

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB639**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday February 13, 2017  
**Committee On:** Business and Labor  
**Introducer:** Bostelman  
**One Liner:** Change when a preference is required for certain government employment relating to servicemembers and their spouses and veterans

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Albrecht, Chambers, Crawford, Halloran, Hansen, Howard, Lowe  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**  
Bruce Bostelman  
John Hilgert  
Jason Jackson

**Representing:**  
Introducer  
Director, Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs  
Governor Human Resource Officer, Department of Administrative Services

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Sec. 1. includes servicemember as a person who would be "preference eligible" when seeking employment with the State of Nebraska or its governmental subdivisions. Servicemember is defined as a person who serves on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, except for training.

The definition of preference eligible is amended to include the spouse of a servicemember, except that preference is limited to the first 180 days of the servicemember's discharge or separation from service.

Sec. 2. states that preference is given to preference eligibles seeking employment with the State of Nebraska or its governmental subdivisions, including initial employment or a return to employment if termination of a previous employment was for other than disciplinary reasons.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

Amendment (AM 280)

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AM 280 allows a spouse of a servicemember to be preference eligible while the servicemember is serving on active duty as described in subsection (1) and up to 180 days after the servicemember's discharge or separation from service.

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Joni Albrecht, Chairperson