

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

BALLARD: Good afternoon, welcome to the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. My name is Senator Beau Ballard, I represent the District-- 21st Legislative District in northwest Lincoln, northern Lancaster County, and I serve as Chair of this committee. I'll start off by having the committee members introduce themselves, starting on my far left with Senator Sorrentino.

SORRENTINO: Tony Sorrentino, Legislative District 39: Elkhorn and Waterloo.

TREVOR FITZGERALD: Trevor Fitzgerald, committee legal counsel.

CLEMENTS: Rob Clements, District 2: Cass County, eastern Lancaster.

BALLARD: Also assisting our committee is committee clerk, Connie Thomas, and our committee page, Lexi, from Pender, Nebraska, a senior at UNL majoring in agricultural communications. This afternoon we'll be hearing three bills and we'll be taking them up in order listed outside on the-- outside of the room. On the table near the entrance, you will find green testifier sheets. If you're planning to testify today, please fill them out and hand them to the page when you come up. This will help us keep an accurate record of the hearing. Please note that if you wish to have your position listed on the committee statement for a particular bill, you must testify in that position during the bill's hearing. If you do not wish to testify, but would like your record-- like your record position on the bill, please fill out the yellow sheet near the entrance. Also, I'd like to note the Legislature's policy that all letters to the record must be received via an online comment portal by the committee by 8:00 a.m. the day of the hearing. Any handouts submitted by the testifiers will also be included as part of the record as exhibits. We would ask if you have any handouts, that you please bring 12 copies and give them to the page. If you need additional copies, the page will help you make more. Testimonies on each bill will begin with the introducer's opening statement. After the opening statement, we will hear from the supporters of the bill and those in opposition, followed by those speaking in a neutral capacity. The introducer of the bill will be then given an opportunity to make closing statements, if they wish to do so. We ask that you begin your testimony by giving your first and last name and please spell it for the record. Because this committee meets over the noon hour and members have other hearings at 1:30,

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

we'll use the three-minute light system. When you begin your testimony, the light on the table will turn green. Yellow light will mark your one-minute warning. And when the red light comes off, we'll-- comes on, we'll ask you to finish up your final thoughts. Remind everyone, including senators, please turn off or silence your phones. We'll begin today's hearing with LB824, Senator Lonowski. Welcome up.

LONOWSKI: Thank you, Chairman Ballard. Good afternoon. Good afternoon to members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. For the record, my name is Senator Dan Lonowski, D-a-n L-o-n-o-w-s-k-i, and I represent the 33rd Legislative District. The teacher shortage problem in Nebraska continues. LB824 helps address that by changing the bona fide separation period for school retirement plans from the current 180 days to 120 days, which also provides uniformity and consistency with Nebraska's other public plans, including state employees, county employees, judges, and State Patrol. Information received during the 2025 interim provided at this committee's public hearing last November on the interim study I introduced, specifically LR230, is the reason that I have introduced LB824. This legislation was a collaborative effort, and I want to thank the committee's legal counsel, Trevor Fitzgerald, for providing a draft of the legislation I submitted to the Revisor's Office late last year. As the committee previously heard, school employee retirement plans vary across the country, and some states have much shorter bona fide separation periods. Texas, Maine, and Georgia are at 30 days. Ohio and Maine are set at 60 days. LB824 also eliminates our current statutes for intermittent work by retired teachers of up to 8 days per month during that period of separation. A number of superintendents and school administrators have expressed their appreciation and support for LB824 for the clarity it provides. They welcome the relief of the burdensome task they and their staff encounter from logging all the important information about each retiree returning as a substitute during their separation period. Under LB824, retired teachers will be able to return as a substitute teacher following their service-- their break of service of 120 days. The ultimate goal for the body is to help alleviate the shortage of substitute teachers. LB824 does that. And I appreciate the support and positive feedback I have received following its introduction. Thank you again, Chairman Ballard and members of the committee. And I ask for your consideration of advancing LB824 to General File. I will try

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

to answer any questions you may have, and I do believe there are testifiers coming behind me.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Lonowski. Are there any questions? Senator Clements.

CLEMENTS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Senator. The current provision has something with an 8-day limitation. Is that right?

LONOWSKI: Yes, sir.

CLEMENTS: Is that in your proposal?

LONOWSKI: So the previous, the previous way a teacher could retire is they had to sit 180 days from the day they walked out of the school. The exception was they could sub 8 days a month until they reached 180 days. My proposal does away with the 8-day plan. It's a hard break to 120 days. So on the 121st day, they could return. There's no need for the 8 days now because that 121-day, or when they start back on 121st day, that would roughly be in the middle of September. Also, they, they cannot return and sign their, their previous contract and just sit out and then say, hey, I'm back, now I'm a bona fide teacher again. And the concerns were with retirement and whether a teacher would violate their retirement. Then they would have to pay money back, and that has happened to teachers in the past, so simply--

CLEMENTS: So there's sub--

LONOWSKI: No 8-day period. Yes.

CLEMENTS: --no substituting at all for 120 days--

LONOWSKI: Correct.

CLEMENTS: --then that's substitute full-time, if they want to.

LONOWSKI: Correct.

CLEMENTS: OK, thank you.

LONOWSKI: Thank you for your question.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Clements. Additional questions? Seeing none, thank you. We'll see you at close?

LONOWSKI: Yes, sir. I'll be here.

BALLARD: OK.

LONOWSKI: Thank you.

BALLARD: All right, first proponent to LB824. Good afternoon.

TIM ROYERS: Good afternoon, Chair Ballard and members of the Retirement Systems Committee. My name for the record is Tim Royers, T-i-m R-o-y-e-r-s, and I'm the president of the Nebraska State Education Association. I'm here on behalf of NSEA and our more than 23,000 members to express our support for LB824. LB824 makes what we feel is a targeted and thoughtful improvement to Nebraska school retirement statutes by replacing the current 180-day break in service requirement along with its limited allowance with a clear, uniform 120-day separation period during which no service may be performed. At the conclusion of those 120 days, as you've already heard, a retiree may then return to volunteer or substitute without restriction. This change establishes a single, easily identifiable date at which service may resume and eliminates the existing confusion and the administrative complexity created by the existing structure. Under existing law, the combination of a lengthy 180-day separation period and an 8-day-per-month safe harbor has proven difficult for retirees and school districts to navigate. Educators must closely track days worked to avoid jeopardizing their retirement benefits while districts are tasked with monitoring compliance month by month. Even unintentional errors can create significant concern for retirees and administrative burdens for employers. LB824 replaces that complexity with a straightforward standard that is easy to understand, communicate and administer. This approach also brings Nebraska school retirement plans into better alignment with all other public retirement plans currently administered by NPERS. State, county, judges, and State Patrol employees are subject to a uniform 120-day break in service with no interim employment allowed. Aligning school plans with this existing standard promotes consistency, reduces confusion, and supports equitable treatment of public employees statewide. Just as importantly, LB824 supports Nebraska's schools during an ongoing staffing shortage by shortening the required break

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

in service and eliminating restrictions. After that period ends, retired educators can return to classrooms and schools sooner and with confidence. Schools benefit from access to experienced professionals and retirees can contribute without fear of inadvertently violating retirement rules or placing their earned benefits at risk. LB824 does not expand benefits or weaken safeguards. Instead, it protects the integrity of the retirement system by ensuring a bona fide separation from service, reducing administrative burden, and providing greater clarity for retirees and employers alike. For these reasons, the Nebraska State Education Association, wishes to sincerely thank Senator Lonowski for introducing the bill, and respectfully urges the committee to advance LB824. We think this is a continuation on the common-sense solutions this committee was able to produce last year with the rate contribution changes, and we want to build off that success. So thank you for your time and consideration, and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

BALLARD: Thank you, Mr. Royers. Are there any questions? Seeing none, let you off easy.

TIM ROYERS: Thank you for your consideration.

BALLARD: Next proponent to LB824.

JOHN HEINEMAN: Good afternoon, Chairman Ballard and members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. My name is John Heineman, J-o-h-n H-e-i-n-e-m-a-n, and I'm the president of the Nebraska State Education Association. Retired. I'm also the only speech, theater, and P.E.-endorsed teacher in the world, which makes me uniquely qualified to substitute, which I do right now with the Lincoln Public Schools. I come before you today to advocate for LB824, a bill that represents a practical, common-sense solution to the educator shortages facing our schools. This legislation is not only good policy, it's good for teachers, good for school districts, and most importantly, good our students. LB824 recognizes the immense value of experienced, highly qualified educators bring to our classroom. By allowing retired teachers to return to teaching sooner, the bill provides flexibility while honoring their expertise. It enables these veteran teachers to continue contributing to our schools without extended restrictions, ensuring that their wisdom and skills remain a vital part of our educational system. Our districts are facing a persistent staffing shortages. LB824 expands our pool of available licensed educators,

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

giving districts access to professionals who require minimal onboarding and can step into the classroom immediately. This increased flexibility in staffing reduces reliance on long-term vacancies and helps maintain instructional continuity, which is essential to the success of our schools. At the heart of this bill are our students. They deserve consistency and expertise in the classroom. LB824 ensures that students benefit directly from our high-quality, experienced educators rather than classroom covered by short-term substitutes and left-- or left vacant. This consistently-- consistency improves the student engagement, learning outcomes, and overall school ability. LB824 prioritizes students' learning and making sure that the classrooms are staffed by capable, qualified educators. The bill also addresses daily staffing challenges by allowing more retired educators to serve as substitute teachers. A larger, more experienced substitute pool means fewer disruptions caused by teacher absences. Schools can rely on substitutes who understand curriculum, classroom management, which is vital, and district expectations ensuring that learning continues smoothly. LB824 is an immediate response to educator shortage without lowering standards. It strengthens our educational workforce by leveraging existing talent and supports our schools, educators, and students alike. This is a common-sense change that benefits everyone involved in the Nebraska educational system. I urge you to support LB824 to help us build a stronger, more resilient, educational future for Nebraska. Thank you, and I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

BALLARD: Thank you, Mr. Heineman. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you for your testimony.

JOHN HEINEMAN: Thank you.

CONRAD: Good to see you.

BALLARD: Next proponent. Good afternoon.

MORGAN KREISER: Good afternoon. Chairman Ballard, members of the Retirement Systems Committee, my name is Morgan Kreiser, M-o-r-g-a-n K-r-e-i-s-e-r. I'm here today on behalf of the Omaha Public Schools to testify in support of LB824. Omaha Public School is the largest school district in Nebraska, serving over 52,000 students and their families, and is one of the largest employers in the state. I am a partner with the Baird Holm law firm. My practice is focused exclusively on

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

employee benefits matters, including regularly advising public companies-- public employers about Internal Revenue Code compliance with their retirement plans. It's our understanding that LB824 was introduced to address a significant problem facing all school districts in the state and a problem in which the Omaha Public Schools is particularly invested in resolving: the shortage of substitute teachers. Recent retirees provide school districts across the state with a highly-qualified potential substitute. And this is where it gets technical. Both NPERS and OSERS require a member to incur a bona fide separation from service to be eligible for a distribution of benefits under their respective benefit retirement plans. The requirement for a bona fide separation from service is rooted in federal law and is necessary for a retirement plan to remain tax-qualified under the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS does not define bona fides termination of employment for this purpose. Instead, IRS guidance consistently highlights that a bona fide separation from services is a fact-specific determination that can occur in as little as one day, so long as the parties reasonably anticipate that no further services would be performed by the employee after that date. Based on that guidance, Nebraska statutorily adopted a bright-line rule that a bona fide separation from service would occur after a 180-day break in service. However, during that 180-day period, a retiree may serve as a substitute teacher if that service is intermittent. Nebraska law defines "intermittent" to mean not greater than 8 days per month. Last November, Senator Lonowski introduced LR230, proposing an interim study to examine options for allowing retired teachers to return to intermittent work for more than 8 days per months. I testified in support of LR230 in November and, in preparation for that hearing, revisited the laws of a number of states in our region and across the country. Not surprisingly, their laws and practices are all over the board. Importantly, there is no IRS safe harbor threshold for intermittent service provided after retirement for purposes of determining whether an employee incurred a bona fide separation from service. Nor is there a common practice among the states. Instead, whether the employee incurred a bona fide termination of employment, including given any intermittent service performed after their termination, must be determined on an individual facts and circumstances basis. Employers must examine whether the employer-employee relationship ended. I see my time is up.

BALLARD: Please continue.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

MORGAN KREISER: Thank you. In any case, if an employee and employer have arranged for a return to service after retirement, the IRS will decline to view such arrangement as a termination of employment and could disqualify the retirement plan. We recognize here that a case-by-case analysis of whether a bona fide separation from service occurred would pose an unreasonable and, in many cases, impossible administrative burden on NPERS. Because of that, we support the proposal in LB824 to remove the complicated framework that had allowed intermittent service within the 180-day bona fide separation period in favor of a more straightforward and bright-line 120-day separation period during which no intermittent service may be performed, but allowing for unlimited service after the 120-day separation period is completed. This change would result in a larger pool of substitute teachers available to school districts across the state. Importantly, LB824 would keep intact the statutory rule that no bona fide separation from service will occur for any prearranged return to work schemes, consistent with IRS guidance. I'd like to close by thanking you for this opportunity, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

BALLARD: Thank you for your testimony. Are there any questions?
Senator Sorrentino.

SORRENTINO: Thank you, Chairman. So is it your testimony, then, that moving to 120-day separation from ser-- meets the bright-line separation of service, and that even though this was on a case-by-case basis, that this change should keep the Nebraska plan safe from IRS scrutiny?

MORGAN KREISER: Yes, it's my testimony that this would be, in the eyes of the IRS, you know, as long as there's no return-to-work schemes involved, that's what they're going to look for. But given the fact that an individual, you know, case-by-case analysis would be unreasonable, like I said, in often cases, impossible for NPERS to administer, this gives us a, you know, as the other proponents have testified that this is kind of a common-sense solution to what the IRS has not given us, a solution.

SORRENTINO: So given this advice and potentially this flaw, school systems such as OPS and others are being advised that upon the formal retirement of a teacher, there is to basically be no communications

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

whatsoever regarding re-employment for a minimum of 120 days. They'll be aware of that. Am I correct there?

MORGAN KREISER: Under IRS guidance, it's not the-- the determination of whether termination of employment occurred happens on the day of the termination. So as of that day, do the employer and employee intend for the relationship to end, the employment relationship to end. If there's any intent on the part of the employer and employee as of date to-- for the employee to return to work, that's where the issue arises. Now, as I testified, the IRS has held that there's a bona fide termination of employment in as little as one day. For example, if there was-- I think there were some examples during the COVID-19 pandemic when a teacher retired and then, you know, a week later needed to come back due to the extra circumstances surrounding COVID-19. So it's, it's not so much that the issue is during that 120 period that there can be no communication, it's, it's the date of termination, what was the intent of the parties as of that date.

SORRENTINO: Thank you.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Sorrentino. Additional questions? Seeing none, thank you for your testimony.

MORGAN KREISER: Thank you.

BALLARD: Next proponent. Seeing none, anyone in opposition? Seeing none, anyone in the neutral capacity? Good afternoon.

TAG HERBEK: Chairperson Ballard, members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee, I'm Tag Herbeck, T-a-g H-e-r-b-e-k. I'm agency legal counsel for the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems and the Public Employees Retirement Board, and I'm here to speak on LB824. As is commonly known, all gross income from whatever source derived is subject to federal and some states' income taxes. Fortunately, Congress has provided limited exceptions to this general rule. One of the exceptions to this general rule is that an individual's salary or wages are exempt from income tax if contributed to a qualified retirement plan. In theory, this encourages individuals to provide themselves with a retirement income stream which presumably is taxed at a lower rate and potentially reducing dependency in government programs. One of their requirements to be a qualified retirement plan is that plan participants must actually and sincerely be retired to

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

receive a benefit from a qualified tax shelter retirement plan. To be considered actually retired, the IRS requires an individual to observe a bona fide separation period from the retirement plan sponsor or employer to show the individual is retired, as opposed to attempting to claim retirement benefits while continuing to work. Currently the School Employees Retirement Plan and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act provide the bona fide separation period for its members is 180 days. LB824 would reduce this bonafide separation period to 120 days. NPERS believes reducing the bona fide separation period of the school and classified plans potentially make administration of the retirement plans easier and should make it clearer for members to comply because they cannot provide any service in any form at any time during the 100 and day bona fide separation period to any school plan employer combined under the retirement plan from which they are retiring. School plan and classified retirement plan retirees under these changes will not be able to provide regular, intermittent, substitute, voluntary, or part-time service during the 120-day bona fide separation period. If a member does provide service during this period, in violation of the 100-day bonafide separation period, they may be required to repay all retirement benefits received due to continuation of work without truly retiring or prearranging of a return to work before the end of the substitution-- or separation period. That is my testimony, and I can answer any questions.

BALLARD: Thank you for your testimony. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you so much. Appreciate it. Any additional neutral testimony? Seeing none. Senator.

LONOWSKI: Thank you, Chair Ballard. Thank you, committee. Real quickly, we did have a Zoom call with the IRS. It's a very interesting situation, let me say. So we did get some information from them. They would not give us their legal expertise unless there was a hefty fee involved. So Mr. Herbek worked with us on this and, and gave us parameters and guidelines. And as I said, Trevor worked with us, so we appreciate all of that. And I really appreciate you all listening to me and helping me advance this bill forward.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Lonowski. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you so much.

LONOWSKI: Thank you.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

BALLARD: Written positions on LB824. We had 8 proponents, 0 opponents, and none in the neutral. That will close our hearings-- hearing on LB824, and open up our hearing on LB743 and Senator Juarez.

JUAREZ: Good afternoon, Chairman Ballard and members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. My name is Senator Margo Juarez, M-a-r-g-o J-u-a-r-e-z, and I'm here to speak today on LB743. This bill modernizes the Police Officers Retirement Act to provide police officers in Nebraska's cities of the first class with greater flexibility and control over their earned retirement benefits. Nebraska law classifies municipalities by population, and 31 cities currently qualify as cities of the first class. Police officers in these communities have participated in state-mandated retirement systems for decades, reflect-- reflecting the Legislature's longstanding commitment to supporting those who serve and protect our communities. In 2025, the Legislature took an important step forward by amending my bill, LB461, into LB179, which ensured that firefighters in cities of the first class may elect to receive their retirement benefits through partial payments in an amount and frequency of their choosing. The conversation last year in committee made reference to accomplishing this for police officers. LB743 builds on this discussion and promotes fairness and consistency across public safety retirement systems. LB743 does not increase benefit levels or impose new funding requirements on, on cities. Instead, it simply expands the optional forms in which existing retirement benefits may be paid, allowing police officers to tailor distributions to better meet their individual financial and retirement planning needs. By permitting partial payments, in addition to annuity and lump-sum options, the bill recognizes that retirement security looks different for every officer. By aligning the Police Officers Retirement Act with recent changes made for firefighters, LB743 ensures equitable treatment of public safety professionals and reinforces Nebraska's commitment to honoring the service of police officers through a modern, flexible retirement framework. I wanted to draw your attention to the support online. The League of Municipalities has submitted a letter of support for LB743. Thank you, and I will take your questions.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Juarez. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you for your opening.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

JUAREZ: Thank you.

BALLARD: First proponent to LB743. Good afternoon.

SEAN KELLEY: Good afternoon, Chairman Ballard, members of the Retirement Committee. My name is Sean Kelley, S-e-a-n K-e-l-l-e-y, appearing today as a registered lobbyist for the Nebraska Fraternal Order of Police. I'm not going to elaborate more than Senator Juarez's opening, which artfully put, put this bill in perspective for you. This offers our members that are police officers and retirees in first-class cities more flexibility with their retirement plan, and we appreciate your support. With that, I'll take any questions.

BALLARD: Thank you for your testimony. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you.

SEAN KELLEY: Thank you.

BALLARD: Next proponent. Seeing none, are there any opponents? Seeing none, anyone in the neutral capacity? Seeing none. Senator Juarez.

JUAREZ: Thank you. Again, thank you for your time and consideration. This is a quick fix, and I look forward to working with the committee to get this out and passed. Thank you.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator. Are there any questions? Seeing none, we had 1 letter in support of LB743, no in opposition, none in the neutral. That'll close our hearing on LB743, and open up our hearing on our committee bill, LB822. Good afternoon.

TREVOR FITZGERALD: Good afternoon, Chairman Ballard and members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. For the record, my name is Trevor Fitzgerald, T-r-e-v-o-r F-i-t-z-g-e-r-a-l-d, and I'm introducing LB822 on behalf of the committee. LB822 is a cleanup bill designed to update and modernize the statutes governing police retirement systems in cities of the first class. The current statutory structure for police retirement in cities of the first class is the Police Officers Retirement Act, which was passed by the Legislature in 1983. Prior to 1983, police officers in cities of the first class were covered by defined benefit retirement plans established and administered by their respective cities. These defined benefit plans were closed to new members in 1983, and cities of first class have administered defined contribution plans for police officers hired on

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

or after January 1 of 1984. LB822 mostly updates internal statutory references and eliminates obsolete and antiquated language. But I will highlight the primary change contained in the bill. The current name of the act, the Police Officers Retirement Act, may give the mistaken impression that provisions of those statutes apply to all police officers statewide. So LB822 would primarily change the act by renaming it the "Cities of the First Class Police Officers Retirement Act." Consistent with the name change in the act, the bill would also define the term "city" under the act to clearly and expressly limit the provisions of the act to cities of the first class. I believe that the League of Municipalities has submitted a comment in support of the bill, and there are representatives from law enforcement here to testify behind me. But I'd be happy to answer any questions at this time.

BALLARD: Thank you. Are there any questions?

JUAREZ: I have a quick question.

BALLARD: Senator Juarez.

JUAREZ: So since you came after me, I'm wondering, will I need to do an amendment on my bill because we make this change?

TREVOR FITZGERALD: Senator, it technically may or-- it probably won't be necessary. So, so LB822 amends roughly half of the sections of statute that appear within the, the current act, whereas your LB743 that we just discussed only amends the one section. I believe the changes in LB743 and LB822 likely will, will be found to align so that, if, if the bills were sent out separately, we could pass both bills and the Revisor of Statute's Office would probably correlate the changes and both of those bills post session. Should the committee wish to, there's a, an amendment that I've already pre-drafted for the committee which would incorporate the provisions of your LB743 into LB822. I think it's just a matter of the committee's preference at this point, given kind of where we are in the, the schedule as far as bills that are currently on General File and worksheet order.

JUAREZ: OK, thank you.

BALLARD: Thank you, Senator Juarez. Any additional questions? Seeing none, thank you. First proponent to LB822. Welcome back.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee January 30, 2026
Rough Draft

SEAN KELLEY: Good afternoon, Chairman Ballard, members of the Retirement Committee. My name is Sean Kelley, S-e-a-n K-e-l-l-e-y, appearing today as registered lobbyist for the Nebraska Fraternal Order of Police. As Trevor noted, this is a technical bill and a cleanup. It is-- in retirement statutes, as you all know, they are very technical, so in Trevor we trust that this is doing all the right things. So with that, I'll take any questions.

BALLARD: Thank you, Mr. Kelley. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you.

SEAN KELLEY: Thank you.

BALLARD: Next proponent. Seeing none, anyone in opposition? Seeing none, anyone in the neutral capacity? Seeing none, we did have 1 letter in support of LB822, no in opposition, no in neutral. That will close our hearings on LB822 and our hearings for the day. If the committee wants to stick around, we'll go into a quick exec session.