

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: Good afternoon and welcome to the General Affairs Committee. My name is Tom Briese. I'm the senator for District 41, which includes nine counties in central and northeast Nebraska. And I'm the Chairman of this committee. We're here today for the purposes of including four appointment hearings and three bill hearings. We'll be proceeding in the order of the agenda that is posted outside of the room. If you wish to testify on any of the matters before us we will ask that you fill out one of the green sheets that should be on the sides by the doors. If you are here and you do not wish to testify but you wish to state your support or opposition for any matter before us, we ask that you fill out one of the white sign-in sheets that will also be in the same location. Again, the sign-in sheets are located on either side of the room. If you do testify, we ask that you begin your testimony by stating and spelling your name for the record, which is very important for our Transcribers Office. The order of proceedings is that the introducers will be given an opportunity to open on their bills, then we will listen to proponent testimony, followed by opponent testimony, and then neutral testimony. And the introducer will then be given an opportunity to close. We ask that you listen very carefully to try not to be repetitive. We do, we do use the light system in the General Affairs Committee. Each testifier is afforded five minutes to testify. When the yellow light comes on, you have one minute remaining, and we ask that you begin concluding your remarks. When the red light comes on, your time has expired and we will open up the committee to any questions they may have of you. At this time, I'd like to encourage everyone to turn off or silence any cell phones or electronic devices, anything that makes noise. The General Affairs Committee is a committee that is equipped for electronics so you may see members of the committee referencing their iPads, iPhones, or other electronic devices. I can assure you they're just researching issues or matters before us. If you have a prepared statement, an exhibit, or anything you would like to have distributed to the committee members, we ask that you provide 12 copies to our page. If you don't have twelve copies, don't worry about it. Provide what you have to the page and she'll make copies for you. Our page for the General Affairs Committee is Dana Mallett from Colorado. She's a sophomore political science major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. And directly to my right is our legal counsel, Loguen Blazek. Over on my far left is our committee clerk, Alex DeGarmo. And now I'd like to have the members of the committee introduce themselves beginning on my far right.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

ARCH: John Arch, District 14: Papillion LaVista.

HUNT: My name is Megan Hunt and I represent District 8, which includes the neighborhoods of Dundee and Benson in midtown Omaha.

LOWE: John Lowe, District 37, which is the southeast half of Buffalo County.

MOSE: Mike Moser from District 22. That's Platte County, most of Stanton County, and a sliver of Colfax County that connects them.

BRANDT: Tom Brandt, District 32. We would be Fillmore, Thayer, Jefferson, Saline, and southwestern Lancaster County.

BRIESE: And we're missing a couple members right now, Senators Blood and Senator Wayne. I believe they're both introducing bills in other committees. They will hopefully be joining us here as the afternoon progresses. And with that, we'll open with the confirmation hearing for Joyce Hasselbalch to the Nebraska Arts Council. Please join us up here, if you would Miss Hasselbalch. Welcome, and please state your name and spell it for the record.

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: My name is Joyce Hasselbalch, J-o-y-c-e, Hasselbalch is a long one, H-a-s-s-e-l-b-a-l-c-h.

BRIESE: And you may proceed with any comments you would like to make about yourself or the appointment to the Arts Council.

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: OK.

BRIESE: Anything you'd like us to know.

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: OK. Well, I'm here as an appointee to the Nebraska Arts Council. I was anxious to be on the council because I have an appreciation for the arts. And I grew up in a small community, attended one-room school, grades one through eight, and had very little opportunity to really be exposed to the arts. And I think the Arts Council does a lot toward getting that out throughout the state. I think it's very important to our society to have the arts. I really gained an appreciation for the arts when I attended the University of Nebraska. I took two classes called the "Arts Today." It's an excellent class, and it was not like a class. It was like fun, but it just gave an exposure to all the arts: the performing arts, the visual arts. So that's what really kick-started my appreciation for the arts. And I would like to see it made available to the whole state. And I

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

think it's nice that they also work with the schools. And our executive director has done a wonderful job of getting Nebraska upfront.

BRIESE: Very good. Very good. Do we have any questions of Miss Hasselbalch? Senator Hunt.

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Thank you, Senator. Welcome and congratulations. What are some of the most pressing issues that you see facing the council right now, and what are your hopes for the council in the next two years in terms of how it can be improved and continue to serve Nebraskans? Well, I'm still pretty new at this, so I don't know if I can give you real accurate answers. But I suppose funding and getting appropriate funding is also probably always a big problem. And I would like to see them continue to expand into the rural communities, generating an interest in the arts.

BRIESE: Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: Miss Hasselbalch, you said you grew up in a rural area. Where was that?

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Well, I was born in Wahoo, Nebraska, and I went to school in Memphis, Nebraska, about 80 people. You know, it was a rural school. And then I went to high school in Ashland, Nebraska.

BRANDT: OK. And based on your background, then, you can see how critical it is that we have arts in the rural areas?

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Yes, yes, definitely. Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Brandt. Senator Arch.

ARCH: Do I understand this is a reappointment? You are currently serving?

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Well, I served the rest of another person's appointment--

ARCH: A partial term?

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: --that had to resign.

ARCH: A partial term?

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Yes.

ARCH: So and you want to come back?

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: Yes, I do.

ARCH: Very good.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Arch. Anyone else? Well, we thank you for being here and I'll open it up to other folks that want to talk about your appointment, if anyone so chooses. Otherwise, we'll be in contact with you very soon.

JOYCE HASSELBALCH: All right, thank you very much.

BRIESE: Thank you.

ARCH: Thank you.

BRIESE: Any proponents on behalf of the appointment of Ms. Hasselbalch to the Arts Council? Any opponents? Anyone wishing to speak in neutral, in the neutral capacity? Well, thank you. We close, hereby close the hearing on the appointment of Ms. Hasselbalch to the Arts Council. The next confirmation will be for Sarah Peetz to the Nebraska Arts Council. Good afternoon Miss Peetz. Welcome.

SARAH PEETZ: Good afternoon. I'm Sarah Peetz, S-a-r-a-h P-e-e-t-z.

BRIESE: Go ahead.

SARAH PEETZ: I'm happy to-- honored and happy to be here today, and thank you for the consideration of appointment to the Nebraska Arts Council. I would be a new appointee to the Arts Council. And I look forward to helping promote their mission of cultivating and sustaining and promoting arts for all Nebraskans across the state. I currently live in Lincoln, Nebraska. I've lived here for 18 years. However, I have lived in all three congressional districts across the state. And early in my career, I practiced law in Cheyenne County and helped establish the High Plains Arts Council out there. I've always had an interest in the arts across the state. I also lived in Columbus, Nebraska, and, and now currently, as I said, in Lincoln. I look forward to, particularly I'm interested in economic development of the state, across the state. And I think that's a really critical component that arts and culture can add to our state's strength and

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

attractiveness to, to investment, to people all across the state.
Thank you.

BRIESE: Very good. Very good. Any questions of Miss Peetz? Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: You stated one of your concerns is economic development. How do you see arts being part of that role?

SARAH PEETZ: I think that arts offer a critical component to the basic things that we all enjoy in Nebraska, in any community, but are an added value. And I think they can enhance the quality of life for, for all cross-sectors, socio and economic cross-sectors, just through enjoyment. It's a powerful tool whether, whether it be performance or media art. And there have been studies, the Nebraska Arts Council has been working on a study and, and there have been previous studies through the years that I'm aware of that Nebraska has participated in that give data that show the, the value of the arts and how that can add to quality of life and interests, especially in-- well, all generations, but definitely in younger generations, which we are trying to attract.

BRANDT: And then having lived up Cheyenne County, you realize how critical it is that what we represent here in Lincoln goes out to the rest of the state of Nebraska?

SARAH PEETZ: I do, I do. A strong sense of that, having been rooted in western Nebraska. I guess I, when I was growing up in Madison County, I thought that Grand Island was probably about as the, the western part of the state. And quickly learned that's not the case. Wonderful opportunities across the state. And, and of course high need, but for the Nebraska Arts Council to be able to provide leadership to look for those opportunities and investigate the needs and the communities all across. I'm a proponent of supporting all of Nebraska, not just this this town.

BRANDT: Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Brandt. Senator Moser.

MOSER: Is there a particular area of the arts that particularly motivates you? Is there a certain type of either visual or performance or musical?

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

SARAH PEETZ: Personally, I like performing arts, and I think I've participated in more of that. Although, I do like the visual arts too, and we've got some wonderful art galleries all across the state. And I was just in Cozad not too long ago, and got to see that Henri Museum, which I had not been into. That's an incredible, well-kept secret. But we've got some hidden gems all across the state. So I think I enjoy all of it and see a value in all of it.

MOSER: Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Moser. Anyone else? OK. Well, thank you for being here.

SARAH PEETZ: Thank you.

BRIESE: And we'll be in touch with you soon. Any proponents on behalf of Ms. Peetz's appointment? Opponents? Anyone in the neutral capacity? That will end our confirmation hearing on Sarah Peetz to the Arts Council. Up next, we have a confirmation hearing for Mike Hunsberger to the State Electrical Board. And we're doing a call-in procedure with that one so we are working on that right now. And we should have it here shortly. Mr. Hunsberger?

MIKE HUNSBERGER: Yes.

BRIESE: Yes. This is Tom Briese, Chairman of the General Affairs Committee. Good afternoon.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: Good afternoon.

BRIESE: Yes. Here shortly, we will open the hearing on your confirmation to the State Electrical Board. And so we will do that now, and what we'd like to do is hear a few words from you as to your background experience, why you want to be on the board, any basically anything you want to tell us about it. We'd like to hear from you, and then we'll open it up to a few questions.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: You want me to start now.

BRIESE: Yes, go right ahead. Thank you.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: Oh, OK. I have been an electrician since 1988, I've been a contractor for the last 25 years. I live in Broken Bow, Nebraska, in Custer County. We're situated northwest of Kearney and west of Grand Island. Part of the reason I wanted to be, one of the

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

reasons I wanted to be on the board is I believe that the wiring in my party to Nebraska differs quite a bit in the eastern part of Nebraska. As we're more ag related and rural related, I find that a lot of times that we don't have any representation from this part of the state on this board. It's been primarily made up of people from the eastern part of the state. Right now, I don't think anybody is west of Seward on that board. And I just felt that it would be nice to have somebody on the board that is from out here and would be able to maybe lend a different perspective on this board.

BRIESE: OK, very good. Anything else you'd like to add? If not, I'll open it up for questions from the committee.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: No, please go ahead.

BRIESE: OK. Thank you. Committee members, do we have any questions for Mr. Hunsberger? Senator Hunt.

HUNT: Hello, Mr. Hunsberger. My name is Senator Megan Hunt. I was wondering from my curiosity did you apply for this appointment or were you asked to apply to join the board?

MIKE HUNSBERGER: I applied.

HUNT: OK, thank you.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: And in fact I've applied at least twice before.

HUNT: Thank you, sir.

BRIESE: Anyone else? Senator Lowe.

LOWE: Thank you, Chairman. And thank you, Mr. Hunsberger. You stated there are differences between rural Nebraska, or greater Nebraska, and the eastern side of Nebraska. Can you maybe talk a little more on that?

MIKE HUNSBERGER: Yeah. You have a denser population in the eastern part of the state, with obviously a lot more residential wiring and probably a little bit more industrial wiring. Out here we have wiring that in, in certain areas it's not even under the jurisdiction of the Nebraska State Electrical Board. In particular, like pivot wiring. Pivot wiring in a higher-voltage wiring that is not inspected, but it does carry with it, you know, quite a bit of liability and a certain amount of danger if you're not understanding what you do. So those

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

are, you know, we also have quite a bit of ag businesses, you know, hog confinement, cattle, cattle yards, those type of things that sometimes they don't fall under the, the actual rules of the State Electrical Act. I think right now the State Electrical Board is struggling a little bit with some of these chicken confinement things that are going on in the northeastern part of Nebraska. And I'm, I'm trying to get, you know, I'm trying to help out and see what's best for everybody on these things.

LOWE: Thank you very much.

BRIESE: Senator Moser.

MOSER: Hi, it's Mike Moser. I was just curious how much authority the Electrical Board has. Are you, is your job interpreting the rules, making the rules, interfacing with the electrical contractors or how do you see your job on the electrical board?

MIKE HUNSBERGER: As I understand the Nebraska code, we adopt the National Electrical Code unless there are parts of the code that we do not feel it's applicable to our state. I don't think this has happened for a while. Primarily, I think we are in adoption of the National Electrical Code and having inspectors that understand this, and enforcing the rules and making sure everybody understands the rules as they are applied.

MOSER: OK. Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Moser. Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: Mr. Hunsberger, this is Senator Brandt, and I actually live in the town of Plymouth. And I have an electrical contractor there that was quite upset last year when he found out that Costco tried to get a special exemption to wire chicken houses using labor that wasn't qualified. These were not electricians, but they were under the oversight of an electrician. Where do you come down on that?

MIKE HUNSBERGER: I don't think that's right. Part of these Costco barns going up, the rule is you had to have journeyman electrician, a licensed journeyman electrician to oversee three registered apprentices. As I understand it, and I've only been to one meeting on these Costco barns, but what they were, what they were trying to do is have 5, a 5 to 1 ratio. And they weren't always licensing these guys that were installing this electrical equipment. So that's part of what

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

the board has to do is get this nailed down. It's always been a 1 to 3 ratio, and they need to make sure this is enforced and everybody's doing it because it's not fair if you tell a contractor like in your hometown of Plymouth, you can only have three apprentices on the job, but this company that's doing these barns can have unskilled, unlicensed labor doing the work.

BRANDT: All right, thank you.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: You're welcome.

BRIESE: Anyone else? We don't have any further questions of you, Mr. Hunsberger. Please stay on the line just a second here. I'm going to ask for proponents and opponents first, before I let you go. Any proponents in support of Mr. Hunsberger's nomination? Please come forward. Welcome. Please state and spell your name.

KEVIN BOOKER: Chairman, committee members, my name is Kevin Booker. I'm the executive director for the Nebraska State Electrical Division. And, as Mr. Hunsberger mentioned in his testimony, right now we have very little representation outside of the Lincoln and the Omaha area. So it's a welcome to have him on the board as somebody from the rural part of the state to get more representation. So like I say, I, we're, we're definitely looking forward to working with him in the future.

BRIESE: OK. Well, thank you Mr. Booker. Could you spell your name for the record?

KEVIN BOOKER: Oh, sorry. Kevin, K-e-v-i-n, Booker, B-o-o-k-e-r.

BRIESE: OK. Thank you. Any questions of Mr. Booker? Senator Hunt.

HUNT: Thank you, Senator Briese. Mr. Booker, you're on the board?

KEVIN BOOKER: No, no, I'm the executive director.

HUNT: OK, sorry. Thank you. Are there any women on the board?

KEVIN BOOKER: No.

HUNT: OK, thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Hunt. Seeing your other questions, thank you for your testimony. Any other proponents in support of the nomination? Any opponents? Any neutral testifiers?

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

Seeing none, Mr. Hunsberger we're going to close the hearing on your nomination, and we will be in touch with you shortly. Thank you for calling in. Have a good day.

MIKE HUNSBERGER: Yes, thank you.

BRIESE: And with that, we will proceed to the confirmation of Mr. Jeffrey Bomberger, Nebraska Commission on Problem Gaming. Good afternoon, Mr. Bomberger.

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: Good afternoon. Thank you.

BRIESE: Please state and spell your name for the record.

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: My name is Jeffrey Bomberger spelled J-e-f-f-r-e-y B-o-m-b-e-r-g-e-r.

BRIESE: Thank you. Go ahead.

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: Thank you. I'm here to be a part of the Commission on Problem Gambling. I was appointed earlier last year, and I've been serving on the commission since March. So I've been to two quarterly meetings for the commission so far. My stake in the commission, or my background in being on the commission, the commission requires at least two persons to be consumers of gambling, problem gambling services. I fit that criteria in that I have had a gambling addiction for about a 10-year period that culminated four years ago when I stole money to finance my gambling activities. My consumer of gambling services has been through a company in Lincoln called Choices. I go to counseling there, currently once a week. I've been there for three years. At the time I started the counseling, I would not have been able to afford any counseling. Gamblers Anonymous groups are not very prevalent in the state of Nebraska. Currently, there's one in Lincoln. There are a couple in Omaha. They're not overly well-attended. So the services that are provided by about two dozen providers throughout the state of Nebraska are very necessary. It's the type of addiction that also leaves people very despondent and without funds to-- oftentimes also without employment, I find myself in the case, so I did not have insurance. Insurance does not always help with the costs of those things. So that is my stake in wanting to be on the commission: to be able to give back, use my mind, tell my story, and be of service in that capacity.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: Okay. Thank you. Any questions of Mr. Bomberger? I guess I have one. What aspect of the board did you feel are most beneficial to the state in addressing this issue and anything you can elaborate on there?

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: I think, you know, with anything with limited resources, one of the things that I noticed right away is that the advertising budget is about 5 percent of what, say for example any of the casinos or the lottery or the Keno. So if I was to pass 20 different billboards or soundbites, I would hear 19 that are pro gambling and so forth, and maybe one that might tell me a little bit about the resources of getting help with your addiction. So with those limited resources, just, I want to be a part of something that makes the best use of those. How do we attract the right audience, how do we get them into counseling services, how do we direct people to know what is available in the first place? And like I said, I think some of my unique capacity a little bit is being able to share my story with anybody who wants to know a little bit more about what I've gone through, what sorts of resources that are available. So I try to be a little bit of a vocal proponent to my life story and what I'm doing with the commission as well.

BRIESE: OK. Thank you. What should we as a Legislature be doing about the issue of problem gambling, and anything you would point to or anything you would suggest? Anything we need to focus on or prioritize?

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: Well I think the biggest concern as I look at it, coming in to this timing, is as the entire country looks more and more towards expanding potential sports gaming industries. That is something that I think when I've been-- since I've been on the commission and I look how most of our budget is already used by the counseling services. And if I look at, say, a percentage of problem gamblers, about 3 percent have some sort of problem gambling addiction. I think that what I would be looking for from, from the Legislature standpoint is that I know that they are desperate in need of some funding, increased funding. They're very much at their limits right now. And again, I think it's probably also the, as I look at it, is I don't know that I would have been able to find any kind of services available to me at that time, three or four years ago, in the situation that I was in, without having some kind of subsidized services for the predicament that I found myself in.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: OK. Thank you. Any other questions? Seeing none, thank you for your presentation here. And we'll be in touch soon.

JEFFREY BOMBERGER: Thank you.

BRIESE: Any proponents in support of the nomination of Mr. Bomberger? Any opponents? Seeing none, any neutral testifiers? Seeing none, and that will close a hearing on the confirmation of Mr. Bomberger. With that, we'll move to the next item on the agenda, and that is LB65. Senator Groene is on his way, I understand. We'll be commencing here soon. And the little tripod you see up there, that has the bill number on it for purposes of the folks at home. We will open up the hearing on LB65. Welcome, Senator Groene.

GROENE: Sorry about being late. I went the wrong direction, plus, I was in the middle of a question of a testifier.

BRIESE: No problem there. Please state and spell your name.

GROENE: Mike Groene, M-i-k-e G-r-o-e-n-e, on LB65. Make sure I got the right one here. This is to deal with electrical codes. Meant-- towards the end of the last session, I got a call from my chamber of commerce and from a company that did the horizontal boring. They were in the process of working with local electricians to, they do it all the time-- I believe they're here to testify-- where an electrician needs horizontal boring under a street, under a sidewalk, under a parking lot to install the conduit for the electrical wires. Suddenly, they were given a stop and desist from an inspector because they interpreted the law correctly to say that the operator of that boring machine needed to have an electrical license or apprenticeship or to be an apprentice to operate it. So it all started I guess, hearsay, that a contractor figured that out somewhere in southeast Nebraska. I believe it was getting all of the government contract because he was the only one that had a boring machine. It's a very expensive piece of equipment. Small town Nebraska, just small business-- people work together. So the Electrical Board put a hiatus on, on pause on enforcement, so that we can get to this point. We tried to amend it onto another General Affairs bill last year that didn't go anywhere, so I brought it back as a freestanding bill to clean it up, clean the language up. It's very specific, very boxed in on certain equipment, so that common sense says somebody is running a boring machine, electrician is supervising. And that's all this bill does: helps free enterprise, gets rid of some unnecessary regulation. And I'm, hopefully there's some testifiers behind me that will answer the

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

questions better than I will. But I'm all for, we're all for getting rid of unnecessary regulation. Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Groene. Any questions of the committee of Senator Groene?

GROENE: Thank you.

BRIESE: Seeing none, you going to stay to close if need be or--

GROENE: I think so.

BRIESE: OK, thank you. Any testifiers in support of LB65? Welcome. Please state and spell your name for the record please.

STEVE BOWEN: My name is Steve Bowen, B-o-w-e-n. I have been a licensed electrician, well, I was actually the first licensed electrician since they-- since it was started. Been an electrical contractor for 44 years. I've retired out of that and, but I am a member of the Associated Builders and Contractors, and that's who I represent. And we want to support this bill. Directional boring is, has been around for a few years. And it's, and it's been getting more and more prevalent. And it's, but it's a relatively new technology. And it allows underground conduit, underground wiring to be installed in longer and longer distances. So that the State Electrical Act and that requires currently that, that that work can only be done by electrical contractors with electricians. So this bill will allow a subcontractor who does directional boring to do that work, as long as he's being monitored and supervised by licensed electrical contractor or, or their licensed employees. And so we are in support of this. It makes life easier and it, it changes a problem that we currently have with the, with the code.

BRIESE: OK. Very good. Thank you for your testimony. Any questions of Mr. Bowen? Senator Arch.

ARCH: I've got a couple of questions. So, so this is not-- all this is his conduit. In other words, this contractor doesn't pull wires, doesn't connect wires. They're just, they're just laying the conduit underground?

STEVE BOWEN: Yeah. If you, yeah, if you're-- or let's call it a raceway. But in order to, in order to install raceways for electrical purposes, and even for communication purposes, you need to be a licensed. And so, so typically what would happen is, is a directional

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

boring subcontractor would, would do his effort. And then the electrical contractor would pull the cables through it and make the terminations.

ARCH: Was this not anticipated in-- whenever the statute was written, hundreds of years ago?

STEVE BOWEN: Yeah.

ARCH: But, but so conduit in the wall, conduit in the ceiling of a commercial building, that's probably what was anticipated. And so it was, it was an electrician that was required to do that versus this, I'd say more technical, the horizontal boring.

STEVE BOWEN: Well, good-- let me give you a good example. In, in the city of Lincoln there's been a-- ALLO has been installing fiber throughout the city and their, and their main method is to use structural boring. They can, they can, they can install these raceways without trenching up people's yards. And so, and so that's one of the purposes of that. But in order to be doing that legally, they, and in accordance with the State Electrical Act, they need to be licensed. And, and if they are allowed to be a subcontractor or to do this work under the supervision of a licensed electrical contractor or his licensed employees, then, then that, that's what the purpose of this is for. There, there are certain things that need to be done in certain ways to be code-worthy. And, and a structural borer might not necessarily know what all those things are.

BRIESE: Senator Moser.

MOSER: The person installing the fiber wouldn't necessarily have to be supervised by a master electrician, because it's doesn't conduct any electricity?

STEVE BOWEN: I was, I was using that as an example, that where, where a lot of directional boring is being done. But you're, you're right. It doesn't have, it doesn't have power running through it.

MOSER: Well, I have a follow-up question, and I may be arrested here shortly. We'll find out. I do sound system installations, and we work with low voltage, and, you know, never more than 24 volts. So I'm hoping that the state isn't requiring master electricians or, or journeyman electricians to install low voltage.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

STEVE BOWEN: I don't believe so, but--

MOSER: Is that maybe a better question for the Electrical Board?

STEVE BOWEN: But if you're, but if you're, if you're hooking up your security system--

MOSER: Right.

STEVE BOWEN: --you should have an electrician doing it.

MOSER: Yeah, we, and we do. We wouldn't want to burn the building down and get sued. That would be worse than getting arrested.

STEVE BOWEN: OK.

MOSER: Thank you. Appreciate it.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Moser. Anyone else? Senator Lowe.

LOWE: Thank you, Chairman. And thank you, Mr. Bowen, for coming here to testify today. Actually, a couple of questions. So there needs to be an electrician or a journeyman on site monitoring everything else. Can anybody-- you said it had to be under the employ of the electrician. I just want to make sure it's journeymen or the electrician--

STEVE BOWEN: Well, the way the, the way the bill is written, it even allows, I believe, apprentice electricians to be involved in it. So it would say, under direct supervision of a Class A master electrician, Class B master electrician. Class B is residential only. Journeyman electrician or Class B journeyman electrician. OK, so they're saying journeyman, not apprentices.

LOWE: OK. Thank you. And my second question is, how do they get that to end up like two feet away and you're quarter-mile away when you start your boring? And that's just amazing to me.

STEVE BOWEN: It is amazing. And I tell you what, it's a fantastic technology that that is saving a lot of money for people. I, I'm not sure how they do it, but it's probably, it's probably some kind of, you know, it's like finding your car in a parking lot with your phone. I think, I think they're able to tell exactly where the board's going to go.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

LOWE: We'll settle on magic. Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Lowe. Anyone else? I had a question for you. Are there any industry standards relative to a directional boring contractor?

STEVE BOWEN: I'm not sure. I'm not sure how to answer that. Probably, probably not. But, but I would tell you that, that there are standards, that there are different electrical standards than there are let's say plumbing standards or for other purposes that might be used for directional boring.

BRIESE: Is there a universal definition of an electrical or a directional boring contractor?

STEVE BOWEN: I, there might be, but I'm not-- I don't know what it is. It's probably some guy who owns the machine and knows how to operate it.

BRIESE: OK. OK, very good.

STEVE BOWEN: And they're very expensive machines.

BRIESE: Thank you. And thank you, thank you for your testimony. Any other proponents in support of LB65. Good afternoon. Please state and spell your name for the record.

KEVIN BOOKER: Mr. Chairman, my name-- and committee members, my name is Kevin Booker, K-e-v-i-n B-o-o-k-e-r, and I'm the executive director for the State Electrical Division. So we had a discussion with one of the constituents from Senator Groene's area when this was brought to our attention by another electrical contractor. So we totally understood both sides of the issue, we worked with Senator Groene's office since the end of last, or last session on this to come up with the verbiage and everything to kind of get it all into what would be reasonable. Different things have different burial depths of where different types of cables have to be. The one thing that Senator Moser brought up earlier was, as far as the underground utility, we do have 81-2132, which addresses those individuals for public power, electric memberships, associations, telephone, telegraph systems, within the scope of their employment. So we do not look at those type of installations, number one because of the voltage. If anybody were to cut into it, cutting into a fiber probably is not going to kill anybody. Plus, they're also exempted under that statute I just read.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

So we were definitely in support. I worked with his office had come up with some of the verbiage. Once we come up with that, we took it to the Electrical Board, and all the members of the Electrical Board unanimously agreed with the decision. I haven't answered your question but I'll let you ask me later so.

BRIESE: Very good. Thank you for your testimony. Any questions of Mr. Booker? I have one. So you say your division helped draft this language and you're comfortable with the inclusion of the term directional boring contractor?

KEVIN BOOKER: We are.

BRIESE: OK. You wouldn't anticipate any disagreement over who or what qualifies as a directional boring contractor?

KEVIN BOOKER: I hope not.

BRIESE: I share your hope. OK. Thank you very much for your testimony.

KEVIN BOOKER: Thank you.

BRIESE: Go ahead.

KEVIN BOOKER: Did you want to ask your question?

MOSER: No. We could talk about that later. We don't need to spend the state's time on that. Thank you.

KEVIN BOOKER: Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you. Any other proponents?

BRANDON JONES: My name is Brandon Jones, B-r-a-n-d-o-n J-o-n-e-s, and we are the electrical or the boring contractor that was in question here a little bit ago who were brought up. So thank you, Mr. Groene and board, for listening to this. We started, you know, we're a five-generation business from North Platte, Nebraska is where we're based. About 10 years ago, 12 years ago now, we saw a need for the directional drilling in our community. There's just certain obstacles that a person can't get around, so we decided to get into that field. One, to help plumbers, electricians. We do a lot with different utility companies, communication companies. But in our area, there's not a lot of us. So helping electricians is kind of a must. That's why we began doing this. So like somebody stated well, before, the

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

equipment is expensive. Small electrical shops wanting to be in operations just couldn't feasibly afford to own this. It would make it almost impossible for them to complete some of the projects that need to be done.

BRIESE: OK, very good. Thank you, thank you for your testimony. Any, any questions of Mr. Jones? Senator Moser.

MOSER: The question that Senator Lowe asked is, off course he's gone now, about finding your linear vertical bore. Typically, they transmit a signal with that?

BRANDON JONES: Correct. There's a transmitter in there and it tells us exactly where it's at. It knows what pitch it's going at, and then there's anywhere from 12 to 360 degree rotational position. And there's a, a foot with a specific bend in it, and that's how we steer it. But we know how deep it is, we know left to right where it is, forward and backward where it's at. And then that foot, in the rotational direction, what it will tell us-- and we also know the pitch of it, at what degree it's coming up or down. But the rotation tells us, and when that foot's bent in a certain way and we push on the stem versus spinning it, that's how it steers and that's how we aim it so.

MOSER: And still once in a while you hit something?

BRANDON JONES: Typically, yeah. But typically, the hits are if the locates off. What we do, our practices, you know, we call on the Nebraska One Call, we have everything located, go out, and then we physically see everything that we cross. If something's not marked, unfortunately, we don't know it's there. And that's typically when the--

MOSER: So if you're not sure exactly what's there, you might dig something up just to find it?

BRANDON JONES: Typically, what we'll do is that, you know, the utility locators will go out and paint the ground. If it's under pavement, we have, we come in with a drill and then we use hydrovacs to go down and find, physically see the utility and know our depth before we cross it.

MOSER: Thank you very much.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: Senator Hunt.

HUNT: Thank you, Senator Briese. I have a question just out of pure ignorance. As this is not my field, which might shock a lot of you. Maybe just to have it good for the record, who, who is liable here insurance-wise? Is it, is it your company or would it be the electrician you are working under?

BRANDON JONES: For the installation of the conduit?

HUNT: Yeah.

BRANDON JONES: It would be us. We're the one physically disturbing the soil and installing the conduit, so it would come back to us. As far as hitting something, damaging a building, public infrastructure. You know, when it comes to the wiring of it, that wouldn't be on us.

HUNT: OK, thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Hunt. Anyone else? Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: Thank you, Chairman Briese. Several times we've referred to the expense of this equipment. Could you give the committee an idea of what we're talking about for--

BRANDON JONES: Sure.

BRANDT: --the cost of boring equipment?

BRANDON JONES: You know, the small drills run probably \$150,000 for just the drill, and then they go all the way up to there's multimillion dollar drills. Something we're talking about for, you know, putting in an electrical service, you're talking about a \$150,000 drill, and then with all your support equipment you're probably about a half-million dollar investment.

BRANDT: Then how many people, like in your firm, do you employ just on the boring, boring equipment?

BRANDON JONES: Each one will go out with a three to four-man crew. And, you know, we run several drills.

BRANDT: All right, thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Brandt. Senator Moser.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

MOSER: The, as I understand it, and you would probably be a good reference. The liability of what happens depends a little bit on the accuracy of how things are marked and where they tell you the things are. Because we had, when I was in Columbus, we had some big lawsuits over something not being where it was supposed to be and then they struck water and they ran several thousand dollars-- thousand gallons of sewerage into somebody's nice house. And and--

BRANDON JONES: You know, our practices, we do everything in our power to find it. We, knock on wood, we have a real good reputation and very few utility strikes out there so. But no, that's the nice thing about this technology, is we know where, we know exactly where our drill stems at, our head and everything.

MOSER: It's pretty cool technology.

BRANDON JONES: It's great.

MOSER: Again, thank you.

BRIESE: Anyone else? And just to follow up on a question that I had of the previous testifier. There is really no doubt in your mind of someone in this industry, what constitutes a directional boring contractor.

BRANDON JONES: You know, we follow--

BRIESE: That has a well-accepted definition in your industry, correct?

BRANDON JONES: I guess it would be someone who owns it. But, you know, we follow the Nebraska Department of Labor as a registered contractor in the state of Nebraska, and that would be the, I guess, the requirement there.

BRIESE: OK. Very good, thank you. No further questions? Thank you for your testimony.

BRANDON JONES: Thank you.

BRIESE: Any other proponents of the bill? Seeing none, any opposition testimony? Anyone wishing to testify in the neutral capacity? Seeing none, Senator Groene, would you care to close?

GROENE: Thank you, Chairman Briese. This is an easy bill, I believe. And since you-- I think since by your questions you understand

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

technology moves faster than statute sometimes. And I was talking to Brandon, the codes are-- he has to go two-foot deep for secondary electrical. And depending on, I was talking to the inspector, four to five foot, depending on the utility. Every utility has a different standard. So they know all of that, they're versed in it. But ultimately, that electrician knows all the electrical codes and he gives instructions to the, to the boring contractor, where it needs to be. It's not up to the boring contractor to follow all the electrical codes. That's why the electrician needs to be there. And I think we've solved that. Keep the costs down for the consumer also. And in small town Nebraska and rural Nebraska, companies need to work together to offer their services because alone they can't supply all the services needed. So I would hope we could get this on the floor, so we can get it voted on. Thank you.

BRIESE: OK, any questions of Senator Groene. Seeing none, thank you, Senator Groene. That concludes the hearing on LB65, and then we will move to LB56.

PATRICK ROY: I'll be opening for Senator Lowe.

BRIESE: Very good. Senator Lowe is unavailable, so Senator Lowe's LA will be presenting the bill for us. Please state and spell your name for us.

PATRICK ROY: Thank you, Chairman Briese and members of the General Affairs Committee. My name is Patrick Roy, P-a-t-r-i-c-k R-o-y, and I'm here to introduce LB56. Senator Lowe brought this bill after a conversation with some constituents in his district. The bill is designed to make a few changes with how Nebraska deals with SDLs or special designated licenses. Currently, an individual with a catering license who wants to apply for an SDL must do so 21 days before the event. This changes it so that local governing bodies have an ability to do an expedient process up to 12 days out. The termination for 12 days was after talking with the Liquor Control Commission. The initial idea was for 10 days, the Liquor Control Commission, based upon their workload with SDLs asked for 12. So we were willing to make that change. We also added the work-- the ability to sell these licenses via electronic means, which so was a request by the Liquor Control Commission. We discussed this bill with the Liquor Control Commission, the League of Municipalities, and the Nebraska Association of County Officials before the-- during the interim. None of them expressed any concerns during the interim. So with that, that's my opening.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: Thank you very much. Any, excuse me. Any questions of Mr. Roy?

MOSER: Just one.

BRIESE: Senator Moser.

MOSER: Is that summary inclusive of the whole bill? I mean, that's changing the notification and the number of days? Those are the two things that--

PATRICK ROY: Yep, that's all the bill does.

MOSER: Thank you.

ARCH: I got a question. So how many how many cities now have an expedited-- it's the city?

PATRICK ROY: Right now, it's the state requires 21 days minimum. This would just allow the local governing bodies the option. Right now, there's no option. It has be 21 days.

ARCH: So they, there is-- there aren't any local bodies that have this?

PATRICK ROY: That's my, that's my understanding.

ARCH: OK.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Arch. Anyone else? Seeing no other questions, thank you for presenting that. Any proponents in support of LB56? Good afternoon, director.

HOBERT RUPE: Good afternoon, Chairman Briese, members of the General Affairs Committee. My name is Hobert Rupe, H-o-b-e-r-t R-u-p-e, I am the executive director of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, and we're testifying in support of LB56. As stated, there's just two really technical changes of just, and I'll explain a bit how SDLs work, just because sometimes people don't understand. A special designated license must be approved by both the local governing body and by the commission. And in this case here, caterers under state law had to apply 21 days to the local, to the local governing body in advance. The bill changes that to 14 days if the local governing body has adopted the expedited process, or to our 12 days. We spoke with Senator Lowe's office. Currently, the commission has a rule that the SDL must be submitted to the commission 10 working days prior to the

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

date then that, that's why they went with 12. So they weren't thinking that the city could approve it and then, oh, crap, be in trouble with the commission. Primarily, we process over 5,000 deals every year and so we work with them very closely. And from our perspective, most important thing was it makes it clear the statute changes that we can then transmit that license through an electronic format. I'm not probably talking to let people know too much that sometimes the mail service is less than stellar. And if we're trying to get an SDL out to someplace, especially sometime places to the western part of the state, it takes a quite a bit of time. Unfortunately, we've had instances where people have had to drive into Lincoln, have us print out a copy of it so they can have it, so they have the license for the day of the event because the mail services isn't delivering it. And so from our perspective, this is allows us to send this through electronic format, saves us about \$2,700, you know, every tax dollar counts, as we're able to do that instead of having to send those first-class postage. And with that, I'd be happy to answer any questions about the bill or any other questions.

BRIESE: Any questions?

ARCH: I've got, I've got one. I just want to clarify, an SDL is for an organization has hired a caterer and they want to serve alcohol that evening at the event.

HOBERT RUPE: Correct.

ARCH: The caterer gets the SDL that so that they can serve. They're not selling liquor there, it's a--

HOBERT RUPE: They can sell liquor as well.

ARCH: They could sell or just provide these--

HOBERT RUPE: SDLs are used for a whole plethora of things, street dances generally will have an SDL.

ARCH: Right.

HOBERT RUPE: A lot of times fundraisers will have SDLs, you'll have, you know, SDL-- one of the bigger user, biggest users of SDL is the Catholic Church and their affiliations for fish fries.

ARCH: Fish fries.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

HOBERT RUPE: And so, what an SDL is, it creates a temporary liquor license at that location and for that certain amount of time.

ARCH: It's not a bar, it's just that that location for that day.

HOBERT RUPE: Yes.

BRIESE: Anyone else? For those, for those SDL situations you just described, is that 21 days then?

HOBERT RUPE: Well, 21 days right now is for a caterer to apply to the city. And I think what they're having, a lot of times you have certain counties or cities which might not have, you know, they may have part-time clerks. They might not be able to, and so they want to do allow it-- the way I read the bill-- to allow them to have an expedited process so it only has to be filed with them 12 days in advance. Or a lot of times, the local governing bodies, you will find a whole, quite a few different ways of how they approach SDLs, so everything goes to the city council. Some, they've empowered the clerk with the cooperation of the police to sign off on them. And so what this does is, it sort of empowers, it makes it more easy for a local governing body to create a mechanism to help them, that works best for them, is where I read the bill.

BRIESE: And the current statutory requirement of 21 days, that applies only to the caterers [INAUDIBLE]? OK, very good. Thank you. Anyone else? Seeing no other questions, thank you for your testimony.

HOBERT RUPE: Thank you.

BRIESE: Any other proponents? Good afternoon and welcome. Please state and spell your name for the record, please.

TOM WILMOTH: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and senators. My name is Tom Wilmoth, spelled T-o-m W-i-l-m-o-t-h. I'm one of the founders and owners of Zipline Brewing Company here in Lincoln, Nebraska. I am also a member of the Craft Brewers Guild in Nebraska. Just wanted to emphasize that the SDL is a great vehicle for us to kind of get out in the community. All of our members rely to some extent or another in a limited capacity on these SDLs to try to engage with charitable organizations and try to raise awareness of issues that are of concern to our communities. And this is a great way to do it. Sometimes, things are better with beer. So we like to facilitate that, and we support the bill. We thank Senator Lowe and anything that facilitates

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

the regulatory environment that we have to operate in, we appreciate it.

BRIESE: Very, very good. Any questions? Senator Moser.

MOSER: The number of special designated licenses are limited to each licensee of selling liquor? I mean, is there a limit to how many of them you can have a year?

TOM WILMOTH: There are some limitations, I'm probably not the best person to be versed on that question. And I may, I might direct that to Mr. Rupe.

MOSER: OK.

TOM WILMOTH: As to how those limitations apply.

MOSER: Yeah, and I'm trying to remember myself. I was thinking it was maybe three times a year, because sometimes in Columbus when, and we approved them from the council, so we had him at city council meetings. And it seems like they were limited. Maybe that was only a local regulation, maybe that's not a state regulation.

TOM WILMOTH: Well, each SDL, once it's issued, is temporally and geographically limited in time and scope. If that was your question.

MOSER: Yeah. Thank you.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Moser. Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: Thank you, Chairman. I guess, just as of, as a point of clarification to Senator Moser's question, the American Legion in Plymouth has always told me they can get six per year. And I think that's probably the number you're looking for.

MOSER: Could be. I was just trying--

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Brandt. Senator Moser, another question?

MOSER: I was just going to say, I was trying to emphasize the point, that we weren't necessarily increasing the availability of alcohol, you're just facilitating the licensing process to make it easier for that.

TOM WILMOTH: That's certainly our understanding of the bill.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Moser. Anyone else? Well, thank you--

TOM WILMOTH: Thank you very much.

BRIESE: --for your testimony today. Any other proponents of LB56? Good afternoon and welcome.

CHRISTY ABRAHAM: Hello, Senator Briese. Thank you so much for having me here today. My name is Christy Abraham, C-h-r-i-s-t-y A-b-r-a-h-a-m, and I'm here representing the League of Nebraska Municipalities. And my testimony will be very brief. We just want to thank, the League, for Senator Lowe and his staff reaching out to us about this bill. When we first received it, we did have some concerns, and Senator Lowe was very responsive to those concerns. And as you see in the final draft, the expedited process that you see that's allowed in this bill is permissive, not mandatory. So if a municipality does want to adopt the expedited process, they're able to do that, but don't have to do it. And we certainly appreciate Senator Lowe giving us that flexibility. And Senator Moser, I am not an expert in this, so I feel bad I'm trying to now answer your question. I think Senator Brandt did ask-- answer it. If you look on page 2 of the bill, lines 16 through 24, 23. Forgive me, my eyeglasses. It says "no more than six calendar days in any one calendar year." That restriction doesn't apply to caterers, though. So I did want to point that out. I have no other testimony. Thank you so much, Senator Briese. It's good to see you.

BRIESE: Thank you for your testimony. Any questions of Ms. Abraham? Seeing none, thank you again.

CHRISTY ABRAHAM: Thank you so much.

BRIESE: Any other proponents of LB56? Seeing none, anyone wishing to testify in opposition to LB56? Seeing none, any neutral testifiers? Seeing none, Mr. Roy, would you care to close? Mr. Roy waives closing, and that concludes our hearing on LB56. Up next, we have LB75, Senator Williams. Good afternoon, Senator Williams.

WILLIAMS: Good afternoon. And thank you, Chairman Briese and members of the General Affairs Committee. My name is Matt Williams, M-a-t-t W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s, I represent Legislative District 36 in Dawson, Custer, and the north portions of Buffalo County. LB75 is being introduced at the request of the Nebraska Grain, Grain and Winery Board. Currently, Section 53-302 prescribes that the membership terms

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

for members of the Grape and Winery Board will all expire at the same time, with the option of reappointment by the Governor. The board has recognized this as problematic because, if all of the members did not serve a new reappointed term, there would be no institutional knowledge left on the board for the newly appointed members. A board member will follow me and will touch more on this identified issue. LB75 would amend Section 53-302 to stagger the terms of the board members, stagger the terms of the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board. That was supposed to be funny, Tom, as they staggered in to their meeting. Members will still serve for three years at the appointment of the Governor, and the Governor will still have the discretion to reappoint members to the board. However, under LB75, when new members are appointed, there will be an existing member still serving on the board. And thus, the lack of knowledge on the board's activities by the members as a whole will not be an issue. Therefore, I urge the committee to advance LB75 to General File so that we can restructure the committee membership. Be happy to answer any questions.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Williams. Any questions for Senator Williams? Senator Brandt.

BRANDT: Thank you, Chairman Briese. How many members are on the board right now?

WILLIAMS: I believe there are five members, I believe.

BRANDT: So--

WILLIAMS: They will be able to, if you would look at page 2 of the bill, line 11. It has the setup for how they are setup.

BRANDT: OK. Thank you, Senator Williams.

MOSER: Looks like five.

BRIESE: Thank you, Senator Brandt. Any other questions? Seeing none, we'll move on. Are you going to stay for closing or--

WILLIAMS: I'm going to try.

BRIESE: Okay. Very good. Any proponents of this proposal, LB75? Thank you, and good afternoon. Please state and spell your name for the record.

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
General Affairs Committee January 28, 2019

DAVID HANNA: My name's David Hanna, D-a-v-i-d H-a-n-n-a, and I'm here representing the five current members of the Grape and Winery Board. And we found ourselves in a dilemma here a year ago, where two of our members were bowing out because of health and the three of us were assuming that the others were applying. And it turned out that when we got to call around, we were going to end up with nobody coming back. So three of us came back on board with the idea, we got to get this changed. We have contracts. We distribute the funds, we have contracts to go some two and three years. And we were talking then, without this continuity, how are you going to tell the new board members what's happening? And that's basically it in a nutshell.

BRIESE: Very good. Thank you for your testimony. Any questions for Mr. Hanna? Seeing none, thank you for your testimony.

DAVID HANNA: Thank you.

BRIESE: Any other testimony of support? Any testimony in opposition to LB75? Seeing none, anyone in the neutral capacity? Seeing none, Senator Williams, you're welcome to close.

WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Chairman and members. You can see this is rather a simple clarification. And you will also be hearing from me, since we introduced this, immediately we heard from the Craft Brewery Board, they have the exact same issue and we have legislation that's been introduced that we'll be presenting later. I would encourage the committee to advance this to General File. Thank you.

BRIESE: Any questions of the senator? Seeing none, thank you, Senator Williams. And that concludes our hearing on LB75, and that concludes our hearings for today. Thank you, everyone, for attending.