

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1109

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 10, 2016
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Murante
One Liner: Change public records provisions and provide for an enhanced public scrutiny process for certain University appointees

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Craighead, Garrett, Hansen, Larson, Murante
Nay:	2	Senators Groene, McCoy
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Bloomfield

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator John Murante
Senator Galen Hadley
Tim Clare
Krupa Savalia
Rob Robertson
Kim Russel

Hank Bounds

Opponents:

Mike Reilly
Kurt Geisinger

David Bundy
Stephanie Hedrick
Jack Gould
Alan Peterson
John Bender
Peggy Year

Dennis Morgan
Elizabeth Rembert
Terry Kroeger

Representing:

Introducer
Self
University of Nebraska Board of Regents
University of Nebraska Medical Center Student
Nebraska Farm Bureau - Ag 40 Groups
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
University of Nebraska

Representing:

Media of Nebraska
University of Nebraska-Lincoln; American Association of University Professors
Lincoln Journal Star
KOLN/KSNB/KNOP
Common Cause Nebraska
Media of Nebraska
UNL Faculty Senate
Nebraska Press Association; Northeast Nebraska News Company
Nebraska Press Association
University of Nebraska-Lincoln students
Omaha World-Herald; Berkshire Hathaway Media Group

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1109 creates the Enhanced Public Scrutiny process. The process applies to priority candidates for the positions of President and Chancellors of the University of Nebraska System.

The bill defines priority candidate as "an individual preliminarily selected to fill a vacancy" in one of the applicable positions.

The Enhanced Public Scrutiny process requires that the hiring authority (the Board of Regents in the case of the President, or the President in the case of a Chancellor) announce a priority candidate to fill a vacancy 30 days before filling the position.

The priority candidate will be required to make available his or her employment application, resume, reference letters, and school transcripts prior to, or at the time of, the announcement of the his or her selection as the priority candidate.

During the 30 day vetting period, the hiring authority must provide a public forum at campuses of the University of Nebraska system under the vacant position's authority. At the forum, all members of the public, including media, students, faculty, and staff of the University of Nebraska, shall have the opportunity to ask the priority candidate questions and provide input on the selection.

John Murante, Chairperson