and waste.

Our Department of Health and Human Services has achieved an unprecedented net savings of \$141 million this biennium. Rooting out fraudsters — returning \$30 million to taxpayers by cutting off ineligible individuals who are also collecting Medicaid benefits from another state.

Bottom line—our strategy of running government like a business and tightening its belt the same way Nebraska families have to may not always get the nicest headlines, but it is making sure that our state's finances remain strong and we avoid the shenanigans and fraud so rampant in poorly run states across America.

Even as we make critical and overdue reductions in government's bloat and size, we have retained the capacity and courage to make timely investments in Nebraska's future. We will ensure that the state stands strongly behind the future of the Offutt Air Force Base community, establishing a program to grow the base's missions, personnel, and funding. We are adding funds to the tremendously successful Business Innovation Act program, which has done so much to kickstart new and innovative Nebraska companies, and at my direction we will ensure those funds are invested more efficiently through smart private sector partners, not government bureaucracy. And while leaving the University of Nebraska's budget unchanged, we have secured an agreement with University leadership to facilitate every Nebraska student who scores a 33 or better on their ACT getting a full scholarship, with housing, to the University of Nebraska. There are few better single measures we can take to invest in our kids and keep them here at home.

There is much fat to cut in state government, and the work will not be done in just one or even a couple budget cycles. But with this budget I've called for historic reductions while continuing to improve services for Nebraskans and make investments in our future. Together, we can establish a trend of spending restraint and fiscal conservatism that will reduce the burden and cost of government for our people, and make our state competitive for the next generation.

As we keep Nebraska a place that is wide open for business, we must also ensure that it remains a safe place governed with strong values. Senator Kauth continues her tenacious leadership to protect our kids and to shield Nebraska's girls' spaces from men. While we delivered important protections for locker rooms and similar spaces last year, silly politics left restrooms out of the bill. That simply doesn't add up to Nebraskans with basic common sense, whether they are in Ralston or Rushville. I call upon this body to finish the job of keeping Nebraska a safe space for girls by putting Senator Kauth's bill on my desk.

We must also ensure Nebraska's public institutions of higher education remain places of hard research, learning, and academic success, not woke political laboratories. We need to focus on who we are! We are Nebraska—not a woke ivory tower on the coast. How destructive would it be if our great University of Nebraska followed the same path that so-called "elite" coastal schools have, embracing pronoun culture, DEI discrimination, antisemitism, and radical critical race theory invasion into curriculum. To the misguided students and families who actually want that for their money,

you can go elsewhere. Nebraska's higher education system should be a model of true academic freedom, rigor, and race blindness. It should be governed by the same principles that have made this state great, and by doing so it will be a beacon to kids across the country who want to come to a place truly devoted to higher learning.

Kids like Mya Rourke, who is with us in the balcony today. Mya went to the University of Nebraska simply wanting a hard education, not political indoctrination or to be shamed for her beliefs or values. She has had the courage to speak up—which is no small feat as a college sophomore—and her example has been an inspiration to me to do more to protect kids like her on our campuses. Mya, please stand to be recognized for your courage and doing what is right.

To help honor that courage, I have introduced language in the budget that will definitively end DEI and CRT from Nebraska's higher ed system, and I look forward to signing it into law. Let's help recommit the University of Nebraska to the principles of its founding, make it a national light for free thought and academic excellence, and watch it thrive beyond expectations. We'll continue to make worthy investments in Nebraska's elementary and secondary students, teachers, and schools — ensuring classroom environments that are ripe for learning.

Today, I'd like to introduce you to Michelle Thorne, from Grand Island. He's an educator who works as an Academic Support Coach, helping students with behavioral issues. Legislation, passed in a Christmas tree bill in 2023, prevents schools from suspending disruptive kindergarten through second grade students from school — no matter what. Michelle has first-hand experience of the issues the law has created — as it unintentionally damaged the classroom experience at many schools in our state. Educators agree — for the sake of our kids, teachers, and schools — we must make this right. Michelle, thank you for being here as a representative of Nebraska's educators and inspiring us to do right by Nebraska's teachers. Please stand to be recognized.

Education in Nebraska deserves better. Our kids deserve better. And our teachers deserve better. And by passing legislation introduced by Senator Murman, we'll help restore order to classrooms so teachers can do what they do best without distraction.

This Legislature, even with a short window of time, must seize the opportunity to accomplish other priorities, too. Senator Jacobson's ag data privacy bill has been the subject of tremendous collaboration and work over the interim, and its passage will ensure that, in an information age where data is everything, Nebraska farmers and livestock producers stay in firm control of their most valuable asset—the data about what they grow, when they plant, when they fertilize, how much they irrigate, and all the other work that goes into helping to feed the world. I believe that Nebraska's family farmers own that data — and we're going to defend our producers from any misguided entity with other ideas.

After a year in which acts of antisemitism surged nationwide, making sure such acts are not only enforceable as discrimination but reported by the governing bodies of our education institutions is critical to ensure Nebraska remains the Good Life for our strong Jewish community. Senator Hardin's LB538 would align Nebraska with many other states by adopting a strong antisemitism definition policy and enjoys broad bipartisan support in this body. I ask you to send it to my desk without delay.

Finally, we have arrived at the critical juncture in our long-running debate over whether Nebraska should unify and strengthen its voice in presidential elections, which this body decided to divide without the input of the people in a partisan act three decades ago. I have favored restoring the law to award our electoral college votes to the candidate who wins Nebraska as a whole, and there is a clear majority of this Legislature—stronger than ever before—who would vote for that restoration TODAY. But a minority of this body has repeatedly obstructed the will of the majority of this body and the majority of this state by filibustering it to death. I call upon this Legislature to pass Senator Dorn's LR24CA to place this question on the November 2026 ballot so that the people of this state can have the final say as to how their voice will be heard in America's most important national election.

In 2025, we celebrated 80 years of victory with Nebraska's World War Two veterans. Every medallion we gave out to our veterans across the state was a thank you for their service – and a sharp reminder of the sacrifice it takes to keep our country free. Last month, I had the privilege and honor of presenting a Purple Heart that was earned – but never received – to a Vietnam War hero and Nebraskan named Ray Krings. Five decades ago, as a member of the United States Army in Vietnam, Ray was severely injured during a surprise middle-of-the-night attack by North Vietnamese soldiers. An explosion in his bunker pinned him underneath rubble, ultimately leading to the loss of his legs. Ray never let that slow him down though. Like most Nebraskans, Ray didn't have time to throw a pity party... He had too much to accomplish. When he returned home to Madison County — he got married, grew a family – 7 children and 26 grandbabies – farmed, and invested in his community. His story is inspiring — and uniquely Nebraskan. Ray never asked anybody for anything. He's a shining light of Nebraskans' 'can-do' attitude. An attitude that those of us in this chamber – and state – need to remember as we go through every day. Unity is indeed an important theme as we embark on 2026.

In 2017, Nebraska celebrated its 150th year of statehood, and this year America will celebrate its 250th year as a nation. And what a quarter-millennium it has been. Our nation was blessed with founding fathers, guided by providence, who created a federalist system of self-governance on the most brilliant constitutional documents ever enacted by human beings. Everything we have achieved as a republic since, every challenge or flaw we have overcome, has been possible because of that amazing document and the generations of leaders which have honored it and given its words



meaning and force. At the center of the remarkable system are the states, the grassroots of democracy. How lucky are we, at the 250th birthday of our country, to be the stewards of public trust in one of America's 50 sovereign states? How lucky are we to have been blessed with the challenge and privilege of leadership, to do the hard work of leaving a better Nebraska for our neighbors, kids, and the generations to come? I am grateful beyond words for that blessing, and I know the men and women of this Legislature are, too. I look forward to working alongside you – with that Ray Krings-like can-do attitude – to do the work of our state this session, and I thank you for your service.

God bless the State of Nebraska and God bless the United States of America.

The committee escorted Governor Pillen from the Chamber.

### **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

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

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1071.** Introduced by Speaker Arch, 14; at the request of the Governor.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to amend Laws 2025, LB177A, section 1; Laws 2025, LB261, sections 15, 16, 18, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 39, 51, 52, 62, 69, 71, 72, 73, 74, 77, 78, 81, 82, 87, 88, 91, 92, 93, 94, 97, 99, 100, 102, 105, 106, 107, 108, 113, 114, 127, 131, 132, 133, 145, 156, 162, 174, 175, 176, 182, 183, 185, 186, 187, 190, 202, 211, 214, 215, 218, 220, 222, 225, 228, 229, 231, 232, 237, 241, 245, 246, 247, 248, 255, 258, 276, 279, 280, 283, 285, 287, 289, 300, 302, 303, 304, 305, and 308; Laws 2025, LB263, sections 13, 14, and 16; Laws 2025, LB264, section 81; and Laws 2025, LB293A, section 1; to define terms; to provide, change, and eliminate appropriations; to provide, change, and eliminate provisions related to appropriation of funds; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal Laws 2025, LB22A, section 1; Laws 2025, LB48A, sections 1 and 2; Laws 2025, LB261, sections 76, 164, 256, 257, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, and 266; and Laws 2025, LB382A, section 1; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1072.** Introduced by Speaker Arch, 14; at the request of the Governor.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend sections 1-111, 2-2701, 2-2703.01, 2-2705, 2-2706, 3-126, 9-1002, 9-1004, 9-1005, 9-1006, 9-1204, 13-2041, 29-2262.07, 37-327.01, 47-632, 48-3004, 48-3008, 54-857, 57-1406, 66-733, 66-734, 66-735, 68-1604, 71-17,112, 71-3525, 71-3526, 72-2009, 79-303, 79-1035.01, 79-1063, 80-401, 81-2,173, 81-1201.22, 81-1202, 81-1204, 81-1209, 81-1210.02, 81-1230, 81-12,218, 81-1429.03, 81-1463, 81-1505.05, 81-1607.01, 81-1835, 81-2504,

82-108.03, 82-316, 82-331, 82-332, 83-915.01, 84-321, 84-512, 84-721, 85-1401, 85-1539, 85-1920, and 85-3112, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 9-812, 19-5707, 37-327.02, 38-157, 38-2121, 43-1318, 43-2404.01, 43-2404.02, 44-116, 48-101.01, 48-145, 48-621, 58-703, 68-1206, 68-1724, 71-5306, and 74-1317, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, sections 9-1,101, 9-1107, 37-811, 60-6,211.05, 66-1519, 68-911, 68-996, 69-1317, 71-24,106, 71-7611, 72-1001, 77-1420, 77-27,144, 77-4025, 81-1203, 81-1239, 81-12,110, 81-12,241, 81-15,120, 81-15,174, 81-15,180, 84-612, 85-1412, 85-1654, and 86-1063, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, Laws 2025, LB261, section 306, and Laws 2025, LB264, sections 8, 69, and 70; to provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to funds and fund transfers; to create funds; to provide for fees for medical cannabis regulation; to require the payment of the State Treasurer's salary from the Unclaimed Property Cash Fund; to provide for transfer of investment earnings from certain funds; to change the distribution of the permanent school fund, the Municipal Equalization Fund, the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund, and the Nebraska racetrack gaming tax; to change the disposition of workers' compensation self-insurer payments; to provide for an additional use of the Davis Scholarship Trust Fund, the Administrative Cash Fund, the Auditor of Public Accounts Cash Fund, the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund, the Victim's Compensation Fund, and the 911 Service System Fund; to eliminate the Nebraska Commission on Problem Gambling and transfer the Gamblers Assistance Program to the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services; to change provisions relating to the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund, the Commission Grant Program, the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program, federal Child Care Subsidy program, reimbursement for work-related child care expenses, state employees health insurance coverage, the Teleworker Job Creation Act, the Major Oil Pipeline Safety Act, motor fuel taxes, and the Law Enforcement Attraction and Retention Act; to eliminate provisions relating to tractor testing fees, apiary certificate fees, job training grants, youth outdoor education camp grants, the Bioscience Innovation Program, and the Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program; to provide for termination of the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund, the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund, the Superfund Cost Share Cash Fund, and the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund; to eliminate the Tractor Permit Cash Fund, the Small Watersheds Flood Control Fund, the State Apiary Cash Fund, the Nuclear and Hydrogen Development Fund, the Nuclear and Hydrogen Development Act, the Family Home Visitation Act, the Nursing Faculty Student Loan Cash Fund, the Nebraska Soil and Plant Analysis Laboratory Act, the Soil and Plant Analysis Laboratory Cash Fund, the Job Training Cash Fund, the Nebraska Training and Support Cash Fund, the Intern Nebraska Cash Fund, the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Cash Fund, the Public Service Commission Pipeline Regulation Fund, the Economic Development Cash Fund, the Youth Outdoor Education Innovation Fund, the Nebraska Mental Health First Aid Training Act, the Customized Job Training Cash Fund, the Panhandle Improvement Project Cash Fund, the Sector Partnership Program

Fund, the Nebraska Film Office Fund, the Innovation Hub Cash Fund, the Bioscience Innovation Cash Fund, the Violence Prevention Cash Fund, the Foster Care Review Office Cash Fund, the Community College Aid Fund, the Nebraska Community College Student Performance and Occupational Education Grant Fund, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Trust Fund, the Capitol Commission Revolving Fund, and the State Treasurer's Land Sales Distributive Fund; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to provide severability; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal sections 2-1502, 2-1503.01, 2-1503.02, 2-1503.03, 2-2705.01, 2-3101, 2-3102, 2-3103, 2-3104, 2-3105, 2-3106, 2-3107, 2-3108, 2-3109, 2-3110, 9-1003, 9-1007, 71-17,112, 71-17,113, 71-17,116, 71-3001, 71-3002, 71-3003, 71-3004, 71-3006, 71-3007, 72-2205.01, 72-2211.01, 81-2,174, 81-1213.03, 81-1213.04, 81-1220, 81-12,114, 81-12,155.01, 81-12,163.01, 81-1451, 81-2011, 81-2509, 81-2510, 81-2511, 81-2513, 81-2514, 81-2515, 85-1420, 85-1540, 85-2235, and 90-248, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 43-1321, 66-2302, 66-2303, 66-2304, 66-2305, 66-2306, 66-2307, and 77-3132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, sections 42-1401, 42-1402, 42-1403, 42-1404, 42-1405, 42-1406, 42-1407, 42-1408, 42-1409, 42-1410, 42-1411, 48-622.02, 48-3405, 57-1411, 66-2308, 68-2301, 68-2302, 68-2303, 68-2304, 68-2305, 68-2306, 68-2307, 68-2308, 68-2309, 81-1201.21, 81-1210.04, 81-1211, 81-1213.02, 81-1213.05, and 81-1216, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, and Laws 2025, LB264, section 74; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1073.** Introduced by Bosn, 25.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act; to amend section 60-462, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define a term; to require commercial motor vehicle driver training to include antitrafficking training as prescribed; to provide powers and duties for the Attorney General; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1074.** Introduced by Sanders, 45.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to unclaimed property; to amend section 69-1315, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 69-1317, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to change provisions relating to a statute of limitations; to change the treatment of proceeds from abandoned property; to change fund balance limitations; to create a trust fund; to provide duties for the State Treasurer; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1075.** Introduced by Sanders, 45.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend sections 32-228, 32-917, 32-945, 32-948, 32-949, 32-1034, 32-1035, 32-1516, and 79-3405, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 32-235, 32-559, 32-622.01, 32-802, 32-903, 32-915.03, 32-942, 32-947, 32-949.01, 32-953, 32-956,

32-957, 32-1002.01, 32-1031, 32-1121, 32-1203, and 32-1524, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, and sections 32-101, 32-617, 32-624, 32-624.01, 32-803, 32-912, 32-1013, 32-1032, 32-1044, and 32-1119, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide a duty to the village board of trustees; to provide powers to the village clerk; to change provisions relating to vacancies in a city council or village board; to change provisions relating to election workers, candidate name changes, candidate filing forms, political party rules, notices of election, photographic identification requirements, voting, precinct boundaries, ballots, special elections by mail, recounts, election expenses, prohibited activities, petitions, watchers and observers, records available for public inspection, delivery of the abstract of votes, penalties, and school district elections; to eliminate provisions relating to initiative and referendum petitions; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal section 32-1406, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1076.** Introduced by Brandt, 32; Strommen, 47.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; to amend sections 57-1601 and 57-1620, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change penalty provisions relating to the Nebraska Geologic Storage of Carbon Dioxide Act; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1077.** Introduced by Brandt, 32.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act; to amend section 48-146.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to workers' compensation insurance policies and deductibles; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1078.** Introduced by Dungan, 26.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to data; to adopt the Fair Online Pricing Act.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1079.** Introduced by von Gillern, 4.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; to amend section 29-2221, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to change provisions relating to the habitual criminal enhancement for theft offenses; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1080.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to civil procedure; to amend sections 25-1241 and 25-1244, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 28-915 and 28-915.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, and

section 49-1808, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide for the use of unsworn declarations in civil proceedings as prescribed; to change and transfer provisions relating to affidavits; to define terms; to change provisions relating to the offenses of perjury, making a false statement under oath or affirmation, and unsworn attorney declarations under the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal section 25-1245, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1081.** Introduced by Meyer, G., 17.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to flags; to amend sections 72-2205 and 79-708, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require state agencies and political subdivisions to purchase flags made in the United States as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1082.** Introduced by Storer, 43; Bosn, 25; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act; to amend sections 86-101 and 86-103, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define a term; to provide a duty for telecommunications companies as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1083.** Introduced by Storer, 43; Bosn, 25.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to consumer protection; to amend section 84-712.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to adopt the Transparency in Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Act; to create a fund; to change provisions relating to records which may be withheld from the public; to provide an operative date; to provide severability; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1084.** Introduced by Storer, 43.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to civil commitment; to amend sections 71-919 and 71-1203, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to change provisions relating to persons taken into emergency protective custody; to correct an internal reference; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1085.** Introduced by Clouse, 37.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission; to amend sections 53-103.47, 53-133, and 53-1,100, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 53-132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define and redefine terms; to change provisions relating to retail, bottle club, craft brewery, and microdistillery

licenses and commission duties and the process for the commission to issue retail licenses for which the local governing body recommended a denial; to change penalties; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1086.** Introduced by Dover, 19.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to community college; to amend section 85-2005, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change eligibility requirements for community college gap assistance as prescribed; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1087.** Introduced by Arch, 14.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska-Ireland Commission; to create the Nebraska-Ireland Commission; and to create a fund.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1088.** Introduced by Raybould, 28.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to firearms; to amend sections 26-101, 26-106, 26-112, 26-115, 26-116, 26-118, and 26-121, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to require persons convicted of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence or subject to domestic abuse protection orders to surrender firearms and ammunition as prescribed; to provide a penalty; to define terms; to provide duties for courts, the State Court Administrator, county attorneys, law enforcement agencies, jails, and prisons; to provide requirements and procedures in the Protection Orders Act for similar enforcement of foreign domestic abuse protection orders; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1089.** Introduced by Hughes, 24; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act; to amend section 48-3808, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to change enforcement provisions; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1090.** Introduced by Murman, 38.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Election Act; to amend sections 32-629 and 32-1546, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide requirements for petition circulators; to provide a penalty; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1091.** Introduced by Bostar, 29.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public assistance; to amend section 68-994, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide requirements for long-term care clients with special needs under the medical assistance program; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1092.** Introduced by Bostar, 29.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to license plates; to amend section 60-3,163.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide for Back the Blue License Plates and Iconic-Design License Plates; to provide duties to the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Department of Health and Human Services; to create funds; to provide for grants to certain associations and providers as prescribed; to eliminate obsolete provisions; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1093.** Introduced by Ballard, 21.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the One-Call Notification System Act; to amend section 76-2308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to redefine a term; and to repeal the original section.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1094.** Introduced by Ballard, 21.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to adopt the By-Right Housing Development Act and the Permitting Approval Timeliness Act.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1095.** Introduced by Andersen, 49.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to retirement; to amend sections 72-1246, 72-1254, and 84-602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 72-1239.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to prohibit investment of certain retirement systems assets in restricted entities; to provide duties for the Nebraska Investment Council and the state investment officer; to require reports; to provide a duty for the State Treasurer; to define a term; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1096.** Introduced by Bostar, 29; at the request of the Governor.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to state security; to amend section 84-712.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 86-125, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025; to provide for criminal penalties; to provide duties for the Attorney General; to adopt the Preventing Lethal Agricultural and National Threats Act; to adopt the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act; to authorize the withholding of records relating to critical water infrastructure as provided; to provide a civil penalty for certain communications providers as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; and to repeal the original sections.

**COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES PRELIMINARY REPORT**

Senator Armendariz offered the following Committee on Committees report:

Agriculture (8)

Tuesday

DeKay (C), Ibach (VC), Hansen, Holdcroft, Kauth, Meyer, F., Raybould,  
StormAppropriations (9)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

Clements (C), Armendariz, (VC), Cavanaugh, M., Dorn, Dover, Lippincott,  
Prokop, Spivey, StrommenBanking, Commerce and Insurance (8)

Monday &amp; Tuesday

Jacobson (C), Hallstrom (VC), Bostar, Dungan, Hardin, Riepe, von Gillern,  
WordekemperBusiness and Labor (7)Monday Kauth (C), Sorrentino (VC), Hansen, Ibach, McKinney, Meyer, F.,  
RaybouldEducation (8)

Monday &amp; Tuesday

Murman (C), Hughes (VC), Conrad, Hunt, Juarez, Lonowski, Meyer, G.,  
SandersGeneral Affairs (8)

Monday

Holdcroft (C), Cavanaugh, J. (VC), Andersen, Clouse, DeKay, Quick,  
Rountree, StormGovernment, Military and Veterans Affairs (8)

Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

Sanders (C), Andersen (VC), Cavanaugh, J., Guereca, Hunt, Lonowski,  
Meyer, F., WordekemperHealth and Human Services (7)

Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

Hardin (C), Fredrickson (VC), Ballard, Hansen, Meyer, G., Quick, Riepe

Judiciary (8)

Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

Bosn (C), DeBoer (VC), Hallstrom, Holdcroft, McKinney, Rountree, Storer,  
Storm



Natural Resources (8)

Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

Brandt (C), DeKay (VC), Clouse, Conrad, Hughes, Juarez, Moser, Raybould

Nebraska Retirement Systems (6)

At call of Chair

Ballard (C), Sorrentino (VC), Clements, Conrad, Hardin, Juarez

Revenue (8)

Wednesday, Thursday, &amp; Friday

von Gillern (C), Jacobson (VC), Bostar, Dungan, Ibach, Kauth, Murman, Sorrentino

Transportation and Telecommunications (8)

Monday &amp; Tuesday

Moser (C), Ballard (VC), Bosn, Brandt, DeBoer, Fredrickson, Guereca, Storer

Urban Affairs (7)

Tuesday

McKinney (C), Clouse (VC), Andersen, Cavanaugh, J., Quick, Rountree, Sorrentino

Committee on Committees (13)

Armendariz (C)

<u>District 1:</u>	<u>District 2:</u>	<u>District 3:</u>
Bosn	Cavanaugh, J.	Brandt
Bostar	Fredrickson	Ibach
Moser	Hunt	Jacobson
Sanders	Spivey	Murman

Enrollment and Review (1)

Guereca (C)

Reference (9)

Hansen (C), Ibach (VC), Arch, Ballard, Bostar, Dorn, Fredrickson, Jacobson, McKinney, Clements (nonvoting ex officio)

Rules (6)

Lippincott (C), DeBoer (VC), Bostar, Hansen, Ibach, Arch (ex officio)

Executive Board of the Legislative Council (9)

Hansen (C), Ibach (VC), Arch, Ballard, Bostar, Dorn, Fredrickson, Jacobson, McKinney, Clements (nonvoting ex officio)

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

Senator Quick filed the following amendment to LB365:

AM1711

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new  
2 sections:  
3 Section 1. Section 68-911, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is  
4 amended to read:  
5 68-911 (1) Medical assistance shall include coverage for health care  
6 and related services as required under Title XIX of the federal Social  
7 Security Act, including, but not limited to:  
8 (a) Inpatient and outpatient hospital services;  
9 (b) Laboratory and X-ray services;  
10 (c) Nursing facility services;  
11 (d) Home health services;  
12 (e) Nursing services;  
13 (f) Clinic services;  
14 (g) Physician services;  
15 (h) Medical and surgical services of a dentist;  
16 (i) Nurse practitioner services;  
17 (j) Nurse midwife services;  
18 (k) Pregnancy-related services;  
19 (l) Medical supplies;  
20 (m) Mental health and substance abuse services;  
21 (n) Early and periodic screening and diagnosis and treatment  
22 services for children which shall include both physical and behavioral  
23 health screening, diagnosis, and treatment services;  
24 (o) Rural health clinic services; and  
25 (p) Federally qualified health center services.  
26 (2) In addition to coverage otherwise required under this section,  
27 medical assistance may include coverage for health care and related  
1 services as permitted but not required under Title XIX of the federal  
2 Social Security Act, including, but not limited to:  
3 (a) Prescribed drugs;  
4 (b) Intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental  
5 disabilities;  
6 (c) Home and community-based services for aged persons and persons  
7 with disabilities;  
8 (d) Dental services;  
9 (e) Rehabilitation services;  
10 (f) Personal care services;  
11 (g) Durable medical equipment;  
12 (h) Medical transportation services;  
13 (i) Vision-related services;  
14 (j) Speech therapy services;  
15 (k) Physical therapy services;  
16 (l) Chiropractic services;  
17 (m) Occupational therapy services;  
18 (n) Optometric services;  
19 (o) Podiatric services;  
20 (p) Hospice services;  
21 (q) Mental health and substance abuse services;  
22 (r) Hearing screening services for newborn and infant children; and  
23 (s) Administrative expenses related to administrative activities,  
24 including outreach services, provided by school districts and educational  
25 service units to students who are eligible or potentially eligible for  
26 medical assistance.  
27 (3) No later than July 1, 2009, the department shall submit a state

28 plan amendment or waiver to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
29 Services to provide coverage under the medical assistance program for  
30 community-based secure residential and subacute behavioral health  
31 services for all eligible recipients, without regard to whether the  
1 recipient has been ordered by a mental health board under the Nebraska  
2 Mental Health Commitment Act to receive such services.  
3 (4) On or before October 1, 2014, the department, after consultation  
4 with the State Department of Education, shall submit a state plan  
5 amendment to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, as  
6 necessary, to provide that the following are direct reimbursable services  
7 when provided by school districts as part of an individualized education  
8 program or an individualized family service plan: Early and periodic  
9 screening, diagnosis, and treatment services for children; medical  
10 transportation services; mental health services; nursing services;  
11 occupational therapy services; personal care services; physical therapy  
12 services; rehabilitation services; speech therapy and other services for  
13 individuals with speech, hearing, or language disorders; and vision-  
14 related services.  
15 (5)(a) No later than January 1, 2023, the department shall provide  
16 coverage for continuous glucose monitors under the medical assistance  
17 program for all eligible recipients who have a prescription for such  
18 device.  
19 (b) Effective August 1, 2024, eligible recipients shall include all  
20 individuals who meet local coverage determinations, as defined in section  
21 1869(f)(2)(B) of the federal Social Security Act, as amended, as such act  
22 existed on January 1, 2024, and shall include individuals with  
23 gestational diabetes.  
24 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that no more than six  
25 hundred thousand dollars be appropriated annually from the Medicaid  
26 Managed Care Excess Profit Fund, as described in section 68-996, for the  
27 purpose of implementing subdivision (5)(b) of this section. Any amount in  
28 excess of six hundred thousand dollars shall be funded by the Medicaid  
29 Managed Care Excess Profit Fund.  
30 (6) On or before October 1, 2023, the department shall seek federal  
31 approval for federal matching funds from the federal Centers for Medicare  
1 and Medicaid Services through a state plan amendment or waiver to extend  
2 postpartum coverage for beneficiaries from sixty days to at least six  
3 months. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude the department from  
4 submitting a state plan amendment for twelve months.  
5 (7)(a) No later than October 1, 2025, the department shall submit a  
6 medicaid waiver or state plan amendment to the federal Centers for  
7 Medicare and Medicaid Services to designate two medical respite  
8 facilities to reimburse for services provided to an individual who is:  
9 (i) Homeless; and  
10 (ii) An adult in the expansion population.  
11 (b) For purposes of this subsection:  
12 (i) Adult in the expansion population means an adult (A) described  
13 in 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) as such section existed on January  
14 1, 2024, and (B) not otherwise eligible for medicaid as a mandatory  
15 categorically needy individual;  
16 (ii) Homeless has the same meaning as provided in 42 U.S.C. 11302 as  
17 such section existed on January 1, 2024;  
18 (iii) Medical respite care means short-term housing with supportive  
19 medical services; and  
20 (iv) Medical respite facility means a residential facility that  
21 provides medical respite care to homeless individuals.  
22 (c) The department shall choose two medical respite facilities, one  
23 in a city of the metropolitan class and one in a city of the primary  
24 class, best able to serve homeless individuals who are adults in the  
25 expansion population.

26 (d) Once such waiver or state plan amendment is approved, the  
27 department shall submit a report to the Health and Human Services  
28 Committee of the Legislature on or before November 30 each year, which  
29 provides the (i) number of homeless individuals served at each facility,  
30 (ii) cost of the program, and (iii) amount of reduction in health care  
31 costs due to the program's implementation.

1 (e) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to  
2 carry out this subsection.

3 (f) The services described in subdivision (7)(a) of this section  
4 shall be funded by the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund as  
5 described in section 68-996.

6 (8)(a) No later than January 1, 2025, the department shall provide  
7 coverage for an electric personal-use breast pump for every pregnant  
8 woman covered under the medical assistance program, or child covered  
9 under the medical assistance program if the pregnant woman is not  
10 covered, beginning at thirty-six weeks gestation or the child's date of  
11 birth, whichever is earlier. The electric personal-use breast pump shall  
12 be capable of (i) sufficiently supporting milk supply, (ii) double and  
13 single side pumping, and (iii) suction power ranging from zero mmHg to  
14 two hundred fifty mmHg. No later than January 1, 2025, the department  
15 shall provide coverage for a minimum of ten lactation consultation visits  
16 for every mother covered under the medical assistance program or child  
17 covered under the medical assistance program, if the mother is not  
18 covered under such program.

19 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the appropriation for  
20 lactation consultation visits shall be equal to an amount that is a one  
21 hundred forty-five percent rate increase over the current lactation  
22 consultation rate paid by the department.

23 (9)(a) No later than January 1, 2024, the department shall provide  
24 coverage, and reimbursement to providers, for all necessary translation  
25 and interpretation services for eligible recipients utilizing a medical  
26 assistance program service. The department shall take all actions  
27 necessary to maximize federal funding to carry out this subsection.

28 (b) The services described in subdivision (9)(a) of this section  
29 shall be funded by the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund as  
30 described in section 68-996.

31 (10)(a) No later than October 1, 2025, the department shall seek  
1 approval for federal matching funds from the federal Centers for Medicare  
2 and Medicaid Services through a state plan amendment to implement  
3 targeted case management for evidence-based nurse home visiting services.  
4 These services shall consist of visits to a home by a nurse and be  
5 available to postpartum mothers and children six months of age or younger  
6 enrolled in medicaid.

7 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to use the Medicaid Managed  
8 Care Excess Profit Fund established in section 68-996, and not to use the  
9 General Fund, to fund the services described in subdivision (a) of this  
10 subsection.

11 (11) No later than January 1, 2026, the department shall provide  
12 coverage for psychology services provided by advanced level practitioners  
13 who have completed advanced training requirements for a doctoral  
14 internship in an accredited training program or a postdoctoral fellowship  
15 and who are under current supervision by a licensed psychologist.

16 (12) No later than January 1, 2027, the department shall provide  
17 coverage and reimbursement for self-measure blood pressure monitoring  
18 services for pregnant and postpartum women eligible under the medical  
19 assistance program. Such services shall include (a) education and  
20 training on the setup and use of a home blood pressure monitoring device,  
21 (b) separate self-measurement blood pressure readings, (c) daily  
22 collection, and (d) transmission of data by the patient or caregiver to  
23 report blood pressure readings to allow a health care provider to review

24 such readings and create or modify a treatment plan.

25 Sec. 2. Original section 68-911, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025,  
26 is repealed.

Senator Andersen filed the following amendment to LB1095:

FA729

On page 2, line 2, after "Section 1", replace the period with a colon.

**NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)**

Natural Resources  
Room 1023 1:30 PM

Thursday, January 22, 2026

LB823

Steve Mattoon - Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

LB979

(Signed) Tom Brandt, Chairperson

Business and Labor  
Room 1200 1:30 PM

Monday, January 26, 2026

LB864

LB747

LB1015

LB921

LB847

(Signed) Kathleen Kauth, Chairperson

Judiciary  
Room 1525 1:30 PM

Friday, January 23, 2026

LB965

LB902

LB863

LB763

LB961

LB764

LB790

LB994

Judiciary  
Room 1525 1:30 PM

Thursday, January 29, 2026

LB731

\*This hearing item will operate under annotated committee guidelines.

(Signed) Carolyn Bosn, Chairperson

**UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Add Cointroducer(s)**

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

Senator Conrad name added to LB100.  
Senator Juarez name added to LB440.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB745.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB995.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB996.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB999.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB1006.  
Senator Conrad name added to LB1016.  
Senator Conrad name added to LR300.

**WITHDRAW - Cointroducer(s)**

Senator Hardin name withdrawn from LB913.

**VISITOR(S)**

Visitors to the Chamber were Mark Daly and Grace Coyle, Chair and Chief of Staff of the Irish Senate.

The Doctor of the Day was Dr. Dave Hoelting, Pender.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:31 a.m., on a motion by Senator Lippincott, the Legislature adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Friday, January 16, 2026.

Brandon Metzler  
Clerk of the Legislature