ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB1053

Hearing Date: Thursday February 02, 2012

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer: Louden

One Liner: Create Nebraska Tourism Commission and transfer powers and duties from the Travel and Tourism

Division of the Department of Economic Development

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 6 Senators Avery, Karpisek, Price, Seiler, Sullivan, Wallman

Nay: 2 Senators Janssen, Pahls

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Senator LeRoy Louden Introducer

Andy Licht Nebraska Hotel & Motel Association

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Roger Jasnoch Nebraska Travel Association

Catherine Lang Department of Economic Development

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1053 creates the Nebraska Tourism Commission. The commission will consist of one member appointed from each tourism region. The members are appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Legislature.

The duties of the commission include: administering the Nebraska Visitors Development Act; appointing an executive director; employing personnel; and preparing and approving a budget.

Currently there exists the Travel and Tourism Division of the Department of Economic Development. Under this bill, that division is eliminated and all personnel and property from that division is transferred to the Nebraska Tourism Commission.

The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee is also eliminated and its duties given to the commission. These duties include the development of a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote tourism in Nebraska..

Bill Avery, Chairperson