

# **One Hundred Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2026**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB1124**

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**Chairperson: Senator R. Brad von Gillern**

**Committee: Revenue**

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

LB 1124 serves to partially offset the more than \$180 million (including FMAP match) (\$80 million coming from the General Fund) in annual Medicaid expenses incurred by Nebraska due to smoking. LB 1124 raises the excise tax on cigarettes, which was set in 2002, from \$0.64 per pack to \$1.64 per pack of 20 cigarettes.

LB 1124 proportionately increases the excise tax distribution to the Nebraska General Fund, HHS Cash Fund for cancer and smoking-related disease research, the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, and several other funds.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tony Sorrentino**