

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB81**

---

**Hearing Date:** Monday January 28, 2019  
**Committee On:** Transportation and Telecommunications  
**Introducer:** Friesen  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to special stops at railroad grade crossings under the Nebraska Rules of the Road

---

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

---

**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Albrecht, Bostelman, Cavanaugh, DeBoer, Friesen, Geist, Hilgers, Hughes  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

---

**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Curt Friesen  
Joshua Hall

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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

LB 81 amends Nebraska Rules of the Road relating to required stops by motor vehicles at railroad crossings. In addition to stopping for trains, the bill would require drivers to stop for on-track equipment, which would be defined as "any railroad locomotive or any other car, rolling stock, equipment or other device operated upon stationary rails either alone or coupled to other railroad locomotives, cars, rolling stock, equipment, or devices."

The bill adds the new language relating to on-track equipment to current provisions relating to the provision generally applicable to stopping at railroad crossings, and specific provisions relating to school buses, placarded vehicles, and slow-moving vehicles.

---

**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment adds two additional requirements for drivers of motor vehicles to stop before crossing a railroad track. The first requirement is that the driver must stop if a stop sign is present. The second requirement is if a passive warning device is located at the crossing, and an approaching train or on-track equipment is audible or plainly visible and in hazardous proximity to the crossing. The federal definition of "passive warning device" is contained in the new language.

---

---

Curt Friesen, Chairperson