

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2022**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB1253**

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**Hearing Date:** Tuesday February 01, 2022  
**Committee On:** Urban Affairs  
**Introducer:** Wayne  
**One Liner:** Require the Department of Economic Development to apply for grants from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and provide requirements for use of the grant funds in cities of the metropolitan class and cities of the primary class

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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 Arch, Blood, Briese, Hansen, M., Hunt, Lowe, Wayne  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**  
Senator Justin Wayne  
Jack Cheloha  
Eric Gerrard

**Representing:**  
Legislative District 13  
City of Omaha  
City of Lincoln

**Opponents:**  
Michelle Weber  
Tip O'Neill

**Representing:**  
Nebraska Economic Developers Association  
Nebraska Telecommunication Association

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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

LB 1253 would require the Department of Economic Development to apply for grants from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Under the bill, any grant funds received by the Department from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund must be split equally to fund multipurpose community facilities located within federally qualified census tracts in cities of the metropolitan class and cities of the primary class. Grant funds could not be provided to political subdivisions or used for broadband infrastructure projects.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 1858 is a white-copy amendment that replaces the bill.

Under AM 1858, the Department of Economic Development would be required to use at least 50% of funds received from

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the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund for eligible projects located in federally qualified census tracts.

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Justin Wayne, Chairperson