

One Hundred Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2025

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB108

Chairperson: Senator Beau Ballard

Committee: Nebraska Retirement Systems

Date of Hearing: January 24, 2025

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 108 addresses an oversight in LB 686 which passed in 2024. LB 108 amends Section 16-1024 of the “Cities of the First Class Firefighters Retirement Act” to adjust firefighter and city contribution rates for those “absolute coverage groups” in cities with a population greater than 60,000 located in counties with a population greater than 100,000. At this time, only the City of Bellevue and full-time firefighters employed by the City of Bellevue are affected by the provisions of LB 108. “An absolute coverage group” is required to contribute to both the Social Security System and the retirement plan pursuant to the “Cities of the First Class Firefighters Retirement Plan.” LB 108 would correct an inadvertent provision in LB 686 passed in the 2024 session relating to the City of Bellevue and its firefighters since both the city and the firefighters are required to contribute 6.2% to the Social Security System as well as contribute to the Firefighters Retirement Plan as provided in the “Cities of the First Class Firefighters Retirement Act.”

LB 686, passed in 2024, provides an offset to the contributions required by the “Cities of the First Class Firefighters Retirement Act” equal to the 6.2% paid by the firefighter and the city’s 6.2% contribution to Social Security; LB 686 ensured that all firefighters and cities of the first class contribute the same total amount towards retirement. LB 108 reinstates the prior contribution rate of 6.5% for firefighters and 13% for cities with a population greater than 60,000 located in counties with a population greater than 100,000. LB 108 declares an emergency for immediate implementation.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Mike Jacobson