

**ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2026**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB1087**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday February 06, 2026  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Arch  
**One Liner:** Create the Nebraska-Ireland Commission

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

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Sanders, Andersen, Cavanaugh, J., Guereca, Hunt, Lonowski, Meyer, F., Wordekemper  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator John Arch  
Matt Blomstedt  
Colm Breathnach  
Hunter Traynor

Burke Harr  
Maureen Larsen

**Opponents:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

Opening Presenter  
University of Nebraska  
Ancient Order of Hibernians  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry,  
Greater Omaha Chamber  
Self  
Nebraska Department of Economic Development

**Representing:**

**Representing:**

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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

This bill would create a Nebraska-Ireland Commission to be administered by the Department of Economic Development..

The commission membership would include the directors of the Department of Agriculture and Department of Economic Development, a representative of Nebraska postsecondary education, two Nebraska business or trade association representatives, a non-profit representative, a member of the public, and three members of the Legislature serving as ex officio commission members. Members would not be compensated except for the expenses of carrying out official duties. Meetings would be authorized by virtual conferencing.



The purpose of the commission would be to advance, promote, and encourage business between Nebraska and Ireland. The commission would be administratively housed within the Department of Economic Development.

The bill would also create a related Nebraska-Ireland Fund, administered by DED, to support the Commission's efforts.

The Commission would be required to electronically submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature beginning December 1, 2027.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 2000 would provide flexibility to include other stakeholders in the commission.

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Rita Sanders, Chairperson

