

Legislators take oath, choose leaders

The first session of the 101st Nebraska Legislature convened at 10:00 a.m. Jan. 7. This first session following the full implementation of term limits began with senators short on experience but eager to tackle the issues facing Nebraska.

Following the oath of office, senators spent the morning filling leadership positions.

Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood was uncontested in his bid for a second term as speaker of the Legislature. Flood said his goals are unchanged from his first term and include conducting business in an open and fair

environment, promoting respect for the institution and moving Nebraska forward.

"The Legislature is Nebraska's marketplace of ideas," Flood said. "As speaker, I take this responsibility seriously."

Sen. John Wightman of Lexington was chosen as chairperson of the Legislature's Executive Board, the body charged with referencing bills to committees and managing the Legislature's budget and personnel.

Wightman emphasized his 45 years as an attorney, saying his experience would enable him to skillfully

reference a wide range of bills.

"I'd chair with integrity and fairness," he said.

Wightman defeated Platte Center Sen. Arnie Stuthman on a 33-16 vote.

Sen. John Nelson of Omaha was elected as the board's vice-chairperson over Lincoln Sen. Amanda McGill by a vote of 33-15.

Holdrege Sen. Tom Carlson prevailed over Sen. Annette Dubas of Fullerton by a 29-20 vote in the contest to serve as chair of the Agriculture Committee.

Both candidates stressed the im-



From left: Senators Heath Mello of Omaha, Kathy Campbell of Lincoln, Jeremy Nordquist of Omaha, Mike Flood of Norfolk, Charlie Janssen of Fremont and Colby Coash of Lincoln are among the senators sworn in Jan. 7.

NEW BILLS.....

Legislators take oath, choose leaders

portance of agriculture in their lives and to the livelihood of the state.

“When grain and livestock producers make money, everyone in Nebraska benefits,” Carlson said. “We must make every effort for their success.”

The race to lead the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee was a contest between two relatively new senators. Both Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery and Tekamah Sen. Kent Rogert were elected in 2006 and served on the committee for the last two years.

Avery, a retired UNL political science professor, said he spent most of his life teaching, researching and writing about government.

Avery was selected as chairperson 28-20.

Schuyler Sen. Chris Langemeier was elected by a 36-13 vote to head

the Natural Resources Committee. Both Langemeier and his opponent, former chairperson LeRoy Louden of Ellsworth, said that water would be high on the committee’s agenda.

“There is no question that Nebraska faces serious water issues,” Langemeier said. “I believe we must work toward a solution.”

Elk Creek Sen. Lavon Heidemann will continue to lead the Appropriations Committee. Calling himself the “link” to the institutional memory lost to term limits, Heidemann said his experience would be key in the tough economic times ahead.

Heidemann said he is the only member of the Legislature with more than two years experience on the Appropriations Committee.

Sen. Rich Pahls of Omaha will continue as chairperson of the Banking Committee, as will Omaha Sen.

Brad Ashford as chairperson of the Judiciary Committee. Both races were uncontested.

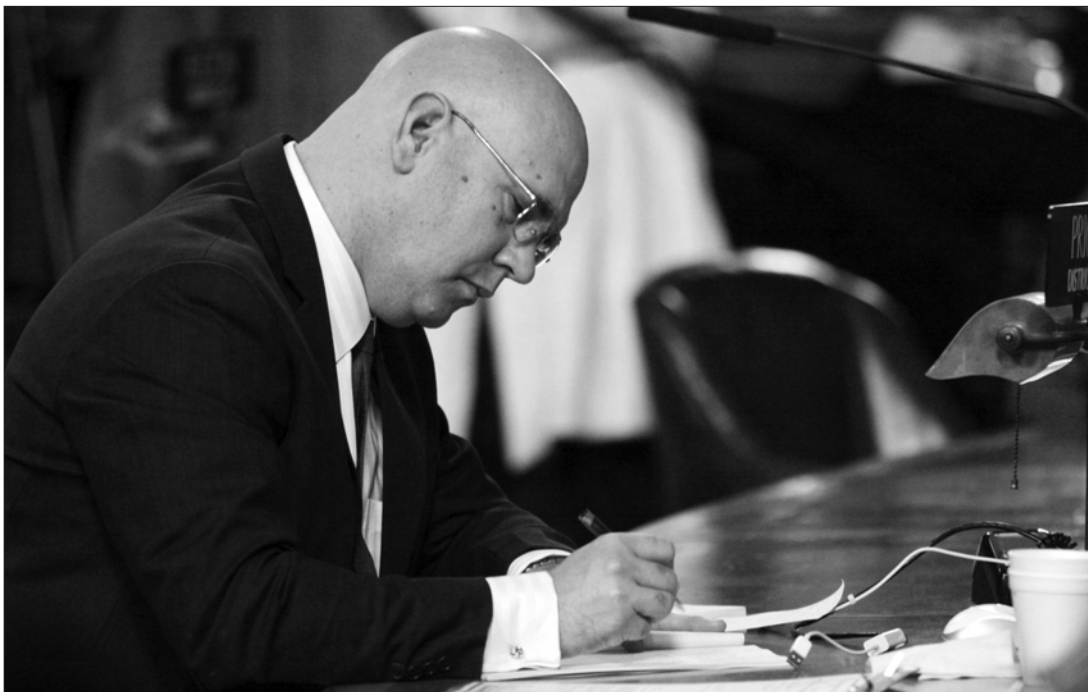
Also unopposed in their bids to remain committee chairpersons were Omaha Sen. Mike Friend of the Urban Affairs Committee and Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

Several senators will be new to the role of chairing a committee. Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop was selected as chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee; Sen. Greg Adams of York as chairperson of the Education Committee; Wilber Sen. Russ Karpisek as chairperson of the General Affairs Committee; Papillion Sen. Tim Gay as chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee; and Sen. Dave Pankonin of Louisville as chairperson of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. All were unopposed.

Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, who previously served as chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee, will now lead the Revenue Committee. Cornett has served on the committee since 2004.

Lawmakers began introducing bills on Jan. 8.

Sen. Scott Price of Bellevue casts a secret ballot during elections for committee chairpersons.



2009 SENATORS



District 1
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District 2
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District 3
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2009 SENATORS



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2009 SENATORS



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Pronunciation GUIDE

Adams	(A•dams)	Giese	(GĒ•see)	Mello	(MEL•low)
Ashford	(ASH•ford)	Gloor	(Glōr)	Nantkes	(NAN•kiss)
Avery	(Ā•vur•ē)	Haar	(Har)	Nelson	(NEL•son)
Campbell	(CAM•bell)	Hadley	(HAD•lee)	Nordquist	(NORD•quist)
Carlson	(CARL•son)	Hansen	(HAN•son)	Pahls	(Palls)
Christensen	(CHRIS•ten•son)	Harms	(Harms)	Pankonin	(PAN•cō•nin)
Coash	(CŌ•ash)	Heidemann	(HIDE•uh•mun)	Pirsch	(Pirsh)
Cook	(Cook)	Howard	(HOW•ard)	Price	(Price)
Cornett	(CORE•net)	Janssen	(JAN•sen)	Rogert	(RO•gurt)
Council	(COUN•cil)	Karpisek	(CAR•pee•shek)	Schilz	(Shills)
Dierks	(Derks)	Langemeier	(LANG•a•meyer)	Stuthman	(STOOT•mun)
Dubas	(Doo•BAS)	Lathrop	(LAY•thrup)	Sullivan	(SUL•i•vun)
Fischer	(FISH•er)	Lautenbaugh	(LAW•tin•baw)	Utter	(Ud•der)
Flood	(Flood)	Louden	(LOUD•en)	Wallman	(WALL•mun)
Friend	(Friend)	McCoy	(Muh•COY)	White	(White)
Fulton	(FUL•ton)	McGill	(Muh•GIL)	Wightman	(WHITE•mun)
Gay	(Gay)				

2009 COMMITTEES

Agriculture

Chairperson: Sen. Tom Carlson

Members: Sens. Council, Dierks, Dubas, Karpisek, Price, Schilz and Wallman

Meets: Tuesdays — Room 2102



Sen. Tom Carlson

Appropriations

Chairperson: Sen. Lavon Heidemann

Members: Sens. Fulton, Hansen, Harms, Mello, Nantkes, Nelson, Nordquist and Wightman

Meets: Mondays, Tuesdays — Room 1524; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1003



Sen. Lavon Heidemann

Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Chairperson: Sen. Rich Pahls

Members: Sens. Christensen, Gloor, Langemeier, McCoy, Pankonin, Pirsch and Utter

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays — Room 1507



Sen. Rich Pahls

Business and Labor

Chairperson: Sen. Steve Lathrop

Members: Sens. Carlson, Council, McGill, Schilz, Wallman and White

Meets: Mondays — Room 2102



Sen. Steve Lathrop

Education

Chairperson: Sen. Greg Adams

Members: Sens. Ashford, Avery, Cornett, Giese, Haar, Howard and Sullivan

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays — Room 1525



Sen. Greg Adams

General Affairs

Chairperson: Sen. Russ Karpisek

Members: Sens. Coash, Cook, Dierks, Dubas, Friend, Price and Rogert

Meets: Mondays — Room 1510



Sen. Russ Karpisek

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Chairperson: Sen. Bill Avery

Members: Sens. Giese, Janssen, Karpisek, Pahls, Pirsch, Price and Sullivan

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1507



Sen. Bill Avery

Health and Human Services

Chairperson: Sen. Tim Gay

Members: Sens. Campbell, Gloor, Howard, Pankonin, Stuthman and Wallman

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1510



Sen. Tim Gay

2009 COMMITTEES

Judiciary

Chairperson: Sen. Brad Ashford

Members: Sens. Christensen, Coash, Council, Lathrop, Lautenbaugh, McGill and Rogert

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1113



Sen. Brad Ashford

Natural Resources

Chairperson: Sen. Chris Langemeier

Members: Sens. Carlson, Cook, Dubas, Fischer, Haar, McCoy and Schilz

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1525



Sen. Chris Langemeier

Nebraska Retirement Systems

Chairperson: Sen. Dave Pankonin

Members: Sens. Heidemann, Karpisek, Louden, Mello and Nordquist

Meets: At the call of the chairperson — Room 1525



Sen. Dave Pankonin

Revenue

Chairperson: Sen. Abbie Cornett

Members: Sens. Adams, Dierks, Friend, Hadley, Louden, Utter and White

Meets: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — Room 1524



Sen. Abbie Cornett

Transportation and Telecommunications

Chairperson: Sen. Deb Fischer

Members: Sens. Campbell, Gay, Hadley, Janssen, Lautenbaugh, Louden and Stuthman

Meets: Mondays and Tuesdays — Room 1113



Sen. Deb Fischer

Urban Affairs

Chairperson: Sen. Mike Friend

Members: Sens. Coash, Cook, Lathrop, McGill, Rogert and White

Meets: Tuesdays — Room 1510



Sen. Mike Friend

Executive Board (Reference)

Chairperson: Sen. John Wightman

Members: Sens. Nelson (vice chairperson), Christensen, Fischer, Flood, Karpisek, Langemeier, Pahls, White and Heidemann (nonvoting ex officio)



Sen. John Wightman

Committee on Committees

Chairperson: Sen. Tom Hansen

Members: Sens. Adams, Ashford, Cornett, Dierks (vice chairperson), Fischer, Flood, Lathrop, Louden, Nantkes, Pankonin, Stuthman and White



Sen. Tom Hansen

Intergovernmental Cooperation

Chairperson: Sen. Charlie Janssen

Members: Sens. Hadley, Langemeier, McCoy, Price, Speaker Flood (nonvoting ex officio) and Lt. Gov. Sheehy (nonvoting ex officio)

Rules

Chairperson: Sen. Scott Lautenbaugh

Members: Sens. Dubas, Lathrop, Rogert, Utter and Speaker Flood (ex officio)

Enrollment and Review Chairperson: Sen. Jeremy Nordquist

OPENING DAY



NEW BILLS.....

Jan. 8, 2009

Bill	Introducer	One-line Description
LB1	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal sections governing settlement escrow that terminated July 1, 2004
LB2	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal the Nebraska Transit and Rail Advisory Council Act that terminated June 30, 2005
LB3	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal the Nebraska Venture Capital Forum Act that terminated December 31, 2003
LB4	Christensen	Change the rate of jury compensation to minimum wage
LB5	Christensen	Eliminate a restriction and a penalty on trapping wildlife in county road rights-of-way
LB6	Christensen	Authorize school permitholders to drive to work
LB7	Wightman	Provide a residency requirement for clerks of the district court
LB8	Wightman	Change fees received by clerks and registers of deeds
LB9	Wightman	Exempt biofuels used for irrigation and farming purposes from sales tax
LB10	Langemeier	Provide for specialty license plates
LB11	Langemeier	Change provisions of the Nebraska Real Estate License Act
LB12	Langemeier	Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources
LB13	White	Change and rename the Property Tax Credit Act
LB14	White	Provide energy conservation standards for certain state buildings
LB15	White	Require driver's license and Internet address information as part of sex offender registration
LB16	White	Adopt the Taxpayer Transparency Act
LB17	White	Provide for a tuition waiver for combat-injured veterans
LB18	Christensen	Prohibit irrigation of certain educational lands
LB19	Christensen	Change marriage license fee provisions and provide for marriage education
LB20	Harms	Change provisions of the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act
LB21	Harms	Rename and change provisions of the Nebraska Scholarship Act
LB22	Friend	Change tax levy authority of educational service units and school districts
LB23	Friend	Change membership provisions of the Nebraska Investment Council
LB24	Friend	Change provisions relating to work done on radiological instruments by the Military Department
LB25	Friend	Provide for licensure of and medicaid payments to children's day health services
LB26	Friend	Change the priority of liens for special assessments
LB27	Pahls	Change the Autism Treatment Program Act
LB28	Pahls	Authorize the issuance of undercover license plates and driver's licenses to federal law enforcement agencies
LB29	Pahls	Change branch office management requirements under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act
LB30	Pahls	Change provisions of the Nebraska Real Estate License Act
LB31	Pahls	Change Public Accountancy Act provisions
LB32	Pahls	Change provisions relating to unauthorized use of the word bank
LB33	Fulton	Change county zoning provisions with respect to density of population
LB34	Ashford	Require employment verification of employees by employers and by contractors who want to be awarded a public contract
LB35	Ashford	Adopt the Violence Prevention Act, prohibit certain gang activity, and change certain firearm provisions
LB36	Flood	Change method and procedure for inflicting the death penalty
LB37	Flood	Appropriate funds for a new division of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing in Norfolk
LB38	Flood	Change assault, assault on an officer, and offenses by a confined person provisions
LB39	Flood	Adopt new rules of evidence relating to sexual offenses
LB40	Flood	Correct references to statutory provisions in civil procedure statutes
LB41	Flood	Clarify references to the county sheriff
LB42	Flood	Change provisions relating to rural water districts
LB43	Flood	Eliminate the Department of Natural Resources Interstate Water Rights Cash Fund
LB44	Flood	Correct a definition and eliminate obsolete statutory references in revenue provisions
LB45	Flood	Eliminate references to a fund that terminated
LB46	Wightman	Provide for costs and expenses of estate administration
LB47	Wightman	Change the amount of the intestate share of the surviving spouse
LB48	Fischer	Adopt updated federal motor carrier safety and hazardous material regulations
LB49	Fischer	Require titling and registration of motor vehicles and motorboats be performed by county treasurers
LB50	Fischer	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle manufacturers
LB51	Fulton	Provide for confidentiality of Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court documents and information
LB52	Fischer	Change employment qualifications relating to county veterans service offices
LB53	Fischer	Change provisions relating to formation, territory, and the operating area of public power districts

NEW BILLS.....

LB54	Fischer	Change integrated management plan provisions under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act
LB55	Fischer	Change qualifications for office for county attorneys and the Attorney General
LB56	Fischer	Change the Livestock Waste Management Act
LB57	Louden	Exempt repairs and parts for agricultural machinery or equipment from sales and use taxes
LB58	Louden	Exempt heating oil or propane used for residential heating purposes from sales and use taxes
LB59	Louden	Increase liquor taxes and adopt the Citizen Safety Grant Fund Program Act
LB60	Adams	Redefine abandoned vehicle
LB61	Adams	Change certification dates for state aid to schools
LB62	Adams	Change enrollment option program provisions
LB63	Friend	Change provisions relating to assault, firearms, graffiti, gang affiliation, juveniles, and jailhouse informers
LB64	Howard	Adopt the Lindsay Ann Burke Act and provide duties for the State Department of Education and school districts with respect to dating violence
LB65	Dubas	Exempt agricultural machinery repair parts from sales tax
LB66	Rogert	Change limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act
LB67	Friend	Adopt the Elementary and Secondary Education Opportunity Act
LB68	Wallman	Provide procedures for closure of state residential facilities for persons with developmental disabilities
LB69	Cornett	Exclude military retirement benefits from income taxation as prescribed
LB70	Cornett	Exclude military retirement benefits from income taxation as prescribed
LB71	Cornett	Require animal care professionals to report cases of animal abandonment, cruel neglect, or cruel mistreatment
LB72	Cornett	Provide for management of students' and children's life-threatening allergies
LB73	Cornett	Ratify the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
LB74	Pirsch	Authorize pledging of Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka letters of credit as security for private deposits
LB75	Pirsch	Change provisions relating to automatic teller machine usage fees
LB76	Pirsch	Authorize the aggregation of amounts under forgery in the second degree and criminal possession of a forged instrument
LB77	Gay	Change provisions relating to income tax credits and long-term care insurance
LB78	Gay	Provide for deposit of inmate wages into the Victim's Compensation Fund
LB79	Pirsch	Change when a county attorney files a child support order modification complaint
LB80	Nelson	Change the Uniform Principal and Income Act
LB81	Nordquist	Change contribution provisions of the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act
LB82	Howard	Require notification of change in a juvenile's case manager under the Nebraska Juvenile Code
LB83	McGill	Provide for the care of domestic animals in protection orders
LB84	McGill	Eliminate the termination date for the Women's Health Initiative Advisory Council
LB85	McGill	Authorize urban growth districts and provide bond authority
LB86	Wallman	Change the Capitol Landscape Restoration Master Plan
LB87	Pahls	Change provisions relating to the effects of errors and omissions in financing statements
LB88	Pahls	Change provisions relating to unauthorized use of the word bank
LB89	Cornett	Change tax calculations under the Tobacco Products Tax Act
LB90	Heidemann	Remove a requirement of consent and waiver of physical appearance relating to audiovisual court appearances
LB91	Howard	Provide for a subsidized adoption of a child who was under a subsidized guardianship prior thereto
LB92	Howard	Require vehicles to move over upon approach of stopped emergency vehicles
LB93	Howard	Prohibit smoking in a motor vehicle with an occupant under sixteen years of age
LB94	Howard	Authorize late homestead exemption applications for medical reasons
LB95	Howard	Prohibit violators of immigration laws from receiving certain tax incentives
LB96	Heidemann	Eliminate obsolete provisions relating to the State Energy Office Cash Fund

Jan. 9, 2009

Bill	Introducer	One-line Description
LB97	Lautenbaugh	Change provisions relating to foreign corporations and provisions and penalties relating to certain sex offenders
LB98	Carlson	Change noxious weed grant programs and the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force
LB99	Carlson	Adopt the Anthrax Control Act
LB100	Carlson	Change Pesticide Act provisions
LB101	Carlson	Eliminate the Farm Mediation Act termination date
LB102	Adams	Provide a definition of high school graduate for postsecondary admission and financial aid purposes
LB103	Adams	Change provisions relating to postsecondary educational institutions' capital and facility expenditures
LB104	Cornett	Change annexation requirements for cities of the first class
LB105	Natural Resources Committee	Change provisions relating to fees, licenses, permits, funds, penalties, and damages under the Game Law and the State Boat Act
LB106	Harms	Eliminate the requirement that occupant protection system laws be enforced as a secondary action
LB107	Haar	Require an employer to provide an employee a reason for termination

NEW BILLS.....

LB108	Carlson	Exempt certain all-terrain vehicles from identification inspection requirements
LB109	Rogert	Authorize the operation of low-speed vehicles on highways
LB110	Fischer	Change motor vehicle registration fees and fee distribution and provide for specialty license plates
LB111	Fischer	Change provisions relating to fines for speeding in a construction zone
LB112	Heidemann	Exclude certain rural health loan repayments from income taxation
LB113	Pankonin	Change Securities Act of Nebraska provisions
LB114	Louden	Provide for operation of minitrucks on highways without registration
LB115	Louden	Eliminate the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery Advisory Board
LB116	Fischer	Authorize certain volunteer emergency responders to participate in the state health insurance program
LB117	Fischer	Authorize an income tax credit for certain retail business taxpayers
LB118	Wightman	Change decedents' estates provisions relating to collection of personal property by affidavit and succession to real property by affidavit
LB119	Wightman	Change inheritance tax provisions
LB120	Wightman	Change inheritance tax provisions
LB121	Wightman	Provide for reassumption of property tax assessment functions by certain counties
LB122	Coash	Change terminology for the central register of child protection cases
LB123	Karpisek	Change the Uniform Controlled Substances Act to include Salvia divinorum or Salvinorin A
LB124	Hansen	Extend deadlines for transfers from the Job Training Cash Fund to the Cash Reserve Fund
LB125	Avery	Provide for voter registration on election day
LB126	Avery	Require financial disclosure statements from constitutional officers and candidates
LB127	Avery	Exempt college textbooks and school expenses from sales tax as prescribed
LB128	Avery	Authorize the investment of public endowment funds by any city which is authorized by the Constitution of Nebraska to establish a charter
LB129	Dubas	Authorize actions and procedures for invalid financial transactions when registering a vehicle
LB130	Dubas	Create the Farm to School Program Task Force
LB131	Dubas	Change the boundary descriptions of Merrick and Polk counties
LB132	Fulton	Change the Barber Act
LB133	Heidemann	Change location requirements for county postprimary conventions
LB134	Pankonin	Change natural resources districts eminent domain powers
LB135	Heidemann	Change an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services
LB136	Avery	Change provisions for eligibility for medical assistance
LB137	Avery	Redefine the term "campus" for purposes of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
LB138	Avery	Provide an income tax credit for public school teachers
LB139	Avery	Rename the Commission on Mexican-Americans
LB140	Avery	Provide duties relating to investment of state funds in Sudan-related companies
LB141	Rogert	Adopt the Brain Injury Act
LB142	Hansen	Change recorded brand provisions and a fee
LB143	Langemeier	Adopt the Nebraska Shooting Range Protection Act
LB144	Avery	Allow accessibility to certain disciplinary records regarding police officers and school district personnel
LB145	Avery	Prohibit firearms at schools, colleges, and universities as prescribed
LB146	Howard	Provide for simulated pharmacies
LB147	Pirsch	Courts provide name-change orders to update the central register of child protection cases and the central registry of sex offenders
LB148	Pirsch	Change penalties for motor vehicle homicide and motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child
LB149	Pankonin	Require insurance coverage for prosthetics as prescribed
LB150	Heidemann	Repeal the Nebraska Prostitution Intervention and Treatment Act
LB151	Stuthman	Eliminate provisions relating to ephedrine under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act
LB152	Pahls	Change a provision relating to uninsured and underinsured motorist coverages
LB153	Lautenbaugh	Adopt the Tourism Liability Act which changes landowner liability to encourage recreation and tourism activities
LB154	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee	Eliminate boards, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, working groups, and related statutory provisions
LB155	Rogert	Adopt the Public Protection Act, change provisions relating to theft offenses and criminal impersonation, and create the offenses of identity theft and identity fraud
LR1CA	Friend	Constitutional amendment to reduce the maximum number of legislative days in a regular legislative session
LR2	Heidemann	Congratulate Roger R. Wehrbein for his selection by the Rotary Clubs of Nebraska as the Nebraskan of the Year and recognize for his service to his community and to the state
LR3	Fulton	Congratulate the University of Nebraska Cornhusker Football team and head coach Bo Pelini for their achievements
LR4	Fulton	Congratulate the University of Nebraska women's volleyball team and head coach John Cook for their achievements

GUIDE TO LEGISLATIVE TERMS (A-L)

“A” Bill - see Appropriation Bill.

Amendment On File - an amendment of 10 or more pages, not printed separately or in the Journal, that is available in the Clerk’s Office (Room 2018).

Amendment Printed Separate - an amendment of 10 or more pages, printed separately from the Journal, that is available in the Bill Room (Room 1102).

Appropriation Bill (“A” Bill) - a bill to appropriate funds to finance another bill bearing the same number.

Attorney General’s Opinion - a written analysis of a question of law prepared by the attorney general for the governor, the head of an executive department or any state senator.

Bill - see Legislative Bill.

Bracket - to delay consideration of a bill.

Call of the House - a procedure used to compel attendance of unexcused senators in the chamber.

Carry-over Legislation - bills and resolutions introduced during the regular session in an odd-numbered year and held over for consideration during the regular session in an even-numbered year.

Chair - the presiding officer.

Cloture - a parliamentary action to cease debate on a bill and vote immediately on its advancement. A motion for cloture may be made after eight hours of debate on most bills and after 12 hours on appropriation bills introduced by the Appropriations Committee.

Constitutional Amendment Resolution - a proposal to amend the state constitution, ratify or reject an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, or petition Congress about amending the U.S. Constitution. State CA resolutions have the suffix “CA” by the resolution number, and they must be approved by the voters as well as the Legislature.

Consent Calendar - a portion of the agenda in which relatively noncontroversial bills are considered and quickly advanced to the next legislative stage. Usually, a bill on consent calendar can be debated for no more than 15 minutes.

“E” Clause - see Emergency Clause.

E&R - see Enrollment and Review.

Emergency Clause (“E” Clause) - a provision that allows a bill or a portion of a bill to take effect immediately after the governor signs it or after the Legislature overrides the governor’s veto.

Engrossment - the process of preparing a bill for Final Reading by incorporating all adopted amendments.

Enrollment and Review (E&R) - the process of incorporating adopted amendments into a bill and reviewing the bill for technical and grammatical accuracy.

Executive Session - a closed meeting of a committee to discuss and act on bills and resolutions. An executive session is open only to committee members, committee staff and the media.

Final Reading - the third and last stage at which a bill is considered by the entire Legislature. The clerk reads the entire bill aloud, unless final reading is waived, and senators vote without debate on whether to submit the bill to the governor.

Fiscal Note - a statement prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Office estimating the effect a bill would have on state and/or local expenditures and revenue.

Floor - the area of the legislative chamber where the senators sit. When a committee advances a bill “to the floor,” that means the bill is being sent to the full Legislature for consideration.

General File - the first stage at which a bill is considered by the full Legislature. Bills on General File may be amended, returned to committee, indefinitely postponed or advanced to Select File.

Hearing - a regularly scheduled committee meeting to receive public comment on proposed bills and resolutions.

House Under Call - the term used when all unexcused senators are required to be in their seats in the chamber and unauthorized personnel must leave the floor.

Indefinitely Postpone (IPP) - to kill a bill.

Interim - the period between regular legislative sessions.

Interim Study Resolution - a resolution authorizing a committee to study an issue following adjournment of a legislative session.

IPP - see Indefinitely Postpone.

Journal - see Legislative Journal.

Laws of Nebraska (Session Laws) - bound compilation of all laws and constitutional amendment resolutions passed in a legislative session, the state Constitution, and subject and section indexes.

Legislative Bill (LB) - a proposal to create, change or delete one or more laws.



2009 Legislative Session

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7	DAY 8	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	HOLIDAY	DAY 9	DAY 10	DAY 11	DAY 12	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	DAY 13	DAY 14	DAY 15	DAY 16	DAY 17	

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
February						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	DAY 18	DAY 19	DAY 20	DAY 21	DAY 22	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	DAY 23	DAY 24	DAY 25	DAY 26	RECESS	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	HOLIDAY	DAY 27	DAY 28	DAY 29	DAY 30	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	DAY 31	DAY 32	DAY 33	DAY 34	DAY 35	

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
March						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	DAY 36	DAY 37	DAY 38	DAY 39	RECESS	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	DAY 40	DAY 41	DAY 42	DAY 43	RECESS	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	RECESS	DAY 44	DAY 45	DAY 46	DAY 47	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	DAY 48	DAY 49	DAY 50	DAY 51	RECESS	
29	30	31				
	RECESS	DAY 52				

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
April						
			1	2	3	4
			DAY 53	DAY 54	DAY 55	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	DAY 56	DAY 57	DAY 58	DAY 59	RECESS	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	RECESS	DAY 60	DAY 61	DAY 62	DAY 63	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	DAY 64	DAY 65	DAY 66	DAY 67	HOLIDAY	
26	27	28	29	30		
	DAY 68	DAY 69	DAY 70	DAY 71		

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
May						
					1	2
					RECESS	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	RECESS	DAY 72	DAY 73	DAY 74	DAY 75	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	DAY 76	DAY 77	DAY 78	DAY 79	RECESS	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	DAY 80	DAY 81	DAY 82	DAY 83	RECESS	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	HOLIDAY	DAY 84	DAY 85	DAY 86	DAY 87	
31						

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
June						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	RECESS	DAY 88	DAY 89	DAY 90*		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Federal & State Holidays

January 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 February 16 – Presidents' Day
 April 24 – Arbor Day
 May 25 – Memorial Day

Legislative Recess Days

February 13
 March 6, 13, 16, 27, 30
 April 10, 13
 May 1, 4, 15, 22
 June 1

*The Speaker reserves the right to reschedule the 90th day at a later date.

CITIZEN VIEWS of the CAPITOL



Photo by Chris Pultz, Dirt Road Photography, www.dirtroadphotography.com

Named one of America's favorite buildings by the American Institute of Architects, Nebraska's State Capitol Building is a favorite subject among photographers. Its dramatic architecture provides many opportunities for closer study. The Unicameral Update invited members of the public to share their own Capitol photographs with our readers. This photo series will be available in color on the Legislature's Web site, www.NebraskaLegislature.gov.

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