

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2022**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB977**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 16, 2022

**Committee On:** Appropriations

**Introducer:** Slama

**One Liner:** Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for expanding electrical system capabilities

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 9 Senators Clements, Dorn, Erdman, Hilkemann, McDonnell, Kolterman, Stinner, Vargas, Wishart

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Julie Slama

Lucas Froeschl

Tim O'Brien

Chris Dibbern

**Representing:**

District 1

Falls City Economic Development + Growth Enterprise INC., Nebraska Economic Development Association

Omaha Public Power District

Nebraska Municipal Power Pool Energy

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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

The intent from LB977 as introduced is as follows: LB 977 would create a state grant program, using available federal funds that can help to fund projects to expand electrical system capacities and enhance redundancy and resilience for Nebraska communities.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

LB977 as amended by the Committee would amend 81-12,147 to expand eligibility of the Site and Building Development Fund to issue grants to cities of the second class for the above mentioned purpose. Eligible grantees would need to secure a minimum commitment totaling one-half of the total cost of projects.

The original request was to appropriate Federal Funds pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act. However, this was not deemed a likely eligible use. There is a \$15,000,000 transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Site and Building Development fund conducted in FY21-22. As this transfer occurs in FY21-22, there is an emergency clause on LB977.

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John Stinner, Chairperson