

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)					
EXPENDITURES	GENERAL	CASH	FEDERAL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
FY2025-2026	0	0	0	0	0
FY2026-2027	82,000	0	0	0	82,000
FY2027-2028	52,000	0	0	0	52,000
FY2028-2029	52,000	0	0	0	52,000
REVENUE	GENERAL	CASH	FEDERAL	REVOLVING	TOTAL
FY2025-2026	0	0	0	0	0
FY2026-2027	17,550	0	0	0	17,550
FY2027-2028	7,965	0	0	0	7,965
FY2028-2029	7,965	0	0	0	7,965

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB 1151 provides for the definition of a regional craft brewery to mean a craft brewery that produces between \$20,000 and \$200,000 barrels of beer a year.

Under the bill, any person who operates a regional craft brewery shall obtain a license pursuant to the Nebraska Liquor Control Act. Licensed premises may include up to eight separate physical locations.

The Nebraska Liquor Control Commission (NLCC) may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to the licensure and rights of regional craft breweries.

The bill amends section 53-124.01 to provide an annual operator's license fee of \$250 for regional craft breweries.

The bill amends section 53-131 to add regional craft brewery licenses being subject to a nonrefundable application fee of \$400 and \$45 license renewal fee.

The bill is operative three months after the adjournment of the Legislature.

The NLCC estimates General Fund revenues of \$17,550 in FY27 and \$7,965 in FY28. There is no basis to disagree with this estimate.

The NLCC also estimates a need for 1.0 FTE for Administrative/Data Support and \$30,000 in one-time implementation costs. There is no basis to disagree with this estimate. However, the NLCC does not assume any salary or benefits increases for FY28 for the additional personnel needed pursuant to this bill's provisions. While the actual salary and health insurance increases for FY28 and thereafter are not yet determined, it is important to note that any additional personnel in FY27 will have ongoing rising costs associated with salary and health insurance increases, which are normally addressed in the biennial budget process for all bargaining and non-bargaining employees.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE		
LB: 1151	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Lancaster County Clerk
REVIEWED BY: Jennifer Alcazar	DATE: 1/23/2026	PHONE: (402) 471-4169
COMMENTS: No basis to disagree with the Lancaster County Clerk's estimate of no fiscal impact as a result of LB 1151.		

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Lancaster County Clerk

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Matt Hansen

Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1-23-2026

Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-441-8721

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2026-27		FY 2027-28	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0

Explanation of Estimate:

No fiscal impact. The provisions of LB1151 would not change how our office handles liquor license applications.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE				
Personal Services:				
POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2026-27	2027-28
	26-27	27-28	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....				

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2026

LB⁽¹⁾ 1151

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision
Name: ⁽²⁾

Liquor Control Commission

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Micah Chaffee

Date Prepared: 1/27/2026
⁽⁴⁾

Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ (402) 471-2571

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2026-27		FY 2027-28	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	82,000	17,550	52,000	7,965
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 1151 establishes a regional craft brewery license category based on annual production volume (20,000–200,000 barrels), moving regulation from the Commission's current capacity and structure-based framework to a production-based system. This requires new reporting standards, verification procedures, and documentation to track annual production, determine eligibility, and manage license transitions when thresholds change, creating ongoing compliance monitoring beyond current licensing functions. Licensing systems must be updated to track production-based status, and rule amendments, guidance development, staff training, and added inspection work to verify production and inventory practices will be required.

If participation reached approximately 10% of the potential 266 regional craft brewery licensees (The number of breweries in the US producing roughly 20,000 to 200,000 barrels falls within the category of the roughly 266 "regional" breweries defined by the Brewers Association in 2024), the Commission estimates a need for 1.0 FTE to administer the expanded oversight and an additional \$30,000 in one-time implementation costs in the first fiscal year for system updates, rulemaking, and training. Breakdown of these costs are shown below.

First-year revenue is estimated at \$17,550 (27 × \$650), reflecting the \$400 nonrefundable application fee and \$250 annual license fee. Ongoing annual revenue is estimated at \$7,965 (27 × \$295), reflecting the \$250 annual fee and \$45 renewal fee. Actual revenue will depend on participation levels.

Under Nebraska law, fees are credited to the General Fund unless a statute directs otherwise. LB 1151 does not expressly deposit the \$250 annual fee into the Liquor Control Commission's Cash Fund, as other provisions of the Act do. Accordingly, this revenue is reflected as General Fund revenue in this fiscal note.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2026-27 EXPENDITURES	2027-28 EXPENDITURES
	26-27	27-28		
Administrative/Data Support	1.0	1.0	40,000	40,000
Benefits.....			12,000	12,000
...				
Operating.....			30,000	
....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				

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Capital				
improvements.....				
TOTAL.....	1.0	1.0	82,000	\$52,000