

The 100th

# *Nebraska Legislature*

Unicameral Update  
2008 Session Review



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Volume XXXI, No. 16  
2008 Session Review

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## Agriculture



Sen. Philip Erdman

**D**etermining the location of the Nebraska State Fair was the Legislature's leading agriculture-related issue this session. A bill directing the fair to leave Lincoln and relocate in Grand Island prevailed.

Introduced by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, **LB1116** will move the State Fair to Grand Island's Fonner Park by 2010 and create a State Fair Relocation Cash Fund to collect contributions for the move.

The current fairgrounds are located adjacent to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln downtown campus. Erdman explained that several groups, including a task force appointed in 2005 by Lincoln's former Mayor Coleen Seng, have recommended that the city should find a better use for the property housing the fairgrounds. Most recently, a group of Lincoln business and civic leaders calling themselves Vision 2015, proposed moving the fair to allow UNL to develop an innovation park to encourage public-private research partnerships.

These groups suggested co-locating the State Fair with Lincoln's Lancaster County Event Center. More recent suggestions expanded the option to other communities. Grand Island's proposal provided significant savings by enabling the State Fair to use recently constructed facilities at Fonner Park.

The \$42 million cost to rebuild the fair in Grand Island will be shared as follows:

- \$21.5 million from the University of Nebraska;
- \$8.5 million from Grand Island;
- \$7 million from the Nebraska State Fair Board; and
- \$5 million from the State of Nebraska.

The bill indicates that the Nebraska State Fair Board shall cooperate and coordinate with the Hall County Livestock Improvement Association, the city of Grand Island and other appropriate entities to provide for and carry out any plan for improvements to Fonner Park, including the construction of buildings, other capital facilities and other enhancements necessary to develop the site as a location suitable for conducting the Nebraska State Fair.

The bill contains provisions of **LB1115**, an Erdman bill that changes the makeup of the State Fair Board to reflect its new location and agricultural focus.

Senators passed LB1116 on a 44-3 vote.

The Legislature also gave final approval to a proposal that provides financial incentives to new veterinarians who agree to serve in underserved areas.

**LB1172**, introduced by Sen. Cap Dierks of Ewing, creates the Food Supply Animal Veterinary Incentive Program. The program will provide \$80,000 over four years to food supply veterinarians who locate and practice veterinary medicine full-time in underserved areas of the state.

The program will be administered by the state Department of Agriculture. Each year, up to four veterinarians will be selected to participate in the program. After completing each of the first two years of practice, a veterinarian will receive \$15,000. After completing each of the final two years of the program, the veterinarian will be eligible for \$25,000.

LB1172 was passed by a 48-0 vote.

Lawmakers passed a bill that enhances an existing beginning farmer program.

In 1999, the Legislature enacted a program to provide a financial incentive for



Sen. Cap Dierks



older, experienced farmers to partner with newer farmers to attract new individuals to the industry.

**LB1027**, sponsored by Erdman, provides a tax exemption on agricultural and horticultural machinery and equipment utilized by a qualified beginning farmer or livestock producer for agricultural or livestock production. The exemption is capped at \$100,000 and exists for a period of three years, beginning with the first year for which the exemption is claimed.

The bill also includes provisions of **LB875**, originally sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, which redefines “owner of agricultural assets” for the purpose of qualifying for the beginning farmer program.

LB1027 was passed 47-0.

Another measure intended to encourage family farming failed to advance from general file.

**LB1174**, sponsored by Dierks, would have restricted non-family ownership of agricultural land, farms and ranches.

The bill would have restricted corporations, businesses or partnerships that limit the liability of their owners or partners from farm and ranch ownership unless majority ownership was held by related family members.

The bill defined a qualifying farm or ranch as one owned by related family members who are actively engaged in its day-to-day labor and management.

After the rejection of a committee amendment, the bill was bracketed.

## Appropriations

**L**awmakers made adjustments to the state’s two-year budget this session.

**LB959**, the mainline budget bill introduced by the Appropriations Committee, passed on a 39-9 vote.

Debate on the budget focused on the possible gas tax increase, school litigation funding and issues involving the Beatrice State Developmental Center.

Among the significant increases included in the bill are:

- \$52.9 million for state aid to schools;
- \$20 million for the one-time replacement cost of the university and state college student information system;
- \$3.9 million for state employee health insurance;
- \$3 million for developmental disability provider rate increases; and
- \$2.6 million for behavioral health provider rate increases.

Also included is a \$14.5 million appropriation to the state Department of Roads that likely will trigger a 1.2 cent per gallon gas tax increase.

The Roads Department appropriation was line-item vetoed by Gov. Dave Heineman. Senators successfully overrode the veto on a 34-15 vote and restored the budget appropriation.

Other bills in the budget package include **LB960**, which contains appropriations for salary and health insurance costs, and **LB961**, which makes various cash fund transfers. Both bills passed on 48-0 votes.

The budget reflects a 3.9 percent spending growth rate for the current fiscal year and



Sen. John E. Nelson

a 5.3 percent rate for FY2008-09.

Other revenue bills passed this session dealt with the arts and job training.

**LB1165**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Nelson, appropriates \$5 million over the next three years to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund, which will be matched by private contributions and used for stabilization of arts organizations, arts education programs that have significant statewide impact and advocacy for the importance of the arts to Nebraska's economy, education and quality of life.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

**LB956**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, requires annual reporting from the state Department of Economic Development to the Legislature regarding the status of the Job Training Cash Fund and grants awarded through the program.

The bill designates a portion of the cash fund for businesses located in high-poverty areas, rural areas and small businesses with 25 or fewer employees.

The bill passed 46-0.

## Banking, Commerce and Insurance



Sen. Rich Pahls

**T**he Legislature considered a variety of bills meant to either limit or expand certain insurance policies and coverage.

Senators passed a bill that added limitations to stranger-originated life insurance (STOLI).

**LB853**, introduced by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, prohibits some viatical settlement transactions in which a life insurance policy is purchased so it can be sold to an investor.

A STOLI investor solicits a person to purchase a life insurance policy, pays for the policy and then receives the policy's death benefit when the insured person dies. In exchange, the insured person receives an immediate cash payment and free life insurance, in effect allowing the "stranger," or investor, to speculate on his or her life.

The bill discourages STOLI policies by extending the current two-year restriction on selling a life insurance policy to five years. This change makes it more difficult for STOLI investors to predict the time frame of a prospective purchaser's likely death, negatively affecting their rate of return.

Generally, the shorter the insured lives, the more money a STOLI investor makes.

LB853 allows exceptions to the five-year wait if the insured experiences life-changing events such as bankruptcy, terminal or chronic illness, divorce, disability, retirement or death of a spouse.

Senators voted 40-2 to pass LB853.

A bill that changes employee benefit plan provisions for certain political subdivisions also passed this session.

Introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, **LB734** expands the Political Subdivisions Self-Funding Benefits Act to allow certain political subdivisions to provide an employee benefit plan without excess insurance if an independent actuary or insurer determines that excess insurance is not necessary to preserve the soundness of the employee benefit plan.

Currently, political subdivisions are required to obtain excess insurance to limit their total claims liability for each plan to not more than 125 percent of the expected claims



Sen. Tony Fulton



Sen. Pete Pirsch

liability as projected by an independent actuary or insurer. Metropolitan class cities, however, have been exempted from the excess insurance requirement.

LB734 broadens the exemption to include primary class cities and counties with a population of more than 200,000.

The bill passed on a 46-0 vote.

Senators gave final legislative approval to **LB855**, which houses provisions of other bills advanced from the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

**LB779**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch, streamlines and clarifies compliance requirements for the Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement Act.

The bill also updates and clarifies several insurance statutes. The bill authorizes the director of the state Department of Insurance to develop regulations to protect members of the U.S. Armed Forces from dishonest and predatory sales practices. The bill also authorizes the director to develop regulations allowing insurers to submit to the department's jurisdiction for the purpose of financial conglomerate supervision.

**LB854**, introduced by the committee, provides for regulation of discount medical plan organizations.

Finally, the bill updates and conforms Nebraska's group life insurance statutes to those recommended by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

LB855 passed 47-0.

Two bills that would have provided specific insurance coverage were held in committee.

**LB825**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, would have required that insurance companies provide coverage for single or bilateral cochlear implants for customers diagnosed with severe to profound hearing impairment.

**LB876**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Rich Pahls, would have provided that uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage extend to passengers in an insured motor vehicle who are not entitled to uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage under any other motor vehicle liability insurance policy.

Lawmakers also approved a bill containing several changes related to the banking industry.

**LB851**, introduced by the committee, updates laws relating to bank charter applications, trust company and trust department reports and publications and provides for the annual re-enactment of the wild-card statutes for state-chartered banks, building and loan associations and credit unions.

LB851 also contains provisions of the following bills introduced by Pahls.

**LB113** clarifies that restrictions in the Interstate Branching by Merger Act of 1997 apply to a broad range of financial institutions, including industrial loan companies.

**LB116** clarifies provisions regarding a conflicting purchase-money security interest and security interest in the same livestock.

**LB716** provides that a financing statement with minor errors or omissions is not seriously misleading if a search of the debtor's correct last name in the filing office records would disclose the financing statement. This section of the law generally provides that a financing statement substantially satisfying the requirements of the code is effective unless errors or omissions make the financing statement seriously misleading.

**LB717** makes technical changes that:

- replace certified mail notice requirements in several sections of law with first-class mail notice requirements;
- clarify that a state-chartered bank may exclude a licensed executive officer from the definition of executive officer for purposes of insider lending restrictions if

such officer is not authorized to participate in major policymaking functions of the bank and does not actually participate in such functions;

- extend from 20 to 30 years the period of time in which a cause of action for the foreclosure of a mortgage or deed of trust accrues with respect to the rights of subsequent purchasers and encumbrancers for value; and
- allow employees and agents of a bank to take acknowledgments of third parties to any written instrument given to the bank and to administer oaths for any other stockholder, director, officer, employee or agent of the bank.

**LB918** provides that the holding company deposit cap of 22 percent of total bank and savings and loan deposits in Nebraska does not apply to segregated deposits from nonresidents of Nebraska in an owned or controlled bank.

**LB852**, introduced by the committee, updates laws relating to mortgage bankers, delayed deposit services licensees and installment loan licensees.

LB851 was passed by a 47-0 vote.

## Business and Labor



Sen. Abbie Cornett

**A**fter lawmakers adjourned for the year, Gov. Dave Heineman vetoed a measure regarding workers' compensation injury definitions.

**LB819**, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, was returned from final reading and amended to incorporate the provisions of **LB1082**, a bill introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett that would have made mental injuries unaccompanied by a physical injury compensable in limited circumstances.

Under current law, mental injuries are compensable only when tied to a compensable physical injury.

As amended, LB819 would have changed the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act to allow for stand-alone mental injury claims for first responders if the injury arose from extraordinary or unusual employment conditions. Injuries resulting from normal employer and employee relations, including personnel and disciplinary actions, would have been excluded, as would injuries that occurred before the bill's passage. The bill's provisions would have sunset in 2014. Senators voted 28-17 to pass LB819. The bill was subsequently vetoed by Heineman, who wrote in his veto message that the bill would have significantly increased workers' compensation costs.

Regulations for professional contractors were expanded under a bill offered by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki.

Under current law, contractors performing work in Nebraska must be registered with the state Department of Labor if they have at least one full-time employee and they perform work in counties with populations greater than 100,000.

**LB204** expands these provisions to include contractors performing work in any part of the state.

The bill also increases penalties for failure to register from \$500 to \$5,000 for a first offense and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for subsequent offenses.

Exempted from the bill are contractors who earn less than \$5,000 per year, work only on weekends and holidays or work only on property they own.



Finally, the contractor registration fee will increase from \$25 to \$40. The bill passed 31-16.

Senators authorized payments for claims against the state and write-offs of uncollectible state agency debt.

Introduced by the committee, **LB1019** includes a total appropriation of \$10.9 million and authorizes the state Department of Administrative Services to make payments to parties listed in the bill.

The claims include tort claims, miscellaneous claims and agency write-off requests. **LB1019** passed on a 46-0 vote.

## Education



*Sen. Ron Raikes*

**B**ills calling for a new formula for allocating state aid to Nebraska schools and requiring statewide assessments were enacted this year.

**LB988**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes, changes the structure of formula needs for school districts, bases school district budget authority on the new needs calculation and specifies adjusted valuations for the calculation of resources.

The bill's fiscal note indicates that **LB988** will reduce the total amount of state aid distributed in fiscal year 2008-09 by \$61.9 million. This represents a 9 percent increase over the previous year's allocation, rather than a 17 percent increase, as would have occurred without legislative changes to the funding formula.

The new needs calculation compares school districts of similar size to arrive at a basic funding level. Consideration will be given for remote elementary sites, elementary class sizes, poverty, limited English proficiency, focus schools and programs, special receipts, transportation, distance education and telecommunications, teacher education levels, new school buildings, student growth, instructional time, summer school, new learning community transportation increases, size ranges with below-average costs and cost sharing between the state and school districts with fewer than 390 students which are not in sparsely populated areas.

The current method for calculating budget authority was scaled back and a new alternative method is available based on 120 percent of the new needs calculation.

**LB988** adjusted valuations to 96 percent of actual value for residential and commercial property and 72 percent for agricultural and horticultural land for the calculation of state aid to school districts and educational service units. Local effort rates will increase in response to the valuation changes.

Raikes explained that the amount of state aid each school district receives is based on a measure of a district's need minus their local resources, which are comprised of local receipts and property taxes.

Calling the bill a significant modification of the way state aid is calculated, Raikes said the bill makes the calculation of a school district's state aid needs more accurately reflect its actual costs.

If a school district's need exceeds its resources, state aid is allocated to make up the difference.

**LB988** passed on a 33-14 vote.

**LB1157**, also introduced by Raikes, requires annual statewide student assessments.

A recent legislative performance audit found that the state Department of Education did not meet a statutory requirement that they select four model statewide student assessments in particular subject areas. Instead, school districts had developed and adopted individual models of their own.

Raikes has said the bill was a needed change that would allow teachers to spend less time developing local assessments and more time teaching students.

The bill directs the governor to appoint a technical advisory committee of nationally recognized assessment experts to advise him, the State Board of Education and the department on the development of statewide assessment instruments and a statewide assessment plan.

The plan for the statewide assessment and reporting system will be reported to the governor, the chairperson of the Legislature's Education Committee, the Clerk of the Legislature and the department. The state board will select grade levels for assessment and reporting according to the assessment instruments.

Annual statewide assessments are now required for:

- reading beginning in the 2009-10 school year, with assessment instruments in grades 3-8 and one high school grade;
- mathematics beginning in the 2010-11 school year, with assessment instruments in grades 3-8 and one high school grade; and
- science beginning in the 2011-12 school year, with assessment instruments in at least one elementary grade, one middle school or junior high grade and one high school grade.

A statewide assessment for writing already exists.

The bill allows the state board to select additional grade levels and additional subject areas for statewide assessment to comply with federal requirements. The state board is prohibited from requiring school districts to administer assessments or assessment instruments other than as prescribed by law.

The bill requires the state board to appoint committees of teachers from each appropriate subject area and administrators to assist in the development of statewide assessment instruments required.

References to locally adopted standards, local assessment instruments and generic grade levels are eliminated from the law.

Senators voted 33-15 to pass LB1157.

Lawmakers also made a number of changes to the state's learning community laws.

**LB1154**, sponsored by Raikes:

- expands the learning community coordinating council to include nonvoting members;
- establishes an advisory committee of affected school superintendents;
- designates the secretary of state to assist the initial learning community coordinating council in getting started;
- allows school district boundaries to be modified prior to the establishment of the learning community;
- modifies the distribution of the common levy to reflect the previous resources for the first three years;
- narrows the potential uses for the learning community capital levy;
- allows a school district to exceed its applicable allowable growth rate for expenditures to pay for the transfer of land from another school district;
- streamlines provisions regarding diversity plans and educational options within



the learning community;

- modifies the qualifications to become a learning community;
- redefines focus programs, focus schools, magnet schools and pathways;
- eliminates a requirement that a learning community coordinating council pay for mediation services; and
- requires that free transportation be provided to a student contributing to the socioeconomic diversity of enrollment who is attending another school in the learning community only if the student lives more than one mile from the school to which he or she transfers.

LB1154 limits the continuing student provisions for students enrolled in focus schools, focus programs and magnet schools.

Learning community state funding can be used for up to six social workers in the elementary learning centers. Learning community member districts also will be required to report truancy information to the coordinating council.

Raikes said the purpose of the bill is to address concerns raised about the learning community law since its 2006 enactment.

The bill also includes provisions from other bills, including several introduced by Raikes:

**LB605**, which limits property tax authority for single-district ESUs;

**LB1081**, which allows ESUs additional budget authority;

**LB1021**, which allows an additional option for some option enrollment students; and

**LB1083**, which requires learning communities to share in the ESU core services and technology infrastructure funds.

The bill also contains provisions of:

**LB1005**, a bill brought by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard that adds a sibling preference to the open enrollment provisions; and

**LB1158**, a bill brought by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford that allows businesses partnering with learning communities or school districts to qualify for an additional \$5,000 in job training grants per job created.

The bill was passed 30-15.

Lawmakers approved a proposal that makes adjustments in the state aid formula for community colleges.

Sponsored by Raikes, **LB973** addresses issues related to definitions of property tax used in the formula, the role of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in the data collection process, enrollment and need growth and further definition of the average revenue remainder element of the formula for aid calculations in FY2009-10.

The bill defines the formula's base growth rate as the existing base limitation minus 0.5 percent for the FY2008-09 calculation and makes the base growth rate the existing base limitation plus 0.5 percent for FY2009-10 and each fiscal year thereafter. This effectively makes the formula's base growth rate 2 percent for FY2008-09 and 3 percent for FY2009-10 and thereafter.

The bill sets the maximum levy at 20 percent above the local effort rate used in the formula. Currently, the maximum levy is 15 percent above and the minimum levy is 20 percent below the local effort rate.

Beginning in FY2009-10, the bill will add a factor of 98 percent to the formula that establishes the amount of prior year base revenue needed to stabilize the total need for community college areas.

Finally, the bill makes technical changes to various definitions and factors in the aid formula.

Senators voted 48-0 to pass LB973.

Lawmakers passed an education policy bill that, among other provisions, alters certain early childhood and special education provisions.

**LB1153**, originally introduced by Raikes, allows a parent or guardian of a special education student who is at least 17 years old and has not completed an individualized education plan (IEP) to be issued a certificate of attendance by their school district. The district is then required to allow the student to participate in the high school graduation ceremony.

Students receiving certificates of attendance also will be able to earn a diploma or high school equivalency. School districts still will be required to provide special education services until completion of the IEP or until the student turns 21.

The certificate of attendance provisions were originally introduced by Imperial Sen. Mark Christensen as **LB990**.

LB1153 also changes provisions related to the state's early childhood education program by:

- increasing to 10 percent per fiscal year the amount of the program's cash fund reserved to evaluate programs for at-risk children from birth to age three;
- removing ESUs from grant eligibility; and
- streamlining the selection process for the at-risk metropolitan area member of the board of trustees.

For the 2008-09 school year, LB1153 allows students who meet the age requirements for kindergarten, but who are not enrolled in a kindergarten class, to enroll in early childhood education programs.

LB1153 was passed 46-0.

Lastly, schools are required to adopt policies regarding bullying as a result of a bill passed this session.

Under **LB205**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, bullying is defined as any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse on school property, in school vehicles or at school-sponsored events and activities.

The bill requires all school districts to develop and adopt a policy concerning bullying prevention and education. School districts are required to review their bullying policies annually.

Bullying is now included among those activities that constitute grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment of a student.

Senators passed the bill 41-0.



Sen. Mark Christensen

## General Affairs



Sen. Vickie McDonald

**T**he Legislature approved a bill that changes the relationship between the State Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling and Addiction Services and the HHS Behavioral Health Division.

According to its sponsor, Sen. Vickie McDonald of St. Paul, **LB1058** restores the advisory committee to its more active original role in Nebraska's problem gambling program.



The bill changes the committee's name to the State Committee on Problem Gambling and requires the committee to develop and recommend guidelines and standards for the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund.

The bill also requires the Behavioral Health Division to adopt program guidelines and standards based on the committee's recommendations.

LB1058 passed on a 45-0 vote.

McDonald also sponsored LB995, a bill to change local government responsibilities regarding abandoned and neglected cemeteries.

The bill outlines new county requirements for mowing and maintenance and increases from \$500 to \$1,000 the amount a county board should annually spend to maintain abandoned and neglected cemeteries.

It also qualifies cemeteries to be considered abandoned or neglected after a period of neglect lasting five consecutive years. Currently a cemetery must lie abandoned for at least 20 years to meet this qualification.

LB995 passed 47-0.

## Government, Military and Veterans Affairs



Sen. DiAnna Schimek

**S**enators dealt with a variety of issues relating to government, military and veterans affairs this session.

Among the measures passed were bills dealing with petitions, elections and campaigns, National Guard member tuition, political subdivision construction rules, open meetings, personnel exemptions and public audits.

**LB39**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, requires that circulators be qualified electors in Nebraska and be paid per hour rather than per signature. An elector is an individual who meets the requirements for being eligible to vote, but who may or may not be registered to vote.

The bill also includes additional reporting requirements for circulators.

Lawmakers passed the bill by a 31-14 vote.

The measure was subsequently vetoed by Gov. Dave Heineman, who said in his veto message that the bill's restrictions would unfairly limit citizen's ability to petition government.

Senators voted 30-17 to pass LB39 over the governor's veto.

**LB720**, sponsored by Schimek, restricts the use of robocalls in political campaigns.

A robocall is a prerecorded telephone call made using a computer or automated dialing device typically used in election campaigning and telemarketing.

The bill applies to robocalls other than telephone solicitations. A telephone solicitation is defined in the bill as a telephone call or message using an automatic dialing-announcing device to encourage the purchase or rental of property, goods or services.

Under the bill, robocalls other than telephone solicitations will be required to:

- identify, at the beginning of the message, the person on whose behalf the message is being transmitted;
- state clearly, either during or after the message, the telephone number or address of the person operating the automated dialing device; and
- transmit messages only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. at the location of the person receiving the message.



*Sen. Ray Aguilar*



*Sen. Amanda McGill*

In addition, a person contracting with a third party to conduct robocalls for reasons other than telephone solicitations will be required to file the prepared message with the Public Service Commission within 24 hours of its transmission. The person contracting and the person making the call will be jointly and severally liable for any violations.

The bill provides exemptions for robocalls made to students, parents or employees by schools, to employees advising them of work schedules and to persons with whom the transmitter of the message has an established business or personal relationship. Robocalls made by political subdivisions also are exempt.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote and takes effect Jan. 1, 2009.

**LB746**, sponsored by Grand Island Sen. Ray Aguilar, extends tuition credits for some members of the Nebraska National Guard.

Currently, guard members may receive a credit for 75 percent of resident tuition rates for up to 10 years from the date of their initial guard membership.

Under the bill, if a guard member is deployed for no less than 120 days on the federal or state level, the adjutant general may extend the member's tuition entitlement for a period equal to the time spent on active duty, up to a maximum of five years.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

**LB268**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, requires that all county commissioners be nominated and elected by voters of the district they wish to represent.

Under current law, commissioner election rules are determined by the population bracket into which the county falls. Counties are divided into three population brackets:

- under 150,000;
- 150,000 to 300,000; and
- over 300,000.

Lancaster County is the only county currently in the middle population bracket.

The top and bottom population brackets elect their officials directly from the districts they live in, while Lancaster County commissioners face a district-only primary, but are elected by the entire county population in the general election. LB268 removes the general election provision for counties in the middle population bracket.

The bill passed by a vote of 41-4 and will take effect in 2010.

**LB889**, sponsored by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, allows some political subdivisions to utilize construction alternatives for certain public projects.

The bill broadens the Nebraska Schools Construction Alternatives Act to allow counties, cities, villages, school districts and community colleges to enter into design-build or construction management at risk contracts.

Political subdivisions are prohibited from using the alternative methods for road, street, highway, water, wastewater, utility or sewer construction projects. An exception is provided for metropolitan class cities using such contracts to comply with state or federal requirements to control or minimize overflows from combined sewers.

A two-thirds vote of a political subdivision's governing body is required to adopt a resolution selecting the design-build or construction management at risk contract delivery system.

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

**LB962**, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, prohibits a public body from requiring that members of the public be placed on a meeting's agenda prior to being allowed to speak on agenda items.

LB962 was passed by a 46-0 vote.

**LB269**, sponsored by Kenesaw Sen. Carroll Burling, creates a uniform petition process for making changes in local governments by requiring signatures from 5 per-



cent of registered voters in the previous general election. Under current law, petition requirements are varied and do not reflect a county's population.

Covered under the bill are petitions that would:

- change the number of county commissioners;
- establish a supervisor form of government;
- discontinue the township form of government; or
- establish a county library.

The bill includes language from another Burling bill, **LB348**, that changes the procedure for discontinuing townships and adopting county board governance.

The bill passed 48-0.

**LB822**, introduced by the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, allows the legislative auditor to request a performance audit.

Lawmakers approved the bill on a 49-0 vote.

**LB745**, introduced by Aguilar, exempts certain state Department of Correctional Services employees from the state personnel system. Exempted are the chief executive officer of each facility operated by the department, as well as the department's medical director and all pharmacists, physicians, psychiatrists and psychologists employed by the department.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

### **Other bills**

Several bills failed to advance from general file this session.

Introduced by South Sioux City Sen. Pat Engel, **LB878** would have limited the reasons for recalling an elected official to:

- malfeasance, the knowing and intentional commission of an unlawful or wrongful act in the performance of official duties;
- misfeasance, the negligent performance of duties or failure to perform a specific required act;
- nonfeasance, the knowing and intentional failure to perform a required act while in office; and
- acts of moral turpitude.

The bill also would have changed various aspects of the recall petition process.

Senators voted 32-0 to bracket the bill.

**LB352**, sponsored by Schuyler Sen. Chris Langemeier, would have provided protections to shooting ranges that adhere to performance standards as set forth in a 1999 manual produced by the National Rifle Association. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission would have been required to review the standards every five years.

Langemeier asked to have LB352 bracketed.

**LB763**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, would have created the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District Revitalization Task Force.

The bill fell five votes short of advancement to select file on a 20-13 vote.

**LB721**, sponsored by Schimek, would have reinstated legislative intent regarding completion of the Nebraska State Capitol Building's interior courtyard fountains.

LB721 failed to advance to select file by a 23-14 vote.

### **Bills heard in committee**

The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee heard testimony on a variety of bills that failed to advance to general file.



Sen. Annette Dubas

**LB817**, introduced by Avery, would have prohibited the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer and attorney general from holding outside employment for financial compensation during their terms of office.

**LB870**, introduced by Avery, would have required constitutional officers and members of the Legislature, Public Service Commission, State Board of Education or University of Nebraska Board of Regents to wait two years after leaving office before becoming registered lobbyists.

**LB921**, introduced by Fullerton Sen. Annette Dubas, would have renamed the Nebraska Energy Office the Nebraska Office of Energy Independence and made it a noncode state agency.

**LB981**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pete Pirsch, would have prohibited state employees and officials from hiring, supervising or promoting a family member.

**LB1112**, introduced by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, would have repealed the Campaign Finance Limitation Act (CFLA) and would have amended the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act to require greater disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures.

Finally, a measure that would have altered the state contribution to employee health benefits was placed on general file but not scheduled for debate.

Under **LB884**, introduced by Papillion Sen. Tim Gay, the state would have continued to contribute 79 percent of the cost of employee insurance coverage only if the employee enrolled and participated as required in a wellness program offered by the state through the Department of Administrative Services.

## Health and Human Services



Sen. Joel Johnson

**P**assage of a statewide smoking ban was among the Legislature's noted accomplishments this session.

The measure was introduced last session, but stalled on final reading and was bracketed until this year.

**LB395**, sponsored by Kearney Sen. Joel Johnson, bans smoking in indoor public places statewide beginning June 1, 2009.

The ban allows the following exemptions:

- private residences, unless being used as child care facilities;
- guest rooms and suites that are designated as smoking;
- areas used for research on the health effects of smoking; and
- retail stores selling only tobacco and products directly related to tobacco.

The bill specifies that products directly related to tobacco do not include alcohol, coffee, soft drinks, candy, groceries or gasoline.

Violators of the law will be charged with a Class V misdemeanor for the first offense and a Class IV misdemeanor for the second and subsequent offenses. A person charged with such a violation may voluntarily enroll, at his or her own expense, in a smoking cessation program approved by the state Department of Health and Human Services. Upon successful completion of the program, the charge will be dismissed.

LB395 was passed 34-14.

Lawmakers overrode the governor's veto of a bill that changes provisions relating to the fluoridation of Nebraska drinking water.



**LB245**, introduced by Johnson, requires the fluoridation of the human drinking water supply of any city or village with a population of 1,000 people or more that lacks sufficient amounts of naturally occurring fluoride.

Cities or villages that do not currently fluoridate their water may prohibit fluoridation through adoption of an initiative placed on the ballot by voters or by the city or village's governing body.

The bill specifies that any rural water district supplying water to a community required to add fluoride will not be responsible for any resulting costs, equipment, testing or maintenance, unless the district has agreed to assume such responsibilities.

Senators passed the bill 34-8. It was subsequently vetoed by Gov. Dave Heineman who said in his veto message that the vote required by the bill's opt-out provision amounted to an unfunded mandate.

Lawmakers voted 31-4 to override the governor's veto. LB245 takes effect June 1, 2010.

Senators also passed a bill that expands the state's ability to release information in child abuse and neglect cases.

**LB782**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard at the request of the governor, permits the Nebraska HHS Director of Children and Family Services or the department's CEO to release information in child abuse cases under limited circumstances.

Among the situations when disclosure will be allowed are those involving the death or near death of a child, when a child is missing from an HHS placement or when information related to a case has already been made public by sources outside of HHS.

Under the bill, any disclosure made cannot impede an ongoing criminal investigation.

The bill passed 47-0.

Senators approved a bill clarifying provisions relating to certificates of need for rehabilitation and long-term care beds in Nebraska.

Introduced by Papillion Sen. Tim Gay, **LB765** clarifies that a certificate of need is required before a health care facility can increase long-term care or rehabilitation beds by more than 10 percent of total long-term care or rehabilitation bed capacity or 10 beds, whichever is less, over a two-year period.

Under the bill, a certificate of need for up to three rehabilitation beds will be granted if the average occupancy for all rehabilitation beds within a health planning region exceeds 80 percent during the three consecutive calendar quarters prior to the exception application and no comparable services are available in the health planning region.

LB765 passed on a 44-4 vote.

**LB171**, introduced by Gretna Sen. Gail Kopplin, deals with the federal food stamp program.

The bill requires HHS, within limits established by the Legislature, to apply for and utilize all appropriate food stamp options to maximize the number of Nebraska residents being served under the program.

LB171 also directs HHS to maximize federal funding under the program and minimize the use of state funding. The department is required to report annually to the Health and Human Services Committee on its efforts to implement the bill.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

Lawmakers gave final approval to three bills dealing with drug procurement and distribution.

Sponsored by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, **LB830** establishes a preferred drug list and other cost saving measures under the state's Medicaid program.

The bill requires HHS to create and maintain a preferred drug list and to establish a phar-



Sen. Gwen Howard



Sen. Tim Gay



Sen. Gail Kopplin



Sen. Steve Lathrop



Sen. Tom Hansen



Sen. Arnie Stuthman



Sen. Norm Wallman



Sen. Mike Flood

maceutical and therapeutics committee to advise the department on all matters relating to the list. HHS and the committee must consider all therapeutic classes of prescription drugs for the preferred drug list, except for antidepressants, antipsychotics and anticonvulsants. Additional measures in the bill require HHS to join a multi-state purchasing pool and negotiate directly with manufacturers or labelers, or contract with pharmacies, for negotiated discounts or rebates.

The bill passed 47-0.

**LB1022**, introduced by North Platte Sen. Tom Hansen, regulates the sale or distribution of veterinary legend drugs in Nebraska by anyone other than a pharmacist or veterinarian. A veterinary legend drug is one required to bear a label indicating that federal law restricts the drug to use by, or on the order of, a licensed veterinarian.

The bill creates a new class of license exclusive to those who handle only veterinary legend drugs. A \$50 base fee and additional fees up to \$500 will be charged for the license. Oversight, licensure and inspection will be performed by HHS.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote and takes effect Dec. 1.

Introduced by Platte Center Sen. Arnie Stuthman, **LB308** allows automated medication systems to be used in a licensed pharmacy only when a pharmacist dispenses medication to patients for self-administration pursuant to a prescription.

In hospitals, an automated medication machine can be operated only for medication administered by a licensed health care professional pursuant to a chart order. The bill prohibits use of the systems in long-term care facilities.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

Lawmakers also approved a bill that changes provisions relating to service animals.

**LB806**, introduced by Cortland Sen. Norm Wallman, is intended to harmonize Nebraska law with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations regarding the definition of service animals.

If animals meet the ADA definition, they are considered service animals whether or not they are licensed or certified by a state or local government.

The bill:

- brings Nebraska law in line with ADA definitions;
- exempts service animals from local license fees whether or not the animal graduates from a recognized training school; and
- prohibits those who rent, lease or otherwise provide housing from charging an extra deposit for a service animal.

LB806 passed on a 47-0 vote.

Senators adopted a resolution calling for an examination of quality of care and staffing issues at the Beatrice State Developmental Center (BSDC).

**LR283**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, creates the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. Flood offered the resolution in response to a recently released U.S. Department of Justice report that documented civil rights violations at the state-run facility.

The committee will consist of seven members of the Legislature appointed by the Executive Board and will examine:

- quality of care and related staffing issues at BSDC;
- placement and quality of care statewide for developmentally disabled persons in Nebraska;
- the role of HHS with respect to such facilities; and
- how conditions within HHS permitted services to decline to the level documented in the federal report.



The Executive Board is authorized to hire legal counsel, consultants and investigators to support the committee's work. The committee will report its finding by Dec. 15. The resolution was adopted on a 43-0 vote.

### Clean-up bills

Senators passed two omnibus health care bills this session.

**LB797**, introduced by the committee, is intended to clean up technical issues resulting from last session's HHS reorganization.

The bill reinstates some provisions that were inadvertently repealed in 2007. The provisions require HHS to establish an administrative disqualification process for Aid to Dependent Children and child care subsidy programs.

LB797 includes provisions from two other bills dealing with mobile and manufactured homes.

**LB749**, introduced by Stuthman, provides an electronic option for submitting mobile home park license applications and allows for the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2,000 per day for mobile home park code violations.

**LB892**, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, increases various fees paid by mobile home manufacturers.

In addition, LB797 clarifies language regarding breast and cervical cancer provisions and reinstates language requiring that a critical access hospital be located in rural Nebraska.

The bill passed on a 49-0 vote.

**LB928**, introduced by Johnson, repeals the Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Act, which terminated Dec. 31, 2007.

The bill was amended to include provisions from the following bills:

**LB738**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, which makes technical changes to brain injury registry notification and reporting requirements;

**LB796**, introduced by Johnson, which creates a new licensure category of limited computed tomography radiographer under the Radiation Control Act;

**LB906**, introduced by Louisville Sen. Dave Pankonin, which changes provisions relating to certification and inspection fees for laboratories regulated by the state Department of Health and Human Services; and

**LB1173**, introduced by Ewing Sen. Cap Dierks, which allows zoo animal health care to be performed by credentialed health care professionals under the immediate supervision of a zoo veterinarian.

Under the bill, signing a specific consent form for HIV testing will not be required if a person signs a general consent form for medical tests or procedures. The person must be informed that an HIV test may be performed under general consent and that they may refuse the test.

In addition, the bill:

- exempts recreation facilities, centers or programs operated by political or government subdivisions from licensure requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act;
- alters the funding mechanism for the state's newly established Stem Cell Research Cash Fund;
- adds HHS to the list of parties who must receive notice upon the death of a person who was 55 or older or who resided in a medical institution;



Sen. Dwite Pedersen



Sen. Dave Pankonin

- changes provisions relating to fluoroscopy use;
- removes the chairperson of the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission from the Children's Behavioral Health Task Force;
- requires HHS to perform a comprehensive analysis of Nebraska's options under federal law for providing medical assistance to employed persons with disabilities;
- requires federally recognized Indian tribes to have self-determination agreements in place with Indian Health Services to cover all costs for enrolled tribal members before a certificate of need waiver could be granted for a Nebraska facility; and
- requires HHS to report any proposed changes to the state's Medicaid program to the governor, the Legislature and the Medicaid Reform Council by Dec. 1 each year.

Finally, the bill will reestablish the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission as of July 1 with 12 governor-appointed members representing consumers, advocates, providers, administrators, regional centers and cities.

LB928 passed on a 47-0 vote.

### Other bills

The committee heard testimony on three bills that failed to advance to general file.

**LB730**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, would have replaced the existing U.S. Department of Transportation curricula for emergency medical services (EMS) technicians with one developed by the Nebraska Board of Emergency Medical Services. The bill also would have required the Nebraska EMS Board to develop a new skills competency test for licensure.

**LB1169**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Tom White, was intended to provide health coverage for Nebraska veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom who are in need of post-acute brain injury services that are not reimbursable under the federal TRICARE program or from the Veterans Administration.

**LB818**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, sought to increase the number of Nebraska children qualifying for the federal State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Currently, SCHIP coverage is limited to children whose families earn 185 percent of the federal poverty level. LB818 would have raised the amount a qualifying family could earn to 200 percent of the federal poverty level and would have extended the reapplication requirement to once a year instead of every six months, as current law requires.

## Judiciary

**L**awmakers considered a variety of bills heard by the Judiciary Committee this session, including measures regarding stem cell research, the death penalty and gun ownership laws.



A bill containing a compromise to a long-standing stem cell research debate was passed 48-0.

**LB606**, originally introduced by Omaha Sen. Brad Ashford to deal with court and mediation issues, was amended to instead address stem cell research.

The bill implements the Stem Cell Research Act, which states that no state facilities or state money shall be used to destroy human embryos for the purpose of research. The bill prohibits the use of state facilities or state money to create a human embryo by somatic cell nuclear transfer.

LB606 creates the Stem Cell Research Cash Fund to support researchers or institutions conducting stem cell research in Nebraska. Funds will be distributed on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis up to \$500,000 per fiscal year.

The bill also creates a six-member Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, comprised of the deans of both Creighton University Medical Center and the University of Nebraska Medical Center and four scientists from outside Nebraska who are conducting human stem cell research with funding from the National Institute of Health.

Lawmakers declined to advance a bill that would have abolished the death penalty in Nebraska.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, **LB1063** would have substituted a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. The penalty also would have included an order of mandatory restitution.

In February, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that electrocution, the state's sole means of execution, is cruel and unusual punishment and therefore unconstitutional. Chambers said the state is left with the words "death penalty" in the law, but with no means to carry out the punishment.

The Legislature declined to advance LB1063 to select file on a 20-28 vote, five votes short of advancement.

A bill pertaining to firearms also stalled, failing to advance from select file on a 20-20 vote.

**LB958**, sponsored by Ashford, included provisions that would have:

- required the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice to examine firearm-related violence in Nebraska and issue a report to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2009;
- required the Nebraska State Patrol to implement a telephone hotline for individuals to report the loss or theft of a firearm;
- ended the permit to purchase system for the sale of handguns and instead fully implemented the national instant criminal background check system; and
- prevented individuals from being able to obtain a gun permit if they have been found to be mentally ill and dangerous during the previous 10 years or judged to be mentally incompetent.

Lawmakers passed a bill that provides new penalties for drunken driving.

**LB736**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Tony Fulton, allows the installation of an ignition interlock device upon conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI). The device prevents a vehicle from starting if the driver tests positive for alcohol consumption.

Thirty days into a 90-day license revocation, the driver may apply for an ignition interlock device to be installed in his or her vehicle. The option also is available after 60 days of a one-year license revocation.

Drivers with an ignition interlock device are allowed to drive only to work, school or an alcohol treatment or interlock service facility. Drivers must cover the cost of the



Sen. Ernie Chambers



Sen. Brad Ashford



*Sen. Lowen Kruse*



*Sen. Russ Karpisek*



*Sen. Kent Rogert*

device.

The bill passed 43-0 and takes effect Jan. 1, 2009.

The sponsor of a bill related to drunken driving liability passed over his bill this session.

**LB810**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Lowen Kruse, originally was designed to hold a retailer liable for the resulting death, injury or damage done by a drunk driver if the retailer was reckless or negligent in serving alcohol to that person prior to the accident.

However, if the bar or restaurant owner and all their employees who serve alcohol have successfully completed a state-certified server training program and were following the training tenets at the time of sale or service to the individual who caused harm or injury to a third party, the bill stated that the owner would not be held liable.

After the committee amendment failed to be adopted on a 20-21 vote, Kruse asked senators to pass over LB810.

Increased penalties for possession of marijuana were approved this session.

**LB844**, introduced by Sen. Russ Karpisek of Wilber, increases to a Class III misdemeanor the penalty for possession of marijuana weighing more than one ounce but less than one pound. The penalty carries a \$500 fine and up to three months in jail.

Penalties for possession of marijuana weighing one ounce or less are:

- an infraction citation plus a \$300 fine and assignment to a drug course at a judge's discretion for a first offense;
- a Class IV misdemeanor citation plus a \$400 fine and up to five days in jail for a second offense; and
- a Class IIIA misdemeanor citation plus a \$500 fine and up to seven days in jail for a third offense.

The bill passed 40-2.

A bill limiting law enforcement's ability to issue administrative subpoenas also was passed.

**LB952**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop, removes the authority of state administrative departments to compel testimony by issuing administrative subpoenas.

The bill requires State Patrol officers to obtain a court order or go through a county attorney or the attorney general's office in order to send subpoenas.

An opinion issued by Attorney General Jon Bruning last year offered a broad interpretation of this authority. His opinion allowed the State Patrol to use administrative subpoenas in criminal investigations to compel the contents of electronic communication records to be turned over without a court order.

This information includes records of the websites a suspect visited or phone calls they made, but not the content of those web pages or phone calls.

LB952 passed 49-0.

The Legislature gave final approval to a bill that increases consumer protections against deceptive trade practices.

**LB781**, introduced by Tekamah Sen. Kent Rogert, expands the definition of deceptive trade under the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act. The bill also prohibits knowingly and intentionally deceiving a person in an effort to obtain money or property.

The bill adds to the current definition of deceptive trade:

- the use of false pretenses, representations or promises to obtain money or property;
- the sale, distribution, supply or procurement of property as part of a fraudulent scheme;
- unsolicited promotional or incentive checks that obligate the endorser to pay



for goods and services if cashed or deposited; and

- unsolicited billing statements or invoices charging the consumer for goods or services that were not purchased.

Senators voted 46-0 to pass LB781.

Senators passed a bill aimed at preventing recyclable metals theft.

**LB766**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, establishes regulations for the recycling industry and requires businesses to record information that identifies sellers of recyclable metals.

Under the bill, businesses must record:

- the seller's name, address and ID;
- a photo and description of the metal being purchased;
- fingerprints of sellers of copper and catalytic converters;
- the payment amount;
- the name, signature and address of the vendor; and
- the transaction date and time.

Businesses failing to comply with these provisions will be guilty of a Class II misdemeanor. Recycled items exempted from the bill include food and beverage cans, items collected through community recycling programs and items collected from businesses that generate or sell scrap metals in the ordinary course of business.

The bill passed 44-5.

Lawmakers changed laws related to animal cruelty and dog ownership.

**LB1055**, introduced by St. Paul Sen. Vickie McDonald, makes it unlawful for any dog to run at large. The bill increases fines and allows counties, cities and villages to enact additional penalties for dog owners with more than three violations.

The bill contains provisions of **LB769**, a bill introduced by Cornett that amends animal abuse laws prohibiting dog fighting, cockfighting and bearbaiting to provide definitions for the terms "mutilation," "repeated beating" and "torture."

The bill prohibits individuals convicted of a Class IV felony under these statutes from owning, possessing or residing with an animal for at least five years and no more than 15 years. A person found in violation of this section will be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

A person convicted of a Class I or Class III misdemeanor under the act will be prohibited from owning, possessing or residing with an animal for up to five years. A person found in violation of this section will be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor.

Actions that are commonly accepted practices related to commercial livestock operations are exempt.

LB1055 passed on a 44-0 vote.

Lawmakers gave final approval to a bill that removes a residency requirement for deputy court clerks.

Under **LB775**, introduced by Sen. John Wightman of Lexington, deputy clerks for district and county courts are allowed to reside outside of the counties they serve.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that was amended to create a loan forgiveness program for certain public lawyers.

**LB1014**, introduced by Ashford, was further amended to authorize Nebraska courts to refer civil cases to mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution and allows individual trial courts, appellate courts and the Supreme Court to adopt rules of practice regarding the referral process.

LB1014 also contains the following bills.



*Sen. John Wightman*

**LB774**, sponsored by Wightman, states that HHS is not responsible for reviewing or filing an application to modify child support for incarcerated parents.

**LB804**, introduced by Kenesaw Sen. Carroll Burling, allows jurors to take notes during both civil and criminal trials regardless of whether the parties agree. Under current case law, jurors are permitted to take notes only if the parties agree to allow it.

**LB933**, introduced by Ashford, changes training requirements for county court clerk magistrates.

**LB935**, introduced by Ashford, authorizes the state Supreme Court to establish rules regarding the service and delivery of court papers.

**LB1025**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill, requires courts to notify a person convicted of a sexual assault or subject to a protection order that it may be a violation of federal law to ship, transport, receive or possess by interstate or foreign commerce any firearm or ammunition.

**LB1085**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, changes provisions passed in the Parenting Act last year regarding child custody proceedings, ex parte limitations, financial plans, liens, paternity and judge and attorney training requirements.

**LB1107**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, gives statutory authority to special court programs and requires the Legislature to appropriate funds separately to each court program.

**LB1159**, introduced by Ashford, addresses high school truancy rates.

**LB1160**, introduced by Ashford, attempts to reduce repeat juvenile offenses by making changes to the Nebraska juvenile justice system.

LB1014 passed 43-0.

Lastly, the sponsor of a resolution that would have apologized for the state's role in slavery asked to pass over the measure.

Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, who sponsored **LR284**, said a pending Judiciary Committee amendment caused him to reconsider pursuing the resolution. The amendment stopped short of an apology and instead would have expressed regret for the state's role in slavery and condemned any form of racial discrimination against African-Americans.



Sen. John Synowiecki

## Natural Resources

**T**he Legislature will compensate irrigators in the Republican River Basin who voluntarily gave up surface water irrigation rights in 2007.

According to the terms of water lease agreements with natural resources districts, water rights holders should have received payment in December 2007. The leases are part of an effort to retain water in the Republican River and meet terms of a compact agreement with Kansas. The lease payments were placed on hold due to pending litigation that challenges the use of local tax revenue to fund the program.

**LB1094**, sponsored by Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson, creates the Water Contingency Cash Fund to provide financial assistance for NRDs unable to make the water lease payments. The fund will be supplied with \$9 million from the state's cash reserve fund and the state Department of Natural Resources is authorized to issue loans to NRDs certifying need for financial assistance. The funding may be used only to compensate lease holders and any unused portion



Sen. Tom Carlson



must be returned to the fund. NRDs involved in the lease agreements are authorized to use property and occupation taxes to repay the loans, which must be repaid by June 30, 2013.

LB1094 was approved 46-0.

After the Legislature adjourned for the year, Gov. Dave Heineman vetoed a bill that would have created a statewide recycling initiative for consumer-owned televisions, personal computers and video display devices.

**LB986**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, was passed by the Legislature on a 42-4 vote. The bill would have created the Electronics Recycling Act and established manufacturer fees to fund grants for privately operated recycling programs.

In his veto message, the governor said the bill would have increased consumer costs and presented an economic barrier to manufacturers by imposing some of the highest fees in the nation.

The Legislature made two changes affecting the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. The first addresses the qualifications and terms of commissioners. The commission currently has eight members, each representing a designated district and serving a single five-year term. At least three commissioners must work in agriculture, two of whom must reside on a farm or ranch, and no more than four commissioners may have the same political affiliation.

**LB1049**, introduced by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, increases the commission's membership to nine by adding one at-large member and limits to five the number of members having the same political affiliation. The bill also:

- removes the requirement that members reside on a farm or ranch;
- establishes a lifetime membership limit of two four-year terms; and
- requires that political affiliation be based on a member's voter registration as of the statewide general election prior to his or her appointment.

The bill passed 40-2.

Senators also removed minimum fee requirements for permits issued by the commission. According to Omaha Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh, the sponsor of **LB1162**, removing the minimum permit fees will allow the commission to discount certain permits in periods of overpopulation for various game animals such as deer, elk and turkeys. LB1162 passed 42-0.

Public power districts will be able to negotiate certain bids for construction and maintenance contracts under a bill offered by Elk Creek Sen. Lavon Heidemann.

**LB939** changes Nebraska laws requiring sealed bids to procure certain goods and services. Currently, if the contract under bid involves onsite labor and all bids received are non-responsive or in excess of fair market value, the public power district cannot reject the bids and negotiate.

The bill removes the onsite labor restriction and allows power districts to reject bids and negotiate contracts in those instances. The provisions apply to public power districts, agencies created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act and joint entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act. The bill was passed 46-0.



*Sen. Don Preister*



*Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh*



*Sen. Lavon Heidemann*

## Retirement Systems

**L**awmakers made several changes to the state's retirement systems this session.

**LB1147**, introduced by the Retirement Systems Committee, makes a technical change to the way cost of living adjustments are calculated in the state's defined benefit plans.

The measure also includes provisions from several other bills.

**LB937** requires county and state agency employees authorized to participate in the retirement system to enroll and begin making the required contributions immediately upon employment. Currently, employees have 60 days from the date of employment to enroll and begin contributing.

**LB938** allows beneficiaries of deceased members of county or state defined contribution plans to choose investment options. Currently, beneficiaries do not have the statutory authority to transfer investments among the various funds.

**LB1143** requires a review of the current statutory, regulatory and organization practices of the Nebraska Investment Council and the best practices of similar state investment offices. A qualified independent organization will be hired to make recommendations to the council, the governor and the Legislature.

**LB365** allows Nebraska judges to retire at age 62 and elect to receive a reduced monthly retirement income in lieu of a deferred vested annuity.

LB1147 passed on a 45-0 vote.

The committee also heard testimony on **LB992**, a bill sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery that would have directed the Nebraska Investment Council to divest from Sudanese companies or companies doing substantial business in Sudan.

The committee took no action on the bill.

## Revenue



Sen. Ray Janssen

**C**reation of a new tier in the state's business tax incentive program and a new method for taxing gasoline topped the revenue agenda this session.

The Nebraska Advantage program awards tax incentives based on five tiers of capital investment and job creation. **LB895**, introduced by Sen. Ray Janssen of Nickerson at the request of the governor, creates a sixth tier of qualifications for the program called the Nebraska Super Advantage tier. Companies that invest at least \$10 million and create at least 75 new jobs that meet a wage threshold, or invest at least \$100 million and hire at least 50 new employees, will qualify for tax credits under the new tier of the program.

To qualify, the newly created jobs must pay at least 200 percent of the average wage in the county in which the project is located or at least 150 percent of the statewide average wage, whichever is higher.

The bill contains provisions of **LB1033**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, that allow benefits for projects in villages if the project promises at least two new jobs



and at least \$125,000 of new investment. Currently, such small projects must be in counties with a population of 15,000 or less, or in an enterprise zone.

Benefits will be allowed for projects in one or more census tracts located in metropolitan class cities that have more than 30 percent of residents in poverty and in any adjacent census tracts if the project promises at least two new jobs and at least \$125,000 in new investment.

Benefits also will be allowed for projects in second class cities if the project promises at least five new jobs and at least \$250,000 of new investment. Currently, projects in this tier must be in counties with a population of 25,000 or less.

The tax credits awarded under the new Super Advantage tier will equal 10 percent multiplied by the average annual compensation of new employees, multiplied by the number of new employees. The company also will receive a tax credit equal to 15 percent of the investment made in qualified property and can receive a tax exemption for personal property at the project.

Under the bill, qualifying companies can use tax credits by obtaining reimbursement for real estate taxes paid on real property included in the qualifying project and acquired by the taxpayer after the date the application was filed. Qualifying Internet web portal companies also can claim a personal property tax exemption for computers.

The bill excludes livestock modernization or expansion efforts performed to correct environmental violations if they are made within five years of a complaint by the director of the state Department of Environmental Quality.

The annual dollar cap for tax credits will be \$3 million through fiscal year 2008-09 and \$4 million for FY2009-10.

Finally, companies seeking benefits under the Super Advantage program are required to pay a \$10,000 nonrefundable application fee.

LB895 was passed by a 43-1 vote.

**LB846**, introduced by Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer, will change the way fuel taxes are levied and collected in Nebraska.

The bill establishes a 5 percent tax on the wholesale price of gasoline. The tax will be collected at the wholesale level and will be paid in the same manner as the current gas tax.

The current 10.5 cent excise tax levied per gallon will be reduced to 7.5 cents to offset some of the wholesale tax's additional revenue. The 2 cent gasoline tax earmarked for cities and counties will be increased to 2.8 cents.

The average wholesale price will be adjusted each April and November and will be based on an average price over the previous six months. The bill specifies that the average wholesale price cannot be increased or decreased by more than 25 percent from the previous six-month period.

As part of a compromise to override the governor's line-item veto of a \$15 million appropriation to the state Department of Roads, lawmakers voted to delay implementation of LB846's new taxing method until July 1, 2009.

The bill also provides for a \$15 million transfer from the cash reserve fund as a 20 percent match to leverage federal road funding earmarks.

The money will give the state access to \$73 million in federal funds for projects such as the Kennedy Freeway in Sarpy County, the Lincoln South Beltway and the Heartland Expressway across the Panhandle.

The transfer will be divided into three annual \$5 million transfers beginning in July 2009.

The bill passed on a 39-5 vote.



*Sen. Deb Fischer*

**Other tax policy changes**

Lawmakers gave final legislative approval to expand an existing financial assistance program for convention and arena facilities.

In 1999, lawmakers passed a bill allowing local governments that build convention center facilities to apply to the state for a return of sales tax proceeds generated by the convention center, also known as attributable revenue.

A formula for distributing the attributable revenue divides it between funding construction of the Qwest Center in Omaha, construction of other eligible facilities and improvement of local tourist attractions. The Legislature revised that formula last year.

**LB912**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, allows financial assistance for convention or meeting centers or arenas to include both privately and publicly owned facilities. Currently, facilities must be publicly owned to qualify for state financial assistance.

The bill also extends the reach of the financial assistance to publicly or privately owned associated hotels within 450 yards of an eligible facility, excluding parking or other affiliated structures. Under current law, such an associated hotel must be publicly owned and within 200 yards of an eligible facility.

Eligible sports arena facilities include only those arenas with a seating capacity of 16,000 or less that apply for financial assistance after Feb. 1 of this year.

The bill passed by a 47-0 vote.

**LB177**, a bill sponsored by Janssen, makes adjustments to a microenterprise tax credit program.

The bill:

- makes the program available to farmers or ranchers only if the operator has a net worth of \$200,000 or less, or the farmer or rancher is involved in the processing or marketing of agricultural products or alternative crop production;
- includes the employer's cost of health insurance as compensation for purposes of employment increases qualifying for benefits;
- excludes from qualifying compensation any amounts paid to an employee in excess of 150 percent of the state average weekly wage; and
- includes increased expenditures for advertising, legal and professional services as investment for purposes of qualifying for benefits.

The bill passed by a 45-0 vote.

**LB1001**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Tom White, allows electric utilities to opt into a program that provides grants for low-income Nebraska residents to make energy-saving improvements to their homes. The grant fund will receive 20 percent of the sales tax received from the utility matched by the utility's own funds. To qualify as a low-income resident, an individual must make less than 150 percent of the federal poverty level.

The bill also incorporates provisions from **LB1175**, introduced by White, that will add a new withholding requirement for any business making payments of more than \$600 for construction services to persons who are not employees. The rate of withholding will be 5 percent.

The bill passed on a 43-1 vote and takes effect on July 1, 2009.

A business tax incentive rebate proposal for film production endeavors stalled during second-round debate.

Under **LB235**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Danielle Nantkes, film productions with a minimum budget of \$2 million, with at least \$1.25 million of the production costs incurred in Nebraska would have been eligible for a tax rebate. The maximum amount of rebates available annually to film companies would have been capped at \$2.5 million.



Sen. Bill Avery



Sen. Tom White



Sen. Danielle Nantkes



The rebate would have been 25 percent of production costs incurred in Nebraska for a film with a budget of at least \$30 million. If the budget was less, the rebate would have been:

- 25 percent, if more than 50 percent of the crew members were Nebraska residents;
- 15 percent, if between 25 percent and 50 percent of the crew members were Nebraska residents; or
- 10 percent, if fewer than 25 percent of the crew members were Nebraska residents.

LB235 was bracketed.

Lawmakers passed a proposal exempting nonprofit, licensed assisted living facilities from sales tax.

**LB575**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Lowen Kruse, also makes similar sales tax exemptions applicable only to nonprofit entities. Those entities include education and health care entities as well as childcare and child placement agencies.

The bill passed on a 47-0 vote.

**LB777**, sponsored by Sen. Carol Hudkins of Malcolm, changes the definition of agricultural and horticultural land for the purpose of property tax valuation.

The bill clarifies that agricultural and horticultural land does not include “any building or enclosed structure and the land associated with such building or enclosed structure located on the parcel.”

LB777 takes effect on Jan. 1, 2009.

The bill passed on a 25-15 vote.

Senators gave final legislative approval to a bill that adjusts corporate income tax rates.

Corporations are taxed on the first portion of their income at a rate of 150.8 percent of the primary individual income tax rate, or 5.58 percent of taxable income. For the remainder of their income, the rate is currently 211 percent of the primary individual income tax rate, or 7.81 percent.

Under **LB888**, sponsored by Kenesaw Sen. Carroll Burling, the 5.58 percent corporate income tax rate will apply to the first \$100,000 of taxable income. Corporate income in excess of \$100,000 will continue to be taxed at the current rate. Previously, the rate threshold was \$50,000.

The bill was passed 48-0.



*Sen. Carroll Burling*

### **Omnibus bills**

The Legislature passed three cleanup bills introduced by the Revenue Committee this session.

**LB914** enacts several changes in tax law.

Various time frames for filing or amending returns are changed to 60 days in order to make them consistent and uniform.

The tax commissioner will be given general authority to waive interest. Currently, interest may only be abated in certain circumstances.

Members of a limited liability corporation that act as managers will be liable for unpaid taxes to the same extent and in the same manner as corporate officers.

The tax commissioner will no longer receive reports from county treasurers summarizing the disposition of fines and penalties.

Cash funds dealing with tax incentive programs will be united into one fund.

LB914 was passed by a 42-0 vote.

**LB916** amends several sections of the sales tax statutes to enact and clarify definitions and otherwise assist the Department of Revenue in enforcing the sales tax statutes.

The bill also provides for enforcement of sales tax through a responsible officer or employee and allows taxpayers and the tax commissioner to waive the deadline for resolving disputes by agreement.

Among the bill's provisions is the application of the state sales tax to digital audio works, digital audiovisual works, digital codes and digital books. In addition, the bill amends the law regarding taxation of installation services charges.

LB916 includes provisions from:

**LB1137**, originally introduced by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, which clarifies the sales tax exemption for community-based energy development projects enacted last year;

**LB1126**, originally introduced by White, which provides a sales tax exemption for copies of medical records obtained by patients and both originals and copies of depositions and court documents; and

**LB1134**, originally introduced by Schuyler Sen. Chris Langemeier, which expands the sales tax exemption for livestock to include game birds.

The bill passed 34-4.

**LB965** amends a number of property tax statutes. The bill:

- eliminates the requirement that forms reporting the sales price of real property be produced in quadruplicate, allowing for electronic forms that could be sent to different offices without being produced in multiple paper copies;
- clarifies the personal property tax statutes and refund procedures;
- provides a uniform three-year statute of limitations on personal property tax return corrections;
- moves up from Aug. 10 to Aug. 1 the date on which personal property that is exempt from taxation under two tax incentive acts is certified to counties and the taxpayer; and
- repeals a statute that requires the county assessor to report tax-exempt government-owned property to the state every four years.

The bill also includes provisions of **LB964**, which:

- provides that if a greenbelt applicant fails to protest the denial of special value because of a failure to receive notice, the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC) may consider the protest and may determine special value for that year or, for 2009 or earlier, the recapture value;
- allows the official record for an appeal of an equalization order to be limited to the material dealing with the appealing county; and
- excludes the TERC and its employees from the personnel code except for vacation, sick leave and retirement.

The measure passed 43-0.



Sen. Chris Langemeier

### Other bills

Lawmakers considered a measure that would have changed the method of taxing chewing tobacco.

**LB722**, sponsored by Sen. Pat Engel of South Sioux City, would have reclassified tobacco-related substances into three categories:

- smoking tobacco, which would have included tobacco-related items that can



Sen. Pat Engel



- be smoked, with the exception of cigarettes;
- tobacco products, which would have included tobacco items intended primarily for chewing; and
- cigarettes, which would not have been impacted by the bill.

Under LB722, tobacco products would have been taxed at a rate of 65 cents per ounce. Currently, tobacco products are generally taxed at a rate of 20 percent of the wholesale price.

LB722 remained on general file at the end of the legislative session.

Lawmakers bracketed a bill that would have updated a tax credit program for planned giving.

**LB983**, sponsored by Sen. Abbie Cornett of Bellevue, would have made numerous changes to tax credits for irrevocable planned gifts to Nebraska permanent endowments.

In addition to increases in credit percents and maximums, the bill would have allowed credits to be carried forward up to five years rather than require them to be used in one year. The bill also would have extended the program's termination date from 2010 until 2016.

LB983 was bracketed.

The Revenue Committee considered two measures proposing sales tax holidays in Nebraska.

**LB708**, introduced by Sen. Rich Pahls of Omaha, would have allowed retailers to sell merchandise without charging sales tax on the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August each year. The decision on which items would be free of sales tax would have been left to the retailer. Sales taxes still would have been remitted by the retailer, who would have been allowed to advertise the sales tax exempted items as such.

The bill advanced to general file but was not scheduled for debate.

**LB762**, introduced by Avery, would have declared sales tax holidays on the same days as LB708. However, the sales tax exemption would have applied only to clothing with a sales price of \$100 or less per item, school supplies with a sales price of \$100 or less per item and computers with a sales price of \$1,500 or less per item.

The bill failed to advance from committee.

**LB784**, offered by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, would have required companies wishing to receive business tax incentives under the Nebraska Advantage program to certify that they do not violate federal immigration law by employing aliens who are unauthorized to work in the United States. The bill also would have required the recapture or disallowance of business tax credits for companies found to be in violation of the same federal immigration law.

The bill advanced to general file but was not scheduled for debate.

## *Transportation and Telecommunications*



*Sen. Carol Hudkins*

**S**enators passed several bills this session dealing with driver's licensing procedures, railroad crossing closing practices and road classifications.

**LB911**, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins, directs the state Department of Motor Vehicles to develop licenses by April 1, 2009, that prevent identity theft, fraud, forgery and counterfeiting.

The bill authorizes the DMV to provide for the centralized production and issuance of licenses from a secure facility. New licenses will be delivered by mail.

The DMV may collect an identity security surcharge of no more than \$8 to cover the cost of technology and security practices.

The bill passed 33-9.

A bill that provides a way for communities to prevent the closing of certain railroad crossings passed 47-0.

Current law requires the state Department of Roads to close certain unmarked railroad crossings that are located within one quarter mile of public crossings marked with gates, signals, alarm bells or warning personnel.

Under **LB837**, introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek, parties may object to a closing by having an engineer submit a written request to the department explaining why the crossing is safe as designed and should not be closed. Such a written request exempts a railroad crossing from being closed.

**LB1068**, sponsored by Ellsworth Sen. LeRoy Louden, creates a new classification for remote residential roads.

A remote residential road is defined as a road or segment of road that serves as primary access to no more than seven residences and is located in a remote area of a county with a population density of no more than five people per square mile or an area of at least 1,000 square miles.

The bill requires the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards to adopt specific criteria for remote residential roads by December 2010. A county board is required to hold a public hearing before requesting that the state Department of Roads reclassify an existing road as remote residential.

LB1068 passed on a 46-0 vote.

A cleanup bill introduced by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee passed 47-0.

**LB756** is an annual updating of dates referencing federal law in state motor vehicle statutes, which Nebraska must pass to remain in compliance with federal law.

LB756 contains provisions from the following bills.

**LB712**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Rich Pahls, repeals the current law prohibiting the use of daytime driving lights.

**LB827**, sponsored by Fischer, reduces from six years to three years the time required to keep a paper record of a motor vehicle registration. This information is stored electronically by the DMV.

**LB834**, sponsored by Fischer, provides that an out-of-state title with a valid lien noted on its face is sufficient proof to have the lien noted on the issued Nebraska title when transferring ownership of a motor vehicle or motor boat into Nebraska.

**LB841**, sponsored by Fischer, authorizes the attachment of a dealer assignment form to a manufacturer's statement of origin when all reassignment spaces have been used on the statement. The form will be prescribed by the DMV.

**LB874**, sponsored by York Sen. Greg Adams, substitutes "rubber-tired crane" with "self-propelled specialized mobile equipment" in the motor vehicle width, length and weight restriction statutes.

**LB917**, sponsored by Fischer, provides a definition of idle reduction technology in the motor vehicle statutes. This technology allows a commercial truck driver to provide heat, air conditioning or electricity without operating the main engine.

The bill also increases the maximum gross weight limit and the axle weight limit by 400 pounds for vehicles equipped with idle reduction technology.

**LB919**, sponsored by Fischer, will calculate the registration fee refund for appor-



Sen. LeRoy Louden



Sen. Greg Adams



tioned vehicles from the date of the event involving the vehicle that triggers the refund instead of the date of the application for a refund.

**LB1087**, sponsored by Ewing Sen. Cap Dierks, allows either a certificate showing the date of transfer or a certificate of title as satisfactory proof of right of possession to a newly purchased or sold motor vehicle.

Currently, a driver can show law enforcement a duly executed bill of sale, a certificate of title or other satisfactory evidence as proof of right of possession during the 30-day grace period for licensing and registering the vehicle or when the dealer is operating the vehicle.

A bill that would have encouraged drivers to move into the passing lane when approaching a parked emergency vehicle was bracketed on general file.

Introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, **LB786** would have established penalties for failing to move into a passing lane when approaching an emergency or road assistance vehicle that is stopped and using audible or visual signals on controlled-access highways.

**LB1092**, sponsored by Scottsbluff Sen. John Harms, would have required all new school buses purchased after Jan. 1, 2010, to be equipped with lap and shoulder seatbelts.

The bill also would have provided protection against increased legal liability to schools should a bus accident result in injury to a student.

The bill was bracketed on select file and was not rescheduled for debate.

The committee heard testimony on a bill introduced by Omaha Sen. Lowen Kruse that would have made the driving violation of not wearing a seatbelt a primary reason for law enforcement to issue a ticket. Currently, the violation is a secondary offense, meaning an officer can issue a ticket for it only after another violation is found.

**LB812**, however, was not advanced from committee.

The committee advanced two bills meant to encourage the completion of the Nebraska Expressway System, proposed in 1988.

Currently, the state Department of Roads is required to design an annual plan to meet state highway system needs and to prioritize those needs. In establishing these priorities, the department is to consider current and projected traffic volume, safety requirements, economic development needs, current and projected demographic trends and maintenance and enhancement of the quality of life for all Nebraska citizens.

**LB1129**, introduced by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, would have added two factors that the department must consider:

- the ability of residents of cities of 15,000 inhabitants or more to access the Interstate highway system through a completed expressway; and
- the impact of uncompleted portions of the expressway system on the economic development of cities along the expressway system.

**LB1034**, introduced by Loudon, would have defined the system of expressways and required a map depicting the original roads, those that are planned and the progress of their planning.

LB1034 and LB1129 were placed on general file but not scheduled for debate.

Finally, lawmakers passed a bill that changes the state's technology policy.

**LB823**, proposed by the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, authorizes the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) to designate enterprise projects, require progress reports on reviewed projects and review technology projects regardless of their funding source.

Under the bill, state agencies will submit an accounting of their technology assets



*Sen. John Harms*

to the state's chief information officer and the NITC will provide an annual report of this information.

The bill includes provisions that bring the Intergovernmental Data Communications Advisory Council and the Geographic Information System Steering Committee under the NITC.

LB823 passed by a 47-0 vote.

### Urban Affairs



*Sen. Mike Friend*

**S**enators approved a bill requiring certain first-class cities to hire a full-time fire chief by 2009.

**LB1096**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Mike Friend, requires cities with populations exceeding 37,500 to hire a qualified, career fire chief responsible for training and administrative oversight.

The bill also requires the fire chief in such cities to review recruitment and performance data annually. Cities and fire protection districts are authorized to audit the trust funds of their volunteer departments when more than \$100,000 of economic activity occurs in any 12-month period. It also prohibits volunteer departments from collecting fees for emergency response services involving the use of city-owned property and equipment and requires any such fees to be returned to the sponsoring city or fire protection district.

LB1096 was amended to contain provisions of **LB948**, a bill introduced by Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek. These provisions create employment protections for volunteer emergency responders who are absent or tardy due to an emergency call prior to the start of their scheduled shift.

LB1096 passed 48-0.

First-class cities will have the option to merge under a bill approved by the Legislature. **LB1056**, sponsored by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, allows first-class cities that share a common border to voluntarily merge, subject to voter approval. Upon such approval the two cities would become a single city.

Under the bill, city councils of first-class cities are authorized to adopt joint resolutions of their intent to pursue a merger and develop a joint plan for such merger. Any proposed merger plan will require a public hearing and voter approval before the cities would be merged. The bill prohibits merging cities across county lines.

The bill passed 46-0.

Two bills addressing the annexation authority of metropolitan class cities were indefinitely postponed by the committee.

**LB971**, introduced by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, would have prohibited the annexation of any city or village by another larger city unless approved by a majority of the registered voters of the city or village which is the subject of the annexation.

Pedersen said he introduced the measure to prevent municipalities from being annexed against the will of the residents of the community being annexed.

**LB1166**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Nelson, took a different approach by proposing to allow metropolitan class cities to annex territory in bordering counties. Omaha is the state's only metropolitan class city. Nelson said the bill would have allowed Omaha to grow and not be restricted by county lines.



The Legislature will send voters two proposals to amend provisions in the state's constitution that relate to funding for municipal projects.

**LR229CA** will appear on the November 2008 ballot. Introduced by St. Paul Sen. Vickie McDonald, the proposed amendment would remove constitutional restrictions on the sources of tax revenue available to municipalities for economic development programs under the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act.

Currently under that law and the constitutional provisions that authorized it, cities and villages must obtain voter approval to fund economic or industrial development projects or programs with local tax revenue. Only general taxes, including specifically property and local sales tax, can be used for such purposes.

If passed by the voters, the amendment will allow the Legislature to authorize municipalities to access additional sources of revenue, such as local occupation taxes and utility charges for use for programs under the new law.

The resolution was referred to the voters on a 46-0 vote.

**LR5CA**, sponsored by Friend, will appear on the May 2010 ballot. The proposal, if approved by the voters, would allow cities, villages and counties to acquire property and issue municipal revenue bonds for the benefit of nonprofit organizations.

The measure would allow cities to collaborate with nonprofit organizations to assist them in financing the development of services in the community. Use of bond funds would be restricted to activities deemed for a public purpose and property could not be acquired by condemnation or used for religious purposes.

Unlike general obligation bonds which are repaid with local taxes, revenue bonds rely on revenue from the project they are designated to fund. LR5CA would prohibit local governments from using taxes for the purpose of repaying the bonds. LR5CA was approved by the Legislature on a 48-0 vote.

Lawmakers passed a bill that allows contracts for library services.

**LB768**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, authorizes the board of trustees of a sanitary and improvement district (SID) to contract with a neighboring city or village for library services. SID boards will be able to seek contracts with more than one city or village. Lawmakers passed LB768 on a 45-0 vote.

Senators also approved a bill that adjusts state natural gas regulations. **LB1072**, sponsored by Friend, prohibits ex parte communications with the staff or members of the Public Service Commission by the parties of a contested case under the State Natural Gas Regulation Act. The bill also adjusts the time available to the PSC to pursue the consideration of a general rate filing when proceedings will not be pursued as a negotiation between the utility and the cities served that would be subject to the proposed rate increase.

Contained in the bill are provisions of **LB1095**, originally introduced by Sen. Ray Aguilar of Grand Island. Those provisions amend a regulatory exemption that prohibits extending duplicative or redundant gas mains or other utility infrastructure under certain circumstances when the proposed new pipeline would be a large-volume transmission line. LB1095 applies to jurisdictional utilities, the Metropolitan Utilities District and cities that own or operate their own natural gas distribution systems.

LB1072 passed 47-0.

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## The 100th Legislature 2008 Unicameral Update

BILL STATUS TABLES: S = Signed by the Governor, P = Passed by the Legislature, V = Vetoed, VO = Veto Overridden, LV = Line-Item Vetoed, FR = Final Reading, SF = Select File, GF = General File, C = Held in Committee, IPP = Indefinitely Postponed, W = Withdrawn, R = Reported to Legislature, > = Amended into Bill #, + = Includes Bill #

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB6	Pahls	Adopt the Nebraska Safe Haven Act	IPP
LB9	Preister	Provide an income tax credit for energy conservation and renewable energy generation	IPP
LB13	Mines	Provide for the creation and certification of joint entities under the Interlocal Cooperation Act	C
LB14	Mines	Provide for one license plate and one In Transit decal per vehicle	C
LB15	Mines	Include parks as a prohibited area for controlled substances	IPP
LB16	Mines	Change provisions related to airport hazards and airport zoning regulations	C
LB17	Mines	Change provisions relating to multiple office holding	GF
LB18	Mines	Change recall provisions	C
LB20	Mines	Change provisions related to public recreational access to water projects	GF
LB27	Adams	Authorize the Auditor of Public Accounts to conduct certain audits	GF
LB29	Friend	Provide for court orders to direct financially able parents to pay for costs of care for wards of the state	C
LB36	Hudkins	Change the number of county court judges	IPP
LB37	Hudkins	Change the number of district court judges	IPP
LB38	Hudkins	Change the number of separate juvenile court judges	IPP
LB39	Schimek	Provide restrictions relating to petition circulation and change campaign reporting provisions	VO
LB42	Hudkins	Change distribution of the cigarette tax	C
LB45	Gay	Change provisions relating to district court fees	IPP
LB47	Hudkins	Create the offense of interference with child visitation	C
LB48	Dierks	Exempt certified registered nurse anesthetists from certain radiation-use qualifications	GF
LB51	Hudkins	Include all cities and villages under the Nebraska Industrial Development Corporation Act	IPP
LB53	Howard	Prohibit smoking in certain foster care homes	GF
LB55	Howard	Change provisions governing funding of home visitation, child, and parenting programs	C (>321)
LB56	Howard	Appropriate funds for alcohol-related birth defects prevention programs	C
LB57	Preister	Provide for fair share representation contributions for certain labor representation by labor organizations	GF
LB58	Harms	Increase the probationary period of community college staff	C
LB59	Engel	Require education of motor vehicle dealers, agents, and salespersons as prescribed	IPP
LB62	Langemeier	Authorize insurance producers to charge incidental fees	C
LB65	Stuthman	Change the statute of repose for the Nebraska Hospital - Medical Liability Act	C
LB68	Hudkins	Create the Office of Guardian ad Litem Services	IPP
LB71	Fischer	Appropriate funds for a child advocacy center	C (>321)
LB75	Hudkins	Provide powers and duties to the juvenile court regarding the placement and custody of juveniles	C
LB76	Hudkins	Change provisions governing physical and legal custody arrangements of a minor child	C
LB77	Nantkes	Change workers' compensation disability compensation provisions	C (>588)
LB78	Nantkes	Change amounts recoverable under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	C
LB82	Synowiecki	Change Welfare Reform Act provisions relating to family size	GF (>351)
LB82A	Synowiecki	Appropriations bill	GF
LB89	Business and Labor	Disapprove certain claims against the state	C
LB92	Cornett	Change provisions relating to foreign national minors	S



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB93	Cornett	Authorize a new firefighter license plate and fund emergency training	C
LB95	Flood	Clarify reference to expense reimbursement for the Professional Practices Commission	SF
LB96	Flood	Redefine a term under the Nebraska Probation Administration Act	C
LB98	Flood	Eliminate references to a fund that terminated	SF
LB104	Erdman	Change age of majority from nineteen to eighteen	C
LB105	Louden	Appropriate funds for the Nebraska Forest Service	C (>321)
LB107	Pedersen	Create a deputy public counsel for institutions and facilities operated by the Department of Health and Human Services	GF
LB107A	Pedersen	Appropriations bill	GF
LB109	Agriculture	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska with respect to crop insurance	C (>321)
LB112	Erdman	Provide for the judicial emancipation of minors	GF
LB113	Pahls	Prohibit branch banking by industrial loan companies	GF
LB116	Pahls	Change provisions relating to priority of purchase-money security interests	GF
LB118	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Change the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act	C
LB123	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Adopt the Nebraska Foreclosure Protection Act and change provisions relating to deceptive trade practices	S
LB131	Raikes	Provides for the University Research and Development Corridor Master Plan	IPP
LB133	Schimek	Provide for the transfer of development rights as prescribed	C
LB137	Flood	Change provisions relating to inheritance tax liens	C
LB138	Flood	Provide penalties and change other provisions relating to sex offenders	C
LB140	Flood	Provide copies of complaints filed with the Department of Environmental Quality	GF
LB141	Flood	Change provisions relating to burglary	C
LB151	Gay	Provide a statute of limitations for certificate of deposit obligations as prescribed	S
LB157	Stuthman	Prohibit prosecution for leaving a child at a hospital	S
LB159	Heidemann	Exempt repair or replacement parts for agricultural equipment from sales tax	C
LB162	Fischer	Provide for an electronic lien system for certificates of title	SF
LB162A	Fischer	Appropriations bill	SF
LB163	Fischer	Require certification of payment of sales tax to obtain a certificate of title for an all-terrain vehicle	IPP
LB164	Fischer	Change provisions of the Relocation Assistance Act	C
LB169	Cornett	Exclude military retirement benefits from income taxation	IPP
LB171	Kopplin	Require Department of Health and Human Services to apply for food stamp options and waivers	S
LB171A	Kopplin	Appropriations bill	S
LB174	Janssen	Provide duties for and prohibit certain actions by issuers of credit and debit cards	C
LB175	Cornett	Require employer to provide employee a reason for termination	C
LB176	Cornett	Redefine police animal for certain crimes	C
LB177	Janssen	Change the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act	S
LB179	Lathrop	Require electronic recording of custodial interrogations	S
LB179A	Lathrop	Appropriations bill	S
LB180	Kruse	Provide a penalty with respect to keg identification numbers	IPP (>573)
LB182	Kruse	Change grant provisions under the public transportation assistance program	IPP

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB184	Carlson	Change hunting and fishing permit provisions for military personnel and veterans	C
LB187	Mines	Prohibit certain interlocal agreements	C
LB193	Howard	Provide for a special authorization for teachers not addressed by an existing endorsement	C
LB194	Pahls	Change disciplinary provisions of the Uniform Licensing Law	C
LB195	Preister	Repeal the authorization for the Nebraska State Quarter	S
LB196	Schimek	Permit the Adjutant General to designate certain vehicles as military emergency vehicles	S
LB197	Schimek	Change the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	C
LB200	Burling	Change the definition of tractor for purposes of tractor testing	IPP
LB201	Fischer	Change the penalty for false information relating to motor vehicle registration	IPP
LB202	Louden	Change the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act	S
LB204	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to the Contractor Registration Act	S
LB204A	Synowiecki	Appropriations bill	S
LB205	Howard	Require schools to adopt a bullying policy	S
LB209	Business and Labor	Create and eliminate safety inspection funds relating to elevators and conveyances	GF (>863)
LB210	Business and Labor	Change membership and procedures of the Nebraska Workforce Investment Board	S
LB215	Ashford	Change provisions relating to life imprisonment	IPP
LB216	Ashford	Change provisions relating to violence on a service dog	C
LB217	Ashford	Change provisions relating to unlawful acts involving drug substances	C
LB220	Dierks	Provide for medical liens for chiropractors	IPP (>586)
LB222	McGill	Provide workers' compensation benefits for permanent disfigurement or scarring	C
LB225	Friend	Provide for acknowledgment of satisfaction of judgment and unsworn certification	C
LB228	Synowiecki	Repeals statutes limiting liability of owners or operators of motor vehicles and aircraft for damages to guests or invitees	C
LB229	Wallman	Appropriate funds for developmental disability aid	C
LB235	Nantkes	Adopt the Nebraska Advantage Film Production Incentive Act	SF
LB235A	Nantkes	Appropriations bill	SF
LB242	Flood	Change provisions relating to assault by a confined person and create an offense of assault on an officer using bodily fluids	C
LB243	Flood	Change provisions relating to jurors	C
LB244	Flood	Change provisions relating to transportation of patients in ambulances	C
LB245	Johnson	Change provisions relating to fluoridation of drinking water	VO
LB245A	Johnson	Appropriations bill	VO
LB246	Johnson	Provide requirements for coroners relating to the procurement of anatomical gifts and provide for criminal immunity	S
LB249	Heidemann	Change Cash Reserve Fund provisions	GF
LB249A	Heidemann	Appropriations bill	GF
LB251	Synowiecki	Eliminate a restriction on adding alcohol to beer	IPP
LB253	Rogert	Adopt the Motorcycle Safety and Training Act and change motorcycle helmet provisions	GF
LB253A	Rogert	Appropriations bill	GF
LB254	Aguilar	Change child passenger restraint system and occupant protection system provisions	C
LB257	Lathrop	Adopt the Public Guardianship Act	IPP
LB258	Lathrop	Change provisions relating to minors' violations under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	C



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB259	Friend	Change provisions relating to service of process for garnishment	C
LB261	Kruse	Eliminate provisions relating to religious uses of alcoholic liquor and minors' activities at permanent place of residence	C
LB262	Kruse	Change automobile insurance requirements	C
LB266	Aguilar	Provide for driving privilege cards	C
LB268	McGill	Change election provisions for county board members	S
LB269	Burling	Change provisions relating to county organization and formation of county libraries	S
LB273	Kopplin	Change the definition of tractor for purposes of tractor testing	IPP
LB275	Kruse	Change a fund transfer and appropriate funds for biomedical research	C (>321, 322)
LB276	Schimek	Rename the Department of Roads	IPP
LB279	Stuthman	Change provisions relating to driver training schools	S
LB280	Stuthman	Provide for jurisdiction over custody proceedings of juveniles as prescribed	S
LB280A	Stuthman	Appropriations bill	FR
LB281	Stuthman	Appropriate funds for federally qualified community health centers	C
LB285	Transportation and Telecommunications	Authorize compliance with the driver's license provisions of the federal REAL ID Act of 2005	C
LB287	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change vehicle titling and registration provisions	IPP
LB288	Louden	Provide for operation of all-terrain vehicles on highways as prescribed	C
LB291	Hansen	Change the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board membership	SF
LB293	Pedersen	Redefine public safety official with respect to infectious disease exposure	C
LB295	Natural Resources	Change provisions relating to irrigation and regulation of water and water wells	SF (>701) (+314)
LB300	Howard	Create the State Work Incentive Program	C
LB302	Friend	Change provisions relating to buildings, structures, and outdoor advertising signs, displays, and devices	IPP
LB306	Stuthman	Provide for the protection of social security numbers in support orders	C
LB308	Stuthman	Adopt the Automated Medication Systems Act	S
LB308A	Stuthman	Appropriations bill	S
LB310	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to early voting	C
LB312	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to resignations, vacancy appointments, and recall elections	S
LB327	Speaker Flood	Change provisions relating to child care reimbursement rates	C
LB329	Retirement Systems	Change qualifications of the director of the Public Employees Retirement Board	IPP
LB330	Schimek	Change the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act	C
LB335	Kruse	Change provisions relating to civil protective custody	GF
LB336	Kruse	Change penalties for violation of certain liquor laws relating to minors	C
LB337	Kruse	Provide for confiscation of identification of minors attempting to purchase alcohol	C
LB344	Burling	Change the termination date of the Tax Policy Reform Commission	GF
LB348	Burling	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the discontinuance of township organization	C
LB352	Langemeier	Adopt the Nebraska Shooting Range Protection Act	GF
LB360	Pedersen	Change limitations on the issuance of Purple Heart license plates	IPP
LB361	Raikes	Prohibit public funds' use for dues or membership fees as prescribed	C

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BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB363	Ashford	Adopt the Legal Education for Public Service Loan Repayment Act	C (>1014)
LB365	Synowiecki	Change Judges Retirement Act provisions relating to early retirement	GF (>1147)
LB371	Erdman	Adopt the Nebraska Peace Officer Retirement Act	GF
LB372	Erdman	Adopt the Law Enforcement Officer Retirement Act	C
LB376	Ashford	Change felony complaint procedures	C
LB378	Pahls	Change the Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act	C
LB379	Pahls	Change certain corporate reporting, notice, and filing provisions and eliminate references to professional limited liability companies	S
LB380	Pahls	Change a license application requirement under the Mortgage Bankers Registration and Licensing Act	S
LB383	Pahls	Change filing requirements involving the address of a partnership's agent	S
LB384	Wightman	Prohibit certain actions by judgment creditors	C
LB386	Langemeier	Adopt the Nebraska Security Instrument Satisfaction Act	S
LB387	Langemeier	Require separate plumbing and water metering for new construction as prescribed	IPP
LB391	Mines	Change provisions relating to public records and meetings	GF
LB392	Mines	Change provisions relating to municipal counties	C
LB394	Burling	Change provisions relating to nomination for office	C
LB395	Johnson	Adopt a new Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	S
LB395A	Johnson	Appropriations bill	S
LB400	Johnson	Require an audit of medicaid drug rebate payments	GF
LB400A	Johnson	Appropriations bill	GF
LB401	Schimek	Provide for notations on drivers' licenses and state identification cards regarding advance medical directives	C
LB402	Schimek	Provide duties for the Director of Research relating to redistricting plans	SF
LB404	Janssen	Change Nebraska Liquor Control Commission members' salaries	GF
LB404A	Janssen	Appropriations bill	GF
LB405	Pedersen	Provide for additional city council members for cities of the metropolitan class	SF
LB406	Pedersen	Provide for presumptive parole release dates	C
LB407	Pedersen	Change driving under the influence penalty provisions with respect to ignition interlock devices	C
LB408	Preister	Change provisions relating to certain public contracts for services	C
LB413	Flood	Change provisions governing children born out of wedlock and the offense of violation of custody	C
LB419	Erdman	Authorize issuance of Nebraska Agriculture specialty and personalized message license plates	C
LB420	Erdman	Change cigarette tax distribution and create funds	GF
LB421	Erdman	Permit issuance of multiple Purple Heart specialty plates	IPP (>286)
LB428	Synowiecki	Adopt the Peace Officer Employer - Employee Relations Act	GF
LB432	Friend	Change the Act Prohibiting Unjust Discrimination in Employment Because of Age	GF (>265)
LB433	Friend	Change provisions relating to selection and obligations of presidential electors	C
LB437	Cornett	Change provisions relating to issuance of specialty and personalized license plates	C
LB438	McDonald	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	C
LB439	Raikes	Create the Highway Finance Task Force	C
LB446	Stuthman	Require Department of Roads to let contracts for the construction of a Platte River bridge and for highway improvements	C



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB447	Stuthman	Require the Department of Roads to conduct a feasibility study for a Platte River bridge	C
LB448	Ashford	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	IPP
LB450	Ashford	Provide immunity for employer disclosure of certain employee information	C
LB452	Burling	Appropriate funds for drug abuse prevention and education programs	C
LB454	White	Change homestead exemption provisions	C
LB460	Lathrop	Change provisions relating to presidential primary elections and political parties	C
LB461	Dubas	Provide for policies and procedures relating to foster care	SF
LB465	Chambers	Change provisions relating to jailhouse informants	S
LB467	Chambers	Grant the Ombudsman authority with respect to county and municipal jails and mental health and veterans institutions and provide for appointment of an assistant public counsel	S (+107)
LB467A	Chambers	Appropriations bill	S
LB469	Chambers	Change funding restrictions under the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	S
LB474	Chambers	Provide for certain misconduct by school teachers, school nurses, and police officers to be a public record	IPP
LB476	Chambers	Change penalty from death to life imprisonment without possibility of parole and provide for restitution	GF
LB480	Johnson	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	S
LB483	Johnson	Appropriate funds from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund for biomedical and autism research	C (>482)
LB488	Wallman	Authorize an income tax credit for perpetual conservation easement donations	GF
LB490	Harms	Repeal the Seamless Delivery System Pilot Project	IPP
LB492	Harms	Adopt the Education Facilities State Aid Act and create the Education Facilities Review Board	C
LB493	Langemeier	Change provisions relating to the Water Policy Task Force	IPP
LB494	White	Change the sales and use tax exemption on manufacturing machinery and equipment	C
LB495	White	Prohibit employers from requiring use of compensated leave as prescribed	GF
LB498	White	Adopt the Business Partnership in Rural Education Program Act	C
LB499	White	Change contributions for school retirement	GF
LB500	White	Change Employment Security Law provisions governing the experience account of employers	S
LB501	Rogert	Provide for cigarette tax collection by direct sellers	C
LB513	Fulton	Provide billing requirements for anatomic pathology services	IPP
LB521	Howard	Add classifications of students to be reported in the fall school district membership reports	C
LB522	Aguilar	Change civil procedure costs and attorney's fees	C
LB525	Aguilar	Modify provisions relating to liability involved in vehicular pursuits	IPP
LB526	Aguilar	Change civil procedure plaintiff's costs	C
LB528	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to elections	C (>646)
LB532	Nantkes	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Police Standards Council	C
LB533	Heidemann	Remove a requirement of consent and waiver of physical appearance for audiovisual court appearances	GF
LB534	Schimek	Change provisions relating to urban storm water drainage	IPP
LB535	Schimek	Create the juvenile legal services division of the Commission on Public Advocacy and eliminate a council	IPP

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BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB536	Schimek	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support	C
LB539	Rogert	Change ballot status provisions for presidential and vice-presidential candidates	C
LB541	Synowiecki	Provide a duty for the Community Corrections Council	C
LB543	Synowiecki	Change and eliminate conveyance safety provisions	GF (>265)
LB544	Synowiecki	Eliminate prohibition on retail beer licensees accepting credit from a beer manufacturer or wholesaler	IPP
LB545	Synowiecki	Appropriate funds to carry out the Nebraska Prostitution Intervention and Treatment Act	C
LB546	Synowiecki	Provide for parimutuel wagering on historic horseraces	IPP
LB548	Synowiecki	Appropriate funds relating to behavioral health services	C
LB550	Johnson	Provide for sale of prescription drugs to animal owners	IPP
LB552	Flood	Increase the salaries of Supreme Court judges	IPP
LB553	Flood	Impound an operator's license as prescribed with respect to bail and eliminate certain administrative license revocation procedures	C
LB556	Ashford	Change Juvenile Code provisions relating to counsel and guardian ad litem	C
LB559	Ashford	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support	C
LB566	Louden	Adopt the Public Recreational Liability Act	IPP
LB567	Louden	Change the Recreational Liability Act	IPP
LB571	Kruse	Provide for adoption by two adult persons jointly	C
LB572	Kruse	Provide for the inclusion of certain library employees under the Nebraska State Insurance Program	SF
LB574	Kruse	Appropriate funds for capitol parking	C
LB575	Kruse	Change a sales tax exemption for nonprofit entities and provide an exemption for nonprofit assisted-living facilities	S
LB576	Kruse	Provide for rate increases for behavioral health services providers	C
LB579	Louden	Allow alternative energy production through customer-generators	IPP
LB581	Preister	Adopt the Energy Conservation and Self-Reliance Act	IPP
LB583	Preister	Adopt the Electronic Recycling System Act	IPP
LB584	Preister	Adopt the Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act	C
LB585	Preister	Change provisions relating to the dispensing of cigarettes or other tobacco products	GF
LB586	Cornett	Change medical lien provisions	S (+220)
LB587	Cornett	Eliminate limitations on appropriations for county jail reimbursement assistance	GF
LB589	Cornett	Change provisions relating to motorcycle operator's licenses	C
LB593	Louden	Amend the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Act to eliminate an insurance provision	SF
LB595	Kopplin	Create the Task Force on School Funding for Economic Growth	C
LB597	Kopplin	Change provisions relating to zoning and jurisdiction designations for cities of the first class	GF
LB598	Karpisek	Provide for Shriners license plates	C
LB599	Aguilar	Permit the filing of voluntary acknowledgement of parentage in cases of gestational surrogacy	C
LB605	Raikes	Change tax levy and distribution provisions relating to educational service units	GF (>1154)
LB606	Ashford	Adopt the Stem Cell Research Act	S (>1014)
LB606A	Ashford	Appropriations bill	S
LB609	Carlson	Provide additional purposes for the Building Entrepreneurial Communities Act	S
LB609A	Carlson	Appropriations bill	S



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB611	Retirement Systems	Change Nebraska State Patrol retirement contribution and payment provisions	IPP
LB612	Retirement Systems	Redefine compensation for school employees retirement systems	IPP
LB613	Retirement Systems	Change deposit provisions of school employees retirement systems	IPP
LB614	Raikes	Change adjusted valuation provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP
LB618	Pirsch	Authorize State Treasurer to collect certain bad debt fees electronically	IPP (>620)
LB619	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to bad debt charges by the State Treasurer	S
LB620	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to debt collection by the State Disbursement Unit and by state agencies	S (+618)
LB621	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to points and fines for speeding	S
LB622	Pirsch	Require training courses in public records and the Open Meetings Act for all members of a public body, public officers, and public employees	GF
LB623	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to speedy trial	S
LB624	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to operating a motor vehicle to avoid arrest	S
LB625	Engel	Prohibit civil actions based upon weight gain	C
LB626	Dierks	Create a production incentive for biodiesel fuel	C
LB632	Dierks	Change provisions relating to the national uniform system of animal identification	S
LB633	Dierks	Change the Competitive Livestock Markets Act	IPP
LB634	Dierks	Adopt the Feedlot Statutory Trust Act	C
LB639	Raikes	Change powers and duties of county attorneys	GF
LB645	Heidemann	Change Nebraska Liquor Control Act provisions to exempt a bed and breakfast establishment from an occupation tax	IPP
LB647	Johnson	Change provisions relating to insurance coverage of mental health and physical health conditions	C
LB649	Raikes	Modify the state aid formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP (>988)
LB650	Raikes	Change provisions relating to early childhood education and the Special Education Act	C (>1153)
LB651	Raikes	Change and eliminate education provisions	C
LB652	White	Require the state and political subdivisions to do energy audits	IPP
LB654	Raikes	Transfer veterans education and training duties to the State Department of Education	C
LB655	Raikes	Change state aid to school provisions relating to adjustments on budget statements	IPP
LB660	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Services Fund Act	IPP (>661)
LB663	Hudkins	Change distribution and allocation of motor vehicle registration fees	GF
LB663A	Hudkins	Appropriations bill	GF
LB667	Pedersen	Permit municipalities to allow pedestrians to solicit contributions on roadways	GF
LB668	Hudkins	Eliminate provisions relating to gift cards and gift certificates	S
LB669	Hudkins	Adopt the Nebraska Behavioral Health Jail Diversion Planning and Coordination Advisory Council Act	C
LB671	Pedersen	Adopt the Office of Probation and Parole Administration	C
LB672	Lathrop	Change eminent domain provisions relating to municipal utilities	GF
LB673	Lathrop	Modify the definition of malpractice or professional neglect to include sexual abuse, misconduct, or exploitation	C
LB676	Dubas	Prohibit the blocking of railroad crossings for more than a specified time and to provide penalties	IPP

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB679	Avery	Eliminate the cap on retirement contributions for University of Nebraska employees	IPP
LB680	Pedersen	Authorize contracts for keeping prisoners for cities of the metropolitan class	C
LB685	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to the possession of alcohol by minors	C
LB686	Karpisek	Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections	C
LB689	Karpisek	Provide for a limited winery license	GF
LB689A	Karpisek	Appropriations bill	GF
LB690	Fischer	Provide for apprentice hunter education exemptions under the Game Law	S
LB691	Synowiecki	Change Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act provisions with respect to full-day kindergarten	IPP
LB692	Hudkins	Prohibit intentional discharge of firearm within two hundred yards of a dwelling	GF
LB693	Hudkins	Require use of driver's license numbers for preparation of juror lists	C
LB694	Christensen	Authorize planning for a parking facility near the capitol	C
LB696	Christensen	Provide a fee increase and a waiting period for marriage licenses if marriage education requirements are not met	C
LB700	Christensen	Adopt the Human Cloning Prohibition Act	IPP
LB705	Dierks	Change provisions governing power district special generation applications	GF
LB706	Executive Board	Revisor bill to correct erroneous references in a statute governing limited cooperative associations	S
LB707	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal statutes that terminated on January 1, 2001, relating to partnerships	S
LB708	Pahls	Adopt the Sales Tax Holiday Act	GF
LB708A	Pahls	Appropriations bill	GF
LB709	Pahls	Permit motor vehicle and motorcycle dealers to issue certificates of title and registration and license plates	C
LB710	Pahls	Require notice of sale of real property by a land reutilization authority	S
LB711	Pahls	Change disability benefit provisions under the Judges Retirement Act and the School Employees Retirement Act	C
LB712	Pahls	Provide for daytime running lights on motor vehicles	IPP (>756)
LB713	Pahls	Prohibit physicians from administering certain fat-dissolving substances	IPP
LB714	Pahls	Exclude social security benefits from income tax and homestead exemption calculations	IPP
LB715	Pahls	Change provisions relating to nonresident real estate licensees	S
LB716	Pahls	Change provisions relating to the effect of errors and omissions in a financing statement	GF (>851)
LB717	Pahls	Change provisions relating to finance	GF (>851)
LB718	Schimek	Exempt purchases by organizations like Habitat for Humanity from sales tax	IPP
LB719	Schimek	Change qualification provisions for membership on the State Board of Education	C
LB720	Schimek	Change requirement regarding prerecorded messages	S
LB721	Schimek	Change Capitol Landscape Restoration Master Plan provisions	GF
LB721A	Schimek	Appropriations bill	GF
LB722	Engel	Change the tax on tobacco products	GF
LB723	Engel	Change the State Electrical Act	GF
LB724	Natural Resources	Change fees under the Remedial Action Plan Monitoring Act	S
LB725	Natural Resources	Provide for grants under the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Act	GF



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB726	Natural Resources	Change provisions relating to the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Loan Fund	S
LB726A	Natural Resources	Appropriations bill	S
LB727	Natural Resources	Change provisions relating to hearings conducted by the Department of Natural Resources	S
LB728	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to the state song	S
LB729	Flood	Redefine exotic animals for auctions and swap meets	C
LB730	Flood	Change emergency medical services classifications and training	C
LB731	Kopplin	Authorize issuance of a teaching certificate to a military spouse	C
LB732	Kopplin	Exempt first twenty-five thousand dollars of residential property values from taxation	IPP
LB733	Kopplin	Create a homestead exemption	IPP
LB734	Fulton	Change employee benefit plan provisions for certain political subdivisions	S
LB735	Fulton	Rename the Sexual Predator Residency Restriction Act and provide for certain employment restrictions	C
LB736	Fulton	Provide for ignition interlock permits and change provisions relating to other driving permits and penalties for driving under the influence	S
LB736A	Fulton	Appropriations bill	S
LB737	Fulton	Provide income tax credits for returns filed claiming dependents eligible for assistance	IPP
LB738	Fulton	Change brain injury registry notification and reporting requirements	GF (>928)
LB739	Fulton	Provide for the waiver of a fine or penalty for an information collection requirement for small businesses	C
LB740	Fulton	Change provisions relating to authorized emergency vehicles	W
LB741	Fulton	Change distribution of motor vehicle tax proceeds	C
LB742	Johnson	Change licensure provisions relating to engineers	C
LB743	Christensen	Eliminate restrictions on trapping wildlife in county road rights-of-way	GF
LB744	Aguilar	Permit leasing of state property to the federal government or political subdivisions	S
LB745	Aguilar	Change exemption provisions relating to the State Personnel System	S
LB746	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to tuition credits for National Guard members	S
LB747	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to energy financing contracts	S
LB748	Rogert	Adopt the Interior Designers Certification Act	C
LB749	Stuthman	Provide for electronic application submission and a civil penalty for manufactured homes	GF (>797)
LB750	Aguilar	Designate the Secretary of State's Office as a voter registration agency	S
LB751	Christensen	Change noxious weed funding provisions relating to stream vegetation removal	C
LB752	Flood	Change membership provisions of the Nebraska Capitol Commission	S
LB753	Synowiecki	Provide for nurse practitioners to practice without integrated practice agreements	C

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB754	Synowiecki	Change provisions of the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	S
LB755	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change Public Service Commission powers and duties	S (+829)
LB756	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle operation, titling, and registration and motorboat titling	S (+712, 827, 834, 841, 874, 917, 919, 1087)
LB757	Hudkins	Adopt the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act	IPP
LB758	Hudkins	Increase motor fuel taxes and allocate and reallocate revenue	IPP
LB759	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to relabeling and redispensing prescription drugs	GF
LB760	Gay	Create the Nebraska State Library Task Force	GF
LB761	Avery	Create the BRAC Task Force to examine issues relating to the military base realignment and closure process	GF
LB761A	Avery	Appropriations bill	GF
LB762	Avery	Create a sales tax holiday for school-related purchases	IPP
LB763	Avery	Create the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District Revitalization Task Force	GF
LB764	Cornett	Prohibit certain treatment of bovines and equines	S
LB765	Gay	Change provisions relating to certificates of need	S
LB766	Cornett	Regulate scrap metal recycling	S
LB767	Cornett	Authorize leave for members of the Civil Air Patrol	IPP
LB768	Cornett	Provide sanitary and improvement districts with the power to contract for library services	S
LB769	Cornett	Change provisions relating to offenses against animals	GF (>1055)
LB770	Cornett	Exclude military retirement benefits from taxation	IPP
LB771	Gay	Provide funding for expressways and transfer money from the Cash Reserve Fund	C
LB772	Hudkins	Provide for state payment for county and district court courtroom security	C
LB773	Hudkins	Change unclassified county service position provisions relating to bailiffs	C
LB774	Wightman	Change provisions relating to filing for modification of child support orders	GF (>1014)
LB775	Wightman	Change deputy court clerks provisions	S
LB776	Wightman	Change fees received by registers of deeds	C
LB777	Hudkins	Redefine agricultural land and horticultural land for property tax purposes	S
LB778	Pirsch	Change property tax assessment and equalization provisions	C
LB779	Pirsch	Change requirements for filing certain statements with the Director of Insurance under the Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement Act	GF (>855)
LB780	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to the duty to stop after an accident	C
LB781	Rogert	Change the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act	S
LB782	Howard	Allow disclosure of child abuse and neglect information	S
LB783	Howard	Provide an income tax credit for adoption expenses as prescribed	C
LB784	Howard	Prohibit immigration law violators from receiving incentives under the Nebraska Advantage Act	GF
LB784A	Howard	Appropriations bill	GF



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB785	Howard	Require seller of residential real estate to provide purchaser with information regarding sex offender registration	C
LB786	Howard	Regulate traffic approaching or passing a stopped authorized emergency vehicle	GF
LB787	Gay	Create degrees of offenses of assault on an emergency services provider or a health care provider	C
LB788	Erdman	Adopt the Anthrax Control Act	GF
LB789	Erdman	Change grant provisions under the Agricultural Opportunities and Value-Added Partnerships Act	S
LB790	Erdman	Change buffer strip reimbursement provisions	S
LB791	Erdman	Provide for rules for certified seed potatoes	S
LB792	Karpisek	Change provisions governing insurance producers	C
LB793	Burling	Change which county pays for costs of emergency protective custody and proceedings	C
LB794	McGill	Change provisions relating to the criminal responsibility of intoxicated persons and the insanity defense	C
LB795	Stuthman	Provide appropriations for community health centers	C
LB796	Johnson	Change medical radiography and radiation control provisions	GF (>928)
LB797	Health and Human Services	Change provisions relating to health and human services	S (+749, 892)
LB798	Louden	Change provisions relating to irrigation water reuse pits, transfer of water appropriations, and intentional underground water storage permits	S (+799, 800)
LB799	Louden	Change provisions relating to applications to permit transfer of water appropriations	IPP (>798)
LB800	Louden	Change intentional underground water storage permit provisions	IPP (>798)
LB801	Louden	Add a requirement for integrated management plans	C
LB802	Louden	Provide for water diversion during times of flooding	IPP
LB803	Aguilar	Provide for election-day voter registration for statewide general elections	C
LB804	Burling	Permit jurors to take notes	GF (>1014)
LB805	Wallman	Change membership of the Propane Education and Research Council	S
LB806	Wallman	Change provisions relating to dog guides, hearing aid dogs, and service dogs	S
LB807	Aguilar	Require medicaid coverage of tobacco-cessation products and services	C (>959)
LB808	Synowiecki	Change penalty provisions relating to motor vehicle homicide	C
LB809	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to metabolic screening	GF
LB810	Kruse	Adopt the Alcoholic Liquor Liability Act	GF
LB811	Kruse	State intent to appropriate five million dollars to the public transportation assistance program under the Nebraska Public Transportation Act	GF (>959, 1068)
LB812	Kruse	Provide for primary enforcement of occupant protection system laws	C
LB813	McGill	Authorize urban growth districts and bonds	GF
LB814	Raikes	Change delinquent property tax notification and collection provisions	GF
LB815	Fischer	Allow Geographic Information System data to be withheld from the public	C
LB816	Avery	Change the number of district court judges	C
LB817	Avery	Require certain constitutional officers to devote their full time to their offices	C
LB818	Avery	Change eligibility provisions for medical assistance	IPP

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BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB819	Business and Labor	Change provisions of the Employment Security Law and the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	V (+1082)
LB820	Business and Labor	Change wage and hour and amusement ride provisions	C
LB821	Business and Labor	Change provisions relating to claims against the state and the Risk Manager	S
LB822	Performance Audit	Change provisions relating to audits by the Legislative Performance Audit Committee and the Auditor of Public Accounts	S
LB823	Performance Audit	Change and eliminate provisions relating to governmental information technology	S
LB824	Schimek	Provide a gender balance requirement for state boards, commissions, committees, and councils	C
LB825	Schimek	Require insurance coverage for cochlear implants as prescribed	C
LB826	Christensen	Change the Concealed Handgun Permit Act to provide a residency exception for members of the armed forces	GF
LB827	Fischer	Change the retention period for motor vehicle registration records	IPP (>756)
LB828	Ashford	Change provisions that limit jurisdiction to Lancaster County District Court	IPP
LB829	Fischer	Provide powers and duties to the Public Service Commission regarding telecommunications rates	C (>755)
LB830	Lathrop	Adopt the Medicaid Prescription Drug Act	S
LB830A	Lathrop	Appropriations bill	S
LB831	Lathrop	Change provisions relating to security freezes on consumer credit information	C
LB832	Lathrop	Adopt the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act	C
LB833	Lathrop	Change unemployment compensation benefits	C
LB834	Fischer	Change procedures for notation of liens on certificates of title	IPP (>756)
LB835	Preister	Prohibit transfer of certain lead-containing items	IPP
LB836	Howard	Prohibit smoking in a vehicle when minors are present	IPP
LB837	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to railroad crossings	S
LB838	Karpisek	Change procedures relating to elections	S
LB839	Pedersen	Change provisions relating to fireworks	IPP
LB840	McDonald	Regulate Salvia divinorum and Salvinorin A under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act	GF
LB841	Fischer	Change motor vehicle certificate of title provisions	IPP (>756)
LB842	Karpisek	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for developmental disability aid	C
LB843	Pedersen	Change sentencing requirements with respect to certain minors	C
LB844	Karpisek	Change penalty provisions for marijuana possession	S
LB845	Fischer	Create a penalty for motor carrier out-of-service order violations and authorize administrative fines	S
LB846	Fischer	Change motor fuel taxes	S
LB846A	Fischer	Appropriations bill	FR
LB847	Erdman	Provide for notice of appointment of a personal representative to the Department of Health and Human Services	GF (>928)
LB847A	Erdman	Appropriations bill	GF
LB848	Erdman	Change and eliminate provisions of the Nebraska Limited Cooperative Association Act	S



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB849	Erdman	Eliminate the authority of school districts to provide certain insurance coverage for board members	IPP
LB850	Erdman	Change insurance coverage provisions for members of school boards, boards of education, learning community coordinating councils, and boards of educational service units	S
LB851	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Change provisions relating to banking and finance	S (+113, 116, 716, 717, 852, 918)
LB852	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Change provisions relating to certain financial services	GF (>851)
LB853	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Change provisions of the Viatical Settlements Act	S (>855)
LB854	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Adopt the Discount Medical Plan Organization Act	GF (>855)
LB855	Banking, Commerce and Insurance	Change provisions relating to insurance	S (+779, 853, 854)
LB856	Lautenbaugh	Provide for special congressional elections in case of multiple vacancies	S
LB857	Lautenbaugh	Change certification provisions for candidates for President and Vice President	S
LB858	Engel	Change applicability provisions regarding recall petitions	GF
LB859	Pankonin	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development for the Nebraska Lied Main Street Program	C
LB860	Burling	Remove fingerprinting requirement for license for grain dealer or grain warehouse	IPP
LB861	Agriculture	Change state fair provisions	IPP
LB862	Agriculture	Change noxious weeds funding provisions	GF (>961)
LB863	Langemeier	Change income tax calculations	C
LB864	Langemeier	Change the standard of review for the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	C
LB865	Hudkins	Allow trapping of raptors within the county road right-of-way	S
LB866	McDonald	Adopt the Chronic Disease Drug Repository Program Act	C
LB867	Adams	Provide that vehicles removed from private property under a municipal ordinance are abandoned	GF
LB868	Nantkes	Prohibit delayed deposit services	GF
LB869	Nantkes	Require disclosures relating to contracts for services with the state	C
LB870	Avery	Prohibit certain former officeholders from being lobbyists	IPP
LB871	Avery	Rename the Commission on Mexican-Americans	C
LB872	Pirsch	Change penalty provisions for motor vehicle homicide and motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child	C
LB873	Kopplin	Provide for a student growth adjustment and correction in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP (>988)
LB874	Adams	Allow certain self-propelled specialized mobile equipment to be transported on highways	IPP (>756)
LB875	Fulton	Change eligibility requirements under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	C (>1027)
LB876	Pahls	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle liability policies	C
LB877	Wightman	Change public assistance provisions relating to postsecondary education and related work activities	C

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB878	Engel	Change provisions relating to recall petitions	GF
LB879	Kopplin	Provide for a construction, expansion, and alteration adjustment in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP (>988)
LB880	Kopplin	Provide for watershed enhancement bonds	GF
LB881	Stuthman	Impose an excise tax on production of ethanol	IPP
LB882	Johnson	Change provisions relating to prescription medication for indigent persons	C
LB883	Johnson	Exempt certain public recreation facilities, centers, and programs from child-care licensure	GF (>928)
LB884	Gay	Change provisions relating to the Director of Personnel and employee health benefits	GF
LB885	Johnson	Redefine prescription relating to the practice of pharmacy	IPP
LB886	Gay	Change provisions relating to student transportation	IPP (>1154)
LB887	Burling	Change the corporate tax rate	IPP
LB888	Burling	Change corporate income tax calculations	S
LB889	Flood	Provide construction alternatives for political subdivisions	S
LB890	Flood	Exempt postage charges and certain magazine or journal subscriptions from sales and use tax	GF
LB891	Gay	Provide an income tax credit for certain health-related expenditures	C
LB892	Pedersen	Change modular housing and manufactured home provisions relating to the Public Service Commission	GF (>797)
LB893	Langemeier	Change provisions relating to tax deeds and foreclosures	S
LB894	Gay	Increase tax deductions allowed under the Long-Term Care Savings Plan	C
LB895	Janssen	Change provisions of tax incentive laws	S (+997, 1033, 1046)
LB896	Janssen	Update references to the Internal Revenue Code	S
LB897	Janssen	Change property tax provisions	C
LB898	Janssen	Change provisions of the Unfair Cigarette Sales Act	S
LB899	Kruse	Authorize creation of a land reutilization authority by a city of the metropolitan class	C
LB900	Flood	Prohibit use of credit information and discriminatory practices in issuing insurance policies and eliminate the Model Act Regarding Use of Credit Information in Personal Insurance	C
LB901	Johnson	Provide immunity for emergency management workers as prescribed	C
LB902	Pankonin	Change provisions relating to controlled substances schedules and inventory	S
LB903	Lathrop	Adopt the Nebraska Elementary Attendance Region Act	IPP
LB904	Lautenbaugh	Change provisions relating to applications for veterans aid	S
LB905	Avery	Provide funding for Nebraska educational telecommunications	C
LB906	Pankonin	Change provisions relating to laboratories regulated by the Department of Health and Human Services	GF (>928)
LB907	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to corporations and limited liability companies	S
LB908	Pirsch	Provide for issuance of certain veterans license plates for multiple vehicles	C
LB909	Pirsch	Provide for aggregation of amounts for certain forgery crimes	C
LB910	Pirsch	Require that motor vehicle and motorboat titling be performed by county treasurers	IPP
LB911	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to issuance of motor vehicle operator's licenses and state identification cards	S
LB911A	Hudkins	Appropriations bill	S
LB912	Avery	Redefine terms for purposes of the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	S



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB913	Wightman	Change inheritance tax provisions	IPP
LB914	Revenue	Change provisions relating to taxes and funds	S
LB915	Revenue	Change income tax provisions, tax information disclosure prohibitions, and research tax credits	S
LB916	Revenue	Change sales tax provisions	S (+1126, 1134, 1137)
LB917	Fischer	Provide an exception to vehicle weight limits for idle reduction technology	IPP (>756)
LB918	Pahls	Change provisions relating to bank holding company ownership limitations and interstate mergers	GF (>851)
LB919	Fischer	Change the Motor Vehicle Registration Act	IPP (>756)
LB920	Langemeier	Authorize insurance producers to charge certain incidental fees	GF
LB921	Dubas	Adopt the Nebraska Energy Independence Act	C
LB922	Dubas	Adopt the Cellulosic Biomass Renewable Energy Initiative and impose and change taxes	IPP
LB923	Dubas	Change provisions relating to energy easements	IPP
LB924	Fischer	Provide for streamflow depletion offsets	C
LB925	Fischer	Provide liability for damage by estrays	S
LB926	Lathrop	Prohibit mandatory overtime for certain state employees	GF
LB927	Johnson	Change factors favoring the change of county boundaries	C
LB928	Johnson	Change and repeal provisions relating to public health and welfare	S (+48, 738, 796, 847, 883, 906, 994, 1120, 1121, 1123, 1173, 1176)
LB928A	Johnson	Appropriations bill	S
LB929	Chambers	Prohibit hunting, trapping, and fishing and provide penalties	IPP
LB930	Cornett	Change provisions relating to dangerous sex offender evaluations	C
LB931	Cornett	Change provisions relating to taxation of air carriers	IPP
LB932	Ashford	Create the Aging Prison Population Task Force	C
LB933	Ashford	Change clerk magistrate provisions	C (>1014)
LB934	Ashford	Change provisions relating to use of a deadly weapon by a felon	C
LB935	Ashford	Change provisions relating to service or delivery of court documents	C (>1014)
LB936	Friend	Provide for a fair share representation contribution by non-labor organization members for representation provided by the labor organization	C
LB937	Retirement Systems	Change contribution requirements under the County Employees Retirement Act and the State Employees Retirement Act	IPP (>1147)
LB938	Retirement Systems	Change contribution allocation provisions relating to the County Employees Retirement Act and the State Employees Retirement Act	IPP (>1147)
LB939	Heidemann	Change bidding requirements for certain political subdivisions	S
LB940	Kruse	State legislative intent to increase payments for pharmacy dispensing fees under the Medical Assistance Program	C
LB941	Stuthman	Provide for use of historical license plates on historical vehicles registered for general purposes	C
LB942	Pedersen	Require substantial evidence of parole violation in order to revoke parole	C
LB943	Pedersen	Provide for release of driver's license pictures to parole and probation officers	GF
LB944	Synowiecki	Exempt certain purchases by museums from sales and use taxes	C

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB945	Pedersen	Change authority of natural resources districts	IPP
LB946	Burling	Impose an excise tax on ethanol production	IPP
LB947	Friend	Increase minimum bidding amount requirements for cities of the first and second class and villages	S
LB948	Karpisek	Adopt the Volunteer Emergency Responders Job Protection Act	GF (>1096)
LB949	Christensen	Change a sales tax exemption for health clinics	IPP
LB950	Pirsch	Change penalty provisions for failure to stop at the scene of an accident	C
LB951	Kopplin	Provide for umbilical cord blood banking	C
LB952	Lathrop	Change state administrative departments investigatory powers and Attorney General and county attorneys investigatory and enforcement powers	S
LB953	Nelson	Change manufactured home and mobile home provisions relating to bankruptcy, certificates of title, and security interests	S
LB954	Dierks	Change provisions relating to human immunodeficiency virus testing	GF
LB955	Dierks	Change provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act relating to manufacturers' interest in wholesalers	IPP
LB956	Schimek	Change provisions relating to job training grants	S
LB957	Ashford	Change the Sex Offender Registration Act	IPP
LB958	Ashford	Provide for an examination of firearm-related violence and a hotline to report loss of a firearm and repeal requirements for purchasing handguns	SF
LB958A	Ashford	Appropriations bill	SF
LB959	Speaker Flood	Provide for deficit appropriations	VO (+807, 811)
LB960	Speaker Flood	Appropriate funds for employee pay and benefits	S
LB961	Speaker Flood	Provide for and change transfers of state funds, provide for a juvenile justice system study, and prohibit pledging certain funds	S (+862)
LB962	Preister	Change public body meeting provisions of the Open Meetings Act	S
LB963	Friend	Require verification of lawful presence in the United States to receive public benefits	IPP
LB964	Revenue	Change provisions relating to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	C (>965)
LB965	Revenue	Change property tax provisions	S (+964)
LB966	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Cash Fund	C
LB967	Synowiecki	Change annual audit provisions of the School Employees Retirement Act	IPP
LB968	White	Change service annuity provisions of the School Employees Retirement Act	GF (>1147)
LB969	Pankonin	Require insurance coverage for prosthetics as prescribed	C
LB970	Gay	Eliminate taxing authority of learning communities and change state aid calculations	IPP
LB971	Pedersen	Require voter approval for actions related to annexation of cities and villages	IPP
LB972	Gay	Change optometry licensure provisions	S
LB973	Raikes	Change calculation of state aid to community colleges	S
LB974	Gay	Provides an income tax credit for health insurance or care expenses of certain employers	IPP
LB975	Wightman	Change provisions relating to river-flow enhancement bonds	IPP (>1094)
LB976	Raikes	Change provisions relating to dissolution of unified school districts	IPP (>988)
LB977	Raikes	Provide for freeholders' petitions relating to school districts which exceed certain levy limitations	GF (>988)



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB978	Gay	Change provisions relating to Class III school district boundary changes	C
LB979	Karpisek	Change county building levy tax provisions	C
LB980	Carlson	Change trust account provisions under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	C
LB981	Pirsch	Prohibit nepotism in state government	C
LB982	Schimek	Appropriate funds to Wyuka Cemetery	C
LB983	Cornett	Change an income tax credit for planned gifts	GF
LB983A	Cornett	Appropriations bill	GF
LB984	Cornett	Eliminate resolution, public hearing, and publication requirements for annexation by cities of the first class	GF
LB985	Stuthman	Change provisions relating to tangible personal property tax returns	IPP
LB986	Preister	Adopt the Electronics Recycling Act	V
LB986A	Preister	Appropriations bill	V
LB987	Raikes	Change provisions relating to the Quality Education Accountability Act	IPP
LB988	Raikes	Change provisions relating to school funding	S (+649, 873, 879, 976, 977, 1017, 1079, 1151)
LB988A	Raikes	Appropriations bill	S
LB989	Friend	Change priority of special assessment liens in cities of the metropolitan class	C
LB990	Christensen	Provide for a certificate of attendance for certain students as prescribed	IPP (>1153)
LB991	Avery	Provide for election day voter registration	C
LB992	Avery	Provide duties to the state investment officer relating to Sudan-related investments	C
LB993	McDonald	Change expenditure provisions relating to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission Rule and Regulation Cash Fund	S
LB994	Johnson	Extend termination date of the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission	C (>928)
LB995	General Affairs	Change provisions relating to cemeteries	S
LB996	General Affairs	Change provisions relating to bingo and lotteries	GF
LB997	McDonald	Change provisions relating to economic development programs of political subdivisions	C (>895)
LB998	Gay	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission and provide for a transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund	C
LB999	Hansen	Change Livestock Brand Act provisions governing recorded brands	C
LB1000	Pirsch	Change income tax calculations and property tax relief funding and transfer cash reserve funds	IPP
LB1001	White	Adopt the Low-Income Home Energy Conservation Act and change provisions relating to income tax withholding of independent contractors	S (+1175)
LB1001A	White	Appropriations bill	S
LB1002	Pahls	Require disclosures by group health benefit plans	C
LB1003	Pahls	Adopt the Saving the Cure Act and provide for an accredited laboratory	C
LB1004	Cornett	Change an income tax withholding amount	S
LB1005	Howard	Change provisions relating to learning community diversity plans	IPP (>1154)
LB1006	Aguilar	Provide for a registry and salary study of in-home personal services workers	C
LB1007	Dierks	Change budget and tax levy limits	IPP
LB1008	Wightman	Provide for reassumption of the tax assessment function by counties	C

BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1009	Avery	Provide for a tax levy for school safety and security purposes	C
LB1010	Hudkins	Change sales and use tax collection fees	IPP
LB1011	Langemeier	Change the Real Property Appraiser Act	S
LB1012	Gay	Allow an income tax credit for certain long-term care insurance policy premiums	IPP
LB1013	Gay	Adopt the Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program Act	C
LB1014	Ashford	Change provisions relating to courts	S (+363, 606, 774, 804, 933, 935, 1025, 1085, 1107, 1159, 1160)
LB1014A	Ashford	Appropriations bill	S
LB1015	Nantkes	Change contributory negligence provisions	C
LB1016	Lathrop	Adopt the Proper Employee Classification Act	GF
LB1017	Raikes	Change tax levy provisions relating to risk management pools	GF (>988)
LB1018	Synowiecki	Adopt the Children's Behavioral Health Transformation and Prioritization Appropriations Act	C
LB1019	Business and Labor	Provide for payment of claims against the state	S
LB1020	Business and Labor	Disapprove certain claims against the state	IPP
LB1021	Raikes	Change provisions relating to the enrollment option program	IPP (>1154)
LB1022	Hansen	Adopt the Veterinary Drug Distribution Licensing Act	S
LB1023	Friend	Change tax levy authority of educational service units which have school districts which are members of a learning community	IPP
LB1024	Karpisek	Provide for listings maintained by the Secretary of State to facilitate filings and service of process under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	C
LB1025	McGill	Change domestic assault sentencing and protection order provisions	GF (>1014)
LB1026	Rogert	Change tax-exempt status of housing agency property	IPP
LB1027	Erdman	Provide a personal property tax exemption under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	S (+875)
LB1027A	Erdman	Appropriations bill	S
LB1028	Pankonin	Change the Securities Act of Nebraska to regulate certain branch office operations and prohibit certain fraudulent activities	C
LB1029	Fulton	Provide for contract rates for foster care services	C
LB1030	Nantkes	Change filing deadlines for candidates for Class IV school boards	IPP
LB1031	Ashford	Change confidentiality provisions relating to researchers and auditors accessing adult and child protective services records	C
LB1032	Rogert	Prohibit acts relating to ticket scalping	C
LB1033	Synowiecki	Change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act	C (>895)
LB1034	Louden	Designate the Nebraska Expressway System	GF
LB1035	Louden	Provide funds for expressways and designate the Nebraska Expressway System	C
LB1036	Raikes	Change tax levy provisions relating to school safety and health modifications or qualified zone academy bonds	C
LB1037	Janssen	Change income and sales and use tax rates	C
LB1038	Janssen	Change an income tax adjustment relating to interest and dividends	C
LB1039	Janssen	Create a task force and provide duties relating to agricultural land valuation	C



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1040	Louden	Impose a tax on ethanol production, terminate an excise tax, and change funding for the Water Resources Cash Fund	IPP
LB1041	Christensen	Protect certain water purchased or leased for river-flow enhancement purposes	C
LB1042	Howard	Adopt the Resale of Tickets to Entertainment Events Act and provide penalties	C
LB1043	Aguilar	Adopt the Security Services Act	C
LB1044	Raikes	Create and provide duties for the State Fair Future Commission	IPP
LB1045	Pankonin	Change provisions relating to coverage changes in property and casualty and automobile liability policies	S
LB1046	Burling	Change application limits under the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act	C (>895)
LB1047	Fulton	Change provisions relating to reimbursement of travel expenses by the state	C
LB1048	Nantkes	Provide for issuance of birth certificates for stillbirths	S
LB1048A	Nantkes	Appropriations bill	S
LB1049	Erdman	Change membership provisions for the Game and Parks Commission	S
LB1050	Erdman	Change the structure of the Game and Parks Commission and provide for an advisory board	C
LB1051	Heidemann	Change provisions regarding mowing and tree trimming along county roads	GF
LB1052	Ashford	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development	C
LB1053	Erdman	Create a production incentive for biodiesel production	C
LB1054	Karpisek	Create the offense of unlawful sexual intercourse	C
LB1055	McDonald	Change provisions relating to animal abuse, dogs running at large, and dangerous dogs	S (+769)
LB1056	Erdman	Adopt the First-Class City Merger Act	S
LB1057	Howard	Adopt the Common Schools Facilities Equalization Aid Act	C
LB1058	McDonald	Rename and change powers and duties of the State Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling and Addiction Services	S
LB1059	Lautenbaugh	Change deer hunting provisions and provide for donation of deer to food banks	IPP
LB1060	Fulton	Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska for planning and design of a Lincoln Division College of Nursing facility	C
LB1061	Louden	Provide for fees, rebates, and grants relating to electronic equipment recycling	IPP
LB1062	Karpisek	Change election recount provisions	C
LB1063	Chambers	Change a penalty from death to life imprisonment without possibility of parole	GF
LB1064	Kopplin	Provide for Legion of Merit license plates	C
LB1065	Louden	Provide for customer-generators of electricity	GF
LB1066	Louden	Change provisions relating to special generation applications before the Nebraska Power Review Board	GF
LB1067	Aguilar	Change provisions allocating election costs to political subdivisions	S
LB1068	Louden	Create the road classification of remote residential road and require a public transportation report	S (+811)
LB1069	Dubas	Change provisions governing railroad companies blocking certain railroad crossings	IPP
LB1070	Dubas	Provide for a child placement resources form for a child placed with the Department of Health and Human Services	C
LB1071	Karpisek	Impose an excise tax on wire transfers	IPP
LB1072	Friend	Change the State Natural Gas Regulation Act	S (+1095)
LB1073	Pahls	Adopt the Nebraska Construction Prompt Pay Act	C
LB1074	Nantkes	Provide requirements for owners and certified operators of swimming pools	IPP

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BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1075	Lathrop	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska to provide support for the Nebraska Regional Poison Center	C
LB1076	Rogert	Prohibit additional restrictions on firearms and ammunition	C
LB1077	Rogert	Provide for collection of DNA samples upon arrest for certain offenses	C
LB1078	Pirsch	Provide name change court orders to child abuse and sex offender registries	C
LB1079	Raikes	Exclude a portion of legal expenses from the definition of general fund operating expenditures in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	GF (>988)
LB1080	Raikes	Change tax levy provisions relating to school districts	IPP
LB1081	Raikes	Change budget limits of educational service units	GF (>1154)
LB1082	Cornett	Amend the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act to redefine injury and personal injuries	SF (>819)
LB1083	Raikes	Change tax levy and funding provisions for school districts, school districts that are members of learning communities, and educational service units	IPP (>1154)
LB1084	Flood	Change provisions relating to assault on an officer	C
LB1085	Flood	Change Parenting Act and other domestic relations provisions	C (>1014)
LB1086	Lautenbaugh	Change workers' compensation provisions relating to third-party claims, subrogation, and settlement	C
LB1087	Dierks	Change proof of ownership requirements pending motor vehicle registration	IPP (>756)
LB1088	Dierks	Eliminate limits on tax credits under the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act	GF
LB1089	Dierks	Annul orders of the State Committee for the Reorganization of School Districts pursuant to Laws 2005, LB 126	IPP
LB1090	Lathrop	Change insurance provisions relating to underinsured motorist coverage	C
LB1091	Gay	Provide for private entrances and exits on expressways	IPP
LB1092	Harms	Require seat belts on certain school buses	SF
LB1093	Harms	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development	C
LB1094	Carlson	Provide for payment to certain water rights holders pursuant to forbearance contracts and change provisions relating to river-flow enhancement bonds	S (+975, 1131, 1132)
LB1094A	Carlson	Appropriations bill	S
LB1095	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to the extension of natural gas mains under the State Natural Gas Regulation Act	GF (>1072)
LB1096	Friend	Provide for the hiring of a fire chief in certain cities of the first class, change volunteer department trust fund provisions, and adopt the Volunteer Emergency Responders Job Protection Act	S (+948)
LB1097	Pahls	Authorize federal law enforcement agencies to obtain undercover drivers' licenses and license plates	C
LB1098	Hudkins	Change tax levy provisions for rural and suburban fire protection districts	IPP
LB1099	Hudkins	Adopt the Electrical Power Plant Siting Act and the Electric Transmission Line Siting Act	W
LB1100	Adams	Adopt the Quality Education Trust Act	GF
LB1101	Friend	Provide financing information requirements for redevelopment plans under the Community Development Law	GF
LB1102	Friend	Provide requirements for infrastructure system replacement mechanisms under the State Natural Gas Regulation Act	C
LB1103	Karpisek	Change provisions relating to sale of farm winery wines	S
LB1104	Fulton	Provide for unlawful billing practices under the Uniform Credentialing Act	GF
LB1105	Fulton	Provide for confidentiality of certain workers' compensation court documents and information	C
LB1106	Pirsch	Create offense of intimidation by electronic communication device	C
LB1107	Synowiecki	Provide for problem-solving courts	C (>1014)



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1108	Erdman	Change licensure and practice provisions for mental health practitioners	S
LB1109	Erdman	Change provisions relating to allocation of the cigarette tax	C
LB1110	Erdman	Adopt the Property Tax Review Court Act and repeal the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act	C
LB1111	Erdman	Change membership of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	C
LB1112	Erdman	Provide campaign contribution limits, change reporting requirements, and repeal the Campaign Finance Limitation Act	C
LB1113	Erdman	Create the Family Farm Policy Advisory Council	C
LB1114	Erdman	Require a vote of the people to approve county fairground bonds	C
LB1115	Erdman	Change Nebraska State Fair Board membership	GF (>1116)
LB1116	Erdman	Provide for Nebraska State Fair relocation and a fair relocation plan and change membership on the Nebraska State Fair Board	S (+1115)
LB1116A	Erdman	Appropriations bill	S
LB1117	Pedersen	Change homeowners' association requirements in sanitary and improvement districts	IPP
LB1118	Pedersen	Require filing of additional budget and tax levy information	IPP
LB1119	Johnson	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	C
LB1120	Johnson	Change exemption provisions under the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act	GF (>928)
LB1121	Johnson	Adopt the Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities Act	GF (>928)
LB1122	Johnson	Change dental coverage provisions under the medical assistance program	C
LB1123	Johnson	Change membership on the Children's Behavioral Task Force	C (>928)
LB1124	Engel	Provide for mobile home health and safety standards	C
LB1125	Adams	Change provisions relating to early childhood education endowment funds	GF (>1153)
LB1126	White	Exempt documents prepared by court reporters and copies of medical records from sales and use taxes	C (>916)
LB1127	Christensen	Change permitted uses of the Water Resources Cash Fund	C
LB1128	Ashford	Change tenancy termination provisions under the Nebraska Housing Agency Act	GF
LB1129	Flood	Change provisions relating to highway planning	GF
LB1130	Synowiecki	Provide for the merger of adult probation and parole services	GF
LB1130A	Synowiecki	Appropriations bill	GF
LB1131	Christensen	Authorize a collection fee for collection of a natural resources district occupation tax	GF (>1094)
LB1132	Christensen	Change provisions relating to river-flow enhancement bonds	IPP (>1094)
LB1133	Karpisek	Appropriate funds to the Public Employees Retirement Board	C
LB1134	Langemeier	Redefine animal life for sales and use tax purposes	C (>916)
LB1135	Rogert	Prohibit certain regulatory actions against student-athletes	C
LB1136	Rogert	Change requirement of and purpose for county classification	C
LB1137	Preister	Change provisions relating to new wind energy projects and a sales and use tax exemption	C (>916)
LB1138	Dierks	Change approval provisions relating to electric generation facilities	IPP
LB1139	Johnson	Transfer money from the cash reserve to fund road construction	C
LB1140	Pedersen	Exempt social security and government retirement benefits from income tax as prescribed	IPP
LB1141	Schimek	Provide for evaluation of students attending schools which elect not to meet state accreditation or approval requirements	C

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BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1142	Johnson	Provide for postsecondary education subsidy court orders for child support	C
LB1143	Synowiecki	Provide duties to the Nebraska Investment Council	GF (>1147)
LB1143A	Synowiecki	Appropriations bill	GF
LB1144	McGill	Change the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act	C
LB1145	Louden	Change dates relating to expenditures from the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund	S
LB1146	Retirement Systems	Redefine compensation in the School Employees Retirement Act	C
LB1147	Retirement Systems	Change provisions relating to retirement and the Nebraska Investment Council	S (+365, 937, 938, 968, 1143)
LB1147A	Retirement Systems	Appropriations bill	S
LB1148	Schimek	Prohibit certain pig confinement	W
LB1149	Johnson	Provide funding for behavioral health workforce development	W
LB1150	Langemeier	Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources	C
LB1151	Raikes	Change provisions relating to distance education and telecommunications	GF (>988)
LB1152	Raikes	Provide for a special education allowance within the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	GF
LB1153	Raikes	Provide for certificates of attendance for special education students and change provisions relating to early childhood education funding	S (+650, 990, 1125)
LB1154	Raikes	Change provisions relating to learning communities, schools, educational service units, and job training grants	S (+605, 886, 1005, 1021, 1081, 1083, 1158)
LB1154A	Raikes	Appropriations bill	V
LB1155	Raikes	Change provisions relating to teacher certification	IPP
LB1156	Synowiecki	Adopt the Nebraska Sports Tourism Advantage Act	C
LB1157	Raikes	Change provisions relating to the statewide system for assessment and reporting of student learning	S
LB1157A	Raikes	Appropriations bill	S
LB1158	Ashford	Provide economic development grants for private, nonprofit organizations in high-poverty areas	IPP (>1154)
LB1159	Ashford	Change provisions relating to truancy and parenting plans, authorize citations issued to parents, and provide for mediation	C (>1014)
LB1160	Ashford	Change Nebraska Juvenile Code jurisdiction and jurisdiction determination provisions and provide for facilitated conferencing	C (>1014)
LB1161	Karpisek	Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources	C
LB1162	Lautenbaugh	Remove statutory minimum fees under the Game Law	S
LB1163	Lautenbaugh	Require tanning facilities to post warning signs and obtain and maintain consumers' signatures	IPP
LB1164	Lautenbaugh	Adopt the Wildlife Damage Act	IPP
LB1165	Nelson	Provide for transfers of funds to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	S
LB1166	Nelson	Provide for the extension of the corporate limits of a city of the metropolitan class into an adjoining county	IPP
LB1167	Pedersen	Provide for a statewide 24/7 sobriety program	C
LB1168	Hudkins	Direct the use of funds previously appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services	C



BILL	INTRODUCER	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
LB1169	White	Authorize health care assistance for certain veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom	C
LB1170	White	Create a cause of action against employers of illegal immigrants	C
LB1171	Dierks	Adopt the Agricultural Commodities Protection Act	C
LB1172	Dierks	Adopt the Food Supply Animal Veterinary Incentive Program Act	S
LB1172A	Dierks	Appropriations bill	S
LB1173	Dierks	Provide for certification of animal therapists	GF (>928)
LB1174	Dierks	Restrict entity ownership of agricultural land and farm and ranch operations	GF
LB1175	White	Change income tax withholding provisions	IPP (>1001)
LB1176	Dubas	Change provisions relating to medicaid benefits and departmental reports	GF (>928)
LR2CA	Rogert	Constitutional amendment changing provisions related to substandard and blighted property	GF
LR4CA	Avery	Constitutional amendment to provide grounds for impeachment	SF
LR5CA	Friend	Constitutional amendment to authorize use of revenue bonds to develop property for use by nonprofit enterprises	P
LR7CA	Kruse	Constitutional amendment to change legislative salaries based on inflation as determined by the Legislature	C
LR8CA	Avery	Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions	GF
LR14	Engel	Provide the Legislature supports the negotiation of a Taiwan-United States Free Trade Agreement	R
LR220CA	Kopplin	Constitutional amendment to authorize different property tax treatment of residential property	IPP
LR223	Avery	Urge the Secretary of the Treasury to select Standing Bear as one of the designs for the reverse of the Native American \$1 coin	P
LR224	Fulton	Encourage law enforcement agencies in Nebraska to enter into a Memoranda of Agreement with the Secretary of Homeland Security to perform immigration law enforcement functions	IPP
LR225CA	Karpisek	Constitutional amendment to require manually counted paper ballots at elections	IPP
LR229CA	McDonald	Constitutional amendment to change the powers of municipalities relating to fund sources for economic or industrial development	P
LR230CA	Pedersen	Constitutional amendment to permit exemption of the increased value of a homestead from taxation	IPP
LR231CA	Erdman	Constitutional amendment to create a property tax appellate court and eliminate the Tax Equalization and Review Commission	W
LR232	Flood	Authorize the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee to review the uncompleted segments of the 1988 expressway plan	C
LR233CA	Christensen	Constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination or preferential treatment by the state, state agencies, and political subdivisions	C
LR234	Chambers	Retrocede jurisdiction over the Omaha Indian Reservation	C
LR238	Kruse	Commend the "Divided We Fail" effort to address access to health care and long-term financial security with individuals, businesses, health care providers, nonprofit organizations, and government working together to find solutions	P
LR283	Flood	Create the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature	P
LR284	Pedersen	Recognize slavery in the history of Nebraska	R

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