

25<sup>th</sup>

1977-2002

anniversary

UNICAMERAL

UPDATE

SPECIAL EDITION . INTERIM 2002

**25<sup>th</sup>** 1977  
2002  
anniversary

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UPDATE

# 97<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE 2002 SESSION

## Unicameral Update

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## Special Report: The State Budget

Lawmakers took a series of actions in 2002 on appropriations and revenue packages in a continued effort to address the state's revenue shortfall, adding to work done in an October 2001 special session to balance Nebraska's books.

The actions taken by the Legislature since October 2001 – a series of budget reductions, fund transfers and temporary tax increases – essentially eliminated the fiscal shortfall, projected early in 2002 to be \$221.3 million, and are expected to produce a general fund balance of \$16.4 million above the required minimum reserve for the current biennium. Since the beginning of the 2001 special session, four major changes have been made in the state budget:

Lawmakers have approved spending reductions of \$215.8 million. These cuts, which comprise 52 percent of the Legislature's response to the fiscal shortfall, include a cumulative 8 percent across-the-board cut to most state agencies, a cumulative 3.5 percent cut to the University of Nebraska system and a cumulative 2 percent cut to state colleges.

A series of cuts in state aid to K-12 school systems also is included in the spending reductions, resulting in a \$22 million reduction in aid for the upcoming fiscal year.

Numerous transfers were made from cash funds containing excess or unused funds. The fund transfers totaled \$78.9 million and comprise 19 percent of the budget adjustments.

A package of tax adjustments and temporary tax increases was adopted, including a one-year sales tax increase, a one-year income tax increase and a two-year tobacco tax increase. The tax adjustments and increases are expected to raise \$117.4 million and account for 28 percent of the budget solution.

### Spending cuts and deficit appropriations

Legislators approved **LB 1309**, which includes most of the proposed budget reductions, by a 47-1 vote.

Following the passage of LB 1309, Gov. Mike Johanns vetoed \$73.3 million from the bill, including vetoes that would have increased the spending cut for the University of Nebraska system and the state college system from 1 to 3 percent and would have cut an additional \$16 million from the state's Medicaid program. The Legislature voted 30-15 to override those and other vetoes on approximately \$44 million of line-item reductions over the biennium, leaving about \$30 million of sustained line-item cuts.

Major spending reductions in LB 1309 after the vetoes and overrides include the following:

*Across-the-board cuts of 3 percent* – Most state agencies are subject to a 3 percent across-the-board cut in appropriations during FY2002-03. The reduction is in addition to the 5 percent across-the-board reduction passed during the 2001 special session. Medicaid, the Department of Revenue, 24-hour treatment facilities, low-level radioactive waste lawsuit costs, constitutional officers' salaries and the state court system are among the agencies and programs exempted from the 3 percent cut. Some programs providing aid to local governments, special education, community colleges and homestead exemptions, also receive a 3 percent cut.

*Other across-the-board cuts* – The University of Nebraska system and state colleges receive

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## Special Report: The State Budget

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a 1 percent across-the-board reduction. The cuts come in addition to the 2.5 percent reduction for the university system and 1 percent reduction for the state college system enacted during the special session.

The Department of Labor, the Nebraska Arts Council, the Nebraska State Patrol and the Department of Correctional Services are subject to a 2 percent cut.

*Medicaid changes* – Various administrative changes to the state's Medicaid program take effect in FY2002-03 and are intended to reduce costs by \$3.8 million annually.

*Vetoed funds* – Additional cuts resulting from line-item vetoes made by the governor and sustained by the Legislature include:

- \$6.7 million from the state Health and Human Services System for programs related to adoption incentives and lowering the income eligibility level for some child care subsidy recipients;
- \$2.5 million from the Department of Correctional Services for operation of the Hastings Correctional Center;
- \$955,000 from the state Department of Agriculture for programs related to value-added grants and animal damage control;
- \$689,332 from the Postsecondary Education Coordinating Commission for three need-based scholarship programs for Nebraska college and university students;
- \$347,374 from the Rural Development Commission, eliminating the agency's general funds; and
- \$230,000 from the state Department of Environmental Quality for programs related to Superfund site federal cost sharing.

In addition to the reductions, LB 1309 includes mid-biennium deficit funding as follows:

Because of a new estimate of claims for the homestead exemption program, the program receives an increase of \$1.88 million in FY2001-02.

Funds totaling \$365,000 are provided to HHS for a five-bed secure facility contract to provide treatment to high-security juveniles who cannot be housed safely at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center in Kearney.

An additional \$1.1 million is appropriated in FY2002-03 for continuing masonry work on the State Capitol. An increase also is expected in FY2003-04 for repairs to the south and east entrances.

The state Department of Veterans' Affairs receives \$100,000 in FY2002-03 for the development of a program statement. The program statement must be drafted so the construction of a new facility to replace the Thomas Fitzgerald Veterans' Home can be placed on the priority list to receive federal funds.

### State aid to schools

Lawmakers voted 46-3 to pass **LB 898**, a bill sponsored by Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden that effectively reduces state aid to schools by \$22 million over the biennium. The reduction constitutes approximately 3 percent of the \$670 million in general funds originally appropri-



Sen. Roger Wehrbein,  
chairperson of the  
Appropriations  
Committee



Sen. Doug Kristensen

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## Special Report: The State Budget

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ated for state aid. Special education programs receive a cut of \$4.05 million in FY2002-03.

Earlier in the session, lawmakers had increased aid to schools by \$20 million – from \$650 million to \$670 million – to make adjustments based on actual certified levels issued in February.

To accomplish the reduction in state aid, LB 898 adjusts the state aid formula to reduce calculated needs, allocated income taxes and net option funding to school systems by 1.25 percent. The reduction will be in place for three years.

K-12 school systems that have reached the \$1 maximum property tax levy will be permitted to exceed the levy limit to make up for state aid lost under LB 898. A supermajority vote of the school district's governing board is required to access the levy exclusion.

The governor vetoed LB 898, which contained the formula changes and the levy exclusion provisions, but signed **LB 898A**, which contained the actual reduction in appropriations to schools. Citing uncertainty about how the state aid reductions would be implemented without the formula adjustments, senators voted 38-5 to override the veto of LB 898.

### Fund transfers

Also approved was **LB 1310**, which makes numerous transfers from cash funds to the state's general fund and a cash fund used for the state's Medicaid program. Among the transfers are:

- \$22 million from the state's cash reserve fund, which serves as a savings account for the state;
- \$6 million from a fund used to pay for cleanup of leaky underground storage tanks, commonly referred to as the LUST fund;
- \$4 million from the workers' compensation cash fund;
- \$2.5 million from a tobacco prevention fund; and
- \$1.6 million from the Education Innovation Fund.

The bill also includes a series of shifts in funding for programs between cash funds and the general fund. Senators voted 45-2 to pass LB 1310.

### Tax changes

Legislators passed several revenue changes and most are contained in **LB 1085**, sponsored by the Revenue Committee. The tax changes found in LB 1085 are:

The state's sales tax rate will increase from 5 to 5.5 percent for one year beginning Oct. 1, 2002. The rate increase is expected to raise \$67.5 million in FY2002-03 and \$33.4 million in FY2003-04.

The state's sales tax will apply to several services and products that are currently untaxed, including software training, refractory materials, subscriptions for magazines and journals, pest control, security, automobile cleaning and servicing, automobile road service and towing. The additional sales tax revenue is estimated at \$8.6 million in FY2002-03 and at about \$33 million in the 2003-05 biennium.

Individual income taxes will increase 2.25 percent for one year beginning Jan. 1, 2003. The increase rolls back part of a 4.3 percent income tax cut enacted in 1997 and extended indefi-

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## Special Report: The State Budget

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nately in 1998. The income tax increase is expected to raise approximately \$35.5 million in FY2003-04.

The cigarette tax will increase from 34 cents to 64 cents per pack for two years beginning Oct. 1, 2002. Twenty-eight cents of the increase, amounting to about \$28.5 million, will be directed to the state's cash reserve fund. The remaining 2 cents will be used to fund state building renewal projects.

Companies taking advantage of a bonus depreciation on their income taxes as allowed by recent federal tax changes are required to add 85 percent of the bonus depreciation to their Nebraska tax return. The intent is to hold the state harmless for about \$34 million in revenue losses associated with the federal tax changes.

After voting 29-19 to pass the bill and getting it back without the governor's signature, lawmakers voted 30-19 to make LB 1085 law notwithstanding the governor's veto.

### Other tax bills

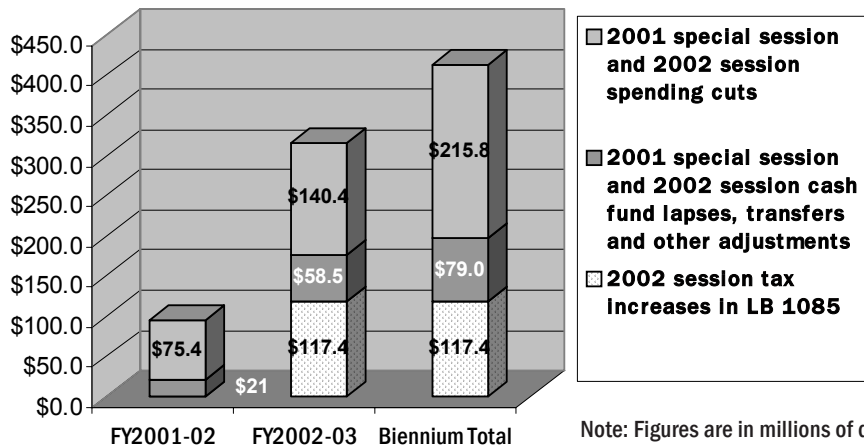
Lawmakers voted 49-0 to pass **LB 947**, a bill introduced by Sen. Bob Wickersham of Harrison that addresses recent federal tax changes for telecommunications services. Intended to simplify billing for telecommunications companies and bring state law in compliance with federal law, the bill clarifies that Nebraska telecommunications consumers should be taxed at the rate applicable at the user's residential or business address. That action and other changes made by the bill will raise \$670,000 in FY2002-03 and \$750,000 in FY2003-04.

Senators also voted 33-13 to pass **LB 905**, sponsored by Wickersham. LB 905 decouples the state's estate and transfer tax from federal tax code. The bill preserves about \$4.4 million of state revenues in FY2003-04.



Sen. Bob Wickersham

**Comparison of spending cuts and revenue actions taken since the 2001 special session**



Note: Figures are in millions of dollars.  
Source: Legislative Fiscal Office.

## Agriculture

**A**griculture-related bills involving leased railroad lands, branding and Wheat Board districts were passed in 2002.

**LB 435**, sponsored by the Agriculture Committee, allows disputes regarding lease terms and conditions arising between railroads and agricultural tenants situated on railroad land or right-of-ways to be resolved by negotiation or action of the state Department of Agriculture. Except when a third party makes a bona fide offer, railroad property owners are obligated to offer existing tenants who have maintained substantial property improvements the first opportunity to purchase the property at fair market value or match the third party's lease offer.

LB 435 was passed 42-0.

**LB 589** gives the Nebraska Brand Committee broader rule and regulation making authority and greater flexibility in setting fees. Sponsored by Sen. Cap Dierks of Ewing, the bill permits the Brand Committee to approve livestock branding methods beyond freeze branding and hot iron branding. The committee also is authorized to adopt rules and regulations regarding non-visual means of livestock identification.

Livestock brand fees currently set in state statute will be set by the Brand Committee within a range of acceptable fee amounts. Finally, the committee's brand book can now be published electronically.

LB 589 was passed 44-0.

Senators gave their approval to **LB 474**, a bill that redraws district lines for the Nebraska Wheat Development, Utilization and Marketing Board.

Introduced by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, LB 474 realigns the board's districts according to bushels of wheat production throughout the state. Under the bill, the board will have seven members, six representing geographical districts and one chosen at-large.

LB 474 was passed 46-0.

**LB 436**, sponsored by Dierks, clarifies laws related to pesticide regulation, including departmental duties, administrative procedures and terminology. The bill also makes disease and pest-free certification of bee colonies discretionary and eliminates colony registration and certification fees. LB 436 was passed 44-0.

**LB 684**, sponsored by Eddyville Sen. Jim Jones, makes changes to requirements for warning signs at or near areas used for horse activities.

State law previously required equine professionals to post and maintain warning signs relevant to liability issues, with each letter on the sign being a minimum of three inches in height. LB 684 requires that the word "warning" on such signs be a minimum of three inches in height with the rest of the copy of the notice in letters of a minimum of one inch in height.

LB 684 was passed 38-0.



*Sen. Cap Dierks*



*Sen. Jim Jones*



## Banking and Commerce

A measure changing the way branch banking is regulated was among the banking and commerce measures considered by lawmakers in 2002.



Sen. David Landis

Branching is the process of banks opening satellite locations in other communities. Currently, banks are not allowed to open branches outside the city or metropolitan area in which they are located, although exceptions are made for certain specific situations.

**LB 1089**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, expands branch banking in the state as follows:

Banks holding less than 22 percent of deposits statewide are allowed to branch anywhere in Nebraska. The 22-percent cap on branching and the acquisition of other banks replaces an existing 14-percent limitation on acquisitions. The new cap does not apply to deposits obtained through natural growth and the acquisition of failed financial institutions.

Banks with 22 percent or more of deposits statewide are limited to branching within the bank's home county. In the case of a bank located in Douglas or Sarpy counties, the bank can branch anywhere within those two counties.

Banks are permitted to operate mobile branches in the county where a bank or a branch is located and in any adjoining county. An example of a mobile branch is sending a banker to a customer's place of business to conduct financial transactions.

LB 1089 was passed 29-12.

Senators also passed **LB 957**, a banking cleanup measure introduced by Landis addressing technical issues related to banks, building and loan associations, securities, credit unions, installment sales, mortgage bankers and installment loans. LB 957 was passed 45-0.



## Corrections

Proposals dealing with corrections issues considered by lawmakers included bills relating to the work done by criminal offenders.

**LB 951**, sponsored by South Sioux City Sen. Pat Engel, expands the ability of the state Department of Correctional Services to sell Braille products produced by inmates. The bill also allows the department to enter contracts to produce Braille books and materials.

The bill passed by a 44-0 vote.

**LB 112**, introduced by Sen. Tom Baker of Trenton, permits correctional inmates to perform work detail for cities and counties. Previously, inmates could participate in work detail pro-



Sen. Pat Engel

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## Corrections

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grams only for state agencies and natural resources districts.

Under the measure, the Department of Correctional Services is permitted to enter work detail arrangements with cities and counties. Inmates cannot be required to wear manacles, shackles or other restraints during work detail.

Legislators voted 47-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 1227**, sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, would have entered Nebraska into the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision. The newly formed compact would provide an interstate commission to establish uniform procedures to manage movement between states of persons placed under community supervision.

The Judiciary Committee took no action on the bill.



## Courts

Lawmakers considered several bills relating to courts in Nebraska, including admission requirements for the Nebraska bar, changes to antitrust law and the authorization of drug courts.

**LB 848**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, requires attorneys seeking admission to the Nebraska bar to submit a set of fingerprints to the Nebraska State Patrol for a criminal background check. The measure also expands a requirement that new members of the bar be of "good moral character" to existing members.

Legislators voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 1278**, also introduced by Brashear, allows parties of a distribution chain affected by an antitrust violation, such as undercharging or overcharging, to sue for damages.

A distribution chain can lead from a manufacturer to the party directly affected by a violation, such as a wholesaler, and then to regional or local retailers and consumers. Previously, only those in the distribution chain who were harmed directly could sue for damages.

The bill was sent to the governor by a 45-0 vote.

**LB 876**, sponsored by Brashear, amends the civil code of Nebraska from the code pleading system adopted in 1867 to a notice pleading system.

The bill was amended during debate to also include the content of:

- **LB 281**, which amends Nebraska law regarding the jurisdiction of divorce appeals;
- **LB 874**, which expands the current court holiday schedule to include all days declared by law or proclamation of the governor to be holidays;



Sen. Dwite Pedersen



Sen. Kermit Brashear

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## Courts

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- **LB 875**, which, as amended, changes the distribution of court reports;
- **LB 901**, which changes the calculation of interest on decrees and judgments;
- **LB 927**, which changes provisions on trust deeds;
- **LB 969**, which changes civil action settlement procedures; and
- **LB 1043**, which changes court fees.

Lawmakers passed the omnibus measure by a 46-0 vote.

### Drug courts

Legislation that would have authorized the existence of drug courts was withdrawn after senators advanced it to final reading.

The Legislature had voted to give select file approval to **LB 1115**, sponsored by Grand Island Sen. Ray Aguilar. However, LB 1115 was not read on final reading before the Legislature adjourned.

Under the bill, the Nebraska Supreme Court would have been charged with promulgating rules for administering drug court programs. Interlocal agreements between state and local agencies would have been allowed to implement and manage drug court programs.



Sen. Ray Aguilar



## Criminal Justice

Lawmakers reviewed a number of measures in the criminal justice realm during the 2002 session, including proposals relating to fetal homicide, the use of fetal tissue by researchers, lethal injection, jailhouse informants and child abandonment.

### Fetal homicide and fetal tissue

**LB 824**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Mike Foley, allows prosecutors to charge someone with murder or manslaughter for harming a pregnant woman and causing the termination of her pregnancy.

The bill makes it a crime to kill an “unborn child,” which is defined as “an individual member of the species *Homo sapiens*, at any stage of development in utero, who was alive at the time of the homicidal act and dies as a result thereof whether before, during or after birth.”

The Legislature voted 42-5 to pass the measure.



Sen. Mike Foley

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## Criminal Justice

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**LB 462**, sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, would have effectively prohibited the University of Nebraska Medical Center from using aborted fetal tissue for medical research. However, an attempt to halt debate and advance the bill failed. The bill remained on general file when the Legislature adjourned.

### Lethal injection

The Legislature's Judiciary Committee took no action on two bills that would change Nebraska's method of execution to lethal injection.

**LB 865**, sponsored by Sarpy County Sen. Jon Bruning, would have given death row inmates convicted prior to the bill's enactment a choice between the electric chair and lethal injection. Those failing to choose would be executed by the electric chair.

**LB 1281**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, also would have allowed inmates already under sentence to choose between the two methods. However, under LB 1281, inmates who failed to choose would have been executed by lethal injection.

In addition to changing the method of the death penalty, LB 1281 would have required the presence of two aggravating circumstances in order to impose the death penalty unless it was proven that the murder was "especially heinous, atrocious, cruel or manifested exceptional depravity by ordinary standards." The Brashear bill would have established three-judge panels for capital defendants who reach the sentencing phase. The panel would have had to agree unanimously to impose death.

### Criminal justice procedures

**LB 752**, sponsored by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, makes prosecutors meet several requirements before they can admit a jailhouse informant's testimony in court. The bill requires the prosecution to disclose the informant's statement to the defense 10 days before the trial, the circumstances surrounding the statement, the informant's complete criminal history, past testimony by the informant that may have been recanted and any deals made between the prosecution and the informant.

Senators voted 30-12 to pass the bill.

**LB 642**, sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen, requires the state Department of Health and Human Services to disclose to the public, upon request, a summary of its findings and information in cases involving child fatalities or near fatalities. The department is directed to consult with the appropriate county attorney when such information is requested to determine if the request should be granted and to gather the information necessary. Information about child fatalities can be released only after a suspect is convicted or acquitted.

Senators voted 48-0 to pass the bill.



Sen. Jon Bruning

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## Criminal Justice

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### Drug use

**LB 500**, sponsored by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, changes references to a family of drugs in order to update Nebraska law. Legislators voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 413**, sponsored by Columbus Sen. Jennie Robak, would have clarified language in the law related to ingesting controlled substances that could be misunderstood to allow the prosecution of persons using a legal substance, such as alcohol or caffeine, if the substance was believed to change mental or physical processes.

LB 413 remained on select file when the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. Jennie Robak

### Identity theft

**LB 276**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, makes it illegal to obtain personal identification documents and information or to access another person's financial resources using personal information without the individual's authorization or with the intent of deceiving or harming the individual. Such acts are punishable as felonies for crimes amounting to \$500 or more in damage and as misdemeanors for amounts less than \$500. The bill provides a mechanism by which perpetrators will be able to make restitution to their victims.

Exceptions to Nebraska's open records law are extended to include personal information like social security numbers, credit card and other financial account numbers and computer passwords.

The bill also requires retailers to have systems that display only the last five digits of a person's credit card number on a purchase receipt by 2007. "Skimming," the act of unlawfully obtaining information from the magnetic strip on a person's credit card, becomes a criminal act.

LB 276 was passed 47-0.



Sen. Pam Redfield

### Other measures

**LB 82**, sponsored by Brashear, incorporates elements of eight pieces of criminal justice legislation introduced in 2001. Among the many provisions of the measure, it increases penalties for those who repeatedly violate protection orders, increases penalties for the mistreatment of animals and increases penalties for unlawful possession of a firearm on school grounds.

Lawmakers voted 46-0 to pass LB 82.

**LB 564**, sponsored by Trenton Sen. Tom Baker, was intended to bring Nebraska's sex offender registry law in line with federal standards. The measure closes a loophole in the law by tightening reporting requirements when a convicted sex offender changes residences within a county.

Senators passed the bill by a 42-0 vote.

**LB 1303**, sponsored by Wahoo Sen. Curt Bromm, provides driver's safety training programs for pre-trial diversion.

The bill sets forth certification and fee requirements for entities wanting to offer driver safety



Sen. Tom Baker

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## Criminal Justice

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programs and defines what does and does not constitute a minor traffic violation. LB 1303 essentially prohibits a person from participating in a pre-trial diversion program more than once in a three-year period.

LB 1303 also allows commercial drivers to participate in the programs as long as their participation does not jeopardize federal funds. Diversion programs will be made available to drivers whose vehicles are not registered.

The bill also prohibits the use of nitrous oxide power booster delivery systems in vehicles driven on Nebraska roadways.

LB 1303 was passed by a 40-1 vote.

**LB 1283**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, would have allowed a person to abandon a baby without fear of prosecution as long as he or she leaves the infant with an emergency medical services provider and the infant is not harmed. Under the bill, a person who leaves the abandoned infant at such a “safe haven” would not have been required to disclose his or her name.

The Judiciary Committee took no action on the bill before the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. John Synowiecki



## Economic Development

Legislators considered several measures related to economic development in 2002. Some, if passed, would have modified the way Nebraska administers its tax incentive programs.

**LB 946**, sponsored by Sen. Bob Wickersham of Harrison, would have funded most of the state’s tax incentive programs through cash funds appropriated through the state’s general fund. Currently, the tax credits are considered reductions in revenue, not appropriations from the state’s general fund. The bill was awaiting general file consideration when the session ended.

**LB 1136**, also sponsored by Wickersham, would have required companies receiving tax credits under the Employment and Investment Growth Act, also known as LB 775, to disclose specific application information beginning three years after qualifying for the program, including levels of investment and job growth, amounts of credits and refunds qualified for and taken, statewide employment levels and the average wage paid to employees. The bill was awaiting general file consideration when the session ended.

**LB 1300**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Paul Hartnett, would have required new jobs to pay

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## Economic Development

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at least 125 percent of the county average wage or 100 percent of the regional average wage, depending upon which is higher, to count toward a company's eligibility for LB 775 tax credits. The bill was awaiting general file consideration when the session ended.

**LB 1036**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, would have limited the total number of approved LB 775 applications each year to nine. **LB 1037**, also introduced by Landis, would have prohibited the acceptance of new LB 775 tax credit applications beginning in 2004. The Revenue Committee killed both bills.

**LB 1084**, sponsored by Decatur Sen. Matt Connealy, would have made it the state's intent to prioritize the location of state offices in rural areas. It also would have required state agencies to submit reports to the governor and the clerk of the Legislature that included the number and location of employees of the agencies located in rural areas. The bill stalled during general file debate and Connealy asked senators to set the bill aside.



## Elections

Recommendations from a statewide election task force were adopted by the 2002 Legislature and changes in absentee balloting were approved as lawmakers considered several bills related to election law.

**LB 1054**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, makes a variety of changes to election law, including some recommended by the election task force. Among the major changes in the bill:

Sentencing courts and corrections officials are required to inform felons being released how they may restore their civil rights, including the right to vote.

Election officials are allowed to assign poll workers split shifts.

Wages for poll workers will be set by election commissioners and county clerks as long as the wages are equal to the state's minimum wage. The bill eliminates the previous limit of 15 hours of paid work for poll workers.

Poll workers must undergo training before both the primary and general elections as required by the secretary of state.

County chairs of political parties are required to submit names of poll workers to election officials by Feb. 1 each election year. Previously, names were submitted 60 days prior to the primary election.

A person who believes he or she is rightfully registered to vote but whose name does not



Sen. DiAnna Schimek

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## Elections

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appear on the registration list at the polling place is allowed to cast a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots will be counted once the voter's registration is verified.

Voters can no longer request a general election absentee ballot using the primary election absentee ballot envelope.

Second recounts will be conducted in the same manner as initial counts and first recounts. Previously, all second recounts were conducted manually.

Individuals are allowed to object on legal grounds to a specific candidate's filing for office within five days after the filing deadline. Previously, objections could be made within 20 days after the candidate filed but no later than five days after the filing deadline.

Recall petition organizers are required to include not only the name of the official to be recalled and the reasons for doing so, but also a statement of defense from the official and the name of the petition circulator. Recall petition circulators are also required to inform potential signers of the same information.

LB 1054 was passed 42-1.

The use of absentee balloting is more strictly regulated under **LB 935**. Sponsored by Sen. Vickie McDonald of Rockville, LB 935 requires that absentee ballots arrive at the county election official's office by the close of polls on Election Day. The deadline for obtaining absentee ballots is changed to the Wednesday before the election.

Previously, absentee ballots were counted if they were received by 10 a.m. on the Thursday following an election, and voters could request absentee ballots until the Friday before the election.

LB 935 would also make the following changes:

The local board responsible for counting absentee ballots is required to begin its work the day of the election.

The Omaha Public Schools Board of Education is given the authority to make final adjustments to OPS board redistricting proposals offered by the county election commissioner.

Registered voters are permitted to vote absentee in front of the county election official once absentee ballots are made available.

Hourly wages for counting boards in school bond elections are set at the state's minimum wage.

State law related to grand jury petitions is clarified.

LB 935 was passed by a 47-0 vote.

**LB 647**, sponsored by Bradshaw Sen. Elaine Stuhr, changes educational service unit board election procedures so when more than two candidates from the same county receive enough votes to be elected, only the top two candidates from that county are elected. The remaining candidates from that county would not be elected and vacancies would exist for each position not otherwise filled.

LB 647 was passed 46-0.

A bill intended to hone the Nebraska Campaign Finance Limitation Act stumbled after the Legislature took a step towards crippling the act.

The Campaign Finance Limitation Act (CFLA), passed in 1992, establishes voluntary spend-



Sen. Vickie McDonald

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## Elections

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ing limits for Nebraska political campaigns. Lawmakers voted 25-15 to adopt a floor amendment to **LB 707** that would have significantly increased voluntary campaign spending limits. In response, Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, who introduced LB 707, postponed further debate on the bill and the issue was not revisited before the Legislature adjourned.



## Employment

Senators passed several employment-related pieces of legislation in 2002, including bills on workers' compensation, military leave, union representation, railroad fatigue and farm labor. They also considered other measures on employment discrimination, workers' compensation and railroad crews.

**LB 1168**, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, creates the Fatigue Counter-Measure Task Force. The 14-member task force will research railroad workers' health and safety, causes of fatigue, programs effective in reducing fatigue and methods for distributing educational material. The task force will recommend actions and present its findings to the Legislature by Dec. 1.

Lawmakers voted 36-0 to give LB 1168 final-round approval.

**LB 29**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, requires nonunion employees who choose labor union representation to reimburse the union for legal and court fees. Senators voted 46-0 to pass the bill.

A state employment buyout program that had gone unused was eliminated under **LB 406**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek. The program was originally initiated as part of a reorganization of the state's health and human services agencies. The buyouts were intended to compensate state employees leaving their positions with state government and waiving any rights in connection with their state employment.

LB 406 was passed 46-0.

**LB 417**, sponsored by the committee, stipulates that a corporate executive officer who owns at least 25 percent of the corporation is excluded from workers' compensation unless he or she chooses to opt into the system. The bill also allows approval applications for workers' compensation lump sum settlements to provide for the employee's future medical expenses.

LB 417 was passed 43-0.

**LB 722**, sponsored by Schimek, allows state employees to take a military leave of absence equal to the normal number of hours the employee works in a three-week time period. The

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## Employment

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absence cannot exceed 120 hours in a calendar year. Previously, state and local government employees were limited to 15 workdays of leave each year for service in the guard or reserves.

The bill also creates a “state emergency leave of absence” that can be used by state and local personnel for emergency duty when called upon by the governor. Finally, the bill makes state law consistent with federal law regarding private and public employees who serve in the military.

LB 722 was passed 47-0.

**LB 921**, introduced by the committee, clarifies that client companies, not professional employer organizations, are liable for unemployment benefits. The bill was passed 48-0.

**LB 931**, sponsored by Bradshaw Sen. Elaine Stuhr, exempts contractors that have a workforce of at least 80 percent under age 18 from farm labor laws. The bill also would require the state Department of Labor to investigate any contractor on whom it has received a notice of non-compliance with farm labor laws and require employers to hire a bilingual employee if they have a workforce with 10 or more non-English speaking workers.

LB 931 was passed 46-0.

Senators did not vote on **LB 19**, a bill that would have prohibited employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The bill, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, was left on general file after legislators did not complete first-round consideration of the bill late in the session.

Time also ran out on **LB 1185**, a measure sponsored by Sen. Curt Bromm of Wahoo that would have scaled back an exemption from workers’ compensation for farm or ranch employers to include only those operations with six or fewer non-family workers. The bill was left on select file.

**LB 185**, a bill that would have mandated two-person crews on some trains in Nebraska, failed to advance from general file. The bill, sponsored by North Platte Sen. Don Pederson, was rejected on a 19-22 vote.



## Gambling

**T**wo bills relating to the expansion of casino gaming in the state topped the stack of gambling legislation considered in 2002.

As amended, **LR 6CA**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, would have permitted casino gaming in “interdiction zones” in the state. If approved by voters, the proposal would

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Sen. Elaine Stuhr



Sen. Don Pederson

## Gambling

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have allowed the Legislature to authorize up to five casinos in interdiction zones, or areas that extend two miles from the Nebraska border with states that allow casinos. Residents also would have had to approve a casino before it could be built in their county.

LR 6CA failed to advance from select file by a 20-26 vote.

The amended proposal was similar to **LR 292CA**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, which would have allowed the Legislature to authorize tribes or private companies to build six casinos in interdiction points. The proposal was pending on general file when the Legislature adjourned for the year.

**LB 1126**, sponsored by the General Affairs Committee, gives the Department of Revenue the ability to deny, suspend, cancel or revoke a gaming license if the Liquor Control Commission suspends, cancels or revokes the licensee's liquor license for illegal gambling on its premises.

The bill allows beer keg retailers to charge higher deposits so they can recover the actual cost of keg containers. Nebraska law previously allowed a maximum \$50 deposit for kegs.

Lawmakers voted 45-2 to pass the bill.

**LB 791**, sponsored by Nickerson Sen. Ray Janssen, would have reduced the percentage of lottery proceeds provided to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund, the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund and the Education Innovation Fund from 25 percent, as provided under current law, to 18 percent until 2007. During that time, the total dollar amount the programs could have received would not have been less than what they would have received in fiscal year 2001-02. Unclaimed prize money would have served as an "insurance policy" to make sure the amounts would not fall below the 2001-02 levels.

A motion to delay consideration of the bill failed 20-20. Another motion to indefinitely postpone, or kill, the bill failed by a 14-21 vote. No further action was taken on the measure before the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. Ray Janssen



## Government

Legislators passed a number of bills relating to government administration, including measures changing the management of the Nebraska State Fair and the travel of public officials' families.

Responding to the Nebraska State Fair's administrative problems and attendance decline, senators voted 41-0 to pass **LB 1236**, sponsored by Plattsmouth Sen. Roger Wehrbein. The bill

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## Government

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replaces the 29-member State Board of Agriculture with a Nebraska State Fair Board consisting of 11 voting members. Seven members of the new State Fair Board are selected from existing county fair districts. The other four members will be appointed by the governor – two from Lincoln, one from Omaha and one from the state at-large. Members cannot serve more than three terms, each lasting three years. The bill also encourages the board to develop private funding sources, and it states legislative intent for the board to establish a State Fair Foundation.

The bill prevents members of the Legislature from serving on the State Fair Board. In addition, the executive director of the Nebraska Arts Council and the chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or a designee are made ex-officio, or non-voting, board members.

**LB 1086**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, prohibits public officials or employees from accepting gifts of travel or accommodations for members of their immediate family who accompany them on trips related to their duties. However, it allows campaign committees to fund the travel, lodging, meals or fees of the governor and his or her staff or immediate family when they accompany him or her on these trips. The measure also bans state funds for advertising or promotional materials that refer to a state constitutional officer.

LB 1086 was passed by a 42-1 vote.

**LB 446**, sponsored by Sen. Carol Hudkins of Malcolm, allows Nebraska's five "primary airports" to work directly with the Federal Aviation Administration in administering and managing federal funds.

Primary airports have at least 10,000 paying passengers per year and receive scheduled air service. Nebraska's primary airports are located in Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, Kearney and Scottsbluff.

Previously, primary airports, like all other Nebraska airports, had previously worked with the state Department of Aeronautics in managing federal funds.

Legislators voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 568**, sponsored by Harrison Sen. Bob Wickersham, revises the power and duties of the state auditor's office, including local government audit requirements enforced by the state auditor's office. Some provisions of the bill were recommended by the Nebraska Budget Act Advisory Board, which was created in 1999.

The bill adds online filing of financial information to the auditor's duties. In addition, it mandates that the auditor develop and maintain an online financial information database.

The Legislature voted 46-0 to send the bill to the governor.

**LB 1040**, introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, pays approximately \$162,500 worth of claims made against the state.

During earlier consideration, controversy arose regarding 42 claims made by county attorneys for representing the state in administrative license revocation (ALR) procedures. Among other things, lawmakers were concerned with claims for \$500 each from Lincoln County, which did not include the amount of time worked on the ALR cases.

In response to those concerns, senators adopted an amendment during general file consideration to delay payment of the county attorneys' claims, which amounted to approximately \$14,000.

The measure was given final reading approval by a 44-0 vote.



Sen. Ernie Chambers



Sen. Carol Hudkins

## Health and Human Services

Proposals relating to health licensure and regulation considered during the 2002 session include changes to the licensure of health professionals, subsidized health screening for newborns and changes to Medicaid redetermination for children.

### Children's health



Sen. Dennis Byars

**LB 235**, sponsored by Beatrice Sen. Dennis Byars, adds Medium Chain Acyl Co-A Dehydrogenase deficiency (MCADD) to newborn medical screenings. The bill also allows the state Department of Health and Human Services to develop a contract with a laboratory to conduct screenings through the competitive bid process.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, MCADD is an “inherited error of fatty acid metabolism.” MCADD patients are at risk for a number of health problems, including hypoglycemia, vomiting, respiratory arrest, seizures and sudden, unexpected death. It is anticipated that the new screening will identify two to three infants with MCADD each year.

LB 235 was passed by a 48-0 vote.

**LB 1095**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, would have reduced the length of time that children are continuously eligible for benefits under a Medicaid program without a re-evaluation.

The measure would have required that a child's eligibility in the Kids' Connection health insurance program be re-evaluated six months after he or she receives eligibility. Under current law, the eligibility period lasts 12 months before a redetermination of eligibility is required.

The Health and Human Services Committee advanced the measure to general file after voting to reconsider a previous vote to indefinitely postpone the bill, but no further action was taken on the measure before the Legislature adjourned.

The content of LB 1095 also had been added to a Revenue Committee amendment to **LB 1149**, a bill introduced by Jensen that would have originally increased the per-pack tax on cigarettes by 50 cents.

Ultimately, Jensen asked to have LB 1149 pulled from the legislative agenda, saying the Health and Human Services Committee would conduct a study on the Medicaid program during the interim.



Sen. Jim Jensen

### Professional and facility licensure

**LB 1021**, sponsored by the Health and Human Services Committee, includes a variety of provisions relating to health care.

The measure requires health care professionals given credentials by the state Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure to comply with continuing competency requirements established by individual licensing boards or by the department if there were no designated licensing board.

The bill also includes the contents of three other health bills:

- **LB 721**, which changes privacy rights with respect to medical registries;

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## Health and Human Services

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- **LB 580**, which updates the Radiation Control Act; and
- **LB 1096**, which updates regulations relating to spas and pools.

The bill was passed by a 49-0 vote.

**LB 241**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Marian Price, gives esthetics instructors and schools their own set of licensing standards. Esthetics is the professional practice of skin care. Licensing for estheticians previously fell under professional standards for cosmetology. LB 241 separates the two professions and creates a new set of standards for esthetics.

The measure also reduces the hours required for practitioners to 600. Esthetics instructors are required to undergo an additional 300 hours of training for licensure. Before the change, estheticians had to undergo 3,625 hours of training for licensure.

Legislators voted 43-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 1062**, sponsored by the Health and Human Service Committee, changes law relating to the state child support disbursement system, the licensing of health professionals, calculated drug expiration dates, respite care service, health care facility licenses and hospital visitation privileges.

The bill also:

- clarifies language relating to entities not covered under respite care services law;
- incorporates the provisions of **LB 1218**, which is intended to keep state law in compliance with federal regulations relating to national medical support notices;
- combines two existing commissions relating to the child support disbursement unit and limit payment options for parents who make child support payments with insufficient funds; and
- changes membership requirements relating to county hospital boards.

The bill was passed by a 44-0 vote.

**LB 22**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Deborah Suttle, provides licensing for interpreters of the deaf and hard of hearing.

The bill directs the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to oversee the licensing and evaluation process. An eight-member Interpreter Review Board is created to establish policies for the testing, training and licensing of interpreters. Some government agencies are required to appoint licensed, rather than just qualified, interpreters.

The bill was sent to the governor by a 46-0 vote.

**LB 400**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pam Brown, would have expanded the state's system of licensing childcare providers. The measure would have made two major changes to the regulation of childcare and early education programs. First, the bill would have increased the number of annual continuing education hours required for full-time providers in order to maintain licensure. Second, the bill would have created a two-tier system of licensure.

Votes to advance the bill from select file failed during the 2001 and 2002 regular sessions. A motion to bracket the bill until Feb. 7 was successful. At that time, Brown chose to pass over consideration of the bill.



*Sen. Marian Price*



*Sen. Deborah Suttle*



*Sen. Pam Brown*

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## Health and Human Services

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### Other measures

**LB 1033**, sponsored by Sen. Bob Wickersham of Harrison, allows emergency medical technicians to work within hospitals. The bill requires a registered nurse, physician or physician assistant to oversee the work of emergency medical technicians (EMTs) who perform medical work within the scope of their practice in health clinics or hospitals. The health clinic or hospital has the responsibility of providing any additional training to EMTs. The state Health and Human Services System is directed to adopt criteria relating to the orientation necessary for those who would supervise EMTs, training requirements for the physician medical director and the approval of the clinic or hospital to allow EMTs to practice.

Lawmakers voted 41-3 to pass the bill.

**LB 952**, sponsored by Kenesaw Sen. Carroll Burling and prioritized by Omaha Sen. Chip Maxwell, makes four major changes related to adoption law in the state:

There is a 48-hour waiting period following a child's birth before the child can be relinquished for adoption.

Adoptive parents are no longer able to sign and file a non-consent form prohibiting the release of information to their adopted child.

For all adoptions, past and present, the heir of an adopted person is allowed to receive information about his or her adopted ancestors from HHS once the ancestors are deceased.

The heir of an adopted person is allowed to access all information on file with the department related to that person after the 100th anniversary of that person's birth.

LB 952 was passed by lawmakers 47-0.

**LB 862**, sponsored by Byars, would have set standards for the cremation process and handling of human remains, established a licensing process for crematories and clarified law relating to the disposition of remains.

The Health and Human Services Committee took no action on the bill.

**LB 479**, sponsored by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins, was intended to relieve counties of the costs of providing extended housing for persons determined mentally incompetent to stand trial. The bill would have required the HHS System to assume physical custody of a person ruled mentally incompetent within 72 hours after notice is given to the agency.

The vote to send LB 479 to select file failed by a 19-21 vote.

**LB 429**, sponsored by Nickerson Sen. Ray Janssen, would have reimbursed grocers for transaction costs associated with the electronic benefit system. The electronic benefit transfers (EBT) system, which is to be implemented by October 2002, uses a magnetic swipe card to deliver public assistance, such as food stamps, at grocery stores.

Retailers would have been provided a 5-cent reimbursement per transaction if they used their own EBT equipment rather than using equipment provided by the state.

The bill remained on select file before legislators adjourned.



Sen. Carroll Burling



Sen. Chip Maxwell



## Insurance

Senators passed insurance legislation in 2002 that regulates certain industry-wide insurance pools and strengthens regulations on property insurance coverage. The Legislature also debated a measure that would have expanded insurance coverage on reproductive health care for women.

Some industry organizations form a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) to purchase health insurance for employees of companies in their industry. The purpose of this purchasing arrangement is to form a larger group of insured individuals to yield better insurance rates.

**LB 1139**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, requires the certification of MEWAs operating in the state, establishes minimum requirements for MEWAs, requires the holding and management of MEWA funds by a board of trustees and requires MEWAs to maintain a stop-loss policy that would provide coverage in excess of 125 percent of expected claims.

The bill also makes changes related to the regulation of land title companies, which are intended to correct problems discovered in the wake of the collapse of State Title, a Lincoln land title company. Title insurers are required to issue closing or settlement protection covering a proposed insured and, beginning in 2004, provide for annual audits of title insurance.

LB 1139 was passed by a 47-0 vote.

**LB 58**, sponsored by Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron, makes it an unfair claims practice for insurance companies not to attempt in good faith to provide a prompt, fair and equitable settlement of property and casualty claims for loss of personal property within real property that is insured by a valued policy and is wholly destroyed by fire, tornado, windstorm, lightning or explosion. Claims practices are subject to investigation by the Nebraska Department of Insurance.

LB 58 was passed 46-0.

A bill designed to increase insurance coverage on reproductive health care for women was set aside during the session. **LB 825**, as introduced by Lincoln Sen. Mike Foley, would have prohibited some health insurance policies from denying coverage for conditions related to the diagnosis, maintenance and treatment of reproductive health issues.

Debate on LB 825 focused on an amendment, also proposed by Foley, that would have narrowed the legislation's scope. The amendment would have prohibited the denial of treatment on the basis of fertility or infertility for endometriosis, pelvic adhesive disease and polycystic ovarian disease for women whose policies included coverage of these conditions.

Senators voted 30-13 to bracket, or delay further consideration of the bill, until the end of the legislative session. At that time, it was too late for the bill to receive consideration before the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. George Coordsen



## Law Enforcement

Law enforcement legislation passed in 2002 includes a bill that makes state carrier enforcement officers Nebraska State Patrol troopers.

Carrier enforcement was previously conducted by a division of the state patrol, but officers in the division were not considered state patrol troopers. They also did not participate in the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System.

**LB 470**, sponsored by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, automatically makes new carrier enforcement officers state troopers and authorizes them to legally perform the same duties as patrol officers. The operation of weigh stations and portable scales is added to the duties of state troopers.

Individuals currently working as carrier enforcement officers also can be appointed as troopers. In this case, they will receive additional training, be authorized to perform the duties of other state patrol officers and have the option of joining the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System. Current carrier enforcement officers that do not become troopers will not assume new duties and will retain membership in the Nebraska State Employees Retirement System.

The bill won final reading approval by a 40-4 vote.

**LB 426**, sponsored by Sen. Matt Connealy of Decatur, would have provided certain rights for peace officers – including local police and sheriff's officers, but not State Patrol officers – when they are under administrative investigation by their employers. The bill remained on select file when the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. Matt Connealy



## Legislature

Senators considered four measures in 2002 directly related to the Legislature itself, including the rejection of a proposal to revise the legislative districts drawn in 2001.

The legislative map adopted in 2001 shifted the 18th legislative district from northeast Nebraska to southern Washington County and northern Douglas County, including part of the city of Omaha. Under **LB 1257**, sponsored by Sens. Cap Dierks of Ewing and Doug Cunningham of Wausa, the 18th legislative district would have returned to northeast Nebraska, including the town of Wausa where Cunningham lives. The boundaries for the 40th district, as well as several other districts throughout north central, south central and southeast Nebraska, would have been redrawn in order to accommodate the return of the 18th district.



Sen. Doug Cunningham

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## Legislature

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The 32nd district, located in southeast Nebraska and served by Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron, would have replaced the 18th district in the greater Omaha area. Coordsen announced in December 2001 that he would not seek re-election.

The boundaries of 11 legislative districts would have been affected by the proposal.

The Legislature's Executive Board voted 3-5 against sending the bill to the floor. A procedural vote on whether LB 1257 could be debated by the full Legislature failed 29-18. Thirty votes were needed for the motion to be successful. As a result, Dierks and Cunningham remained residents of the 40th legislative district and both men filed for election from that district. The 18th district remained an open seat to be filled at the November 2002 general election.

In another matter related to legislative districts, the Executive Board voted 7-1 to indefinitely postpone **LR 283CA**. The proposal, sponsored by Sen. Jim Jones of Eddyville, suggested amending the state constitution to increase the maximum number of legislators from 50 to 55.

**LB 1011**, sponsored by Minden Sen. Doug Kristensen, would have allowed the Legislature to appoint an individual or firm to provide legal representation to the Legislature, legislators or staff members when they are involved in litigation in their official capacity. The measure was awaiting general file consideration when the Legislature adjourned for the year.

**LB 1290**, sponsored by Coordsen, would have clarified the treatment of legislators under the state's health insurance plan. The bill advanced to final reading but was ultimately rejected by lawmakers 16-22.

### **Kristensen named UNK chancellor**

Speaker of the Legislature Doug Kristensen was named the new chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Kearney May 17.

Kristensen was first elected in 1988 to represent District 37 in the Nebraska Legislature in 1988. He has served as speaker of the Legislature since 1998. He also served as chairperson of the Legislature's Transportation Committee during his tenure.

He was elected vice president of the National Conference of State Legislatures in 2001. He also has served on the Council of State Governments Executive Committee, the Federal Communications Commission Local and State Government Advisory Committee and the 1995-97 Nebraska Constitutional Revision Commission.

Kristensen, 47, will assume his new duties at UNK July 1.

### **Wickersham resigns from Legislature for TERC seat**

Harrison Sen. Bob Wickersham resigned from the District 49 legislative seat to become a member of the state Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC).

Wickersham, 53, was appointed to the commission April 23. His resignation from the Legislature took effect April 30.

Wickersham joined the Legislature on Jan. 9, 1991, when he was appointed to replace former Sen. Sandra K. Scofield. He was elected to the seat in 1992 and re-elected in 1996 and 2000.

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## Legislature

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Besides serving as chairperson of the Revenue Committee, Wickersham also had once served as chairperson of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee.



## Local Government

Legislative proposals affecting city and county governments considered during the 2002 session include the establishment of a statewide emergency communications system and utility condemnation procedures.

### Emergency services



Sen. Gene Tyson

**LB 1211**, sponsored by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and prioritized by Norfolk Sen. Gene Tyson, permits an interlocal arrangement to facilitate the joint purchase of a statewide public safety radio system. The system will ensure the compatibility of public safety radio systems throughout the state.

An alliance of local governments is formed with the responsibility of maintaining and operating the system. Bond financing through the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority will be used to fund the project.

Local governing boards are required to give supermajority approval before using property tax funds for payment of bonded indebtedness occurring as a result of participating in the project. A three-fourths vote is required on boards with four or more members. A two-thirds vote is required on three-member boards.

No state general funds can be appropriated for the project until the Legislature passes legislation detailing how project costs would be shared and authorizes the necessary transfer of funds.

**LB 1211** also requires wireless telecommunications providers doing business in Nebraska to register with the Public Service Commission and sets forth service quality standards for certain wireless providers. No general funds can be used by the PSC to carry out this portion of **LB 1211**.

**LB 1211** was passed and sent to the governor by a 33-11 vote.

**LB 1110**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Paul Hartnett, changes the terms of qualification for service award benefit programs under the Volunteer Emergency Responders Recruitment and Retention Act. **LB 1110** eliminates language that has caused some communities to question



Sen. Paul Hartnett

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## Local Government

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their authority or ability to set up programs under the act.

Lawmakers voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

### Property regulations

**LB 384**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mark Quandahl, places restrictions on the condemnation of utilities. The bill establishes procedures that cities must follow when condemning natural gas systems. In adopting a resolution to acquire a utility, a city must cite health or safety concerns, conditions and quality of natural gas service, natural gas rate levels or financial instability of the utility as the reason for the acquisition.

A utility constructing a new gas system or conducting certain upgrades is allowed to enter into a contract with a city to provide or improve service for a certain period of time so the utility can recover the costs of the project.

Senators voted 42-3 to pass the bill.

**LR 4CA**, if passed by the voters, would amend Article XIII, Section 2 of the Nebraska Constitution to allow the Legislature to authorize counties and municipalities to acquire, own, develop and lease real and personal property for use by charitable non-profit enterprises. The proposal would allow local governments to issue revenue bonds for the purpose of defraying the cost of acquiring and developing or financing such property by construction, purchase or other means. Non-profit enterprises do not include property used for sectarian instruction or as a place for religious worship or devotional activities.

The proposed constitutional amendment, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, was given legislative approval by a 38-0 vote and will be placed on the November 2002 ballot.

**LB 729**, sponsored by Hartnett, creates a mechanism by which a county can cede certain zoning rights to cities interested in zoning in areas subject to future development. The bill also provides a process so a first-class city can retain its first class status even if its most recent decennial census population falls below 5,000.

The bill also includes the contents of **LB 704**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, which preserves the dominant height of the State Capitol in relation to surrounding structures.

Senators voted 45-0 to pass LB 729.

### Other measures

**LB 932**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Marian Price, allows city councils in primary class cities not to meet during a week with a federal or state holiday. The change only affects the city of Lincoln because it is the state's only primary class city.

LB 932 was passed by a 43-0 vote.

Legislators considered adjusting a proposal in order to address storm water management.

As originally drafted, **LB 814**, sponsored by Beutler, would have related to liquor regulation. However, Sen. Ed Schrock of Elm Creek asked his colleagues to consider replacing the bill with the concepts contained in **LB 936**, which he sponsored.

Under LB 936, cities, counties and natural resources districts could have assessed a fee to



Sen. Mark Quandahl

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## Local Government

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property owners to fund management of storm water sewer systems.

Before voting on the change, senators agreed to bracket, or delay further consideration, of LB 814. When the Legislature adjourned, the bill remained on select file.



## Miscellaneous

Senators passed measures that provide funding for litigation relating to low-level radioactive waste, update real estate laws and revise electrical codes.

In 1998, the state decided to deny US Ecology a license to construct and operate a low-level nuclear waste facility in Boyd County. **LB 1101** transfers \$4 million from a cash fund used to provide funding for solid waste landfill closures to a cash fund used to pay bills related to the litigation over the failed waste site.

Lawmakers voted 41-1 to send LB 1101 to the governor's desk.

**LB 863**, sponsored by Beatrice Sen. Dennis Byars, makes numerous changes to state law relating to real estate licensing and regulation. Among the numerous proposed changes, the bill:

- makes changes to seller property condition disclosure laws;
- clarifies that a seller's or landlord's agent has no duty to verify the accuracy or completeness of disclosure statements made by the client;
- gives the state Real Estate Commission greater flexibility in offering distance education;
- updates references to discriminatory actions in real estate transactions; and
- makes various definitional changes.

LB 863 was passed 45-0.

**LB 873**, sponsored by Riverdale Sen. Jim Cudaback, updates state law to reflect a recent revision of the National Electrical Code. The National Fire Protection Association updates the code every three years to accommodate technical advances and new research in electrical safety.

LB 873 was passed 39-0.

**LB 1306**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Don Preister, would have prohibited alcohol from being sold within five miles of Native American land when the tribal government has banned the sale and consumption of alcohol. The bill was held by the General Affairs Committee.



Sen. Jim Cudaback



Sen. Don Preister



## Motor Vehicles

A bill that makes changes to the way children are protected in motor vehicles was one of many motor vehicle-related proposals considered during the 2002 session.

**LB 1073**, sponsored by Papillion Sen. Nancy Thompson, raises the age of children required to ride in car safety seats by one year.

Nebraska law previously required children under age 5 who weigh less than 40 pounds to ride in car seats. LB 1073 removes the weight provision while adding 5-year-olds to the list of children required to ride in safety seats. The bill provides a \$25 fine for violating the child restraint requirement.

The measure also requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to include the availability of distribution and discount programs for child passenger restraint systems in its public information and education program for children's seatbelts. In addition, all occupants riding with a provisionally permitted driver are required to wear seatbelts.

The bill was passed by a 34-11 vote.

**LB 488**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, provides for the creation of a motor vehicle insurance database by requiring insurance companies to provide insurance information to the DMV on a monthly basis. The database will contain the name, date of birth and address of each insured person, as well as the make, model, year and vehicle identification number of the insured vehicle.

The bill is intended to make it easier for Nebraskans to prove they have car insurance and will impose a 25-cent fee on each registration to fund the development and maintenance of the database. The fee will terminate after three years. Senators voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 830**, sponsored by Sen. Curt Bromm of Wahoo, permits commercial pickup owners in Douglas, Lancaster and Sarpy counties to keep their personalized license plates, even though the plates contain more characters than allowed under those counties' new alphanumeric license system. The bill was passed by a 46-3 vote.

**LB 584**, sponsored by Gering Sen. Adrian Smith and prioritized by Omaha Sen. Patrick Bourne, would have allowed individuals over age 21 to ride motorcycles or mopeds without a helmet. Currently, Nebraska law requires all operators and passengers on motorcycles or mopeds to wear protective helmets.

The bill also would have required all motorcycle or moped passengers and operators to wear eye protection, and would have made changes to requirements relating to motorcycle safety courses.

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee voted to send the bill to general file, where it remained when the Legislature adjourned.

**LB 1028**, sponsored by Columbus Sen. Jennie Robak, would have required school buses manufactured on or after its effective date to add seat belts. The requirement would not have applied to existing school buses.

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee took no action on the measure.

**LB 1187**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Lowen Kruse, would have allowed blood alcohol content (BAC) tests to be performed on a suspected drunk driver up to three hours after the suspect last operated the vehicle.

The Judiciary Committee took no action on LB 1187.



*Sen. Nancy Thompson*



*Sen. Adrian Smith*



*Sen. Patrick Bourne*



*Sen. Lowen Kruse*

## Natural Resources

An omnibus game- and parks-related measure was the most prominent natural resources legislation reviewed by senators this session.

**LB 1003**, sponsored by Elm Creek Sen. Ed Schrock, affects a number of game- and parks-related issues, including increasing membership of the state Game and Parks Commission from seven to eight, with the eighth member being from Lancaster County. Sarpy County shifts from District 2 to District 1, leaving only Douglas County in District 2. The change also prohibits the governor from appointing an individual from the same county as the appointee's predecessor in multi-county districts.

Other provisions of LB 1003 include the following:

Requirements regarding the state's endangered species list are increased, including doubling the amount of time allowed for public comment to 60 days. The changes are similar to those found in **LB 777**, sponsored by Aurora Sen. Bob Kremer, which remained on general file when the Legislature adjourned.

The bill creates a 49-member task force to evaluate policy related to water management in the state. The task force is similar to one proposed in **LB 1023**, also sponsored by Schrock, which remained on general file when the Legislature adjourned.

Local law enforcement officials are allowed to enter cooperative agreements with federal officials to increase enforcement of restrictions on access to federal land.

Changes are made to the administration of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board, including requiring board members to file statements of financial interest with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission and providing for the hiring of an executive director.

Small caliber weapons can be used during deer season, but not for deer hunting.

Laws relating to the housing of domesticated cervine animals are clarified.

Park entry permits can be purchased through the commission's web site for an additional \$1 administrative charge.

Provisions relating to the selling of bait species are clarified.

The commission can allow the taking of paddlefish, including the establishment of a \$5 application fee.

Provisions for the issuance and proof of electronic game stamps are changed.

Nonresident fur harvester permit fees can be no lower than resident fees.

The number of applicants eligible to apply on a unit basis for deer, antelope and elk hunting permits are increased from two to five.

Requirements related to limited hunting permits for deer, antelope, wild turkey and elk are changed.

Nonresidents hunting game birds on a licensed game breeding and controlled shooting area are required to procure a habitat stamp and pay a license fee of no less than the cost of a resident hunting permit.

Provisions relating to the taking of game birds and other game animals for dog training are changed.

The way landowners may post land for hunting is changed.

The powers of the Niobrara Council are clarified with regard to rules, internal policies, con-



Sen. Bob Kremer



Sen. Ed Schrock

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## Natural Resources

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ervation easements, zoning variances and the review of license applications and proposed actions.

Legislators voted 48-0 to give final approval to the measure.

**LB 1267**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, would have required shippers to pay costs associated with transporting high-level radioactive waste through the state. The state Department of Health and Human Services would have been responsible for establishing and assessing fees. The bill remained on general file when the Legislature adjourned.



## Retirement

The Legislature passed two retirement measures in 2002, including one that made major changes in retirement plans for state and county employees.

**LB 687**, sponsored by the Retirement Systems Committee, effectively shortens the length of employment required for vesting from six years to three years. After an employee is vested, he or she is entitled to keep the employee and employer contributions to his or her account upon leaving employment.

The measure also changes how retirement benefits for state and county employees are determined.

The current plan is a defined contribution system, which means retirement benefits are determined by the rate of return on a defined level of employee and employer contributions made over time. **LB 687** permits state and county employees to have a defined benefit element in their retirement plan, called a cash benefit balance plan.

Beginning in 2003, new employees joining the plan will be guaranteed a rate of return between 7 and 7.5 percent on the funds in the employer and employee accounts. The funds can be converted into an annuity at an 8 percent rate. Current employees will have until Jan. 1, 2003, to choose between staying in the existing plan or switching to the new cash benefit balance plan.

**LB 687** was passed 40-0.

Senators also passed a bill to take care of numerous technical issues related to public employee retirement systems. **LB 407**, introduced by the committee, contains retirement-related provisions as follows:

Membership provisions in the state, county and school employee plans are modified to explicitly include all plan members, both active and inactive.

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## Retirement

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For the county, school, state patrol and state employee plans, the Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) is given explicit power to issue eligibility and vesting credit regulations.

Rules for membership and participation in the school employee plan are changed so all regular employees who work at least 15 hours a week are mandated to participate in the plan, eliminating an existing 516-hour requirement for annual contributions.

For the school employee plan, substitute school employees are considered to be temporary employees, rather than regular employees.

For the school employee plan, the law clarifies that an employee must experience a bona fide separation from employment in order to collect from the plan. The language also states that the employee is not considered terminated from employment if the employee provides regular service to his or her employer or if the PERB determines that a bona fide termination of employment has not occurred.

Technical changes are made to all public employee retirement plans, actuarial funding methods used in defined benefit plans and the Nebraska Investment Council.

LB 407 was passed 44-0.



## Schools

School districts could charge fees for the cost of some extracurricular activities under one education-related bill considered by senators in 2002. Other bills make changes to limitations on the growth of school district cash reserves and the construction of school buildings.

**LB 1172**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes, intends to provide guidance to school districts on the types of fees they can charge students. The bill allows school districts to charge fees for extracurricular activities, postsecondary education costs, some transportation costs, admission fees related to extracurricular activities, copies of student files, reimbursement for damaged property, before or after school pre-kindergarten services, night school, summer school and breakfast or lunch programs. School districts also can require students to provide personal items such as paper and pens, certain types of clothing and materials for some class projects.

A school district can require students to provide their own musical instruments for optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities if the district provides instruments for low-income students. For music courses extracurricular in nature, a district can require students to furnish instruments, equipment and clothing.



Sen. Ron Raikes

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## Schools

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Each school district is required to adopt and hold a public hearing on a school fees policy. Schools are required to waive fees on the basis of need for costs associated with course projects and extracurricular activities, including admission and transportation.

Lawmakers voted 40-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 460**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, eliminates an existing 2 percent limitation on the annual growth of cash reserve funds held by school districts. The measure also removes school district contingency funds from other restrictions currently placed on cash reserve funds.

The bill also changes a threshold related to the ability of Class I school districts to reorganize. Current law requires a Class I school district with 50 percent or more of its valuation affiliated with other districts to get the approval of affected districts before merging, dissolving or reorganizing. LB 460 lowers that valuation threshold from 50 percent to 8 percent.

Senators voted 42-1 to send LB 460 to the governor.

**LB 391**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, allows school districts to utilize a “design-build” approach for school construction projects, in which a single entity is selected to design and build the project, subject to certain performance-based criteria.

Previously, school districts were only authorized to use a “design-bid-build” process, in which an architect or engineer designs the project, and the district collects bids from construction companies for construction of the project.

The bill also provides for the use of a “construction management-at-risk” process, in which a construction manager who builds the project also serves as a design consultant and is bound to complete the project at the contracted price. Procedures are established under which these delivery systems can be implemented, including the appointment of a selection committee to review proposals. A 75 percent vote of school board members is required to approve the use of the two new delivery systems.

Initially, the processes can only be used in 24 pilot projects, eight in each of the state’s three congressional districts, before they can be fully implemented across the state. Statewide implementation will require additional legislative action.

Lawmakers voted 40-3 to pass the bill.

**LB 982**, sponsored by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, would have identified a series of documents, speeches and records that students should have the opportunity to read.

Currently, state law directs school districts to appoint a committee on Americanism each school year to examine and approve history and civics textbooks and “assure themselves as to the character of all teachers employed and their knowledge and acceptance of the American form of government.” The law also identifies subjects for study, such as the U.S. Constitution, and activities that should be undertaken, such as the singing of patriotic songs.

The bill would have added a provision to the existing law that students have the opportunity to read and study items including but not limited to founding documents, the Bill of Rights, the free-market economic system, the Federalist Papers and U. S. Supreme Court decisions.

The Education Committee took no action on the bill before the Legislature adjourned.



Sen. Chris Beutler



Sen. Philip Erdman



## Taxes

Tax-related legislation considered in 2002 included various sales tax bills and cleanup measures. A bill that would have based ag land values on the land's income producing ability was among the tax legislation that did not pass.

**LB 600**, introduced by Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron, would have changed the system of valuation for agricultural and horticultural land from one based on comparable sales of real estate to one based on a net income capitalization approach. Beginning in 2005, an 8 percent capitalization rate would have been used to determine the income producing potential of a piece of ag land. If the new system were found unconstitutional, the method used to value ag land would have reverted to the current method of setting values at 80 percent of market value.

After two years of intermittent consideration, LB 600 failed to advance to final reading on a 16-27 vote.

Under **LB 259**, introduced by Sen. Roger Wehrbein of Plattsmouth, counties are allowed to levy an occupation tax of up to 1.5 percent on gross receipts from events such as rodeos, car races and concerts, as long as the events take place outside the city limits. The county's voters must approve the tax before it can be imposed. Municipalities already have the authority to impose such a tax.

LB 259 was passed 39-0.

**LB 57**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, exempts public records or reproductions subject by law to a record or reproduction fee from sales tax. The bill was passed 47-0.

**LB 123**, sponsored by Harrison Sen. Bob Wickersham, exempts purchases made by drainage districts and elected county fair boards from sales tax. The bill was passed 44-0.

**LB 989**, sponsored by the Revenue Committee, makes changes to:

- the enforcement of the state's tobacco regulations so those selling cigarettes to minors are subject to an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000, license suspension and revocation as well as a Class III misdemeanor conviction;
- sales tax refunds issued for air or water quality control facilities, including the transfer of program enforcement from the state Department of Revenue to the state Department of Environmental Quality;
- the enforcement of the state's master settlement with tobacco companies, including changes made with the intent of better enforcing the policy with regard to foreign tobacco manufacturers;
- penalties and interest related to the collection of gas taxes, providing for their deposit in the state's highway trust fund; and
- reporting dates related to occupation taxes.

LB 989 was passed 45-0.

**LB 994**, also introduced by the committee, makes numerous technical and clarifying changes to laws relating to statewide property tax administration. The bill was passed 46-0.

**LB 1104**, sponsored by Table Rock Sen. Floyd Vrtiska, would have increased the gallonage tax on beer from 23 cents to 28 cents. The tax is paid by manufacturers and wholesalers of alcohol. The measure would have allocated 5 cents of the proceeds to building renewal projects



Sen. Floyd Vrtiska

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## Taxes

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in the state. The bill was held in committee.

**LB 1280**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, would have altered the state's means of obtaining revenue by eliminating various sales tax exemptions, imposing sales taxes on numerous services, lowering the state's income tax rate and granting homestead exemptions to homeowners on the first \$30,000 of their primary residence's value. The measure also would have reinstated a sales tax on food, except when purchased with food stamps. Income tax payers would have been allowed to file for a credit based on the taxpayer's income level to offset the sales tax paid on food.

LB 1280 was held in committee.



## Transportation

**T**ransportation legislation considered by senators in 2002 could pave the way for the appearance of the "Segway" device in towns across Nebraska.

**LB 1105**, sponsored by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, restructures Nebraska's telecommunications statutes. The bill also provides a legal and regulatory structure for the introduction of the "Segway" device, a self-balancing, two-wheeled electronic transportation vehicle. Furthermore, LB 1105 tightens licensing procedures for handicapped parking by requiring an applicant to submit a medical form in order to receive a handicapped parking plate. Those receiving handicapped plates will be required to reapply for such a permit.

The bill also includes the contents of **LB 918**, a cleanup measure, and **LB 490**, which requires that loose loads on motor vehicles and trailers be secured. Both measures were sponsored by Wahoo Sen. Curt Bromm.

Legislators voted 45-0 to pass the bill.

**LB 491**, a bill introduced by Bromm, allows local governments to award some state and federally funded road contracts.

Currently, only the Nebraska Department of Roads lets contracts for projects on the state highway system. Under the bill, the department can allow a city or county to let state or federally-funded contracts for projects in its jurisdictional boundaries to the lowest pre-qualified bidder if the work is primarily local in nature.

Senators voted 44-0 to pass the measure.

**LB 283**, sponsored by Eddyville Sen. Jim Jones, would have changed the name of the Nebraska Department of Roads to the "Department of Transportation."

The bill failed to advance from general file by a 21-18 vote.



Sen. Curt Bromm

# Bill Status

The following tables contain the final status of all substantive legislation before the Legislature during the 2002 session.

The "Status" column indicates a bill's last stage of consideration. All legislation not otherwise disposed of before the end of the 2002 session is considered indefinitely postponed and must be re-introduced in 2003 to be considered again. A "+" indicates bills from which language was taken and a "-" indicates bills language was amended into.

The "Issues" column indicates which issues of the *Unicameral Update* contain articles about individual legislative bills.

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
12	Dw. Pedersen	Provide requirements for persons dispensing medications in facilities operated by the Dept. of Correctional Services	General	
12A	Dw. Pedersen	Appropriation Bill	General	
14	Chambers	Require certain proceedings of the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council to be open to the public	General	
16	Chambers	Provide for the election of the Attorney General on a nonpartisan basis	IPP	
18	Chambers	Eliminate the death penalty and provide for life imprisonment without parole	Held	
19	Chambers	Prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation	General	15
20	Dierks	Change sales tax provisions relating to magazines and journals	General	
21	Suttle	Require a report on a federal medicaid program amendment or waiver	Signed	
21A	Suttle	Appropriation Bill	IPP	
22	Suttle	Provide for licensure and regulation of interpreters for deaf and hard of hearing persons	Signed	14
22A	Suttle	Appropriation Bill	Vetoed	
26	Redfield	Prohibit acts relating to unsolicited electronic mail and advertising	Held	
27	Redfield	Change magistrate examination provisions	Held	
28	Redfield	Change an exemption amount subject to inheritance tax and create the County Inheritance Tax Replacement Fund	IPP	
29	Redfield	Change collective bargaining representation provisions	Signed	9, 13, 14
30	Redfield	Adopt the In the Line of Duty Dependent Education Act	IPP	
35	Thompson	Authorize construction projects for the Youth Rehabilitation Centers at Geneva and Kearney	Held	
37	Thompson	Change eminent domain provisions for first class cities and second class cities and villages	Held	
40	Thompson	Prohibit the sale and distribution of fever thermometers containing mercury	General	
42	Landis	Provide for a rebuttable presumption of negligence for use of a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle	Held	
44	Landis	Change an application fee for persons applying for alternative fuel user permits	Held	
57	Redfield	Exempt copies of public records from sales and use tax	Signed	4, 14
58	Coordsen	Change unfair claims settlement practices provisions	Signed	2, 9
62	Bruning	Change the method of inflicting the death penalty	Held	
63	Bruning	Change provisions for operating a motor vehicle to avoid arrest	Held	
64	Bruning	Change penalty provisions for motor vehicle impoundment	Held	
66	Bruning	Change provisions relating to violations of protection orders and penalties	General (-82)	
72	Hilgert	Change provisions for lunch period requirements for employees	General	
74	Hilgert	Change the statute of limitations for malpractice or professional negligence actions under the Nebraska-Medical Liability Act	Held	
77	Brashear	Change the hours during which the election polls are open	IPP	
79	Brashear	Change provisions for offenses against animals	Held (-82)	
80	Brashear	Change the amount recoverable under the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	Held	
82	Brashear	Change provisions relating to crimes and offenses	Signed (+66,79,221,351565, 718,754)	3, 9, 14
82A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	IPP	
86	Brashear	Provide penalties for criminal attempt	Select	
87	Brashear	Change provisions relating to preliminary hearings	Select	
88	Brashear	Limit access to certain court records and information in determination of inheritance tax	General	
91	Wickersham	Extend benefits to certain cooperatives under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	General	
91A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	General	
93	Schimek	Change and eliminate provisions relating to boards, committees, councils, panels, and a commission	Signed (+869,930,1000)	2
94	Schimek	Change provisions of the school option enrollment program	IPP	
95	Schimek	Permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages in charter limousines	General	4
99	Schimek	Require notice of recording of construction liens to a contracting owner by a claimant	General	
102	Bromm	Provide a size, weight, and load exemption for authorized emergency vehicles	Held	
109	Bruning	Change provisions relating to retirement age and benefits for judges	General	
110	Baker	Create the Lawyers Fund for Client Protection and provide for payment of claims	Held	
112	Baker	Change provisions for work arrangements for persons committed to the Dept. of Correctional Services	Signed	4

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
116	Quandahl	Change provisions for termination of rental agreements under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act	Held	
117	Quandahl	Change provisions for renunciation of succession and the right of retainer under the Nebraska Probate Code	Held	
120	Wickersham	Change provisions relating to valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	IPP	
121	Wickersham	Change the base limit applicable to school districts and other political subdivisions	IPP	
123	Wickersham	Provide a sales and use tax exemption for certain drainage districts and county fair boards	Signed	14
124	Wickersham	Change information on and duties related to tax statements	General	
125	Kristensen	Change restrictions on exit polls and other interviews with voters on election day	General	
132	Schrock	Allow park entry permits to be purchased through the Game and Parks Commission's web site	IPP	
139	Janssen	Exempt certain United States Postal Service delivery charges from sales and use taxes	IPP	
140	Robak	Provide for a state meat inspection pilot program	Held	
141	Schrock	Change income tax adjustments relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust	IPP	
144	Wehrbein	Delete obsolete language relating to the Cash Reserve Fund	Held	
145	Robak	Require mental health regions to provide services to jails and detention centers	Held	
147	Vrtiska	Provide for Shriner's license plates	Held	
150	Jensen	Change provisions relating to sexual assault and controlled substances schedules	General	
153	Hilgert	Require certain employees to pay for collective bargaining and contract enforcement	Held	
157	Cudaback	Change provisions for motor vehicle certificates of title	General (-830)	
157A	Cudaback	Appropriation Bill	General	
158	Robak	Create the Community Criminal Justice Treatment Task Force	Held	
159	Robak	Change provisions for the expungement of certain criminal history record information	Held	
160	Bourne	Provide for issuance of message plates for utility trailers	Held	
161	Bourne	Change amounts recoverable under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	General	
164	Robak	Provide for medical assistance for persons with a medically improved disability	Held	
174	Revenue	Change and eliminate provisions relating to occupation taxes and provide for a corporate income tax	IPP	
175	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to required payments by wineries to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission	General	
176	Bourne	Change sanitary and improvement district provisions	Signed (+1239)	
178	Bourne	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle registration and In Transit decals	Select	
184	Janssen	Provide an exemption from motor vehicle taxes and fees for Purple Heart recipients	Held	
185	D. Pederson	Require a minimum number of persons for a train crew	General	6,7
188	Byars	Change provisions relating to filing petitions with the clerk of the district court under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act	Signed	
189	Byars	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Education for adult basic education programs	Held	
190	Byars	Authorize enforcement of occupant protection system requirements	Held	
195	Dierks	Provide for recommendations for an agriculture continuing education program	Held	
196	Dierks	Require certain partnerships to file a statement of agricultural activity and real estate holding	General	
205	Wickersham	Change the income tax rate	General	
206	Wickersham	Change the sales and use tax rate	General	
206A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	General	
207	Wickersham	Change the income tax and sales and use tax rates	General	
208	Agriculture	Change provisions relating to disposal of dead animals and livestock disposal facilities and rendering substations	Held	
212	Jensen	Change provisions relating to child abuse and neglect reports and the central register	General	
221	Tyson	Change provisions and penalty provisions relating to threatening to use explosives	General (-82)	
224	General Affairs	Terminate a fund relating to horseracing and provide for remittance of fines to the permanent school fund	Held	
227	Thompson	Change provisions of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	General	
228	Thompson	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for a substance abuse treatment task force	Held	
231	Hilgert	Extend closing hours for certain liquor retail licenses	Held	
235	Byars	Change provisions for newborn screening for metabolic diseases, food supplements and treatment, and fees	Signed	4
235A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
241	Price	Provide for licensure for esthetics instructors and schools of esthetics	Signed	2
241A	Price	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
248	Wickersham	Change provisions relating to other actual receipts under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
251	Schimek	Change provisions relating to elections and vacancies	Signed	
255	Jensen	Adopt the Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Implementation Act	General	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
259	Wehrbein	Authorize license and occupation taxes by counties	Signed	3
262	Preister	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act	Held	
264	Stuhr	Prohibit tattooing and body piercing on minors	Held	
265	Stuhr	Provide for Nebraska Pioneer Farm Family License Plates	Held	
271	Bromm	Adopt the Elementary and Secondary Scholarship Assistance Act	Held	
272	Thompson	Adopt the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Institute Act	General (-1309)	
272A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	General	
273	Schrock	Provide for cultivation of industrial hemp	General	
274	Wehrbein	Prohibit the obstruction of highways in first and second class cities, villages, and certain rural highways	Held	
276	Redfield	Provide and change penalties relating to criminal impersonation, financial transaction devices, payment cards, and personal information	Signed (+870,966)	10,13,14
277	Redfield	Change income tax rate schedules and deduction amounts	Final	
277A	Redfield	Appropriation Bill	Final	
281	Connealy	Change court jurisdiction provisions relating to divorce	General (-876)	13,14,15
282	Wickersham	Provide income tax adjustments for long-term care insurance premiums	IPP	
283	Transportation and Telecom.	Rename the Department of Roads to the Department of Transportation	General	5
287	Thompson	Adopt the Post-Organ-Transplant Program Act	General	
287A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	General	
288	Thompson	Appropriate funds to the Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness and Education Fund	Held	
290	Jones	Change provisions for valuation of agricultural and horticultural land and school state aid calculations	IPP	
291	Aguilar	Provide for license plates recognizing service in the United States Armed Forces	Held	
293	Aguilar	Prohibit riding on vehicles	General	
296	Dw. Pedersen	Create the offense of disarming an officer	Held	
297	Dw. Pedersen	Change and eliminate provisions of the Dept. of Correctional Services and create the Legislative Advisory Committee for Corrections and the Inmate Disciplinary Appeal Board	Held	
298	Bruning	Change various fees charged by the Secretary of State	Select	
301	Tyson	Change exempted activities under the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	General	
304	Beutler	Prohibit the sale and transfer of fetal tissue	Held	
305	Education	Provide for teacher salary increases and a funding mechanism	Select	
305A	Raikes	Appropriation Bill	Select	
306	Smith	Change provisions for the transfer of funds to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund	Held	
307	Schimek	Prohibit obstruction of highways by trains in primary class cities	Held	
311	Coordsen	Provide monitoring and reporting of possible discontinued or abandoned rail service	Held	
312	Coordsen	Provide for firefighter license plates	Held	
315	Stuhr	Provide duties for schools relating to students with limited English proficiency	General	
316	Kristensen	Change hearing provisions for driving under the influence of alcohol	General	
320	Suttle	Change penalty provisions for failure to report a motor vehicle accident	Held	
321	Suttle	Change malpractice provisions under the Nebraska-Medical Liability Act	Held	
322	Suttle	Create the Child Care Licensure Act	IPP	
323	Suttle	Create the Neighborhood Development Act	IPP	
325	Suttle	Change metropolitan class city property acquisition and zoning provisions	General	
326	Suttle	Adopt the Nebraska Read, Educate, and Develop Youth Act	Signed	
326A	Suttle	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
327	Suttle	Change parental liability provisions with respect to juveniles	Held	
328	Suttle	Provide for a self-directed care system for disabled medicaid beneficiaries	IPP	
330	Redfield	Prohibit schools to use or display social security numbers	Held	
331	Jensen	Change State Board of Health provisions	IPP	
332	Jensen	Provide an income tax credit and income tax adjustment for long-term care insurance premiums	IPP	
333	Jensen	Change tobacco license, fee, and penalty provisions	Held	
336	Bromm	Appropriate funds to Central Community College	Held	
338	Quandahl	Change provisions relating to minors under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	IPP	
340	Quandahl	Create the crime of criminal impersonation of a person entitled to notification regarding abortion	Held	
341	Quandahl	Change provisions relating to abortion, voluntary and informed consent, printed materials, notification, and civil liability	Held	
342	Quandahl	Change provisions relating to abortion, notification, and eliminate provisions requiring school districts to provide written information	Held	
343	Kristensen	Provide immunity in actions relating to job references	General	
344	Hilgert	Provide for implementing a federal medicaid substance abuse and alcoholism option	Held	
345	Robak	Prohibit the use of a fuel power booster delivery system on a motor vehicle	General (-1303)	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
347	Robak	Change provisions for prosecutions for sale of liquor to a minor and retail license suspension	Held	
348	Beutler	Provide for transfer of the clerk of the district court from county to a state reimbursed position	Held	
350	Redfield	Provide for collective bargaining deadlines for school district employees	IPP	
351	Brashear	Change the penalty for unlawful possession of a firearm on school grounds	General (-82)	
352	Brashear	Provide for a driver's safety training program as pretrial diversion	IPP	
353	Brashear	Provide for the disposition of certain forfeited money and property	Held	
355	Brashear	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	General	
356	Brashear	Change the method of inflicting the death penalty	Held	
361	Landis	Adopt the Uniform Trust Code	Held	
364	Wickersham	Change provisions for allocation of funds under the State Scholarship Award Program Act	Held	
367	Raikes	Direct the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to create a price index	Held	
369	Robak	Change provisions relating to annexation and schools	Held	
370	Price	Provide for birth and adoption unemployment benefits	IPP	
371	Landis	Change craft brewery and keg sale provisions under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	General (-126)	
373	Schrock	Change certain name and charter amendment requirements for public power districts	General	
378	Robak	Change provisions for calculation of the local effort rate under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
379	Connealy	Provide medicare supplement insurance for retired state employees	Held	
380	Janssen	State intent relating to countywide school districts	IPP	
381	Bourne	Change provisions relating to fingerprint and description reporting and criminal history record information	Held	
384	Quandahl	Adopt the Municipal Natural Gas System Condemnation Act	Signed	10, 13, 14
385	Landis	Provide for an exclusion from the rule against perpetuities for certain trusts	Signed	
388	Bromm	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle registration and certificates of title	General (-830)	
391	Jensen	Adopt the Nebraska Schools Construction Alternatives Act	Signed	3, 13, 14
392	Smith	Change provisions for valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land	IPP	
394	Smith	Change provisions relating to student records	Held	
395	Smith	Require voters to present proof of identity prior to voting	IPP	
396	Suttle	Adopt the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Act	IPP	
397	Preister	Change special master provisions under the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act	Select	
399	Cunningham	Adopt the Outpatient Surgical Procedures Data Act	General	
399A	Cunningham	Appropriation Bill	General	
400	Brown	Change training and licensure provisions under the Quality Child Care Act	Select	4
400A	Brown	Appropriation Bill	General	
401	Kristensen	Create the Nebraska Higher Education Board of Regents	Held	
402	Dw. Pedersen	Create the criminal offense of unlawfully taking motor vehicle fuel	Held	
403	Dw. Pedersen	Adopt the Community-Based Alternatives Sanctions Act and eliminate the Community Correctional Facilities and Programs Act	Held	
404	Stuhr	Provide for a task force and a study covering ground water and surface water	General	
406	Schimek	Repeal provisions relating to the employee buy-out programs administered by Dept. of Administrative Services	Signed	2
407	Retirement Systems	Change retirement provisions	Signed (+686, 1019, 1027, 1111, 1144)	9, 13, 14
412	Robak	Provide immunity from liability for volunteers	Held	
413	Robak	Change provisions relating to ingesting a controlled substance	Select	2
414	Stuhr	Create the Organic Agriculture Task Force	Held	
415	Stuhr	Change farm labor contractor provisions	IPP	
417	Business and Labor	Change workers' compensation settlement provisions	Signed	2
421	Wickersham	Change the calculation of local effort rate and adjust levy amounts relating to school finance	Held	
422	Wickersham	Change the calculation of state aid value	IPP	
423	Thompson	Change designated smoking area provisions under the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	Held	
425	Connealy	Provide for firefighter license plates	Held	
426	Connealy	Adopt the Peace Officer Employer-Employee Relations Act	Select	13
427	Wickersham	Authorize enforcement of federal orders on federal lands by law enforcement and conservation officers	General (-1003)	
428	Government	Change recall election provisions	Held	
429	Janssen	Change provisions relating to benefits under the federal Food Stamp Act program	Select	5
429A	Janssen	Appropriation Bill	IPP	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
434	Suttle	Adopt the Habitual Sex Offender Act	Held	
435	Agriculture	Adopt the Agricultural Suppliers Lease Protection Act and change powers of the Public Service Commission	Signed	
435A	Dierks	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
436	Dierks	Change the Pesticide Act and apiary provisions	Signed	3
436A	Dierks	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
437	Dierks	Change provisions of the Nebraska Pure Food Act	Held	
439	Transportation and Telecom.	Change provisions for compensation and meetings of the State Highway Commission	General	
440A	B yars	Appropriation Bill	General	
445	B ourne	Create the Administrative Rules Review Committee of the Legislature and provide duties	IPP	
446	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to airports	Signed (+923)	2
447	B eutler	Provide for acquisition of country roads through arbitration	IPP	
452	Hilgert	Provide for liens for chiropractors	General	
453	Hilgert	Adopt the Attorney-Client Conference Act	General	
454	Bruning	Change provisions for ballots cast by presidential electors	General	
455	B runing	Change certified public accountant provisions	General	
456	Schimek	Change state agency workers' compensation provisions	IPP	
458	B aker	Change provisions relating to ground water transfers, water wells, and filing fees	Signed (+890)	
460	B eutler	Change provisions relating to school reorganizations and allowable budget reserves	Signed (+1212)	10, 13, 14
462	Dw. Pedersen	Regulate and prohibit the use of human fetal tissue	General	2
467	Suttle	Change provisions for contracting for education costs	Held	
469	Wickersham	Create the Program for Summer Learning	IPP	
470	Transportation and Telecom.	Change powers and duties of patrol officers and carrier enforcement officers	Signed	9, 13, 14
470A	Bromm	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
471	Dw. Pedersen	Change juvenile justice placement, confinement, and parole provisions	Held	
473	Tyson	Change search warrant provisions	General	
474	Erdman	Change Nebraska Wheat Development, Utilization, and Marketing Board provisions	Signed	2
476	Hilgert	Require public elementary schools to establish guidelines for instruction regarding infant handling	Held	
479	Hudkins	Change provisions for the commitment of mentally incompetent persons to the Dept. of Health and Human Services	General	11
479A	Hudkins	Appropriation Bill	General	
480	Hartnett	Change the membership of facility boards in second class cities and villages	General	
481	Hartnett	Change provisions for issuance of citations for code violations in second class cities and villages	General	
482	Hartnett	Authorize the State Athletic Commissioner to set fees	Signed	
487	Landis	Provide an income tax credit for earned income	IPP	
488	Landis	Create the motor vehicle insurance data base	Signed	13, 14, 15
488A	Landis	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
490	Bromm	Change size, weight, and load provisions under the Nebraska Rules of the Road	General (-1105)	15
491	Bromm	Change provisions for letting road contracts and regulating engine brakes	Signed	14
492	Schimek	Create a bargaining unit of employees of the Nebraska veterans homes	IPP	
494	Jones	Provide for five-year issuance of license plates	Held	
496	Tyson	Adopt the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	General	
497	B ourne	Require interrogations to be electronically recorded under the Nebraska Evidence Rules	Held	3
498	B ourne	Exempt certain clothing and footwear from sales and use taxation for a certain period of time	IPP	
499	Erdman	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle registration and commercial motor vehicles	Signed (+998,999)	
500	Erdman	Change provisions relating to controlled substances	Signed	2
501	Dierks	Change provisions for custody and placement of intoxicated and mentally ill dangerous persons	General	
502	Hilgert	Change natural gas taxation provisions	IPP	
503	Hilgert	Change provisions governing disposition of the remains of deceased persons	General	
504	Schrock	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Natural Resources	Held	
507	Wickersham	Provide for an audit of tax incentive programs	General	
507A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	General	
510	Wickersham	Disallow refunds of certain sales tax under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	
512	P reister	Provide for a net-metering system for electrical energy	IPP	
513	Suttle	Change provisions relating to education	Held	
517	Vrtiska	Change provisions governing in forma pauperis proceedings	Held	
519	Jensen	Change state aid calculations for schools	Held	



BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
520	Raikes	Change provisions for calculation of local system formula need under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
521	Raikes	Change allowable growth percentage provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
522	Raikes	Change allowable growth rate provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
523	Wehrbein	Adopt and ratify the Southern Dairy Compact	General	
524	Byars	Provide for community action services	General	
528	Raikes	Change income tax rates, schedules, and calculations	IPP	
529	Jensen	Adopt the Employment Screening and Protection Act	IPP	
530	Suttle	Create the Mental and Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Services Task Force	General	
530A	Suttle	Appropriation Bill	General	
531	Vrtiska	Change state building capital improvement depreciation charge provisions	Held	
532	Hudkins	Provide for changes to adjusted valuation under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
533	Janssen	Change grant approval conditions under the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act	General	
534	Quandahl	Authorize local authorities to pass traffic regulation ordinances and resolutions relating to photographic evidence	Held	
535	Dierks	Change local system formula resources computations under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
545	Janssen	Change provisions relating to bingo, pickle cards, lotteries, and raffles	Signed (+546)	
546	Janssen	Change bingo, pickle card, and lottery provisions	General (-545)	
547	Landis	Change insurance fraud and fee provisions	Signed	
547A	Landis	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
548	Suttle	Provide requirements for Alzheimer's special care units	IPP	
549A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	General	
553	Stuhr	Change provisions for motor vehicle registration of trucks	General	
555	Schrock	Provide for collection of funds for decommissioning a nuclear power plant	IPP	
556	Burling	Change provisions for valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	IPP	
557	Jensen	Provide an exemption from respiratory care licensure requirements	General	
558	Vrtiska	Change Election Act provisions relating to election workers, petition procedures, voters, and ballots	General (-935)	
559	Schimek	Change provisions relating to counting and recounting votes	IPP	
560	Beutler	Provide for extended contract days under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
561	Robak	Require the state to reimburse counties for election expenses relating to constitutional amendments	Held	
563	Robak	Change insurance provisions relating to insurance coverage of mental health conditions	Select	
564	Baker	Change provisions relating to sex offenders and the Sex Offender Registration Act	Signed	10, 13, 14
565	Chambers	Prohibit inclusion of social security numbers on citations	General (-82)	
566	Chambers	Prohibit the use of the term fetus by public school employees	Held	
567	Chambers	Change references to unborn child to fetus	Held	
568	Wickersham	Change budget and audit provisions	Signed	3
571	Janssen	Change cemetery eminent domain provisions	IPP	
572	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to farm wineries	Held	
575	Aguilar	Change provisions for assessments and bonds relating to municipalities	General	
577	Brashear	Change provisions relating to postconviction proceedings and provide for performance of fingerprint and forensic DNA testing	IPP	
578	Suttle	Provide for a comprehensive eye examination for children entering school	Held	
580	Tyson	Change provisions of the Radiation Control Act	General (-1021)	13
580A	Tyson	Appropriation Bill	General	
581	Tyson	Change provisions relating to surnames	Held	
583	Byars	Provide for gubernatorial appointment of professional examining boards	IPP	
584	Smith	Change motorcycle and moped operation, licensure, and violation provisions	General	
584A	Smith	Appropriation Bill	General	
587	Dierks	Adopt the Agricultural Contract Unfair Practices Act	Held	
588	Dierks	Adopt the Rural Initiative Act	General	12
589	Dierks	Change provisions of the Livestock Brand Act	Signed	2
591	Dierks	Change animal damage control program provisions	Held	
592	Agriculture	Adopt the Agricultural Production Contract Act	Held	
595	Thompson	Change provisions for preadjudication and postadjudication costs associated with juveniles	Held	
597	Hilgart	State intent relating to pay rates for behavioral health services	Held	
599	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Change juvenile corrections provisions and provide for secure youth treatment facilities	IPP	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
600	Coordsen	Change agricultural and horticultural land valuation provisions	Select	2,8,13
600A	Coordsen	Appropriation Bill	General	
601	Kremer	Adopt the Health Care Prompt Payment Act	Held	
602	Hartnett	Redefine general fund budget of expenditures under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
604	Program Evaluation	Change the authority of the Dept. of Correctional Services to invest inmate funds	Signed	
605	Cunningham	Provide additional penalties for littering	IPP	
607	Dw. Pedersen	Change structured programming provisions under the Nebraska Treatment and Corrections Act	Held	
608	Dw. Pedersen	Change assault, custody, and parole provisions	Held	
609	Raikes	Change equalization aid and the minimum levy adjustment under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
610	Dw. Pedersen	Provide Dept. of Correctional Services duties relating to prisoner release or parole	Held	
611	Dw. Pedersen	Create the Correctional Improvement Committee and provide for correctional improvement studies and programs	General	
612	Jensen	Change medical assistance program provisions with respect to coverage for anti-obesity drugs	IPP	
613	Redfield, req. of Gov.	Change the Educational Innovation Fund and mentor teacher program provisions	IPP	
616	Price	Provide for road maintenance agreements and relinquishment of street improvement funds	Signed (+1262)	
619	Bruning	Change retirement provisions for police officers of first and second class cities and villages	General	
622	Wickersham	Change funding provisions under the Judges Retirement Act	Held	
625	Thompson	Adopt the Encouraging Paraeducators To Teach Program Act	IPP	
626	Beutler	Require minimum wages for employees of certain state contractors	Held	
627	Beutler	Provide a minimum wage for state employees	General	
628	Beutler	Regulate dredge and fill materials under the Environmental Protection Act	IPP	
630	Beutler	Authorize transfers from the Nebraska Collection Agency Fund to the General Fund	Held	
631	Beutler	Appropriate funds to the Secretary of State to enhance administrative oversight of the office	Held	
632	Beutler	Redistrict the Game and Parks Commission	IPP	
633	Beutler	Provide an increase in the minimum wage	General	
634	Beutler	Change funding, fee, and use provisions for the Natural Resources Enhancement Fund	General	
635	Beutler	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Natural Resources	Held	
636	Beutler	Authorize Nebraska Natural Heritage License Plates	Held	
642	Dw. Pedersen	Provide duties with respect to a child fatality or near fatality	Signed	12,15
643	Beutler	Provide reimbursement for summer enrichment programs and before-and-after-school programs	IPP	
644	Preister	Adopt the Electronic Equipment Recycling Act	IPP	
645	Preister	Provide for a renewable portfolio standard and renewable energy credits	Held	
647	Stuhr	Provide requirements for school textbook contracts and change provisions governing educational service units	Signed (+1250)	13,15
648	D. Pederson	Change provisions for combined improvement relating to municipalities	General	
649	D. Pederson	Change provisions for sanitary sewer extension districts and water extension districts	Signed	
650	Wehrbein	Provide for special-purpose education programs and provide duties for the Dept. of Health and the State Dept. of Education	Held	
651	Wehrbein	Authorize certain county assessors to reassume county assessment functions transferred to the Property Tax Administrator	IPP	
653	Wehrbein	Authorize transfers from the Uniform Commercial Code Cash Fund to the Records Management Cash Fund	Held	
654	Kremer	Change provisions for school district transfers of land by petition	IPP	
655	Beutler	Change Building Renewal Allocation Fund and Cash Reserve Fund provisions	Held	
658	Robak	Change provisions relating to lotteries and gambling	Held	
660	Hartnett	Change basic allowable growth rate provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
661	Jensen	Provide for a task force and study of the Omaha to Lincoln Interstate 80 corridor	Select	
661A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	Select	
662	Erdman	Change procedures for the transfer of the assessment function to the Property Tax Administrator	IPP	
669	Byars	Recognize American Sign Language as a distinct and separate language	Held	
670	Janssen	Change provisions for municipal officers in second class cities and villages	General	
674	Raikes	Change homestead exemption income eligibility provisions	General	
675	Raikes	Change Commission of Industrial Relations provisions involving employees of a school district or an educational service unit	IPP	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
676	Thompson	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Education for the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program Act	Held	
679	Bromm	Change provisions of the Nebraska Public Safety Wireless Communication System Act	Held	
680	Robak	Change lottery ticket sale provisions with respect to vending or dispensing devices	Held	
682	Jensen	Adopt the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act	General	
683	Hilgert	Appropriate funds to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education for awards	Held	
684	Jones	Change warning sign provisions for equine activities	Signed	4
685	Jones	Change prescription drug provisions under medical benefit contracts	Held	
686	Retirement Systems	Change retirement system actuarial valuation, contribution, and fund provisions	Held (-407)	
687	Retirement Systems	Change state and county retirement system contribution rates and state intent regarding system changes	Signed	4, 10, 13, 14
687A	Stuhr	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
688	Transportation and Telecom.	Change salvage certificate of title provisions	General (-830)	
689	Raikes	Provide for indexed formula need under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
690	Raikes	Change provisions for calculation of formula need under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
691	Jensen, req. of Gov.	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Health and Human Services for substance abuse and mental health services and programming for juveniles in state custody	Held	
695	Connealy	Adopt the Certified Safe Farms Act	Held	
696	Landis	Change recovery provisions under wrongful death actions	Held	
697	Robak	Provide for school safety plans and create a fund	Held	
698	Suttle	Provide for a study of increasing costs related to medicaid patients in nursing facilities	IPP	
700	Janssen	Create the Dept. of Building Renewal and eliminate the Task Force for Building Renewal	Held	
701	Bourne	Change allowable growth rate exception provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
704	Beutler	Change Nebraska State Capitol Environs District specifications	General (-729)	15
705	Beutler	Appropriate funds to the Dept. of Health and Human Services for domestic violence programs	Held	
707	Beutler	Change campaign expenditure, public fund, and Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission provisions	General	10
708	Kristensen	Adopt the Teacher Tuition Reimbursement Act	IPP	
709	Stuhr	Restrict eminent domain powers of natural resources districts	Held	
712	Kristensen	Clarify rule and regulation authority of the Tax Commissioner	Select	2
715	Redfield	Adopt the Recruiting Educators to Nebraska Act	IPP	
718	Hilgert	Require an advisement from a court prior to a plea of guilty or nolo contendere	Held (-82)	
719	Hilgert	Provide an exemption under the Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act	Signed	
721	Schimek	Change privacy rights with respect to medical registries	General (-1021)	13
722	Schimek	Change provisions relating to military leave	Signed	12, 15
723	Dw. Pedersen	Authorize applications to the Board of Pardons by inmates to commutation of sentences	Held	
724	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for generic organizational license plates	Held	
725	Hartnett	Change the distribution of estate tax revenue and change the exempt amount for inheritance tax purposes	IPP	
726	Hartnett	Provide for transfer of retirement benefits between state agencies and change provisions for Nebraska State Patrol retirement system membership	Held	
727	Hartnett	Change taxation provisions for prepaid telephone calling arrangements	General	
728	Hartnett	Change provisions of the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act	Held	
729	Hartnett	Authorize counties to transfer jurisdiction and change city classification provisions and Nebraska State Capitol Environs District specifications as prescribed	Signed (+704,984)	11, 15
731	Hartnett	Change provisions relating to vacancies in certain elected offices	IPP	
732	Hartnett	Change provisions of the Nebraska Visitors Development Act	Held	
736	Price	Redefine allowable costs under the Special Education Act	Held	
738	Dw. Pedersen	Change parole and work release provisions	Held	
741	Landis	Change provisions governing motor carriers and certificates of convenience and necessity	Held	
745	Raikes	Change provisions of the Master Teacher program and the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program	Held	
746	Raikes	Change provisions for calculation of formula need under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
747	Raikes	Change provisions for the local effort rate under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
748	Raikes	Change provisions for calculation of state aid, allowable growth rates, and the Hardship Fund under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
752	Chambers	Provide restrictions on admissibility of jailhouse informers' testimony	Signed (+756)	5,9
753	Chambers	Change references from unborn child to fetus	Held	
754	Chambers	Change provisions for misdemeanor sentences served in a Dept. of Correctional Services institution	General (-82)	
754A	Chambers	Appropriation Bill	General	
756	Chambers	Provide procedures relating to jailhouse informer testimony	General (-752)	
758	Coordsen	Authorize an additional use for the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners Administrative Fund	General	
758A	Coordsen	Appropriation Bill	General	
762	Schrock	Change environmental audit provisions	IPP	
763	Schrock	Change provisions for storage facilities and livestock waste control facilities	General	
764	Schrock	Provide powers to cities, villages, and natural resources districts relating to run-off waters	IPP	
766	Schrock	Provide reciprocal immunity from motor vehicle registration and display requirements	General	
767	Jensen	Adopt the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act	Held	
769	Thompson	Create the Office of Juvenile Services as an executive department	IPP	
770	Jensen	Change provisions of the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act and change custody provisions	IPP	
774	Kruse	Change measuring of blood-alcohol or breath-alcohol concentration provisions for certain unlawful acts	Held	
775	Kruse	Change child abuse provisions	Held	
776	Kruse	Change penalties for persons under twenty-one years of age driving under the influence	Held	
777	Kremer	Change provisions of the Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act	General (-1003)	
778	Kremer	Provide for the confidentiality and disclosure of certain information by the Game and Parks Commission	General	
779	Bourne	Provide for confidential communications in cases of domestic violence and sexual assault	General	
780	Raikes	Change provisions relating to legal rates for published notices	General	
782	Beutler	Adopt the Community Scholarship Partnership Program Act	Held	
783	Beutler	Provide additional disclosure requirements with respect to job training grants	General	
784	Beutler	Change child custody determination, parenting plan, and costs provisions relating to divorce	General	
785	Erdman	Change eminent domain provisions with respect to railroads	Held	
786	Schrock	Provide penalties for contraband in detention facilities	Held	
787	Jones	Change provisions for limited permits under the Game Law	General (-1003)	
789	Smith	Appropriate funds for mental health services	Held	
791	Janssen	Change provisions for transfer of funds under the State Lottery Act	General	12
795	Beutler	Change firearm storage and sale provisions	Held	
796	Schimek	Change municipal meeting and recall petition provisions	General (-1054)	
798	Kremer	Change insurance provisions with respect to creditors claims	Held	
801	Coordsen	Adopt the Employees of Elected Constitutional Offices Supplemental Retirement Plan Act	Held	
802	Robak	Change gambling provisions and authorize the use of electronic pickle card devices and lottery equipment	Held	
803	Agriculture	Adopt the Nebraska Pork Industry Development Act	General	
805	Dierks	Change petition signer, circulator, and verification provisions	General	
806	Urban Affairs	Change provisions of the Municipal Natural Gas Regulation Act	General	
807	Urban Affairs	Change the Municipal Natural Gas Regulation Act	IPP	
810	Urban Affairs	Change sanitary and improvement district formation, trustees, and fund provisions	General	
811	Urban Affairs	Incorporate and adopt different standards under the state building code	IPP	
812	Cunningham	Change adjusted formula student provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Held	
813	Cunningham	Adopt the Public Facilities Construction and Finance Act	Held	
814	Beutler	Change provisions for the sale of alcoholic liquor near churches, colleges, and universities	Select	9
815	Schrock	Include anhydrous ammonia under drug paraphernalia provisions	IPP	
816	Hilgert	Adopt the Elevator Regulation Act	General	
823	Foley	Provide that the term person includes an unborn child for purposes of wrongful death actions	Held	
824	Foley	Adopt the Homicide of the Unborn Child Act	Signed	2,4,5,7
825	Foley	Require insurance coverage for reproductive health care	General	10

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
826	Bromm	Provide employees of the Nebraska Library Commission are state employees for eligibility for state insurance benefits	General	
830	Bromm	Change provisions relating to certificates of title, motor vehicle registration, license plates, and fees	Signed (+157,388,688,922)	2
830A	Bromm	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
834	Bromm	Provide for damages with respect to certain agricultural research projects	IPP	
835	Bromm	Authorize joint plan sponsored employee benefit plans under the Political Subdivisions Self-Funding Benefits Act	General	
837	Bromm	Change Dept. of Natural Resources provisions for notices and hearings	IPP	
839	Foley	Require telecommunications companies to provide an informational statement regarding unsolicited calls or faxes	Held	
841	Brashear	Change income tax, sales and use tax, and homestead exemption provisions	IPP	
842	Brashear	Change child custody determination provisions relating to divorce	Held	
843	Brashear	Adopt the Uniform Athlete Agents Act	Held	
844	Brashear	Change provisions relating to enhanced penalties and procedure	General	
846	Brashear	Change provisions relating to burglary	Held	
847	Brashear	Change provisions for victim's rights	Select	13
848	Brashear	Change admission and membership requirements for the Nebraska bar	Signed	3,9
848A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
857	Executive Board	Revisor bill to update statutory references relating to banking and finance	Signed	
858	Executive Board	Revisor bill to transfer sections relating to domestic animals	Signed	
859	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal Department of Economic Development provisions which terminated June 30, 1999	Signed	
860	Executive Board	Revisor bill to harmonize provisions relating to deposits of cities of the first class	Signed	
861	Kristensen	Change provisions relating to Commission on Public Advocacy funds and personnel	General (-876)	
862	Byars	Adopt the Cremation of Human Remains Act	General	4
862A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	General	
863	Byars	Change provisions relating to real estate disclosure statements and licensure and regulation of real estate professionals	Signed (+871)	12,13,14
864	Bruning	Change Public Accountancy Act fee provisions	General	
865	Bruning	Change the method of inflicting the death penalty	Held	8
866	Bruning	Adopt the Safe at Home Act that provides for confidentiality of addresses	IPP	
867	Vrtiska	Provide for the issuance of one license plate	IPP	
868	Schimek	Require a report on the progress of the Nebraska Information System	Held	
869	Schimek	Eliminate a duty of the Nebraska Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission	General (-93)	
870	Schimek	Prohibit certain actions relating to payment cards	General (-276)	
871	Schimek	Change real estate disclosure statement and errors and omissions insurance provisions	IPP (-863)	
872	Schimek	Create the offense of leaving a child unattended in a motor vehicle	General	3
873	Cudaback	Adopt the 2002 National Electrical Code	Signed	14
874	Brashear	Change holiday schedules applicable to courts	General (-876)	13,14,15
875	Brashear	Change the distribution of court reports	General (-876)	13,14,15
876	Brashear	Change court procedure provisions	Signed (+281861874,875,901,927,969,1043)	13,14,15
876A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
877	Smith	Provide the Military Department with powers relating to the Civil Air Patrol	General	
877A	Smith	Appropriation Bill	General	
878	Bromm	Change provisions relating to tax lists	General (-994)	
879	Suttle	Change auxiliary driving light provisions	Held	
880	Suttle	Adopt the Teacher Tuition Reimbursement Program Act	General	4
881	Suttle	Change tax deadlines relating to persons in military service	IPP	
882	Thompson	Change private detective licensing provisions	General	
883	Wickersham	Authorize the charging of fees for insufficient funds motor vehicle transactions	Held	
884	Wickersham	Change provisions relating to tax penalties, payments, and fees	IPP (-994)	
885	Wickersham	Change provisions relating to corporate reports and occupation taxes	General (-989)	
886	Wickersham	Change the documentary stamp tax	General	
887	Wickersham	Update Internal Revenue Code citations	General (-989)	
888	Wickersham	Provide keeping of automobile liability insurance records in the vehicle titling and registration computer system	IPP	
889	Schrock	Increase membership on the Water Well Standards and Contractors' Licensing Board	IPP	
890	Schrock	Change provisions relating to water well registration fees	General (-458)	
891	Kristensen	Change administrative structure of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board	General (-1003)	
892	Jensen	Provide for dental faculty licenses	General (-1062)	
892A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	General	
893	Jensen	Exempt certain school maintenance and improvement costs from the property tax levy limit	IPP	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
894	Jensen	Provide for discipline of licenses for failure to pay student loans	General	3
895	Schimek	Adopt the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision	IPP	
896	Byars	Change respite care licensing and funding provisions	General (-1062)	
897	Byars	Refund certain fees under the Securities Act of Nebraska	IPP (-957)	
898	Kristensen	Change provisions relating to local effort rate	Overridden (+252)	7,9,10,11,12,13,14
898A	Kristensen	Appropriation Bill	Signed	14
899	Connealy	Provide requirements relating to renewable fuel	General	4
900	Landis	Change provisions relating to the compiling of lien information	IPP (-957)	
901	Landis	Change calculation of interest on decrees and judgments	General (-876)	13,14,15
902	D. Pederson	Change hunting posting provisions	IPP (-1003)	
903	Redfield	Adopt the Interstate Compact Sunshine Act	IPP	
904	Redfield	Change provisions of the Telemarketing and Prize Promotions Act	General	
905	Wickersham	Change estate and generation-skipping transfer tax provisions	Signed	8,10,11,15
906	Wehrbein	Change Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund transfer provisions	Held	
907	Burling	Change a sales tax exemption for molds, dies, and patterns	IPP	
908	Thompson	Change sheriff's office merit commission membership provisions	General	
909	Schimek	Change provisions relating to tribal-state gaming compacts	Held	4
910	Smith	Change adverse possession provisions	Held	
911	Dierks	Encourage government purchases of calcium rich products	General	
912	Dierks	Extend the termination date of the Farm Mediation Act	Signed	
913	Dierks	Change provisions relating to wild animals	Withdrawn	
914	Dierks	Change hog disease provisions	General	
915	Dierks	Change weights and measures provisions	General	
916	Dierks	Change food regulation provisions	General	8
917	Transportation and Telecom.	Reorganize, change, and eliminate provisions relating to telecommunications and technology	General (-1105)	
918	Bromm	Change and reorganize provisions relating to telecommunications, technology, and transportation	General (-1105)	15
919	Agriculture	Change domesticated cervine animal provisions	General (-1003)	
920	Burling	Exempt machine tools from sales tax	IPP	
921	Business and Labor	Change employment security law provisions	Signed	14,15
922	Bromm	Authorize the acceptance of out-of-state motor vehicle titles	General (-830)	
923	Bromm	Change aerobics and Department of Aerobics provisions	General (-446)	
924	Bromm	Provide for biometric identifiers on drivers' licenses and identification cards	Held	6
925	Bromm	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle auction dealers	General (-1105)	
926	Schimek	Adopt the Address Confidentiality Act	General	
926A	Schimek	Appropriation Bill	General	
927	D. Pederson	Change trust deed provisions	General (-876,957)	13,14,15
928	Vrtiska	Change a provision for correction of a levy	General	
929	Wehrbein	Provide for a program statement for construction of a new veterans home	Held (-1309)	10
930	Government	Eliminate certain boards, committees, councils, and panels	General (-93)	
931	Stuhr	Change farm labor contractor provisions	Signed	12,15
931A	Stuhr	Appropriation Bill	Vetoed	
932	Price	Change provisions relating to city council meetings for cities of the primary class	Signed	14
933	Price	Change emergency medical services confidentiality provisions	Held	
934	Kristensen	Change school tax levy provisions and state aid calculations	Held	
935	McDonald	Change and eliminate provisions relating to elections and petitions	Signed (+558, 1273)	3,9,10,13,14
936	Schrock	Authorize drainage programs and storm sewer systems for cities, villages, and natural resources districts	General	9
937	Schrock	Provide for payments from the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Fund for certain management practices	IPP	
938	Schrock	Provide for certain erosion control payments from the Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Fund	IPP (-1033)	
939	Schrock	Adopt the Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Standards and Contractor Licensing Act	IPP	
940	Schrock	Change penalty and enforcement provisions relating to water well registration	General	
941	Schrock	Change provisions relating to fees of the Department of Natural Resources	IPP	
942	Schrock	Change solid waste disposal permit provisions	General	
943	Redfield	Change provisions relating to homestead exemptions	IPP	
944	Redfield	Adopt the Service Contract Companies Act	IPP	
945	Wickersham	Authorize payments to government entities by electronic funds transfers	General (-994)	
946	Wickersham	Change funding provisions of tax incentive laws	General	6,10,11
947	Wickersham	Change taxation provisions relating to mobile telecommunications service	Signed	11,13,14
948	Baker	Exempt agricultural machinery repairs and parts from sales tax	IPP	
949	Baker	Change postconviction proceedings	Held	
950	Cunningham	Change Class C licenses under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act	General	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
951	Engel	Change provisions relating to Department of Correctional Services' braille products and contracts	Signed	14
952	Burling	Change adoption and adoption records provisions	Signed	15
952A	Burling	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
953	Wickersham	Change the sales and use tax rate	Held	8
954	Schimek	Provide for the design of a new state flag	Held	
955	Schimek	Change resident postsecondary tuition provisions	IPP	
956	Suttle	Change child care licensure provisions	Held	
957	Landis	Change provisions relating to banking and finance	Signed (+897,900,927,967, 968,153)	
958	Suttle	Change provisions relating to health care facilities and personnel	General (-1021)	
958A	Suttle	Appropriation Bill	General	
959	Robak	Change hours of sale for alcoholic liquor	IPP	
960	Byars	Change variances from visible air emission standards	IPP	
961	D. Pederson	Create the State Fair Commission	IPP	4
962	Kremer	Change liability provisions of buyers of farm products subject to liens	General	
963	Kremer	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Installment Sales Act	General	
964	Redfield	Authorize the Auditor of Public Accounts to conduct performance audits	Held	
965	Redfield	Restrict government collection and use of personally identifiable information	Held	
966	Redfield	Change public records provisions	General (-276)	
967	Landis	Change provisions relating to disclosures by financial institutions and the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act	IPP (-957)	
968	Landis	Exempt the University and state colleges from bond redemption requirements	General (-957)	
969	Landis	Change civil action settlement procedures	General (-876)	13,14
970	Dw. Pedersen	Change city of the first class ward provisions	Signed	
971	Bromm	Adopt federal railroad safety standards	Held	
972	Bromm	Change dates relating to telecommunications relay system surcharges	General	
973	Janssen	Change life insurance death benefits for volunteer fire companies	General	
974	Janssen	Redefine recreational purposes for liability purposes	IPP	
975	Cudaback	Change petition signature requirements for presidential and vice-presidential candidates	IPP	
976	Kristensen	Authorize the use of electric personal assistive mobility devices	General (-105)	
977	Aguilar	Change veterans' aid application procedures	Signed	
978	Aguilar	Provide rights for trainers of dogs for disabled persons	General	
979	Aguilar	Change inmate medical expense payment provisions	Held	
980	Cunningham	Eliminate recognition of holiday proclamations by the President	Held	
981	Jensen	Provide for the Nebraska Educational Finance Authority to make loans in anticipation of tuition receipts	General	
982	Erdman	Change provisions relating to Americanism instruction	Held	6
983	Erdman	Prohibit minors from disaffirming certain contracts	Held	
984	Erdman	Change population restrictions for first class cities	General (-729)	
985	Stuhr	Provide accommodation for trainers of dogs for disabled persons	IPP	
986	Bromm	Provide notice and payment requirements for automobile liability policies	IPP	
987	Kristensen	Establish the Warner School of Excellence at the University of Nebraska at Kearney	IPP	
988	Byars	Change eligibility under the Early Intervention Act	General	
989	Revenue	Change provisions relating to revenue and taxation	Signed (+885,887,991,063)	13,15
989A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
990	Revenue	Change assessment practices relating to improvements on leased lands	Withdrawn	
991	Revenue	Change Highway Trust Fund provisions	General (-989)	
992	Revenue	Change homestead exemption certification and application provisions	General	3
993	Schrock	Create the Game and Parks Commission Advisory Board	IPP	4
994	Revenue	Change provisions relating to payments and revenue	Signed (+878,884,945,1030, 1042,1085,1113,1125, 1137,1232)	
994A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
995	Wickersham	Authorize electronic tax returns, payments, and refunds	General	3
996	Wickersham	Change cigarette tax and liquor tax provisions	Held	8
997	Transportation and Telecom.	Change procedures for appeals from the Public Service Commission	General	
998	Transportation and Telecom.	Adopt federal motor carrier safety and hazardous material regulations	General (-499)	
999	Transportation and Telecom.	Change commercial motor vehicle provisions	General (-499)	
1000	Bourne	Remove judges as members of a board and a commission	General (-93)	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1001	Bourne	Require itemized deductions on paychecks	General	
1002	Bourne	Double fines for speeding in a residential area	Held	
1003	Schrock	Change provisions relating to the environment	Signed (+427,777,787,891, 902,919,938,1023,1186, 1288)	4,9,10,13,15
1003A	Schrock	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
1004	Schrock	Create the Game and Parks Commission Advisory Board	IPP	4
1005	Bromm	Change law enforcement officer's primary jurisdiction with respect to DUI chemical testing procedures	Held	
1006	Schrock	Change provisions relating to sales under the Uniform Commercial Code	Held	
1007	Kruse	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle towing and storage costs	IPP	
1008	Kruse	Change candidate filing form provisions	IPP (-1054)	
1009	Connealy	Prohibit installation or reinstallation in a motor vehicle, as part of the inflatable restraint system, or any object other than an air bag	General	
1010	Quandahl	Provide powers for military officers to act as notaries public	Held	
1011	Kristensen	Authorize employment of Counsel to the Legislature	General	7
1012	Quandahl	Authorize certain installment sales and loan fees	General	
1013	Schimek	Change property tax penalty provisions	IPP	
1014	Coordsen	Eliminate the Nebraska Futures Center	General	
1015	Suttle	Change the Childhood Vaccine Act and create an immunization registry	Held	
1016	Brashear	Change filing requirements for businesses engaged in professional services	General	
1017	Brashear	Provide confidentiality for prescribing physicians	General	
1018	Vrtiska	Change county budget-making authority and county clerk duties	Signed	
1019	Retirement Systems	Change provisions relating to retirement fund investment options and the Nebraska Investment Council	Held (-407)	
1020	Hartnett	Change provisions relating to housing agency bonds	IPP	
1021	Health and Human Services	Change continuing education, radiation control, swimming pool, medication aide, and medical registry provisions	Signed (+580,721,958,1096)	9,13,15
1022	Schrock	Change property tax depreciation schedules for certain equipment	IPP	
1023	Schrock	Provide for a Water Policy Task Force	General (-1003)	3
1023A		Appropriation Bill	General	
1024	Schrock	Exempt agricultural machinery repairs and parts from sales tax	IPP	
1025	Thompson	Increase and change allocation of the cigarette tax	Held	
1026	Wickersham	Adopt the Water Rights Leasing Act	Held	
1027	Wickersham	Change the School Employees Retirement Act with respect to termination of employment	Held (-407)	
1028	Robak	Change occupant protection provisions for motor vehicles and school buses	Held	
1029	Robak	Authorize the State Records Board to grant funds for electronic access to public records	General	
1030	Wickersham	Change procedures for state assumption of property tax assessment	IPP (-994)	
1031	Bromm	Change board of trustees residency requirements for county medical and multiunit facilities	General (-1062)	
1032	Jensen	Provide for recommendations relating to a statewide public health system	General	
1033	Wickersham	Change scope of practice provisions for certain out of hospital emergency care provisions	Signed	13,14,15
1033A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
1034	Hartnett	Prohibit extreme or ultimate fighting	Held	3
1035	Hartnett	Change provisions relating to receipt of developmental disabilities services	Held	
1036	Landis	Change application provisions under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	5,6
1037	Landis	Prohibit new applications under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	5
1038	Landis	Provide additional investment options for state and county retirement system members	Held	
1039	Schrock	Change motor fuel tax rates and diesel fuel tax refund provisions	IPP	6
1040	Business and Labor	Approve payment of certain claims against the state	Signed	12,13,14
1041	Connealy	Include funding for administrative license revocation appeals in the Attorney General's budget	Held	
1042	Wickersham	Define educational purposes for property tax exemption	IPP (-994)	
1043	Kristensen	Change court fees	General (-876)	13,14,15
1044	Smith	Change tax deed notice requirements	IPP	
1045	Hartnett	Change income tax rates	Held	8
1046	Baker	Change the member districts of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds	Held	
1047	Suttle	Require insurance coverage for foods for inherited metabolic diseases	Held	
1048	Quandahl	Eliminate certain publication requirements for business entities	Held	
1049	Coordsen	Change provisions relating to the standard of review under the Administrative Procedures Act	Held	



BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1050	Stuhr	Require titling and registration of on-trail all-terrain vehicles	IPP	
1051	Stuhr	Change an appropriation to the Department of Roads	Held	
1052	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to the motor vehicle point system	General	
1053	Connealy	Change maximum levy exemptions for schools	IPP	
1054	Schimek	Change provisions relating to elections and civil rights	Signed (+796,1008)	3,10,13,14
1055	Dierks	Change fee provisions for noxious weed control, pesticides, and liming materials	Held	
1056	Dierks	Change fee provisions under the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act	Held	
1057	Dierks	Change fee provisions in the Commercial Feed Act	Held	
1058	Dierks	Change funding provisions under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act	Held	
1059	Kristensen	Authorize school districts to charge fees for extracurricular activities	IPP (-172)	4
1060	Wickersham	Change ethanol production credits and grain tax rates	General	6
1061	Hartnett	Authorize leaves from jail for alcohol or substance abuse treatment	Held	
1062	Health and Human Services	Change health and human services provisions	Signed (+892,896,1031,1107,1152,1218)	15
1062A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	Signed	
1063	Jensen	Change cigarette tax provisions	IPP (-989)	
1064	Vrtiska	Change a date relating to homestead exemptions	General	
1065	Bourne	Prohibit the issuance of gift certificates as prescribed	IPP	
1066	Schrock	Change penalty for violation of a cease and desist order issued by a natural resources district	General	
1067	Brown	Prohibit activities relating to human reproductive cloning	Held	5
1068	Janssen	Change provisions relating to pickle cards	Held	
1069	Bromm	Change filing and hearing fees of the Public Service Commission	General	
1070	Redfield	Provide an alternative method to provide reports to the Legislature	General	
1071	Beutler	Change provisions relating to abstracters	Signed	
1072	Beutler	Change provisions of the Minority Scholarship Program Act	General	
1073	Thompson	Change provisions and penalties relating to occupant protection systems	Signed	10,11,13,14
1073A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	IPP	
1074	Thompson	Change provisions relating to provisional operators' permits with respect to passengers	General	
1075	Tyson	Provide for firearm range and owner liability and immunity from liability as prescribed	Held	
1076	Tyson	Require criminal history record checks for applicants for certain licenses	Held	
1077	Tyson	Change penalty provisions under the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	Held	
1078	Tyson	Adopt the Nebraska Municipal Comparability Act	IPP	
1079	Thompson	Provide for tuition reimbursement for teachers and paraeducators and reallocate the Education Innovation Fund	IPP	4
1080	Stuhr	Change provisions and penalties relating to tobacco products and to tobacco licensees	Held	
1081	Transportation and Telecom.	Authorize federal undercover drivers' licenses and license plates	General	
1082	Landis	Require schools to adopt a bullying policy	IPP	
1083	Landis	Require schools to adopt a bullying policy and prohibit certain acts relating to firearms	Held	
1084	Connealy	Prioritize location of state facilities in rural areas	General	
1085	Revenue	Change provisions relating to taxation on services, income, and property as prescribed	Overridden (-994, +1122)	10,11,12,13,14
1085A	Wickersham	Appropriation Bill	Overridden	
1086	Chambers	Prohibit state funding of advertising materials and certain gifts to public officials and allow the use of campaign funds for travel by the Governor's family	Signed	6,12,15
1087	Tyson	Provide an exemption from levy limits for library technology purchases	IPP	
1088	Landis	Change fees for state identification cards	Held	
1089	Landis	Eliminate certain branch banking restrictions	Signed	4,9,13,15
1090	Bourne	Authorize credit unions to receive funds of political subdivisions for deposit	IPP	
1091	Bourne	Change abuse of public record provisions	Held	
1092	Landis	Change provisions relating to insurance	Held (-1139)	
1093	Stuhr	Change and transfer provisions relating to parole administration	Held	
1094	Landis	Eliminate references to cooperative credit associations	Signed	
1095	Jensen	Reduce extended Medicaid eligibility for children under the federal option from twelve months to six months	General	3,7,8,9,15
1096	Jensen	Provide and change regulation of spas and swimming pools by the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure	General (-1021)	13
1096A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	General	
1097	Wickersham	Change budget limitation provisions	General	7
1098	Wickersham	Change information on and duties related to tax statements	IPP	
1099	Wickersham	Change budget limitations for political subdivisions and schools	Held	7

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1100	Speaker Kristensen, req. of Gov.	Provide deficit appropriations for state government expenses	Held	
1101	Speaker Kristensen, req. of Gov.	Authorize and provide for certain cash fund transfers	Signed (-1310)	7
1102	Jones	Eliminate provisions relating to tenure for school employees	IPP	4
1103	Connealy	Redefine tire processing for purposes of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Act	IPP	
1104	Vrtiska	Increase the gallonage tax on beer	Held	5
1105	Transportation and Telecom.	Change provisions relating to transportation and telecommunications	Signed (+490,917,918,925,976,1238)	5,12,15
1106	Landis	Change provisions relating to filing financial statements under the Uniform Commercial Code	IPP	
1107	Maxwell	Change licensing examination provisions for doctors	General (-1062)	
1108	Schimek	Authorize certain Lottery Division computer information and financial account numbers be withheld from the public	IPP	
1109	Brashear	Change provisions relating to criminal procedure and administration	Held	
1110	Hartnett	Change service awards for voluntary emergency responders	Signed	12,13,14
1111	Retirement Systems	Change county, judges, state patrol, state employee, and school employee retirement system provisions	Held (-407)	
1112	Janssen	Provide a reciprocal sales tax exemption	General	
1113	Jones	Change property tax assessment provisions relating to reports of property improvements	IPP (-994)	
1114	Tyson	Require uniform prescription drug information cards for certain insurance coverage	General	
1115	Aguilar	Authorize drug court programs	Final	6,13,15
1116	Smith	Eliminate ignition interlock devices as an option for certain DUI violations	Held	7
1117	Smith	Exempt certain members of the armed forces from income tax	IPP	
1118	Smith	Change insurance licensee continuing education requirements	Held	
1119	Smith	Change size of tractors required to have tractor testing prior to sale	Held	
1120	Byars	Change provisions and provide duties relating to certain discriminatory employment practices and community-based treatment services	Held	6
1121	Wickersham	Provide duties for the Department of Revenue relating to multistate sales and use tax collection	Held	
1122	Wickersham	Impose sales tax on certain services	Held (-1085)	8,10
1123	Raikes	Provide an exception to competitive bidding requirements under the County Purchasing Act	Held	
1124	Jensen	Provide an exception to school levy limitations for certain medical costs	IPP	
1125	Wickersham	Prorate distributions under the County Property Tax Relief Program	General (-994)	
1126	General Affairs	Authorize charitable gaming license and permit administrative actions for liquor violations and change keg deposit provisions	Signed (+371)	12,13,14,15
1127	Janssen	Change special designated liquor license provisions	Held	
1128	Landis	Change budget limitation provisions	IPP	7
1129	Hartnett	Change State Fire Marshal fees	Held	
1130	Schrock	Change and eliminate provisions relating to tire fees, storage, and disposal and grants under the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Act	IPP	
1131	Bromm	Change motor vehicle dealer franchise's community restrictions	General	
1132	McDonald	Change provisions relating to duties of and loans made by the Nebraska Railway Council	General	15
1133	Robak	Change penalties relating to alcoholic liquor violations by minors	Held	
1134	Schrock	Provide for a separate cost grouping for certain unified systems under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	
1135	Robak	Provide for a presumption of possession of alcoholic liquor by minors	IPP	
1136	Wickersham	Provide public access to information under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	General	5,6
1137	Landis	Change levy authority calculations	General (-994)	
1138	Tyson	Create a fund and impose a surcharge under the Emergency Management Act	IPP	
1139	Landis	Change insurance provisions and adopt the Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement Act	Signed (+1092)	10,13
1140	Preister	Change membership and duties of the Environmental Quality Council	IPP	14,15
1141	Coordsen	Change provisions for filling vacancies on the Board of Regents	General	
1142	Wehrbein	Change funding provisions for the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund	Held (-1310)	
1143	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for solicitation of contributions on city streets	General	
1144	Bourne	Change Class V school employee retirement system provisions relating to transfers and rollovers	Held (-407)	
1145	Jensen	Provide funding for substance abuse treatment	Held	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1146	Erdman	Adopt the Medical Savings Account Act	IPP	
1147	Vrtiska	Provide for pioneer family and shrine hospital license plates	Withdrawn	
1148	Jensen	Provide for a legislative study and report on prescription drug assistance	Signed	
1149	Jensen	Change funding provisions of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	General	5, 15
1149A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	General	
1150	Coorsen	Include farm trailers in vehicle titling provisions prospectively	Held	
1151	Hartnett	Change vehicle registration fee provisions for metropolitan class cities	General	
1152	Thompson	Provide for hospital patient visitation rights	General (-1062)	
1153	Beutler	Change provisions relating to mortgages and trust deeds	Held (-957)	
1154	Landis	Provide licensed mental health practitioners with access to birth certificate information of an adopted person	Held	
1155	Landis	Change Equal Opportunity Commission hearing procedures	General	
1156	Kristensen	Create a tax court	Held	
1157	Connealy	Change employee safety provisions	Held	
1158	Connealy	Change workers' compensation provisions	Held	
1159	Hartnett	Permit schools to exceed their allowable growth rate for teacher compensation expenses	IPP	
1160	Hartnett	Increase the maximum school levy for teacher compensation purposes	IPP	
1161	Hudkins	Require certain public water suppliers to pay for county services and facilities	IPP	
1162	Brown	Provide a quality education incentive factor in the state aid formula	IPP	
1163	Landis	Change provisions relating to the Uniform Federal Lien Registration Act	General	
1164	Wehrbein	Authorize fund transfers from the Charitable Gaming Division Fund and change distribution of charitable gaming taxes	Held (-1310)	
1165	Wehrbein	Change qualifications of certain state property tax officials	IPP	
1166	Wehrbein	Authorize fund transfers from the Compensation Court Cash Fund	Held	
1167	Connealy	Change Nebraska Workforce Investment Board provisions	General	
1168	Business and Labor	Create a task force to study fatigue as it relates to railroad employees	Signed	5, 10, 13, 14
1169	Raikes	Provide for a study of kindergarten readiness	General	
1169A	Raikes	Appropriation Bill	General	
1170	Raikes	Change the state aid formula to account for qualified early childhood education programs	IPP	
1171	Raikes	Adopt the Free Instruction Act and change fee provisions relating to records, transportation, and eye protective devices	IPP	4
1172	Raikes	Adopt the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act	Signed (+1059)	4, 9, 13, 14
1173	Raikes	Adopt the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act	IPP	4
1174	Raikes	Adopt the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act and change employment provisions and state aid calculations	IPP	
1175	Raikes	Provide for a student fee subsidy within the state aid formula	IPP	4
1176	Coorsen	Change calculations relating to homesteads	General	
1177	Kristensen	Require transfers from the General Fund to the Cash Reserve Fund	Held	6
1178	Robak	Redefine qualified employee leasing company under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	
1179	Stuhr	Transfers funds within the Department of Economic Development	Held	
1180	Price	Provide for evaluation and disciplinary procedures for noncertificated school staff	IPP	
1181	Quandahl	Provide for guidelines for support ordered under the Nebraska Juvenile Code	Held	
1182	Quandahl	Provide priority for criminal trials involving child victims or child witnesses	Held	
1183	Raikes	Change scholarship provisions for students in private postsecondary educational institutions	Held	5
1184	Wehrbein	Subject payments to risk management pools to levy limitations	IPP	
1185	Bromm	Change workers' compensation applicability provisions for agricultural employees and certain volunteers and companies	Select	15
1186	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to authorized weaponry for hunting certain wild animals	General (-1003)	
1187	Kruse	Change testing procedures relating to driving under the influence	Held	5
1188	Raikes	Prohibit receiving tax incentives under multiple tax incentive laws	IPP	
1189	Dierks	Provide a late permit and fee relating to open burning	Held	
1190	Landis	Adopt the Uniform Mediation Act	Held	
1191	Wehrbein	Change the cash reserve requirement used for state tax and budget provisions	Held	6
1192	Erdman	Adopt the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act	Held	
1193	Hudkins	Provide for insurance regulation of risk management pools	Held	
1194	Hudkins	Change workers' compensation provisions relating to volunteer firefighters, ambulance drivers, and emergency care providers	General	
1195	Bromm	Authorize use of funds by the Public Service Commission for monitoring federally mandated telecommunications competition requirements	General (-1211)	
1195A	Bromm	Appropriation Bill	General	
1196	Hudkins	Eliminate provisions dealing with law enforcement vehicular pursuits	IPP	4

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1197	Wehrbein	Provide for transfers from the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund to the General Fund	Held (-1310)	
1198	Kremer	Authorize claims settlement complaints by health care providers	Held	
1199	Bourne	Provide appraisal requirements for insurance purposes	Held	
1200	Thompson	Change County Purchasing Act provisions	Held	
1201	Suttle	Change and add provisions relating to state aid demographic factors and provide exceptions to levy and expenditure limits	Held	
1202	Thompson	Authorize city and county juvenile pretrial diversion programs	Held	
1203	Stuhr	Change abatement of nuisance provisions for certain cities and villages	General	
1204	Raikes	Provide for adjustment of state aid and property tax receipts due to certain property transfers as prescribed	General	
1205	Quandahl	Prohibit nonconsensual common law liens as prescribed	Held	
1206	Raikes	Change and eliminate provisions relating to schools	General	
1207	Jensen	Provide that child care licenses can be revoked or denied for dangerous environmental conditions	Held	
1208	Landis	Provide for sales tax on certain services	Held	8,10
1209	Schrock	Include feeder livestock and feeder grain in the Nebraska Livestock Sellers Protective Act	Held	
1210	Price	Provide for titling, registration, and taxation of kit or assembled automobiles	General	
1211	Transportation and Telecom.	Authorize the regulation of wireless carriers, public safety communication projects, and the use of funds	Signed (+1195, 1286)	5,9,13,14,15
1212	Tyson	Change prohibition on reorganization of certain affiliated Class I school districts	General (-460)	
1213	Chambers	Eliminate the Postsecondary Education Award Program Act	Held	5
1214	Brown	Provide method of assessing property rented to low income persons	Held	
1215	Quandahl	Change loan provisions with respect to mortgages, installment loans, and trust deeds	General	
1216	B yars	Require a statewide plan and report regarding services for persons with disabilities	General	
1217	Aguilar	Adopt the Security Services Act to regulate security guards and security companies	Held	
1218	Baker	Change health insurance provisions to require use of the national medical support notice for children	General (-1062)	15
1219	Schrock	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission	Held	
1220	Coordsen	Provide for removal of disorderly persons from school events	Held	
1221	Coordsen	Change agricultural and horticultural land valuation	Held	
1222	Schimek	Change filing fee provisions under the Election Act	Held	
1223	Thompson	Create the Office of Juvenile Services as a separate executive department	General	
1224	Brown	Adopt the Emergency Health Powers Act for response to a public health emergency	Held	
1225	Dw. Pedersen	Provide an income tax credit for public school teachers	Held	
1226	Kristensen	Adopt the Private Postsecondary Career School Assistance Program Act and reallocate funds for postsecondary education assistance	Held	5
1227	Dw. Pedersen	Adopt the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision	Held	7
1228	Foley	Provide for an alternative method of appointment of mechanics for pupil transportation vehicle inspections	General	
1229	Hartnett	Change city of the metropolitan class transit authority board membership provisions	IPP	
1230	Hartnett	Require metropolitan utilities districts to make payments to counties for retail water and gas sales as prescribed	IPP	
1231	Hartnett	Change a penalty for certain late unemployment tax reports	General	
1232	Hartnett	Change provisions relating to agricultural and horticultural land valuation boards	General (-994)	
1233	Hartnett	Authorize counties to assume ownership of interstate bridges as prescribed	IPP	
1234	Wehrbein	Change provisions relating to the Department of Property Assessment and Taxation Cash Fund	Held (-1310)	
1235	Wehrbein	Change Deferred Building Renewal Act provisions regarding depreciation charges and expenditures from certain funds	Held (-1310)	
1236	Wehrbein	Change membership and operation provisions for the State Board of Agriculture	Signed	11,13,14
1237	Redfield	Change the base limitation for budget limitation purposes for cities and villages	IPP	7
1238	Urban Affairs	Change application provisions for handicapped and disabled persons' license plates	General (-1005)	
1239	Urban Affairs	Change election and recall provisions for sanitary and improvement districts	General (-176)	
1240	Hartnett	Change city and county responsibilities and funds under the Nebraska Visitors Development Act	General	
1241	Erdman	Require gubernatorial approval of certain Game and Parks Commission actions under the Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act	IPP	
1242	Raikes	Change distribution of inheritance tax revenue	General	
1243	Hartnett	Change the inheritance tax exemption	Held	
1244	Hartnett	Create a renewable energy tax credit	Held	
1245	Dierks	Change ethanol production credits, excise taxes, and intent	IPP	6
1246	Aguilar	Provide tax exempt status for certain nonprofit corporations	Held	
1247	Beutler	Authorize the use of pickle card technological aids as prescribed	General	
1248	Beutler	Provide for extended contract days for teachers and provide for funding	IPP	
1249	Beutler	Change funding provisions of the Public Service Commission	Held	

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1250	Beutler	Require textbook publishers to provide versions to accommodate persons with disabilities	General (-647)	
1251	Raikes	Create the Public Education Finance Study Commission	Held	
1252	Raikes	Provide for certification of state aid as prescribed	General (-898)	7, 10
1253	Raikes	Provide for using resident membership for freeholder petitions and cooperative programs	IPP	
1254	Raikes	Authorize assessment of charges and fees for certain school activities	IPP	4
1255	Schrock	Reduce fees to the Underground Storage Tank Fund	IPP	
1256	Schrock	Provide that certain contracts of the Central Interstate Low Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission are null and void	IPP	
1257	Dierks	Change boundaries of legislative districts	Held	5, 6
1258	Bromm	Authorize the Director-State Engineer to provide construction specifications relating to viaducts and subways	IPP	
1259	Beutler	Adopt the Forward Nebraska Scholarship Program Act	Held	5
1260	Hartnett	Impose an excise tax on natural gas and exempt natural gas from sales tax	Held	
1261	Brown	Adopt the Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Act	Held	
1262	Tyson	Authorize municipalities to relinquish street improvement funds to counties as prescribed	General (-616)	
1263	Connealy	Adopt the Nebraska Senior Drug Program Act	Held	
1264	Connealy	Adopt a policy toward newcomers to the state	Held	
1265	Connealy	Adopt the Owner Protection Construction Contract Payment Act	General	
1266	Connealy	Authorize private contracts for transportation of prisoners and other persons under control of the state as prescribed	Held	
1267	Landis	Provide for fees for radioactive waste shipments	General	
1268	Landis	Adopt uniform changes to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	General	
1269	Landis	Prohibit the use of customer proprietary network information by telecommunications companies	Held	
1270	Jones	Provide requirements for net metering systems for electrical energy	IPP	
1271	Smith	Change Licensing of Truth and Deception Examiners Act provisions	IPP	
1272	Brown	Create the Environmental Response Contingency Fund and change lottery money distribution	IPP	
1273	Brown	Change redistricting provisions for Class V school districts	General (-935)	
1274	Byars	Include public safety officials in disease exposure procedures	General	
1275	Connealy	Develop a pilot project for individual development accounts	General	
1276	Thompson	Expand first class city extraterritorial jurisdiction relating to zoning	IPP	
1277	Jensen	Provides for agreements between parents and the Department of Health and Human Services for services for their children	Held	
1278	Brashear	Provide for indirect damages in certain anti-trust actions	Signed	8, 13, 14, 15
1279	Brashear	Adopt the Nebraska Family Trust Act	Held	
1280	Brashear	Change sales tax, income tax, and property tax provisions	Held	7
1281	Brashear	Change the method of inflicting the death penalty	Held	8
1282	Brashear	Authorize the Supreme Court to promulgate rules of pleading in civil actions	Held	
1283	Synowiecki	Adopt the Abandoned Infants Safe Haven Act	Held	7
1284	Kremer	Provide for the transfer of certain credits under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	
1285	Bromm	Create the Livestock Industry Issue Task Force	IPP	
1286	Bromm	Authorize regulation and registration of wireless carriers	General (-1211)	
1287	Bromm	Change provisions for failure to appear in cases of misdemeanor or city or village ordinance violations	General	
1288	Beutler	Change Niobrara Council powers and duties relating to the Niobrara scenic river corridor	IPP (-1003)	
1289	Kristensen	Change provisions governing subpoenas for witnesses in civil cases	Held	
1290	Coordsen	Authorize certain public officials and employees to participate in the state insurance program	Failed	12, 15
1290A	Coordsen	Appropriation Bill	Final	
1291	Preister	Provide for a Scrap Tire Grant Trust Fund and Scrap Tire Grant Program to be administered by the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board	IPP	
1292	Preister	Prohibit smoking in buildings of political subdivisions	Held	
1293	Preister	Eliminate Small Claims Court filing limitations for political subdivisions under the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act	Held	
1294	Preister	Adopt the Pesticide Notification Act	IPP	
1295	Preister	Adopt the Local Pesticide Notification Act	IPP	
1296	Preister	Adopt the School Pesticide Notification Act	Held	
1297	Preister	Exempt certain net metering electrical generating facilities from Nebraska Power Review Board approval provisions	IPP	
1298	Coordsen	Redefine commercial motor vehicle	IPP	
1299	Hartnett	Change the definition of restricted funds for budget limitation purposes	IPP	7

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS	ISSUES
1300	Hartnett	Change employment requirements for the Employment and Investment Growth Act	General	5,6
1301	Hartnett	Adopt the Nebraska Historic Preservation Act	Held	
1302	Beutler	Change provisions of the Campaign Finance Limitation Act	General	6
1303	Bromm	Change provisions relating to vehicular offenses and fuel	Signed (+345)	11,15
1304	Smith	Change excise tax rates and intent relating to ethanol	IPP	6
1305	Kremer	Change provisions relating to transfer of school district territory as a result of annexation of property by cities	Held	
1306	Preister	Prohibit sales of alcohol within five miles of certain areas of Indian Country	Held	8
1307	Executive Board	Change allocation of space in the State Capitol building	General	
1308	Business and Labor	Disapprove payment of certain claims against the state	IPP	
1309	Speaker Kristensen, req. of Gov.	Change certain appropriations	Line-Item (+272,929)	8,9,10,11,12,13,14
1310	Speaker Kristensen, req. of Gov.	Change provisions relating to use and transfers of funds	Signed (+110,1142,1164,1197,1234,1235)	8,9,10,11,12,13
2CA	Quandahl	Constitutional amendment to increase legislative salaries	General	
4CA	Landis	Constitutional amendment to authorize revenue bonds to develop and lease property for use by nonprofit enterprises	Referred	12,13,14
5CA	Baker	Constitutional amendment to eliminate constitutional references to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds	Held	
6CA	Schimek	Constitutional amendment to permit gaming on Indian lands	Select	4,6,7,8,13
8CA	Kristensen	Constitutional amendment to create the Nebraska Higher Education Board of Regents	Held	
14CA	Hartnett	Constitutional amendment to authorize property tax exemption for historically significant real property	Held	
16CA	Beutler	Create an Ethics and Compensation Review Commission for the Legislature	General	
18CA	Smith	Constitutional amendment to change the membership of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	Held	
21CA	McDonald	Constitutional amendment to state that political subdivision employees, including school district employees, are not executive officers	General	
277CA	Schimek	Constitutional amendment to change the prohibition on a felon's right to vote	Held	3
282CA	Coordsen	Constitutional amendment to authorize games of chance	Held	4
283CA	Jones	Authorize an increase in the number of members of the Legislature	IPP	7
289CA	Brown	Change residency requirements for members of the Legislature	IPP	
292CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to authorize gaming on Indian lands and interdiction gaming zones	General	6
293CA	Bromm	Constitutional amendment to authorize members of the Legislature to participate in the state group insurance program	Held	
294CA	Synowiecki	Constitutional amendment to change the prohibition on a felon's right to vote	General	
LR 386	Dierks	Endorse the efforts of the University of Nebraska in carrying out the objectives of the Rural Initiative	Adopted	
LR 459	Wehrbein	Authorize issuance of revenue bonds for renovation of residence hall facilities at Wayne State College and Peru State College	Adopted	

## Contacting the Capitol: Popular legislative web site features



**Nebraska Legislature web site:**.....[www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us)  
**Bills & documents search:**.....[www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm)  
**Legislative documents:**.....[www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/)  
**Unic@meral Update Online:**.....[www.unicam.state.ne.us/update/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/update/)  
**Warner Institute for Education in Democracy:**.....[www.unicam.state.ne.us/institute/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/institute/)

# BY THE NUMBERS

## Nebraska by the numbers

Read the figures below to learn about some key Nebraska numbers:

Lowest temperature recorded in Nebraska (degrees F).....	47
Number of U.S. presidents born in Nebraska.....	1
Number of special sessions held in 2001.....	1
Number of years in a single legislative term.....	4
Number of national football championships for UNL.....	5
Number of Nebraska votes in Electoral College (out of 538 total).....	5
Number of female senators currently in Legislature.....	10
Number of standing legislative committees.....	14
Minimum age to serve in the Nebraska Legislature.....	21
Number of Nebraskans per square mile (2000 census).....	22.3
Age of youngest member of 2002 Unicameral.....	25
Years since <i>Unicameral Update</i> was introduced.....	25
Average number of tornadoes per year in Nebraska.....	39
Number of legislators in the Nebraska Unicameral.....	49
Average age of members of 2002 Unicameral.....	57
Number of legislative session days, even-numbered years.....	60
Number of years the Legislature has been a unicameral.....	65
Number of Nebraskans awarded Medal of Honor.....	70
Age of oldest member of 2002 Unicameral.....	75
Number of legislative session days, odd-numbered years.....	90
Number of counties in Nebraska.....	93
Highest temperature recorded in Nebraska (degrees F).....	118
Number of bills passed in 1935 (last year of the bicameral).....	133
Number of bills passed in 1937 (first year of the Unicameral).....	192
Number of bills introduced in 2002 session.....	456
Approx. number of legislative pages since 1970.....	705
Number of bills introduced in the 2001 session.....	856
Number of Special Olympics volunteers in Nebraska.....	5,000
Average number of people in a single legislative district.....	34,924
Approx. number of people in Nebraska (2000 census).....	1,711,263
Total acres of Nebraska farmland.....	45,530,000
Total acres of land in Nebraska.....	49,200,000
Bushels of corn produced annually in Nebraska (approx.).....	1,000,000,000

Sources include the *Nebraska Blue Book*, the web site of the Nebraska Legislature and the U.S. Census Bureau.

## Contacting the Capitol: Helpful legislative phone numbers



<b>24-Hour Automated Request Line.....</b>	<b>(402) 471-2877</b>
<b>Bills, resolutions or Legislative Journals (SUBSCRIPTIONS).....</b>	<b>(402) 471-2271</b>
<b>Bills, resolutions or Legislative Journals (INDIVIDUAL COPIES).....</b>	<b>(402) 471-2877</b>
<b>Nebraska Blue Book.....</b>	<b>(402) 471-2220</b>
<b>Warner Institute for Education in Democracy.....</b>	<b>(402) 471-2788</b>

# Contact Information

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

- 24-Hour Request Line: (402) 471-2877

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE ONLINE:

- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/update/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/update/)

## STATUS OF BILLS OR RESOLUTIONS:

- Legislative Hot Line - Lincoln: (402) 471-2709
- Legislative Hot Line - Nebraska, outside Lincoln: (800) 742-7456
- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm)

## BILLS, RESOLUTIONS OR LEGISLATIVE JOURNALS:

- SUBSCRIPTIONS: Room 2018: (402) 471-2271
- INDIVIDUAL COPIES: 24-Hour Request Line: (402) 471-2877
- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/documents/bills.htm)

## UNICAMERAL WEB SITE:

- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us)
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- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/videos/live.htm](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/videos/live.htm)

## NEBRASKA BLUE BOOK:

- Nebraska Blue Book Office: (402) 471-2220
- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/bluebook/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/bluebook/)

## WARNER INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION IN DEMOCRACY:

- Unicameral Information Office: (402) 471-0764
- On the web: [www.unicam.state.ne.us/institute/](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/institute/)

## VIDEO LENDING:

- Unicameral Information Office: (402) 471-2788
- E-mail: [uio@unicam.state.ne.us](mailto:uio@unicam.state.ne.us)

# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

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