



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

*2006 Session Review*

*99th Legislature  
Second Session*



*Agriculture and Environment  
Budget  
Business and Labor  
Courts and Corrections  
Criminal Justice  
Economic Development  
Education  
Elections  
Gaming and Liquor  
Health and Human Services  
Local Government  
State Government  
Taxes  
Transportation  
Water  
And more*



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## Agriculture and Environment

### Livestock waste management topped agricultural and environmental issues in the Legislature this session.

Lawmakers passed **LB 975**, a bill that changes procedures related to livestock waste management.

Introduced by the Natural Resources Committee, the bill is intended to allow the state more flexibility to meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new livestock waste program requirements.

The bill requires a county planning commission or county board to grant a conditional use permit or special exception to any existing animal feeding operation seeking to construct or modify a livestock waste control facility if the purpose of seeking such a permit or exception is to comply with federal or state regulations and if the project will not increase the animal capacity of the operation.

LB 975 also requires the one-time granting of permits for similar projects in operations with less than 5,000 beef cattle or 3,500 dairy cattle. For beef cattle, an expansion of 500 head of cattle is allowed if the operation has less than 3,000 head and a 300 head expansion is allowed for facilities with between 3,000 and 5,000 head.

For dairy cattle, an expansion of 350 head of cattle is permitted for operations with less than 2,000 head and an expansion of 210 head is allowed if the operation has between 2,000 and 3,500 head of cattle.

LB 975 passed on a 45-0 vote.

After amending it to include provisions relating to dog breeding, senators passed a bill relating to the avian flu, commonly known as bird flu.

**LB 856**, sponsored by Aurora Sen. Bob Kremer, expands the state Department of Agriculture's ability to monitor the presence of the bird flu in breeding and commercial poultry flocks.

The bill also increases the authority of the department's Bureau of Animal Industry to regulate exotic animal auctions and swap meets and adds new provisions to price reporting laws.

The bill includes provisions from **LB 531**, a bill sponsored by Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer relating to a voluntary animal identification and registration system and **LB 584**, a bill sponsored by Blair Sen. Mick Mines relating to animal breeding.

LB 584:

- allows state inspectors to enforce state cruelty laws;
- sets an annual fee for licensing animal breeder, dealer and care facilities; and
- prohibits the removal of puppies from a litter until the age of eight weeks.

The department is not responsible for fees incurred for enforcing state cruelty laws.

LB 856 was passed on a 44-0 vote.

Lawmakers also passed **LB 776**, sponsored by South Sioux City Sen. Pat Engel, which authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to grant permits to landfills and regulate the use of yard waste for producing methane for use as fuel.

The bill passed on a 44-0 vote.

**LB 818**, introduced Sen. Carroll Burling of Kenesaw, allows scrap tires to be used as safety barriers at race tracks.

The bill requires racetrack owners using scrap tires to wrap the tires to keep water



Sen. Bob Kremer



Sen. Pat Engel



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from collecting in them and becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes. The bill also requires permit holders to submit a tire disposal plan to the DEQ prior to installing the tire barriers.

LB 818 was passed on a 45-0 vote.

**LB 32**, sponsored by Elm Creek Sen. Ed Schrock, increases the maximum amount for per diem expenditures for natural resources districts from \$2,800 per year to \$3,600 per year. The bill did not change the daily per diem maximums, which are set at \$70 per day.

LB 32 passed 45-0.

Mines introduced **LB 783**, a bill that would have prohibited hunting via the Internet. The bill was advanced out of committee and ended the session on general file.

Schrock introduced two bills that would have eliminated state park entry fees.

**LB 1083** would have eliminated the fees while **LB 1082** would have appropriated \$6 million of state general funds to the state Game and Parks Commission.

The Appropriations Committee voted 7-0 to indefinitely postpone LB 1082 and LB 1083 was held by the Natural Resources Committee.

## Budget

**S**enators passed adjustments to the state budget after debate that resulted in only minor changes to the Appropriations Committee's recommendations.

**LB 1060**, the mainline budget bill, was passed on a 41-7 vote. Including all legislative actions, the budget will be left at \$1 million above the required minimum reserve for the current biennium.

Significant budget increases include:

- \$21.4 million for federal Medicaid match rate programs;
- \$11 million for higher utility costs;
- \$7.8 million for employee health insurance rate changes;
- \$5.8 million for expansion of community corrections programs;
- \$4.4 million for state Capitol building masonry projects;
- \$4.2 million for contamination investigation and cleanup at the Agricultural Research and Development Center in Mead;
- \$3.9 million for water policy implementation and compact compliance;
- \$1.8 million for homestead exemptions;
- \$1.8 million for increased aid to public health departments;
- \$1.2 million in restored funding for the Nebraska Scholarship Program;
- \$1.1 million for fire aid safety projects at the Norfolk Regional Center; and
- \$1 million for a public safety communications system.

Significant decreases include:

- \$32.7 million in state aid to schools;
- \$9.4 million for Medicaid and the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool program; and
- \$9 million for projected budget-savings within the state's correctional system.

The budget reflects a two-year spending growth rate of 7 percent for the current biennium and 7.3 percent for the following biennium.

Gov. David Heineman vetoed a total of \$22.8 million in spending from the budget. The Legislature voted to restore \$218,750 for qualified community health centers.



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Sen. Matt Connealy of Decatur made a motion to restore \$325,773 to the state Department of Education to retain two Native American consultants. The money would have compensated for lost federal grant funds. Connealy's motion failed on a 14-24 vote.

Other sustained vetoes include:

- \$4 million from the University of Nebraska;
- \$2.8 million from the state Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support for the Children's Health Insurance Program;
- \$2.7 million from the Department of Administrative Services for the state Capitol complex;
- \$2 million from the Nebraska Arts Council for the Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund;
- \$1.4 million from the Crime Commission for the Community Corrections Council;
- \$1.2 million from the Nebraska Scholarship Program;
- \$564,384 in aid to community colleges;
- \$427,703 from HHS for mental health regional centers; and
- \$325,000 from the Nebraska Library Commission for the Nebraska Access online database system.

Other funding proposals the Legislature approved included money for civil legal services and postsecondary education building maintenance needs.

Sponsored by North Platte Sen. Don Pederson, **LB 746** provides \$200,000 in each of the next two fiscal years for civil legal services to assist low-income people with cases such as landlord and tenant disputes, domestic violence, divorce, child custody, immigration and other financial matters.

The bill also authorizes a \$2 fee from each criminal court proceeding filed in all courts for violations of state law or city or village ordinances, including traffic infractions and misdemeanors. One dollar of the fee will be credited to a civil legal services fund and \$1 will be used to pay for existing law enforcement officer training.

The \$2 fee will be charged beginning Jan. 1, 2007. No such fee will be collected from juvenile court proceedings.

LB 746 was passed 44-0.

Under **LB 605**, sponsored by Sen. Nancy Thompson of La Vista, the state's university and state colleges will receive \$6.6 million annually from fiscal year 2006-07 through FY2008-09 and \$12.1 million annually from FY2009-10 through FY2019-20 for maintenance and renovation projects. During the 14-year period, the university system will receive a total of \$137.5 million and state colleges will receive \$15.8 million.

The institutions will contribute toward the maintenance projects as well. From FY2009-10 to FY2020-21, the university system will contribute \$121 million. Between FY2006-07 and FY2019-20, state colleges will contribute \$14.4 million.

LB 605 was passed 44-1.



Sen. Don Pederson

## Business and Labor

**I**ssues from workers' compensation to minimum wage topped business and labor concerns this session.

Sponsored by the Business and Labor committee, **LB 489** increases the maximum fee for a preliminary elevator inspection and an annual inspection for the first five floors, and charges an additional rate of \$5 for each additional floor.

It also includes provisions for charging a reinspection fee when an elevator does not



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Sen. Doug Cunningham

pass an initial inspection.

Conveyance safety provisions were amended into the bill that apply only in counties with populations of 100,000 or more.

The provisions:

- establish an advisory committee;
- require the hiring of a licensed elevator mechanic or contractor for the installation, repair, or removal of any conveyance covered by the bill;
- establish licensing criteria for both the mechanic and contractor; and
- require the contractor to provide evidence of liability insurance.

LB 489 also allows for settling workers' compensation billing disputes by informal dispute resolution and arbitration.

The ability to settle disputes by arbitration ends on Jan. 1, 2008.

LB 489 passed on a 36-3 vote.

A bill that would have increased the state's minimum wage stalled during general file debate this session.

**LB 554**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, would have increased the minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to:

- \$5.49 from Oct. 1, 2006, through Sept. 30, 2007;
- \$6.02 from Oct. 1, 2007, through Sept. 30, 2008; and
- \$6.46 on and after Oct. 1, 2008.

The minimum wage for employees who are partially compensated with gratuities would have been 50 percent of the applicable minimum wage. The proposal also would have increased the training wage.

Debate on LB 554 was not concluded in time for the bill to reach a vote before the Legislature adjourned for the year.

## Courts and Corrections

**B**ills passed this session that relate to courts and corrections procedures dealt with foster parents' input in foster care hearings and a proposed constitutional amendment that would provide an exception to the state's separation of powers provisions.

**LB 1115**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Patrick Bourne, includes provisions from several other Judiciary Committee bills.

**LB 824** changes county court procedures.

**LB 825** includes school district employees within the protections afforded emergency services providers who suffer a significant exposure to infectious diseases in the performance of their duties.

**LB 826** allows retired clerk magistrates to perform marriage ceremonies in Nebraska.

**LB 1040** updates a reference to the Nebraska Rules of Professional Conduct.

Sen. Kermit Brashear of Omaha sponsored the following measures that are included in LB 1115.

**LB 1133** provides procedures for audiovisual appearances during court proceedings.

**LB 1135** addresses statutes of limitations when Nebraska courts apply the laws of



Sen. Patrick Bourne



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other states under conflict of laws principles.

**LB 1136** allows an agency to modify its findings and decision when the district court remands an administrative procedures case for further modifications, new findings, additional evidence or decisions.

**LB 1137** increases the maximum annual amount of money or personal property that a person may deliver to a minor from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

**LB 770**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mike Friend, allows foster parents to share relevant information they learn about how their foster child is treated while under the care of his or her biological family if requested to do so by the judge.

**LB 802**, sponsored by Sen. Doug Cunningham of Wausa, allows an abstract of marriage to be used in place of a certified copy of a marriage license for providing proof of marriage to all courts and the state Health and Human Services System.

LB 1115 also requires state agencies to retain original copies of agency hearing records. Interested parties can obtain copies of these records, but not the original.

LB 1115 passed 45-0.

A proposed constitutional amendment sponsored by Brashear would provide an exception to the separation of powers in the state constitution.

**LR 274CA**, if adopted by voters, would eliminate separation of powers questions from issues related to offender supervision.

Currently, probation is administered by the judicial branch, while parole administration and corrections are administered by the executive branch. The amendment would provide efficiencies for drug courts, which have increased interaction between judicial officers and offenders.

Lawmakers forwarded LR 274CA on to voters on a 49-0 vote.

**LB 823**, introduced by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, prohibits clerks of the district court from retaining for their personal use any fees authorized by federal law, such as passport fees, to be collected by a county official.

LB 823 was passed 47-0.

Under a bill that stalled during general file debate, district court clerks would have been appointed by district judges instead of being elected officials.

Sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, **LB 529** would have made district court clerks state employees appointed by district court judges. Further, it would have permitted the state Supreme Court to consolidate the positions of clerk of the district court and clerk of the county court into the position of clerk of the courts in cases when one of the positions was vacant. Debate was not concluded in time for the bill to reach a vote before the Legislature adjourned for the year.



*Sen. Mike Friend*



*Sen. Kermit Brashear*



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## Criminal Justice

**S**ex offenders, concealed weapons and fetal assault were criminal justice topics headlining the legislative session.

A bill designed to improve the state's approach to handling sex offenders was passed 47-0.

Sponsored by Omaha Sen. Patrick Bourne, **LB 1199** allows municipalities to enact ordinances imposing residency restrictions of 500 feet from schools and licensed daycare facilities for Class III sex offenders who have committed crimes against children and creates the new offenses of sexual assault of a child in the first, second and third degrees.

The bill also enhances the penalty for a second conviction for failing to comply with sex offender registration requirements, expands the list of offenses that would require sex offender registration, and provides for community supervision of sex offenders who have more than one conviction for a sex offense and first-time offenders convicted of raping a child under 12 years of age or convicted of forcibly raping a person older than 12.

The bill includes provisions of **LB 1205**, a bill originally sponsored by Elkhorn Sen. Dwite Pedersen that directs the state Department of Health and Human Services to create a task force to examine the credentialing and training of sex offender treatment professionals and establish mandated standards for treatment.

Carrying concealed handguns will be legal under a bill passed on a 33-12 vote.

**LB 454**, sponsored by Sen. Jeanne Combs of Milligan, authorizes the Nebraska State Patrol to issue permits for carrying concealed handguns to persons who are at least 21, have no felony record, have not been judged to be mentally ill or dangerous within the past 10 years, have no offenses related to firearms or controlled substance abuse within the past 10 years, are not prohibited from carrying a firearm under federal law, are not on probation, parole, house arrest or work release, are citizens of the United States, are not under investigation for offenses relating to eligibility for the permit and have completed a handgun safety and training course.

Permit training will include the handling of a gun and ammunition, shooting fundamentals, handgun laws, ways to avoid and handle violent confrontations and proper storage of handguns. A five-year permit costs \$100.

The bill prohibits those carrying concealed handguns from doing so at certain specified locations, and where property owners do not allow them. Existing language allowing municipalities to adopt ordinances prohibiting concealed weapons remains in law.

**LB 1227**, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, brings the process for conducting criminal background checks associated with a handgun permit application into compliance with federal regulations. It passed 47-0.

The Legislature also passed a bill that created the criminal offense of assault of an unborn child.

**LB 57**, sponsored by Sen. Mike Foley of Lincoln, makes it a crime to cause serious bodily injury to an unborn child during the commission of assault on a pregnant woman.

The bill does not apply to actions taken by the mother of an unborn child, by a physician or licensed health care provider conducting a medical procedure performed with the mother's consent or by a person lawfully dispensing medication. The bill also



Sen. Dwite Pedersen



Sen. Jeanne Combs



Sen. Mike Foley



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raises the criminal penalty of assaulting a woman by one classification if the victim is pregnant. It passed 46-1.

Picketing and protesting at funerals will now be restricted.

**LB 287** was amended to include LB 773, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Mike Friend. The bill prohibits picketing a funeral within 300 feet of a cemetery, mortuary or church between one hour before and two hours following an event. Lawmakers passed the bill 44-0.

**LB 925**, also introduced by Friend, increases penalties for offenders convicted of driving with a blood-alcohol content of .15 or above and motor vehicle homicides caused by DUI. The bill also creates new drunken driving offenses and requires all convicted DUI offenders to receive a chemical dependence assessment.

It also contained provisions of **LB 295**, a bill introduced by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins that changes point assessments for failing to report an accident that results in damage to an unattended vehicle or property.

LB 925 passed 39-2.

Lawmakers passed a bill to address the problem of prostitution through the treatment of prostitutes and the prosecution of solicitors. However, Gov. David Heineman vetoed the funds that would have paid for women's treatment.

Sponsored by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, **LB 1086** would have provided \$750,000 in each of the next two fiscal years for prostitution intervention, education and treatment.

The bill does add penalties for those who solicit prostitution, making first and second offenses of soliciting a prostitute a Class II misdemeanor, third and fourth offenses a Class I misdemeanor and fifth and subsequent offenses a Class IV felony.

It requires a \$100 fine, probation and completion of an appropriate mental health and substance abuse assessment for all solicitation offenses.

The bill also creates penalties for the trafficking of humans for forced labor or services.

Lawmakers passed the bill on a 38-3 vote. Senators did not attempt to override the veto to reinstate treatment funding.

A bill, sponsored by Bourne, that was modified to contain provisions of several other bills passed 47-0.

Originally, **LB 1113** clarified language regarding obscene literature or material. It was amended to include the following bills.

**LB 784**, sponsored by Blair Sen. Mick Mines, requires public access to lakes resulting from natural resources districts' flood control projects whose total cost was paid for using 20 percent or more of public funds. The provisions apply to future lake projects covering more than 150 surface acres.

**LB 1009**, sponsored by Cornett, expands the purpose of the state DNA database to include the location and identification of missing persons and human remains and allows the inclusion of DNA samples from such cases in the database. A second change made by the bill allows for cheek swabs rather than blood samples for collecting DNA samples from convicted offenders.

**LB 1047**, sponsored by Bourne, changes the current crime of stalking to prohibit the harassment of a stalking victim's family or household members and provide enhanced penalties in certain circumstances. It also increases the penalty for stalking from a Class I misdemeanor to a Class IV felony if the defendant has a prior conviction within the past seven years against the same victim.

**LB 1070**, sponsored by Grand Island Sen. Ray Aguilar, provides the state's



Sen. John Synowiecki



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*Sen. Mike Flood*

seven child advocacy centers a defined statutory role in the child abuse investigation process.

**LB 1075**, sponsored by Norfolk Sen. Mike Flood, adds the crimes of sexual assault of a child or a vulnerable adult, child pornography and child enticement by means of a computer to the list of crimes for which a county attorney may subpoena evidence before a grand jury or seek a court order for the interception of wire, electronic or oral communications.

**LB 1146**, also sponsored by Flood, exempts accredited laboratories authorized to perform DNA testing from a requirement that law enforcement agencies purge records and return identifying information to a person who donated a DNA sample as part of a criminal investigation after a determination has been made that the person is not implicated in the crime.

**LB 1149**, sponsored by Cornett, provides the state Department of Health and Human Services with duties for the early identification of foreign national minors in protective custody. The bill requires HHS to provide written information about the court process as well as communicate with the appropriate consulate about the minor's wellbeing.

**LB 1181**, sponsored by La Vista Sen. Nancy Thompson, provides juvenile offenders the right to a hearing within 48 hours and requires a court that places a juvenile in detention to hold a hearing every 14 days to review the juvenile's status.

**LB 1196**, sponsored by Flood, deletes references to social security numbers in dissolutions of marriage, domestic relations orders, paternity orders, child support orders and foreign support orders.

**LB 1257**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, adds two at-large members and one reentry court judge to the Community Corrections Council, requires the council to establish a program to provide grant funds to eligible local agencies, requires the validation of a risk and needs assessment utilized by the Board of Parole in determining an offender's release on parole and makes other clarifying changes. The bill also reinstates a requirement for Nebraska law enforcement agencies to collect racial profiling data on traffic stops until 2010.

**LB 1144**, sponsored by Aguilar, changes provisions regarding autopsies performed by the county coroner or coroner's physician relating to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Lawmakers also passed a bill that changes laws related to a state DNA criminal databank.

**LB 385**, sponsored by Sen. Joel Johnson of Kearney, includes locating missing persons and identifying human remains among the purposes of establishing a statewide DNA database. The bill requires a probation order for an individual convicted of certain crimes to include, as a condition of probation, the taking of a DNA sample prior to release on probation. LB 385 adds burglary and robbery to the list of criminal offenses for which a convicted offender is required to submit a DNA sample for inclusion the state DNA databank.

LB 385 was passed by a 43-2 vote.

**LB 885**, sponsored by Valentine Sen. Deb Fischer, would have required animal control officers to obtain a warrant before confiscating an animal and allowed impoundment of the animal only if its life were in danger. The bill was indefinitely postponed by the Judiciary Committee on a 6-0 vote.

The following bills were held by the committee.

**LB 841**, sponsored by Bradshaw Sen. Elaine Stuhr, would have allowed unwanted



*Sen. Joel Johnson*



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newborn infants to be left anonymously with a safe haven provider.

**LB 1000**, introduced by Sen. Marian Price of Lincoln, would have required circuses to use more humane methods of controlling and training their elephants.

**LB 782**, sponsored by Mines, would have increased the minimum age for purchasing tobacco from 18 to 19.

**LB 1200**, sponsored Bourne, would have created a civil penalty for unsubstantiated or frivolous claims under the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act.

**LR 254CA**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, proposed to amend the state constitution to prohibit laws infringing on privacy.

## *Economic Development*

**I**n 2006, the major economic development initiative passed by lawmakers made livestock modernization projects eligible for tax incentive credits.



*Sen. Roger Wehrbein*

**LB 990**, sponsored by Sen. Roger Wehrbein of Plattsmouth, allows livestock modernization projects to be eligible for tax credits under the Nebraska Advantage rural development program. These projects are required to invest at least \$50,000 in livestock modernization facilities anywhere in the state.

Eligible projects will receive a refundable credit equal to 10 percent of the investment in livestock modernization facilities up to a maximum of \$30,000. Annual project-specific reporting of benefits is required. An existing \$3 million limit on available tax credits was not changed.

LB 990 also contained provisions of **LB 346**, a bill introduced by the Agriculture Committee. LB 346 makes changes to an existing program to assist beginning farmers. Specifically, the bill:

- increases the level of incentives offered to beginning farmers;
  - allows farmers with a net worth of \$200,000 or less to qualify for the program;
  - allows heirs of someone that would have qualified to be eligible for the program;
- and
- allows beginning farmers to be reimbursed for taking management courses as required by the program.

LB 990 was passed by a 44-1 vote.

Two bills that would have shored up financial assistance for Omaha's convention center facility and provided funding for a stadium development project in north Omaha died with the end of the session.

The amended versions of **LB 1105** and **LB 500**, both introduced by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, would have enhanced the usage of "turnback" revenue to help finance the debt on Omaha's convention center and arena, a baseball stadium in north Omaha, community partnership development plans in impoverished areas near development zones and other entertainment-related development projects in the state.

Legislation passed in 1999 provided a mechanism for state financing of qualifying convention center facilities. The financing mechanism allows the state to "turnback" revenue that can be attributed to events scheduled at the city of Omaha's convention center facility. The turnback revenue also provides funding for facilities in other Nebraska cities.

Both bills ended the 2006 session on select file.



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Senators also did not advance a proposal intended to attract trained military retirees to fill defense contractor jobs.

**LB 478**, sponsored by Sen. Abbie Cornett of Bellevue, would have given qualified military retirees an exemption of \$1 of pension benefits for every \$2 of annual income earned in excess of \$40,000 annually from a security-qualified defense contractor. The exemption would have been applied to the retiree's federal adjusted gross income when calculating state income tax liability.

To qualify for the exemption, the military retiree would have been required to have appropriate security clearance to access classified information as part of his or her job responsibilities.

LB 478 fell two votes short of advancing to final reading on a 23-9 vote.

## Education

While much of the education policy focus in 2006 was on boundary issues in the state's metropolitan area, senators also passed legislation to upgrade the state's distance education technology, establish an endowment for early childhood education programs and permit qualified children of undocumented immigrants to pay in-state tuition rates to attend state colleges and universities.

### Metro area schools



Sen. Ron Raikes

Senators voted 31-16 to pass **LB 1024**, a bill sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes that forms a learning community coordinating council to oversee the school districts in Douglas and Sarpy counties and facilitates the breakup of the existing Omaha Public Schools system into three separate school districts in 2008.

Recent moves by the Omaha Public Schools system toward annexing portions of the Ralston, Millard and Elkhorn school districts generated controversy that has raised numerous issues about the education of young people in the metropolitan area. Those issues have included interpretations of an 1891 law regarding school boundaries within metropolitan class cities, funding, the quality of education and educational equity. Legislators waded through months of negotiations to achieve a solution to the impasse that had developed between OPS and the suburban school districts.

*Learning communities* – LB 1024 requires counties with a metropolitan class city and any county sharing a five-mile border with that city to form a learning community. The requirement takes effect Sept. 1 and essentially applies to Douglas and Sarpy counties. Learning communities are optional for school districts headquartered in one or more counties if the combined districts serve more than 2,000 students or are sparsely populated.

The learning community will be governed by a coordinating council. The coordinating council will consist of one school board member from each member district. Each district's superintendent will serve as an ex officio member of the council. Official actions of the council will require approval by at least 50 percent of the voting



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members representing at least one-third of the learning community's students.

The coordinating council has the authority to assess and distribute a common property tax levy in support of its member schools, levy for the budget of the learning community, coordinate the development of focus schools and programs, conduct an annual school fair to inform students and parents about each school in the community and develop reorganization plans.

The learning community will be funded through a state appropriation until the 2008-09 school year when local tax proceeds will become available.

*School district boundary issues* – Metropolitan area school district boundaries will remain as they were as of March 1, 2006, until the learning community is formed. However, districts with more than 25,000 students are not allowed to expand their geographic area. School district boundaries can be changed only after a petition is initiated by the coordinating council, approved by both the State Committee for the Reorganization of School Districts and the affected school district boards.

The learning community coordinating council is required to submit recommendations for splitting OPS into separate districts around attendance areas that contain two or three of the seven existing high schools. The recommendations are due by July 1, 2007. The State Committee for the Reorganization of School Districts has to review and approve the plan by the end of 2007. Implementation of the recommendations is required by July 1, 2008.

An integration task force will be formed to examine how issues of diversity and integration among the member districts can be addressed. The task force is charged with making recommendations. Member school districts that do not comply with the plan adopted by the coordinating council could be subject to dissolution.

*Taxing authority* – Member school districts will continue to develop their own operating budgets. The learning community will obtain property tax levy authority beginning in the 2008-09 school year. Learning communities will be allowed a general fund levy of up to \$1.02 per \$100 of property valuation. School districts within the community can levy up to \$1.02 minus the learning community levy for their general fund and special building funds. Learning communities also can levy up to 1 cent for the learning community budget and up to 2 cents for special building funds for member school districts. The total combined levy is capped at \$1.05.

*Focus schools and programs* – Member schools are allowed to establish focus schools and programs with the approval of the coordinating council. Focus schools and programs will be centered on meeting specific learning goals that are in addition to the standard curriculum. The programs will be open to all students in the learning community and would be designed to create an economically and culturally diverse learning environment.

*Open enrollment and transportation* – Resident students will be able to attend any school in the learning community with the capacity to accept students. Each school district in the learning community will establish its own attendance areas and building capacities. Transportation will be provided for students who attend a school outside of their attendance area by the district the student attends. If applications to attend a school exceed capacity and the school is not a focus school or program, priority will be given to students who qualify for free lunches, followed by those qualifying for reduced lunches and then all other students. For focus schools and programs, applications will be accepted proportionately among free-lunch students, reduced-lunch students and all others.

*State aid changes* – Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, the state aid



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Sen. Lavon Heidemann

formula will be adjusted to accommodate the changes proposed in LB 1024. State aid formula needs will be calculated for individual districts, but formula resources will be calculated for the entire learning community. The formula's cost growth factor will be applied to a larger base and will include an additional 1 percent. An elementary class size allowance will be added to the formula for K-5 students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches in classrooms with 10 to 20 students. An existing poverty allowance in the formula will be reduced by 39 percent to account for a shift in some costs from the poverty allowance to the class size allowance.

A state aid stabilization factor is adjusted for school districts with declining enrollments that have property tax levies at or above 99 cents. The stabilization factor change resulted from an amendment to the bill offered by Sen. Lavon Heidemann of Elk Creek.

An allowance will be added to the formula for focus schools and programs. Costs associated with poverty students and students with limited English proficiency will be factored into the formula as allowances rather than being based on a weighted number of students.

A budget exception will be allowed for increased transportation expenses in learning communities. Two additional budget exceptions will be allowed to recognize increases in the combination of allowances for poverty, limited English proficiency, elementary class size and focus school factors.

*Reporting requirements* – Beginning in 2009, learning communities will be required to report every two years on the diversity and academic achievement of their member schools. Learning communities also will be required to report on various financial and academic data.

*High needs education coordinator* – A high needs education coordinator will be appointed by the state education commissioner to evaluate and coordinate existing resources and programs for students who are impoverished, have limited English proficiency and are highly mobile. The high needs education coordinator is required to submit a plan to the Legislature's Education Committee by Nov. 1, 2007.

Senators also considered other proposals addressing the metro area school boundary dispute, including **LB 1017**, a measure sponsored by Gretna Sen. Gail Kopplin that would have provided tax support for interlocal agreements, changed option enrollment rules, provided for transportation reimbursements and eliminated automatic annexation for OPS. LB 1017 was held by the Education Committee.



Sen. Gail Kopplin

## Distance education

**LB 1208**, sponsored by Raikes, implements the recommendations of a task force charged with examining ways to enhance distance education in the state and funds a teacher loan program.

Under the bill, the responsibility of providing distance education services was given to educational service units.

A series of service contracts known as Network Nebraska will be coordinated by the chief information officer for Nebraska state government. The goal of Network Nebraska is to enable access for government and schools to a reliable, high-speed telecommunications network.

The bill establishes a Distance Education Council composed of one representative from each ESU. The council is to coordinate course offerings through the distance



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*Sen. Nancy Thompson*



*Sen. Dennis Byars*

education network.

The distance education enhancements will be funded through state lottery proceeds.

Beginning in fiscal year 2006-07, the approximately \$3.8 million in funding available to the Education Innovation Fund will be divided between distance education, school reorganization incentives and a teacher loan program that forgives student loans as an incentive for teachers to study specific subject areas in which the state Department of Education determines there is a shortage of available educators. The teacher loan program was created by legislation sponsored by Sen. Nancy Thompson of La Vista in 2000.

Specifically, the funding will be divided as follows:

- in FY2006-07, \$250,000 for the teacher loan program, \$1 million for an existing school reorganization incentive program and the remainder for distance education projects;
- in FY2007-08, \$500,000 for the teacher loan program and the remainder for distance education projects;
- in FY2008-09, \$750,000 for the teacher loan program and the remainder for distance education projects;
- for FY2009-10 through FY2015-16, \$1 million for the teacher loan program and the remainder for distance education projects; and
- in FY2016-17 and beyond, for educational purposes as determined by the Legislature.

The state school aid formula was revised to recognize telecommunications and data transmission costs for school systems. Receipts for courses provided through the new council will be excluded from budget limitations.

LB 1208 also included provisions from two other bills – **LB 969**, originally introduced by Beatrice Sen. Dennis Byars, and **LB 1049**, originally introduced by Plattsmouth Sen. Roger Wehrbein.

The provisions from LB 969 will, beginning in the 2009-10 school year, prohibit schools from counting alternating courses offered every other year to count toward accreditation in subject areas in which the state has developed content standards. Those subject areas are mathematics, science, social science and reading and writing.

The provisions from LB 1049 authorize Nebraska Educational Telecommunications to make contracts that will generate revenue from excess transponder capacity, excess transmission spectrum and transmission and production facilities. NET is prohibited from using its facilities for the production of commercials and distribution or retransmission of commercials or subscription-based television.

LB 1208 was passed 40-2.

## **Early childhood education endowment**

Two measures were passed that would work together to provide an endowment for early childhood education programs.

**LB 1256**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, designates \$40 million of state funding to be combined with \$20 million of private funding to create the early childhood endowment. Interest generated from the endowed funds will be used to provide grants for early childhood education programs for children from birth to age three. The grants will be awarded by an Early Childhood Education Board of Trustees



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

to school districts, cooperatives of school districts and educational service units.

Until July 1, 2007, the \$40 million of state funding will be provided by the state's cash reserve fund. The amended version of **LB 1006**, also sponsored by Brashear, asks voters to amend the state constitution so that after July 1, 2007, the \$40 million of state funding would come from proceeds in the permanent school fund.

In both cases, the \$40 million serves only as principal for the endowment. Only interest from the endowment can be used to fund the grant program.

LB 1256 was passed 42-3 and LB 1006 was passed on a 43-2 vote. LB 1006 will be before voters on the November 2006 general election ballot.



*Sen. DiAnna Schimek*

## Immigrant student tuition

Qualified undocumented immigrant students are allowed to pay resident tuition at the University of Nebraska and state colleges after the Legislature voted to override a gubernatorial veto.

**LB 239**, sponsored by Sen. DiAnna Schimek of Lincoln, allows a student to qualify for resident tuition status if he or she has a petition pending with the federal government to attain lawful status or if he or she has lived in Nebraska with a parent or guardian for at least three years, graduated from a Nebraska high school and will be applying to become a permanent resident.

Nonresident tuition is typically much higher than resident tuition rates. For example, 2005-06 resident undergraduate tuition at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was \$151 per credit hour, as compared to \$448 per credit hour for nonresident undergraduate tuition.

LB 239 was passed 27-18. After the measure was vetoed by Gov. David Heineman, lawmakers voted 30-16 to override the veto.



*Sen. Elaine Stuhr*

## Classroom measures

**LB 690**, sponsored by Bradshaw Sen. Elaine Stuhr, provides state grants for career education programs. The bill appropriated \$450,000 annually to the state Department of Education for the grants. Grants cannot exceed \$75,000 per project and will be spent over a two-year period. The program terminates on Jan. 1, 2011.

LB 690 passed on a 43-0 vote.

**LB 821**, introduced by Bayard Sen. Philip Erdman, authorizes the enrollment of exempt students on a part-time basis in a public school district. Exempt students are students enrolled in a private, denominational or parochial school that chooses not to meet state accreditation or approval requirements.

LB 821 passed on a 34-9 vote.



*Sen. Philip Erdman*

## Bills that passed

**LB 795**, introduced by Sen. Doug Cunningham of Wausa, allows school districts and the state Department of Education to agree to a shorter repayment period when school districts have to pay back reorganization incentives due to withdrawal from or the dissolution of a unified school system.

LB 795 was passed by a 44-0 vote.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



*Sen. Marian Price*

**LB 962**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Marian Price, appropriates \$150,000 from the state's general fund for a nursing faculty student loan program.

The bill includes provisions from **LB 830**, a bill introduced by North Platte Sen. Don Pederson that outlines state priorities for postsecondary education and requires the state Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to report annually on progress toward those priorities. The bill also includes **LB 1012**, a bill introduced by Raikes that allows Peru State College to offer a master's of science degree in organizational management and makes technical changes to the Nebraska Scholarship Program.

Finally, LB 962 increases the amount that may be paid for repayment of medical student loans.

LB 962 was passed 39-1.

## Other bills



*Sen. Gwen Howard*

**LB 228**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard, would have provided tax levy and state aid increases for full-day kindergarten expenses. The bill failed to advance from general file on a 17-11 vote.

**LB 946**, sponsored by Wehrbein, would have permitted the State Board of Education to allow kindergarten through 12th grade schools to teach American sign language. Postsecondary institutions also would have been allowed to offer ASL classes to be taken for foreign language credits.

The bill remained in the Education Committee. However, the state board later indicated it would consider addressing the issue.

**LB 835**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, would have required that a student athlete be suspended from sports activities for using anabolic steroids. School staff also would have been subject to sanctions for selling steroids or failing to report student use. The state board would have been authorized to implement a random steroid drug testing process by lottery.

The bill was indefinitely postponed by the Education Committee on a 6-0 vote.

## Elections



*Sen. Chris Beutler*

**D**uring the 2006 session, senators debated campaign finance regulations and recall election procedures.

After lengthy debate on whether to repeal the states' campaign finance laws or strengthen them, lawmakers passed a bill that makes corrective changes to the laws.

**LB 188**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, would amend sections of the Campaign Finance Limitation Act that was passed in 1992. The act is a campaign finance regulation with voluntary spending limits intended to mitigate the influence of money in elections. Candidates who choose not to abide by spending limits are required to file an affidavit with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission estimating how much he or she will spend on the campaign. Abiding candidates are eligible for public funding, also known as "fair fight" funds, based on the estimated or actual expenditures of a nonabiding candidate, whichever is greater.

The funding used for "fair fight" funds are collected from a voluntary check-off



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

on state income tax forms and from fines, late fees and civil penalties imposed on candidates and lobbyists.

**LB 188:**

- increases the spending limits required for candidates to qualify for public funds;
- requires nonabiding candidates to file an affidavit within two days of when their campaign expenditures reach 40 percent of the spending limit for their offices;
- sets the maximum amount of public funding an abiding candidate may receive at three times the amount of the spending limitation;
- makes public funds available to eligible candidates no later than 14 days after the election;
- requires nonabiding candidates to file a third pre-election campaign statement no later than the sixth day before the election;
- establishes additional civil penalties for noncompliance; and
- allows abiding candidates, under limited circumstances, to finalize a loan for an amount up to the amount of "fair fight" funds the candidate expects to receive.

LB 188 passed on a 30-10 vote.

Senators also debated a bill that would have changed procedures for recall elections.

Sen. Mick Mines of Blair sponsored **LB 786**, which would have subjected elected members of airport authorities to recall and specified reasons for the recall of elected officials.

LB 786 would have required one or more of the following reasons in an affidavit to receive recall petition papers: malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance. Under current law, an official may be recalled for any reason.

The recalled individual would have been allowed to file a defense statement.

The Legislature adjourned for the year before select file debate was completed on the bill.

**LB 1102**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Rich Pahls, would have changed the way independent or nonpartisan candidates for the offices of President and Vice President place their names on the ballot in Nebraska. The measure was held by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.



*Sen. Rich Pahls*

## Gaming and Liquor

**G**ambling treatment and awareness, liquor license procedures and horse racing were debated by senators this session.

Lawmakers agreed to send voters a proposed constitutional amendment to increase the amount of state lottery proceeds distributed to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

**LR 259CA**, sponsored by St. Paul Sen. Vickie McDonald, asks voters to change the Nebraska Constitution to allocate the first \$1 million of lottery proceeds plus 1 percent of the total proceeds to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund. Currently, the fund only receives the first \$500,000.

The measure passed on a 38-2 vote. It will be before voters on the November 2006 general election ballot.



*Sen. Vickie McDonald*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



*Sen. Lowen Kruse*

McDonald also introduced **LB 1039**, which requires at least 5 percent of the advertising budget for the state lottery to be used for advertising on problem gambling prevention, education and awareness.

LB 1039 passed on a 44-0 vote.

**LB 845**, introduced by Sen. David Landis of Lincoln, gives municipalities and the state Liquor Control Commission the ability to use judgment in determining the appropriateness of liquor license applications according to statutory criteria. The bill adds criteria involving the concentration of liquor licenses in a given area.

LB 845 also includes provisions of **LB 1160**, a measure sponsored by Omaha Sen. Lowen Kruse that gives the commission the responsibility of approving training courses for those who are employed to serve alcohol.

LB 845 was passed by a 42-0 vote.

**LB 562**, offered by Nickerson Sen. Ray Janssen, regulates consumption of the gaseous form of alcohol.

The bill was introduced at the request of the Liquor Control Commission in response to news that AWOL—or alcohol without liquid—machines would soon be distributed in the United States. AWOL machines consist of an oxygen generator and hand-held vaporizer that produce a mist of oxygen and alcohol that is inhaled through the mouth. Inhaled alcohol enters the bloodstream through the lungs rather than the stomach.

The bill also eliminated a requirement that the commission produce a keg sales report and allows holders of farm winery licenses to obtain annual catering licenses.

LB 562 contains provisions of **LB 388**, a bill originally introduced by Blair Sen. Mick Mines that allows restaurant and winery customers to take home one open bottle of wine in the trunk of a car if the customer has consumed a portion of the bottle with a meal.

Restaurants and wineries are required to recork the bottle and seal it inside a clear, plastic bag designed to only seal once. The bag, in effect, becomes a legal “sealed container,” and must be accompanied by a restaurant receipt.

LB 562 passed on a 45-0 vote.

**LB 1111**, sponsored by Janssen, requires legislative confirmation of gubernatorial appointees to the Nebraska Racing Commission.

The bill passed 45-0.

A proposal that would have allowed the Nebraska Racing Commission to permit wagering on previous horse races stalled during general file consideration.

Under **LB 745**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, the races would have been viewed on electronic racing terminals that select from a large pool of past horse races. The races, tracks and horses would have been revealed only after a wager was placed and the order of races would have been selected and run randomly. Only certain statistics about past performances and track conditions would have been provided to the bettor before wagering. Wagers would have been limited to \$10 and races would have been replayed at full speed.

**LB 1048**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Patrick Bourne, would have allowed the state Department of Revenue to authorize the use of electronic pickle card devices.

**LB 1110**, sponsored by Janssen, would have enabled a player to play electronic keno in the same manner as using paper tickets.

The General Affairs Committee voted 5-2 to indefinitely postpone LB 1048 and held LB 1110 in committee.



*Sen. Ray Janssen*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

## Health and Human Services

**L**awmakers passed bills implementing Medicaid reform, allowing long-term care savings plans and controlling the cleanup of meth labs.



Sen. Jim Jensen

**LB 1248**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, is based on a Medicaid reform plan designed by legislative and executive branch designees and an advisory council. The effort was an outgrowth of **LB 709**, passed by lawmakers last year. **LB 1248** recodifies Medicaid statutes and gives specific direction for Medicaid reform.

The bill includes provisions regarding eligibility for medical assistance, provides limits on services covered by Medicaid and charges the state Department of Health and Human Services with:

- providing a report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee and a newly formed Medicaid Reform Council summarizing the purpose and content of proposed changes to regulations and their projected effect on Medicaid recipients and expenditures prior to the adoption of new regulations;
- developing recommendations relating to the provision of health care and related services for Medicaid-eligible children under the state children's health insurance program; and
- developing recommendations regarding the modification or replacement of the medical assistance program's defined benefit structure.

The Medicaid Reform Council will consist of 10 persons appointed by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee in consultation with the governor and the director of HHS Finance and Support. The council will oversee and support implementation of the reforms, conduct at least two public meetings annually and provide comments and recommendations to HHS regarding the Medicaid program.

The council will terminate on June 30, 2010.

Under the bill, a full legislative session must occur before new Medicaid premiums, copayments, deductibles or limits on covered services go into effect. This provision allows the Legislature to have input in the decision-making process.

The bill contains provisions of **LB 1232**, originally introduced by Jensen, which authorizes an independent study and actuarial analysis of behavioral health insurance parity legislation.

**LB 1248** was passed 45-1.

A proposal allowing people to save tax-free money to defray the cost of long-term care was given final legislative approval.

**LB 965**, also sponsored by Jensen, allows taxpayers to set up accounts with approved financial institutions and deposit up to \$2,000 per year for married taxpayers filing jointly or \$1,000 per year for all other filers. The principal and interest earned in the accounts can be withdrawn free of Nebraska income taxes provided they are used by a person 65 years of age or older who has a need for long-term care, a disabled person of any age needing long-term care or a person 62 years of age or older that is paying long-term care insurance premiums.

Tax-free withdrawals can be used only for long-term care costs or long-term care insurance premiums. All other withdrawals will be taxed as income and subject to a 10 percent penalty.

The bill contains provisions of **LB 854**, introduced by Wausa Sen. Doug



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



*Sen. Ray Aguilar*

Cunningham, which establishes a long-term care partnership program within HHS Finance and Support.

LB 965 was passed by a 45-0 vote.

A bill requiring law enforcement agencies to report discovered clandestine drug labs to the Nebraska State Patrol was passed 44-0.

**LB 915**, sponsored by Grand Island Sen. Ray Aguilar, requires law enforcement to provide the State Patrol a complete list of the meth-related chemicals found at or removed from the location of the lab within 30 days of discovery.

The State Patrol will provide the information to the state Department of Environmental Quality, the municipality or county where the lab is located and the director of the local public health department.

The bill permits a local public health department to charge and collect fees from the owner of contaminated property to cover the costs associated with the monitoring of the property's rehabilitation.

Landlords are allowed to terminate a rental agreement for the purpose of rehabilitating a property where a meth lab was discovered.

Finally, LB 915 requires property owners having knowledge of a lab on their property to report it to local law enforcement or the State Patrol. Violations are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.

**LB 994** was introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee and transfers personnel and responsibility for home and community-based services for aged adults and disabled children from HHS to HHS Finance and Support. The transfer affects activities relating to adult protective services, medically handicapped children, early childhood intervention, the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council, social services, genetically handicapped persons, disabled persons and lifespan respite services.

LB 994 was amended to contain provisions of the following bills.

**LB 1079**, sponsored by Sen. Vickie McDonald of St. Paul, creates the Immunosuppressant Drug Repository to enable the donation of unused antirejection drugs to be redistributed by transplant centers.

**LB 882**, sponsored by Kearney Sen. Joel Johnson, makes changes to the Radiation Control Act.

**LB 1179**, sponsored by Jensen, eliminates the state Behavioral Health Council originally established by LB 1083 in 2004.

**LB 844**, sponsored by Beatrice Sen. Dennis Byars, requires the governor to appoint a chief administrative officer for HHS and discontinues the current position of policy secretary, a proposal first made by Omaha Sen. Gwen Howard in **LB 884**.

**LB 1220**, also introduced by Byars, addresses shortages of behavioral health service providers, particularly in rural areas.

**LB 903**, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, names a new veterans home being built in Bellevue the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home. The original facility had been named after former Sen. Thomas Fitzgerald, who was instrumental in legislative efforts to fund the original facility 25 years ago.

**LB 892**, introduced by Platte Center Sen. Arnie Stuthman, changes childcare reporting provisions.

**LB 1002** and **LB 1254**, both introduced by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, change the prescribing authority and scope of practice for nurse practitioners. They also prohibit the introduction of counterfeit drugs into pharmaceuticals.



*Sen. Don Preister*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

**LB 1088**, introduced by La Vista Sen. Nancy Thompson, requires parental information regarding sudden infant death syndrome and shaken baby syndrome to be available at hospitals, birth centers and other medical facilities that discharge newborn children.

**LB 445**, introduced by Jensen, updates statutes relating to the practice of physical therapy.

LB 994 passed on a 44-0 vote.

Two bills were passed to provide guidelines for schools to allow diabetic and asthmatic students to manage their own treatment.

**LB 1107**, introduced by Thompson, addresses the self-treatment of diabetes, while **LB 1148**, introduced by Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett, addresses that of asthmatic and anaphylactic students.

LB 1107 passed on a 45-0 vote, and LB 1148 passed 49-0.

**LB 949**, sponsored by Jensen, would have created a statewide immunization registry. The registry would have been accessible to public and private immunization providers to track records on children and adults. The bill was awaiting general file debate when the Legislature adjourned for the year.



Sen. Abbie Cornett

## Local Government

**L**aws and proposals pertaining to natural gas regulation, eminent domain and blighted property were passed in 2006.

Under **LB 1249**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, public and private gas companies are required to notify the Public Service Commission before expanding natural gas piping into an extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction. Previous law allowed the utilities to notify the PSC after installing the natural gas pipes.

If no person or entity files a protest with the PSC within 15 business days alleging that the proposed extension is not in the public interest, the extension can proceed.

If the Metropolitan Utilities District proposes to extend its system within Omaha's boundaries or within the boundaries of its extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction, it may pursue the extension without PSC approval. Any such extension within Omaha involving the exercise of the power of eminent domain will be considered in the public interest.

The bill was passed 46-0.

The power of local government to condemn land to build new projects designed for economic growth was limited by a bill passed this session.

Sen. Deb Fischer of Valentine said **LB 924** is a response to the 2005 U.S. Supreme Court case *Kelo vs. City of New London*, in which the court upheld a local Connecticut government's action to take private property for the use of a private redevelopment project.

Under her bill, a condemner cannot take property through the use of eminent domain for economic development purposes. The bill defines economic development as taking property for use by a commercial for-profit enterprise or to increase tax revenue, tax base, employment or general economic conditions.

Exceptions include exercising the power of eminent domain for projects that make the property available for use by the general public such as a public utility, railroad, aqueduct, pipeline or similar use. Other exceptions include removing harmful uses



Sen. David Landis



Sen. Deb Fischer



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



*Sen. Matt Connealy*

of property that threaten public health and safety, leasing property to a person who occupies an incidental part of public property or a public facility, acquiring abandoned property, clearing defective property title or taking nonagricultural land private property found to be blighted or substandard.

The bill passed 43-0.

A proposed constitutional amendment would make changes to a law designed to help rehabilitate blighted property.

Currently, the Nebraska Constitution allows municipalities to use tax increment financing to rehabilitate, acquire or redevelop property that is deemed to be blighted or substandard.

Under **LR 272CA**, introduced by Sen. Matt Connealy of Decatur, the Legislature would be allowed to determine the eligibility standards for property under the blighted and substandard requirements in the constitution. The ability to use TIF financing would be extended to counties, as well as municipalities. The timeframe for local governments to repay the TIF financing would be extended from 15 to 30 years for damaged state property.

State property containing asbestos is an example of damaged state property that would be allowed to qualify for the extended financing timeframe.

LR 272CA was forwarded to the voters by a 44-0 vote. The measure will be on the November 2006 general election ballot.

**LB 75**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, asks voters to amend the state constitution to offer local government subdivisions greater flexibility in the investment of public endowment funds.

LB 75 was passed by lawmakers on a 42-0 vote. The measure also will be before voters on the November general election ballot.

**LB 898**, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, changes state open meetings laws. The bill requires more specific agendas, allows public meeting attendees to challenge a possible violation after the meeting is over and requires public bodies to post a current copy of open meetings laws in the meeting room and state the reason for a closed session before entering the session.

LB 898 passed on a 41-0 vote.

**LB 1175**, introduced by the Urban Affairs Committee, allows the state treasurer to seek more information about how funds collected by mutual finance organizations are distributed and used. Mutual finance organizations are entities that allow local governments to provide services under a common tax levy.

LB 1175 also contains the provisions of four other bills:

**LB 452**, introduced by the committee, allows fire and building inspectors in second class cities and villages to issue fire, safety, health and building code citations. That authority already exists for inspectors in metropolitan, primary and first class cities.

**LB 850**, introduced by Beutler, authorizes primary class cities to purchase property using an installment contract or lease agreement. Lincoln is the state's only primary class city.

**LB 1029**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, increases the estimated cost level beyond which a sanitary and improvement district board of trustees must let a construction project out for bid.

**LB 1173**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Mike Friend, amends community development law to make changes to tax increment financing and change the effective date of redevelopment proposals.

LB 1175 was passed by a 45-1 vote.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

## State Government

**F**or only the second time since 1900, the Nebraska Legislature impeached a state official.

Lawmakers voted 25-22 to adopt **LR 449**, the articles of impeachment against University of Nebraska Regent David Hergert.

Following the 2004 election, Hergert reached a settlement with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission in which he acknowledged violating election campaign laws by failing to report late campaign contributions, failing to file a required campaign expenditure affidavit and accepting loans improperly according to law. The violations resulted in a settlement that included civil penalties and late fees against Hergert totaling \$33,512.10.

LR 449, introduced by Sens. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, Chris Beutler of Lincoln, Vickie McDonald of St. Paul, Arnie Stuthman of Platte Center and Nancy Thompson of La Vista, alleges that Hergert:

- may not be lawfully elected to office due to his violation of campaign laws;
- is guilty of misdemeanors in office that include official misconduct, false oaths, election fraud, false statements, false reports and obstructions of government operations;
- perpetrated his election campaign misconduct by filing a false, deceptive report with the commission on Jan. 11, 2005, after he took the oath of office and became a regent; and
- knowingly and intentionally concealed, deceived and misrepresented material facts during an Oct. 8, 2005, interview with the state attorney general's office and State Patrol.

The issue is scheduled for trial before the Nebraska Supreme Court beginning May 8. Chambers and Beutler were appointed by the Legislature to act as managers for the case. If two-thirds of the justices vote to convict, Hergert will be removed from office.

### Constitutional officer salaries

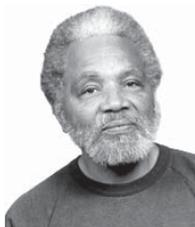
Lawmakers overrode Gov. David Heineman's veto of a bill that increases the annual salaries of constitutional officers.

**LB 817**, sponsored by Chambers, increases the salaries as follows:

- from \$85,000 to \$105,000 for governor;
- from \$75,000 to \$95,000 for attorney general;
- from \$65,000 to \$85,000 for secretary of state;
- from \$60,000 to \$85,000 for auditor of public accounts;
- from \$60,000 to \$85,000 for state treasurer;
- from \$60,000 to \$75,000 for lieutenant governor; and
- from \$50,000 to \$75,000 public service commissioner.

The increases will be effective Jan. 4, 2007.

LB 817 passed 39-3. Senators overrode the governor's veto on a 33-9 vote.



Sen. Ernie Chambers

### Public retirement issues

**LB 366**, sponsored by the Retirement Systems Committee, makes three major



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

changes designed to improve the benefit adequacy of state and county employee retirement plans.

First, employees will be required to enroll and participate in the retirement plans immediately upon beginning employment. Currently, permanent employees participate in the plans only after having been employed by the county or state for at least 12 months.

Second, the employee contribution rate for state employees will increase. Currently, state employees contribute 4.33 percent of their pay for the first \$19,954 of salary and 4.8 percent of pay for the remainder of their salary. Under LB 366, the employee contribution rate changes to 4.8 percent of the employee's entire salary.

Finally, because the state is required to match employee contributions at a rate of 156 percent, the state employee contribution rate increase will result in a corresponding increase in the state's financial contribution to the plan.

Lawmakers passed LB 366 on a 46-0 vote and later voted 30-14 to override a veto of the bill by the governor.

**LB 1019**, introduced by the Retirement Systems Committee, made numerous technical and administrative changes relating to public employees' retirement and the Nebraska Investment Council. The bill was passed 46-0.

## Performance auditing

Two bills relating to performance auditing were passed by lawmakers. Performance audits, which are intended to increase public accountability of agencies and organizations, verify that the tasks and services performed by the agency meet certain substantive goals, including efficiency and effectiveness.

**LB 588**, introduced by the Performance Audit Committee, authorizes the staff of the Legislature's Performance Audit Section to access the same confidential information and records that are provided to the state auditor of public accounts. Access to income and sales tax records at the state Department of Revenue would be limited. Other limitations on access and release of the information are included in the bill. The section is required to complete a peer review process and comply with generally accepted audit standards.

LB 588 was passed by a 42-5 vote.

**LB 956**, introduced by the Performance Audit Committee, changed the name of the Legislative Research Division to the Office of Legislative Audit and Research and created the position of legislative auditor. The legislative auditor will oversee the staff and operations necessary to carry out the Legislature's performance auditing responsibilities.

LB 956 was passed 40-0.

## Other bills

**LB 693**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, authorizes the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority to borrow money and issue bonds to finance "economic impact projects." Economic impact projects include land, buildings, other improvements, real or personal property or equipment financed through the use of a federal new markets tax credit. Qualifying projects must be located in low-income communities. LB 693 was passed by a 47-0 vote.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

**LB 940**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, created a state Office of Homeland Security and a Homeland Security Policy Group. The Office of Homeland Security will coordinate efforts with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security regarding domestic security issues. The lieutenant governor will serve as the office's director.

LB 940 also included provisions from four other bills.

**LB 1154**, introduced by Schimek, prohibits new political parties from including the words "partisan" or "independent" in their party names.

**LB 1184**, introduced by Plattsmouth Sen. Roger Wehrbein, prohibits the secretary of state from being a member or officer of political campaign committees other than his or her own.

**LB 1246**, sponsored by Sen. Pat Engel of South Sioux City, changed provisions relating to prohibited acts near polling places.

**LB 1236**, sponsored by Schimek, exempts appointed officials from having to register as lobbyists and eliminates the requirement that copies of letters to state senators be provided to the clerk of the Legislature.

LB 940 was passed 43-1.

**LB 1038**, introduced by Schimek, prohibits the leasing of any part of the state fairgrounds to a private entity for capital construction. The bill passed 41-0.

**LB 973**, introduced by Schimek, would have prohibited the state from contributing the total cost of a health insurance program for employees who are married to each other unless the total cost is less than the amount the state would contribute if each of the married employees selected a single person option and contributed the employee portion. The bill was held by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.

## Taxes

**T**ax reduction was one of the Legislature's prevailing goals when the 2006 session began. Lawmakers responded by passing a tax cut package aimed at providing relief to all levels of taxpayers. Senators also agreed to study the state's tax system and provided some sectors with sales tax exemptions.

### Tax cuts

**LB 968**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, includes several parts of a tax package impacting state income and sales taxes as well as local property taxes.

The bill:

- adjusts income tax brackets with the effect of lowering overall individual income taxes;
- provides an 8 percent earned income tax credit for low-income tax filers;
- eliminates existing law that phases out the personal exemption credit, standard deduction and itemized deductions for high-income earners;
- decreases the assessment percentage for agricultural and horticultural land from 80 percent of actual value to 75 percent, beginning with the 2007 assessment year;



*Sen. Pam Redfield*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

- increases exempt amounts and maximum values under the state's homestead exemption program;
- eliminates a scheduled decrease in the maximum school property tax levy from \$1.05 to \$1, leaving the maximum levy at \$1.05 indefinitely;
- eliminates a requirement that Nebraska taxpayers "add back" 85 percent of any bonus depreciation or expensing of capital investment allowed under federal law; and
- dedicates \$10 million of state general funds over two fiscal years to fund ethanol production incentive tax credits.

LB 968 was passed by a 42-2 vote.

## Tax study



*Sen. Carroll Burling*

**LB 542**, sponsored by Kenesaw Sen. Carroll Burling, creates the Nebraska Tax Policy Reform Commission. The commission is responsible for identifying and reviewing Nebraska's tax structure and making final recommendations by Nov. 15, 2007. The commission will consist of 16 members representing the Legislature, production agriculture, industry and manufacturing, telecommunications, labor and low-income individuals, as well as an economist, the director of the state Department of Economic Development and the state tax commissioner.

LB 542 was passed by a 40-2 vote.

## Sales tax exemptions

**LB 1189**, introduced by Omaha Sen. John Synowiecki, expands the sales tax exemption for molds and dies to include raw materials, chemical catalysts and solutions that are used to make molds and dies for use in manufacturing.

The bill also exempts the following from sales taxes:

- nonprofit providers of community-based services to the developmentally disabled;
- purchases of fine art by museums; and
- local housing authorities except on purchases for any commercial operations that do not exclusively benefit the residents of an affordable housing project.

LB 1189 was passed on a 43-0 vote.

## Other bills

**LB 1010**, sponsored by Decatur Sen. Matt Connealy, follows **LB 28**, a bill passed last year that created a state income tax credit for charitable contributions to Nebraska-based permanent endowments with 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax status.

LB 1010:

- allows the taxpayer to receive federal and state charitable deductions as well as the LB 28 tax credit;
- reduces the percentage of the credit from 30 percent for individual contributions to 15 percent and from 20 percent for corporations to 10 percent; and
- reduces the maximum credit that can be received in any tax year for individuals, corporations, estates or trusts from \$10,000 to \$5,000.

LB 1010 was passed by a 39-3 vote.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



*Sen. Adrian Smith*

**LB 808**, introduced by Landis, makes a variety of administrative and technical changes to property tax statutes. Among its provisions, the bill allows counties to determine whether farm buildings used as residences are subject to zoning requirements.

The bill includes portions of four other property tax related bills.

**LB 407**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes, makes various changes to laws regarding the special valuation of agricultural and horticultural land, also known as greenbelt valuation. Agricultural and horticultural land is redefined. Applicants, not just owners, can seek greenbelt valuations. An existing recapture requirement for land that loses its greenbelt status will be phased out over four years. The recapture law will be completely eliminated in 2010.

**LB 699**, introduced by Gering Sen. Adrian Smith, eliminates a requirement that land be zoned for agricultural use in order to qualify for greenbelt valuation.

**LB 812**, introduced by Landis, makes technical changes on behalf of the state Tax Equalization and Review Commission.

**LB 813**, also introduced by Landis, makes various administrative changes on behalf of the state Department of Property Assessment and Taxation.

LB 808 was passed 43-0.

Under **LB 1003**, sponsored by Landis, an existing motor fuel tax exemption available to Native Americans residing on a reservation will apply only in cases in which there is no joint motor fuels tax agreement with the tribe. Among its provisions, the bill lengthens the statute of limitations for tax evasion cases from three years to four years.

The bill includes provisions of six other bills that made administrative and technical changes to the state's tax laws.

**LB 807**, introduced by Landis, updates references to the Internal Revenue Code that lie outside the income tax statutes.

**LB 811**, introduced by Landis, eliminates a requirement that liquor tax returns be notarized.

**LB 937**, introduced by Connealy, changes definitions and makes clarifications in the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act.

**LB 1045**, introduced by Landis, makes consistent the definition of a distressed area for three rural development tax credit or grant programs.

**LB 888**, introduced by Landis, improves the administration of the Nebraska Advantage tax incentive program.

**LB 836**, introduced by Redfield, changes the recapture provisions for tier 5 qualifiers under the Nebraska Advantage Act that fail to maintain the same number of jobs as in the base year.

LB 1003 was passed 46-0.

**LB 995**, introduced by Sen. Arnie Stuthman of Platte Center, would have eliminated Nebraska's estate tax. The bill was indefinitely postponed by the Revenue Committee on an 8-0 vote.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

## Transportation



Sen. Tom Baker



Sen. Arnie Stuthman



Sen. Jim Cudaback

**T**ransportation needs settled this session include funding for roads, closing railroad crossings and licensing historical vehicles.

**LB 904**, sponsored by Trenton Sen. Tom Baker, redirects a portion of the revenues collected from the state sales tax on motor vehicles from the state's general fund to the Highway Allocation Fund. The funds will be used by municipalities and counties for road construction and maintenance.

LB 904 was passed by a 38-4 vote.

**LB 79**, sponsored by Baker, authorizes the closing of railroad crossings that do not have gates, signals, alarm bells or warning personnel and are within one-quarter mile of a crossing that does have those signals.

The bill allows written objections to be submitted to the state Department of Roads by a professional engineer. The engineer would then submit a report with an explanation of why the crossing should not be closed.

The bill passed on a 45-0 vote.

**LB 1008**, sponsored by Platte Center Sen. Arnie Stuthman, changes the renewal period for a motor vehicle operator's license for drivers required to use bioptic or telescopic lenses. Renewals are required every two years unless a shorter period of time is deemed necessary by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. The bill also adjusts license fees to account for the additional year of validity.

The bill passed on a 48-0 vote.

Sponsored by Beatrice Sen. Dennis Byars, **LB 1069** allows the reimbursement of eligible individuals for transporting disabled people. Drivers may be reimbursed for expenses at a rate no greater than the reimbursement rate for state employees. That rate is currently 44.5 cents per mile. The bill requires drivers to be under contract with the state Department of Health and Human Services to receive reimbursement.

The bill was passed 46-0.

Sponsored by Sen. Jim Cudaback of Riverdale, **LB 663** changes procedures for titling historical vehicles by allowing a designated historical car club representative to verify for the state Department of Motor Vehicles the actual age of the car applying for a historical license. The representative will determine whether updates to the vehicle are of an appropriate historic era.

Titles registered for these vehicles cost \$25 as compared to the typical \$15 charge.

Included in LB 663 are provisions of **LB 1215**, originally sponsored by Baker, which provides procedures for mobile home owners to dispose of a certificate of title once the home is affixed to their land.

LB 663 passed 45-0.

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee held the following bills.

**LB 1065**, sponsored by Kearney Sen. Joel Johnson, would have created the Expressway Expansion Fund to be used by the state Department of Roads for the expansion of an expressway system to stretch diagonally across the state from South Sioux City through McCook. The project would have been funded from a portion of the state sales tax collected on motor vehicles.



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

**LB 816**, sponsored by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins, would have prohibited trucks, truck-tractors, truck-trailer combinations, truck-tractor-trailer combinations and busses from driving in the left lane on six-lane highways under most circumstances.

**LB 909**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Marian Price, would have prohibited driving in the passing lane of a highway if the speed limit is 65 miles per hour or above. Exemptions would have included passing another vehicle that is in the right lane and making a left-hand turn.

**LB 1057**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Pam Brown, would have established the Roads to Economic Development Fund, which would have funded roads and streets that would support economic development. The bill also would have changed the distribution formula for roads aid to local political subdivisions, resulting in a population-based distribution of road tax revenues to counties.

**LB 768**, sponsored by Cudaback, would have prohibited drivers holding a provisional operator's permit, school permit, farm permit, LPD-learner's permit or LPE-learner's permit from operating a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle in motion.

**LB 1108**, also sponsored by Cudaback, would have created the offense of distracted driving, committed when a person driving a motor vehicle engaged in reading, writing, performing personal grooming, interacting with pet animals, adjusting cargo or other distracting actions resulting in the unsafe operation of the vehicle.

## Water

**L**awmakers dealt with the contentious issue of the state's water policy by increasing taxing and spending authority for natural resources districts and addressing municipal water use concerns.

Senators passed **LB 1226**, a bill that focused on storm water management and funding for water policy implementation.

Sponsored by Sen. Chris Langemeier of Schuyler, the bill includes provisions of the following bills.

**LB 971**, introduced by Elm Creek Sen. Ed Schrock, allows natural resources districts with fully or over appropriated areas to increase their property tax levies by 3 cents for fiscal year 2006-07 and 2 cents for FY2007-08 and FY2008-09. The bill changes the taxing and spending authority of those NRDs.

**LB 1097**, introduced by Schrock, creates a program to fund grant requests from cities that are required to develop storm water management programs under the National Discharge Elimination System. The grants, in part, would be based on population and the state Department of Environmental Quality would develop other criteria. Funding for the program will come from the state's general fund.

**LB 1081**, introduced by Aurora Sen. Bob Kremer, pertains to noxious weed management.

**LB 933**, introduced by the Natural Resources Committee, makes technical changes to the Water Policy Task Force's recommendations. The bill exempts municipalities and non-municipal commercial and industrial water uses in overused areas from allocation restrictions imposed after Nov. 1, 2005. This exemption will apply until



*Sen. Chris Langemeier*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

Jan. 1, 2026, at which time allocations could be based on the greater of the applicable permit amount or the greatest amount of annual use during the 20-year period, within certain limitations.

**LB 805**, introduced by the committee, establishes a funding mechanism for the enforcement of water policy. The state Department of Natural Resources will oversee a grant program for disbursing funds to NRDs for water management. The program is included as a state budget line item for ongoing appropriation purposes.

LB 1226 was passed on a 45-2 vote.

The Natural Resources Committee advanced one bill pertaining to water policy that never saw floor debate and voted to indefinitely postpone two others.

**LB 1109**, introduced by Schrock, would have modified the bad actor provisions of the Livestock Waste Management Act. It would have classified a person as a “bad actor” if within the past three years the applicant has allowed five discharges to waters of the state at any facility in Nebraska unless those discharges were in compliance with the Environmental Protection Act. The current standard is three discharges during a three-year period.

The bill was awaiting general file consideration when session adjourned for the year.

**LB 1214**, introduced by Gering Sen. Adrian Smith, would have amended livestock waste management law regarding operations in Class A stream watersheds. It would have allowed the DEQ to use scientific evaluation, instead of geographical restrictions, to approve or deny new permits. The bill would have eliminated existing law that denies permit modifications for existing operations located within two miles of a Class A stream. Instead, new or modified permits would have been allowed if the department determined a permit was necessary, or if the operation would not degrade the stream.

The committee voted 7-0 to indefinitely postpone the bill.

The committee also voted 7-0 to indefinitely postpone **LB 930**, a bill that would have imposed fees based on irrigated acres and on municipal water services on a per capita basis.

Sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler, LB 930 would have charged irrigators a fee of up to \$2 per irrigated acre. Municipal water services would have been charged no more than \$1 per person. The department’s director would have calculated the fees based on the proportion of water that was consumed.

The collected fees would have been credited to the Water Conservation Cash Fund, which would have been used to manage water conservation easements, management plans and conservation agreements. The potential tax revenue would have been \$17.3 million.



Sen. Ed Schrock

## Miscellaneous

**Senators enacted legislation in 2006 addressing enhanced 911 services, state veteran cemeteries and gift cards and certificates.**

**LB 1222**, introduced by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, allows cellular telephone providers to assess a surcharge of up to 70 cents to help fund enhanced 911 emergency services. Surcharges for customers in cities of the



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

metropolitan class will be limited to no more than 50 cents. Omaha is Nebraska's only city of the metropolitan class.

Surcharge revenue will be distributed by the Public Service Commission to public safety answering points (PSAPs). The PSC will determine the level of funding available to each PSAP and wireless carrier for eligible costs. Funding does not have to be distributed to more than one PSAP per county.

For counties without E-911 service, the PSC will designate a PSAP with E-911 service to handle calls and dispatch or relay calls to the appropriate emergency services provider until the county has implemented E-911 wireless service. Every county is required to implement E-911 service by July 1, 2010.

LB 1222 passed on a 41-2 vote.

**LB 996**, sponsored by Ellsworth Sen. LeRoy Loudon, allows the state to match funds raised by cemetery task forces for construction of veteran cemeteries. The bill was intended to assist the city of Alliance with the construction of a state veteran cemetery.

LB 996 passed on a 45-0 vote.

**LR 2CA**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. David Landis, proposes to amend Article XIII, Section 2 of the Nebraska Constitution to authorize counties, cities and villages to acquire, own, develop and lease real and personal property for use by charitable nonprofit enterprises. Those entities also would be allowed to issue revenue bonds to defray the cost of acquiring and developing or financing property by construction, purchase or other means.

LR 2CA was approved by lawmakers by a 40-0 vote and will be on the November 2006 general election ballot.

**LB 875**, introduced by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, requires annuity providers to base the suitability of their recommendations to senior consumers on facts provided by the consumer. Providers are also required to obtain information from the consumer before making their recommendations. The state Department of Insurance is authorized to take corrective action on behalf of a senior consumer harmed by an annuity provider in violation of the law.

LB 875 also requires insurers to provide "first-dollar" coverage of extended warranty policy claims on car repairs. Warranty contracts are required to contain a notice to the consumer that their investment in the policy is not guaranteed. The notice is to be printed in the contract or on a separate sheet in conspicuous type and requires an initial from the consumer.

The bill also addressed various other insurance regulatory matters. LB 875 was passed on a 48-0 vote.

**LB 876**, introduced by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, makes a variety of technical and administrative changes to laws affecting banks, building and loan associations, the sale of checks and funds transmissions, credit unions, mortgage bankers and installment loans.

The bill also included provisions from six other bills.

**LB 917**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield, strengthens the state's identity theft laws.

**LB 926**, introduced by Blair Sen. Mick Mines, makes changes related to the sale of trust deeds.

**LB 929** and **LB 1124**, both introduced by Mines, make changes related to installment loans and sales.



*Sen. LeRoy Loudon*



*Sen. Mick Mines*



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE



Sen. Carol Hudkins

**LB 1193**, introduced by Landis, changes laws related to delayed depositing services.

**LB 1259**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Kermit Brashear, permits charitable organizations to issue certain types of securities in accordance with federal law.

LB 876 was passed 44-0.

Under **LB 173**, sponsored by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins, any gift certificate, gift card or credit memo of \$100 or more that goes unredeemed for three years past the date of issuance or three years past the date of expiration will be presumed abandoned. Those funds will then be remitted to the state.

Gift cards and certificates for less than \$100 having no fees or expiration date are valid for consumers to use indefinitely, but merchants can keep the funds if they are never redeemed.

Gift cards and certificates must indicate whether they charge an inactivity fee, the amount of the fee, how often the fee will occur, that the fee is triggered by inactivity, at what point the fee will be charged and an expiration date, if any. Those having no expiration are not required to indicate such information.

The regulations do not apply to general use prepaid cards from financial institutions.

LB 173 passed on a 42-0 vote.

**LB 548**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Jim Jensen, allows power providers to place a surcharge on electric bills to pay for mandated improvement projects. The provisions were essentially introduced by the Natural Resources Committee as **LB 336**.

LB 548 was passed 46-0.

**LB 1121**, introduced by Omaha Sen. Pam Brown, would have appropriated \$3 million to study the feasibility of building a hydro-electric dam on the Platte River along the Interstate 80 corridor between Omaha and Lincoln. The bill was indefinitely postponed by the Appropriations Committee on a 6-0 vote.



Sen. Pam Brown

## 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/)



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

The following tables contain the final status of all substantive legislation before the Legislature during the 2006 session.

The "STATUS" column indicates a bill's last stage of consideration. Abbreviations for a bill's status are as follows: S=Signed by the Governor, P=Passed by the Legislature, V=Vetoed, VO=Veto Overridden, LV=Line-Item Vetoed, FR=Final Reading, SF=Select File, GF=General File, C=Held in Committee, IPP=Indefinitely Postponed, WD= Withdrawn. All legislation not otherwise disposed of before the end of the 2006 session is considered indefinitely postponed and must be re-introduced in 2007 to be considered again. A "+" indicates bills from which language was taken and a ">" indicates bills into which language was amended.

The "INDEX" column indicates the issue numbers of this year's Unicameral Update that contain articles about individual legislative bills.

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
4	Thompson	Adopt the Interstate Compact for Juveniles	GF	
4A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	GF	
5	Thompson	Change qualifications for membership on the State Board of Education	IPP	
6	Thompson	Change certain designated smoking areas under the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	GF	
7	Dw. Pedersen	Permit municipalities to allow pedestrians to solicit on roadways as prescribed	SF	
14	Landis	Change provisions relating to the State Natural Gas Regulation Act and the Public Service Commission	S	
19	Landis	Change corporate income tax calculations	GF	
23	Erdman	Change eligibility and terms of members of the Game and Parks Commission	IPP	
24	Erdman	Require drivers to use caution near parked emergency vehicles	C	
30	Natural Resources	Require notice to liquefied petroleum gas customers and provide immunity	C	
32	Schrock	Change per diem maximums for natural resources district board members	S	4
34	Schrock	Provide for hunting, trapping, and target practice in designated public areas	IPP	
42	Redfield	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Construction Lien Act	C	
43	Redfield	Provide immunity for employers for disclosure of certain employment information	C	
44	Redfield	Change income tax deductions and create a homestead exemption	GF	
44A	Redfield	Appropriation Bill	GF	
47	Landis	Adopt the Distinguished Professorship Act	GF	
48	Landis	Change provisions relating to the State Natural Gas Regulation Act	GF	5
49	Landis	Adopt the Nebraska Uniform Securities Act	C	
50	Landis	Prohibit housing discrimination based on sexual orientation	C	
57	Foley	Adopt provisions relating to assault of or serious bodily injury to an unborn child and a pregnant woman	S	2, 3, 10, 13, 15
58	Mines	Eliminate recognition of holiday proclamations by the President	C	
62	Beutler	Provide for liens for chiropractors	GF	
64	Synowiecki	Adopt the Peace Officer Employer-Employee Relations Act	C	
65	Foley	Provide for Military License Plates	GF	
65A	Foley	Appropriation Bill	GF	
68	Smith	Provide for veterans' spouses to receive specialty license plates as prescribed	GF	
70	Smith	Change and eliminate provisions relating to motorcycle safety and helmets	SF	
70A	Smith	Appropriation Bill	SF	
71	Stuhr	Reenact the Agricultural Opportunities and Value-Added Partnerships Act and change funding provisions for agricultural projects	FR	
72	Stuhr	Adopt the Security Personnel Licensing Act	SF	
72A	Stuhr	Appropriation Bill	SF	
75	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to provide for certain investments by political subdivisions	P (+18CA)	10, 13, 14
77	Baker	Change motor vehicle registration fee distribution	GF	10



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
77A	Baker	Appropriation Bill	GF	
79	Baker	Change provisions relating to railroad crossings	S	14, 15
81	Baker	Authorize issuance of undercover plates and driver's licenses to federal agencies	C	
85	Byars	Change Burial Pre-Need Sale Act provisions relating to designation of irrevocable funds	S	
85A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	S	
86	Byars	Change requirements for Pearl Harbor license plates	GF	
87	Byars	Change provisions relating to deaf and hard of hearing persons	S	
87A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	S	
91	Aguilar	Change civil procedure provisions relating to claims, expenses, and attorney's fees	C	
93	Byars	Provide funding of crime victims and witness assistance with a defendant surcharge	C	
95	Janssen	Change school reorganization provisions	C	
96	Janssen	Change National Guard member tuition credit	SF	
99	Synowiecki	Adopt the Conveyance Safety Act relating to elevator safety	GF (>489)	
99A	Synowiecki	Appropriation Bill	GF	
100	Stuhr	Change the definition of police animals under the Nebraska Criminal Code	GF	
101	Byars	Provide for early intervention services for children with autism spectrum disorder	GF	
102	Natural Resources	Authorize natural resources districts, counties, and certain cities to establish and fund storm water management areas	IPP	
103	Synowiecki	Change eligibility provisions for veterans' home admissions	C	
104	Thompson	Allow breast-feeding in any public or private location as prescribed	C	
106	Byars	Require all occupants in motor vehicles to wear occupant protection systems	GF	
107	Friend	Change provisions relating to retail liquor license suspensions for second and subsequent violations	GF	
112	Boume	Require electronic recording of custodial interrogations	C	
120	Louden	Change Livestock Waste Management Act permit conditions	GF (>975)	
127	Cunningham	Authorize the reporting of school bus safety violations as prescribed	C	
128	Hudkins	Create the offense of interference with child visitation	C	15
129	Education	Change provisions relating to the formula for state aid to schools	C	
132	Cunningham	Provide for a waiver under the Nebraska Pasteurized Milk Law	GF	
134	Synowiecki	Change workers' compensation disability compensation provisions	C	
138	Schrock	Change benefits payable under the educational savings plan	C	
140	Schrock	Change membership on the Water Well Standards and Contractors' Licensing Board	GF (>508)	
141	Price	Eliminate school budget restrictions relating to allowable reserves	IPP	
143	Price	Authorize fingerprints and DNA samples of convicted felons	C	
145	Price	Provide for school bond state aid	C	
148	Aguilar	Redefine child abuse to include placing children near methamphetamine production activities	GF	
150	Kremer	Adopt the Nebraska Beef Industry Development Act	SF	
150A	Kremer	Appropriation Bill	SF	
152	Hudkins	Define innocent third party for purposes of vehicular pursuit	C	
153	Baker	Change expense recovery provisions relating to oil and gas wells	IPP	
157	Baker	Reenact telecommunication provisions relating to provision of services by political subdivisions	GF	
158	Jensen	Change provisions relating to fluoridation of drinking water	GF	
160	Jensen	Direct the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to create a task force to study county government	GF	
163	Boume	Change the Mutual Finance Assistance Act which provides for funding fire protection, emergency response, and training	IPP	
166	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to contractor registration	GF	
166A	Synowiecki	Appropriation Bill	GF	
168	Landis	Change witness fees provisions for public employees	C	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
173	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to gift certificates	S	6, 7, 9
178	Kruse	Change penalties for minors' liquor law violations	C	
179	Kruse	Redefine child abuse to include driving under the influence with a minor child passenger	C	
180	Schimek	Create the State-Tribal Relations Committee	GF	
181	Schimek	Change penalties for leaving a child unattended in a motor vehicle	C	
182	Schimek	Change provisions relating to dental hygienist practice	C	
183	D. Pederson	Delete obsolete Cash Reserve Fund transfer provisions	C	
184	D. Pederson	Create a fund to implement the low-level radioactive waste settlement	C	
188	Beutler	Change provisions relating to campaign finance and political accountability and disclosure	S	7, 12, 14
190	Preister	Adopt the Electronic Equipment Recycling Act	IPP	
192	Preister	Change workers' compensation disability payments during vocational rehabilitation	C	
194	Thompson	Change medical lien provisions	C	
195	Cornett	Provide for appropriation of funds to counties for administrative license revocation expense reimbursement	C	
196	Raikes	Change program and project review requirements for the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	S	
197	Raikes	Include funds received due to annexation or replatting in formula resources in the state aid formula	C	
200	Friend	Eliminate the strict liability requirement for pursuits by law enforcement officers	C	
204	Thompson	Provide a rate of payment for certain medical services and emergency protective custody situations	C	
207	Stuthman	Permit service of summons of proposed jurors by first-class mail	C	
208	Stuthman	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support to provide services to uninsured persons	C	
209	General Affairs	Change and eliminate certain gaming license and fee provisions as prescribed	GF	
213	Cudaback	Prohibit the use of a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle as prescribed	C	
214	Beutler	Adopt the Nebraska Treasures Act	GF	
215	Brown	Provide for deferred compensation payment and health insurance for certain state employees	IPP	
219	Redfield	Change third party claims and dismissals for workers' compensation actions	C	
220	Cunningham	Change motor vehicle operator's permit provisions	C	
221	Cunningham	Modify the duty of landowners to cut vegetation along public roads	GF	
223	Fischer	Create the School Finance Review Committee	IPP	
225	Smith	Change provisions relating to solid waste and commencement of municipal waste collection service	IPP	
226	Smith	Change provisions relating to solid waste and provide requirements for condemnation of private waste collection	IPP	
228	Howard	Provide tax levy and state-aid increases for full-day kindergarten expenses as prescribed	GF	15
229	Howard	Change requirements for school district fall membership reports	IPP	
230	Redfield	Require a nonunion employee to reimburse a union for legal services requested by such employee	GF	
231	Heidemann	Change the maximum school levy as prescribed	IPP	
232	Brown	Authorize interlocal agreements relating to assumption of duties of certain county officials	C	
235	Connealy	Exempt materials used in the manufacture of steel or cement from sales tax	IPP	
239	Schimek	Permit certain students who attended Nebraska high schools to establish residency	VO	13, 15
245	Louden	Change employment security law benefit disqualification provisions	C	
248	Baker	Change motor vehicle tax calculations and motor vehicle tax and fee distribution provisions	S	10
249	Baker	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle operator's licenses	GF	
249A	Baker	Appropriation Bill	GF	
257	Beutler	Provide coordination of workers' compensation claims under laws of different jurisdictions	GF	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
258	Burling	Change provisions relating to legal settlement for public assistance programs	C	
260	Stuhr	Create the Task Force on Trafficking in Persons	C	
267	Howard	State legislative intent relating to funding for child welfare services	C	
269	Erdman	Provide a procedure for judicial emancipation for minors	GF	
271	Combs	Redefine mental health practice	GF	
275	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change provisions relating to motor vehicle registration	GF	
275A	Baker	Appropriation Bill	GF	
277	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change provisions relating to certificates of title	GF	
278	Cunningham	Provide for notice and a lien relating to medical assistance payments	C	
279	Combs	Provide for attorney's fees in contract actions	GF	
280	Thompson	Provide additional abuse and neglect reporting requirements	C	
281	Cornett	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	C	
282	Redfield	Authorize the aggregation of amounts for classifying certain forgery offenses	C	
285	Stuthman	Adopt the Nutrition in Schools Act	IPP	
286	McDonald	Change fence viewers' fees	IPP	
287	McDonald	Prohibit picketing of a funeral	S (+773)	12, 14
288	Thompson	Provide for child abuse prevention license plates	GF	
288A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	GF	
289	Mines	Change annexation provisions of cities of the first class	GF	
292	Bourne	Provide for consent to service of search warrants by foreign corporations	C	
293	Schimek	Change application review procedures under the Livestock Waste Management Act	GF (>975)	4, 5
294	Flood	Change provisions relating to identity theft and create the identity theft passport program	C	
295	Hudkins	Change point assessments for failure to report an accident	GF (>925)	13, 14, 15
296	Synowiecki	Create the Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund and provide for transfers from the General Fund	C	
297	Business and Labor	Change state contract claim procedures	GF	
303	Schrock	Change provisions of the Community Scholarship Foundation Program Act	C	
304	Schrock	Adopt the Education Buildings Review Commission Act	C	
305	Byars	Prohibit use of tobacco products on public and private educational property	GF	
307	Stuhr	Create the Task Force on Safe Havens for Abandoned Infants	C	
308	Redfield	Change and provide damages for shoplifting and conversion actions	C	
309	Connealy	Create the Small Business Rural Microenterprise Tax Credit Program	IPP	
314	Howard	Create a Nebraska Heritage Week	IPP	
316	Howard	Adopt the Consumer Protection Against Computer Spyware Act	C	
317	Kremer	Change tractor testing provisions	GF	
318	Johnson	Change provisions relating to wholesale drug distributors	GF (>994)	
321	Schimek	Exempt certain corrections officials from the State Personnel System as prescribed	GF	
322	Schimek	Provide additional requirements for child custody, visitation, and modification proceedings	GF	
323	Hudkins	Appropriate funds to the Winery and Grape Producers Promotional Fund	C	
325	Raikes	Change and eliminate provisions relating to ethanol and the Ethanol Board and change fees	GF	
326	Raikes	Change average daily membership requirements for freeholders' petitions	GF	
327	Raikes	Change school district average daily membership requirements for freeholder petitions	IPP	
328	Stuhr	Authorize a change in the retirement contribution rate by the Board of Regents	IPP	
336	Natural Resources	Adopt the Public Entities Mandated Project Charges Act	GF (>548)	
337	Janssen	Change provisions relating to municipal counties	C	
340	Smith	Change eligibility requirements for public power district members	IPP	
341	Baker	Change provisions of the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund	GF (>1222)	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
345	Brown	Change provisions relating to criminal trespass and littering	C	
346	Agriculture	Change provisions of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	GF (>990)	13, 14
346A	Kremer	Appropriation Bill	GF	
347	Bourne	Provide for socioeconomic integration plans relating to the enrollment option program	IPP	
349	Bourne	Add a district judge to the ninth district	C	
350	Bourne	Provide for inclusion of prekindergarten programs in the state aid formula as prescribed	IPP	
354	Preister	Provide a service fee for employees who are not members of certain labor unions	GF	
357	Raikes	Change withdrawal and dissolution provisions for unified school systems	IPP	
358	Raikes	Change tax levy provisions relating to judgments against unified school systems	IPP	
359	Kremer	Change qualifications for the Director of Natural Resources	GF	
360	Bourne	Change provisions relating to the crime of burglary	SF	
362	Bourne	Change procedures relating to felony complaints	SF	
363	Bourne	Change provisions relating to criminal attempt	SF	
366	Retirement Systems	Change membership and contribution rate provisions for state and county retirement plans	VO (+1021)	4, 6, 14, 15
369	Retirement Systems	Change the retirement contribution rate for judges	IPP	
370	Combs	Provide colorectal cancer screenings as a standard of care	C	
372	Bourne	Change general manager to president in the management of a metropolitan utilities district	GF	
374	Kruse	Provide state insurance to employees of regional library systems	C	
376	Kruse	State intent relating to appropriations relating to behavioral health care services	C	
377	Kruse	Change provisions relating to assault	C	
378	Howard	Create the Commission on School Finance and require a study	IPP	
379	Brown	Change election procedures for formation of municipal counties	C	
385	Johnson	Rename and change provisions of the DNA Detection of Sexual and Violent Offenders Act to apply to missing persons	S	14, 15
385A	Johnson	Appropriation Bill	S	
387	Combs	Change provisions relating to nursing assistants	C	
388	Mines	Provide for removal of unsealed wine bottles from restaurants as prescribed	GF (>562)	10
392	Mines	Appropriate funds to the Department of Administrative Services to cause plans to be developed to provide a parking garage	C	
393	Smith	Prohibit acts relating to electronic mail	C	
394	Redfield	Exempt certain business owners from the Employment Security Law	GF	
397	Smith	Adopt the Cathode Ray Tube Device Recycling Act	IPP	
398	Beutler	Require legislative approval of federal fund expenditures	C	
399	Baker	Terminate inheritance, estate, and generation-skipping taxes	IPP	
400	Baker	Eliminate the ten-day grace period for failure to register a vehicle	C	
403	Friend	Provide a penalty for committing motor vehicle homicide during a period of operator's license suspension or revocation	C	
407	Raikes	Eliminate provisions relating to agricultural and horticultural land valuation	GF (>808)	12, 14
409	Flood	Change provisions relating to conveyance or encumbrance of homesteads	S	
415	Combs	Provide confidentiality for Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court documents and information as prescribed	GF	
416	Howard	Change age limitations for state wards	IPP	
419	Connealy	Create the Legal Education for Public Service Loan Repayment Act	GF	
420	Connealy	Change compensation provisions for certain injuries under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	C	
428	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Change provisions relating to renewal assessment funds under the Deferred Building Renewal Act	C	
429	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Increase a court fee and extend the Law Enforcement Improvement Fund	C (>746)	
430	Cornett	Change permissible hours of retail sales of alcoholic liquor	C	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
431	Beutler	Change district court judicial districts	C	
432	Brown	Create the County Issues Task Force	C	
433	Cunningham	Change provisions relating to physician selection under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	C	
434	Cunningham	Change workers' compensation provisions relating to medical services and fees	C	
435	Cunningham	Change workers' compensation medical fees and disability compensation	C	
436	Combs	Provide compensation for permanent disfigurement or scarring under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	GF	
437	Smith	Adopt the Human Cloning Prohibition Act	C	
438	Janssen	Provide for Shriners License Plates	GF	
438A	Janssen	Appropriation Bill	GF	
440	Kremer	Adopt the Feedlot Statutory Trust Act	GF	
443	McDonald	Change provisions relating to the discontinuance of township organization	C	
445	Jensen	Change provisions relating to physical therapy	GF (>994)	12, 14
447	Bourne	Create a state employees retirement health care account and change contribution rates	IPP	
449	Bourne	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the distribution of scholarship awards	C	
452	Urban Affairs	Change city code violation citation procedures	GF (>1175)	10, 15
454	Combs	Adopt the Concealed Handgun Permit Act	S	2, 10, 13
454A	Combs	Appropriation Bill	S	10
455	Combs	Adopt the Commonsense Consumption Act which limits civil claims based on weight gain or obesity	GF	
457	Cornett	Change penalties relating to driving under the influence	C	
458	Baker	Change a wireless telecommunication carrier surcharge	C	
459	Beutler	Require political committees to pay registration fees	C	
460	Raikes	Rename and change provisions relating to the Minority Scholarship Program Act	GF	
462	D. Pederson	Provide access to medical records for purposes of workers' compensation	GF	
463	Cunningham	Change Employment Security Law relating to remuneration subject to tax and the tax rate	IPP	
464	Heidemann	Change provisions relating to civil protective custody	C	
467	Byars	Adopt the Creating Essential Educational Opportunities for All Students Act	IPP	
469	Bourne	Adopt the Public Guardianship Act	C	
470	Johnson	Provide direction to the Department of Roads relating to state road projects	C	
473	Heidemann	Change and eliminate provisions relating to filing for office and political parties	GF	
478	Cornett	Exclude certain military retirement benefits from income tax	SF	7, 9
478A	Cornett	Appropriation Bill	SF	
480	Thompson	Change provisions of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	GF	
481	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine	C	
483	Pahls	Change sheriff's fees and handgun certificate fees	C	
486	Business and Labor	Change unemployment combined tax rate provisions	IPP	
487	Business and Labor	Provide for a solvency surcharge under the Employment Security Law	IPP	
488	Business and Labor	Change unemployment insurance weekly benefits and combined tax provisions	IPP	
489	Business and Labor	Adopt the Conveyance Safety Act and change workers' compensation and elevator inspection provisions	S (+99)	
489A	Cunningham	Appropriation Bill	S	
490	Thompson	Regulate access to geographic computer data bases	C	
495	Stuhr	Provide a medical cost-of-living adjustment for school employees	C	
496	Redfield	Change provisions relating to deposits of public funds with certain credit unions	C	
497	Stuhr	Adopt the Nebraska Scholarship for Academic Achievement Program Act	C	
498	Landis	Reenact the Nebraska Venture Capital Forum Act	GF	
500	Landis	Adopt the Entertainment and Tourism Development Act	SF	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
500A	Landis	Appropriation Bill	SF	
502	Stuhr	Change provisions relating to average formula cost per student	IPP	
504	Smith	Change provisions relating to good-time credit for jail inmates	C	
505	Erdman	Change the age of majority in certain instances	C	
506	Erdman, req. of Gov.	Change the mode of inflicting the death penalty	C	
507	Dw. Pedersen	Change inspection and examination provisions relating to presentence investigation reports	GF	
508	Schrock	Change provisions relating to water well regulation	S (+140,822, 1164)	4
509	Smith	Change county personnel policy board membership provisions	C (+1099)	
510	Combs	Provide for immunity relating to employment references	C	
511	Wehrbein	Change provisions relating to child care reimbursement	C	
515	D. Pedersen	Change provisions relating to funds appropriated for the use and benefit of state colleges	C	
517	Baker	Provide the Livestock Brand Act is applicable statewide	IPP	
521	Byars	Provide for funding services for persons with developmental disabilities	C	
522	Byars	Change and eliminate provisions relating to barber schools	C	
523	Byars	Authorize claims against the state for certain property taxes	IPP	
524	Cunningham	Change provisions relating to selection of a physician under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	C	
526	Connealy	Provide ethanol production incentives and funding	IPP	
527	Connealy	Adopt the In the Line of Duty Dependent Education Act	IPP	
529	Beutler	Provide court reform with the state assuming costs of district courts and consolidation of positions	GF	4, 15
529A	Beutler	Appropriation Bill	GF	
531	Fischer	Authorize a livestock premises and animal identification system	GF (>856)	9, 14
535	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to assault in the third degree and domestic assault in the third degree	GF	
536	Synowiecki	Authorize a liquor licensee to detain a minor attempting to purchase alcoholic liquor	C	
537	Synowiecki	Provide for copayments for health care services provided for certain inmates	C	
539	Brashear	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice	C	
540	Brashear	Change provisions for judges' salaries	C	
541	Brashear	Change the number of county judges in the fourth and twelfth judicial districts	C	
542	Burling	Create the Tax Policy Reform Commission	S	2, 10, 14
542A	Burling	Appropriation Bill	LV	
543	Wehrbein, req. of Gov.	Adopt the Certified Local Investment Fund Act and provide an income tax credit	IPP	
545	Mines	Change subrogation rights for health insurance and workers' compensation insurance	GF	
548	Jensen	Adopt the Public Entities Mandated Project Charges Act	S (+336)	3, 5
549	Jensen	Require a response plan regarding prescription drug benefits under the federal Medicare program	IPP	
550	Jensen	Require a plan for assistance for community health centers and emergency medical services	IPP	
552	Schrock	Authorize issuance of bonds by certain natural resources districts	IPP	
554	Beutler	Change minimum wage and training wage provisions	GF	13, 15
554A	Beutler	Appropriation Bill	GF	
556	Beutler	Change provisions relating to financial aid for purchase of required textbooks and supplies	IPP	
559	Brown	Change provisions relating to personal information on operator's licenses and state identification cards	GF	
560	Wehrbein	Change funding provisions relating to the Information Technology Infrastructure Fund	C	
561	Kopplin	Provide free school meals for children of deployed military personnel	IPP	
562	Janssen	Change and eliminate provisions relating to alcohol	S (+388,889, 1004)	10, 14



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
563	Janssen	Redefine beer to include flavored malt beverages	SF	
564	Janssen	Provide requirements relating to contracts dealing with payment of federal excise tax	GF	
565	Wehrbein	Adopt the Land Information System Program Act and provide funding	C	
567	Beutler	Adopt the Sex Offender Monitoring Act	C	
568	Landis	Change provisions relating to delayed deposit services	GF	
572	Dw. Pedersen	Create a task force to study the Department of Correctional Services	GF	
574	Kremer	Change sibling provisions under the enrollment option program	IPP	
578	Raikes	Change provisions relating to payment of property tax refunds	IPP	
579	Raikes	Change provisions relating to schools	GF	
580	Johnson	Adopt the Human Cloning Prohibition Act	C	
584	Mines	Change provisions relating to inspectors of and licensure under the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act	GF (>856)	9, 14
585	Baker	Require criminal history record checks for drivers of taxis and limousines	C	
586	Connealy	Provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services relating to food stamp program waivers	C	
587	Burling	Provide for taxation, titles, and registration of replica motor vehicles	GF	
588	Performance Audit	Change provisions of the Legislative Performance Audit Act	S	5
590	Preister	Exempt injuries caused deliberately or by willful negligence of the employer from coverage under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	C	
592	Kruse	Adopt the Alcoholic Liquor Liability Act	C	
593	Kruse	Appropriate funds for biomedical research	C	
595	Kruse	Change weighting of schools demographic factors within the state aid formula	IPP	
596	Baker	Adopt the Nebraska Higher Education Deposit Program Act	IPP	
601	Louden	Provide restrictions on solid waste management entities	GF	
602	Cornett	Change Nebraska Veterans' Cemetery Advisory Board membership	C	
604	Price	Require licensed child care programs to be smokefree	GF	
605	Thompson	Provide for expenditures for construction, maintenance, and upkeep by the University of Nebraska and the state colleges	S	11, 14
605A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	S	
606	Thompson	Adopt the Children's Behavioral Health Act	C	
608	Bourne	Adopt the Thermal System Insulation and Firestop Act	C	
609	Bourne	Prohibit acts relating to repairs to motor vehicles and redefine cost of repair	C	
611	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to appearance bonds	C	
614	Pahls	Authorize salary adjustments for employees of the State Electrical Division	SF	
614A	Pahls	Appropriation Bill	SF	
616	Howard	Change reimbursement provisions under the Special Education Act	IPP	
617	Louden	Change recreational land liability provisions	C	
618	Flood	Provide for tracking, reporting, and funding relating to behavioral health services	IPP	
620	Schrock	Change provisions relating to leased recreational land and landowner liability	GF	
621	Redfield	Provide for a rebuttable presumption of negligence for use of a mobile telephone	C	
622	Redfield	Adopt the In the Line of Duty Dependent Education Act	IPP	
623	Byars	Provide requirements relating to grants for home and community service programs	C	
624	Combs	Redefine eligible postsecondary educational institution for purposes of the Nebraska Scholarship Act	IPP	
625	Combs	Adopt the Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities Act	C	
627	Howard	Require school boards to adopt a bullying policy	GF	
631	Wehrbein	Change issuance provisions for permits for extraordinary use of controlled-access highways	GF (>853)	
632	Pahls	Create offenses relating to unlawful possession of a firearm	C	
633	Pahls	Change provisions relating to the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act	GF	
634	Raikes	Change and eliminate certain school transportation provisions	GF	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
635	Raikes	Change tax levy provisions relating to schools	IPP	
636	Raikes	Change cost calculations for wards' education and special education	IPP	
637	Raikes	Create and provide duties for the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council	IPP	
638	Hudkins	Change public power district operating area provisions	IPP	
641	Connealy	Change workers' compensation partial disability compensation provisions	C	
642	Brashear	Change and eliminate provisions relating to probation and parole	C	
643	Brashear	Change certain court fees as prescribed	C	
647	Brashear	Change provisions relating to limited liability companies and other entities	S (+1261)	
647A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	S	
648	Brashear	Eliminate settlement escrow provisions which have terminated	SF	
649	Brashear	Clarify internal references to motions for new trial	SF	
650	Brashear	Clarify provisions relating to audiovisual court appearances	SF	
652	Beutler	Change provisions of the Motor Vehicle Service Contract Reimbursement Insurance Act	IPP (>875)	
653	Beutler	Reduce the number of county judgeships in District 12 by one	C	
654	Beutler	Change child custody and remediation costs	GF	
656	Preister	Change provisions of and provide funding for the Workplace Safety Consultation Program	C	
657	Preister	Change provisions relating to service contracts with state agencies	C	
659	Beutler	Require reports relating to health care billings for regional center patients	C	
660	Price	Adopt the Home Inspector Licensing Act	C	
661	Price	Change employment provisions and adopt the Advocacy Leave Act	C	
663	Cudaback	Change provisions for certificates of title for certain vehicles and for mobile homes	S (+1215)	8, 9, 11
665	Cudaback	Provide for permanent state identification cards for persons over seventy years of age	C	
666	Beutler	Provide duties for providers of services to persons with disabilities	C	
667	Redfield	Change a sales tax definition relating to computer software	IPP	
669	Landis	Create and provide duties for the Institutional Agricultural Committee	C	
670	Landis	Prohibit acts relating to computers and electronic mail	C	
671	Landis	Provide county personnel policies for transferring employees from the state or other political subdivisions to a county at county request	GF (>808)	
673	Louden	Adopt the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act	SF	
673A	Louden	Appropriation Bill	SF	
674	Connealy	Change provisions relating to the exercise of eminent domain by railroads	C	
677	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for administrative segregation in correctional facilities	GF	
677A	Dw. Pedersen	Appropriation Bill	GF	
678	Dw. Pedersen	Change provisions relating to the use of ignition interlock devices	C	
679	D. Pederson	Change amounts and procedures for proposing the issuance of highway bonds	C	
680	Baker	Create the Energy Enhancement and Research Fund and authorize transfers from the Severance Tax Fund	GF	
681	Schimek	Adopt the Physical Education in Schools Act	IPP	
686	Mines	Change provisions relating to the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act	IPP	
690	Stuhr	Adopt the Career Education Partnership Act	S	11, 12, 14
690A	Stuhr	Appropriation Bill	S	
693	Landis	Allow the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority to authorize projects tied to the federal new markets tax credit	S	5
694	Landis	Create the Nebraska State Fair Support and Improvement Fund	C	
695	Baker	Exempt manufacturing machinery, equipment, and related services from sales tax	IPP	
696	Janssen	Provide for timing of refunds under the Employment and Investment Growth Act	IPP	
697	Brown	Rename the Department of Roads	GF	
700	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to the practice of law	C	
701	Synowiecki	Create the Department of Personnel	C	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
702	Synowiecki	Define and provide for use of cash or cash equivalent by a retail liquor licensee	C	
704	McDonald	Change provisions relating to equalization aid to schools	IPP	
705	McDonald	Provide for a study and subsequent pilot program to provide assistance to cancer patients and their families	C	
706	McDonald	Eliminate fence viewing and provide for mediation for resolution of fence disputes	IPP	
710	Erdman	Change provisions relating to retirement systems for police in cities of the first class	GF	
711	Erdman	Provide a retirement benefit for law enforcement officers in certain cities	C	
712	Thompson	Adopt the Healthy Nebraska Rx Card Program Act	C	
714	Smith	Adopt the Prisoner Reimbursement to the County Act	C	
717	Raikes	Adopt the Reorganization Building Aid Act	C	
718	Raikes	Change educational service unit board provisions	IPP	
719	Howard	Eliminate certain payments to guardians of wards of the Department of Health and Human Services	IPP	
722	Schrock	Provide for use of public power infrastructure	GF	
724	Stuthman	Provide for a pilot project for child abuse and neglect investigations	C	
726	Stuthman	Change emergency protective custody provisions under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act	C	
727	Stuthman	Provide a change of venue docket fee	C	
728	Stuthman	Create the Provider Reimbursement Advisory Committee for health care reimbursement	C	
729	Bourne	Change district court fees	C	
730	Bourne	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	C	
731	Bourne	Provide requirements for rules and regulations under the Environmental Protection Act	IPP	
732	Bourne	Change state deposits for school retirement	C	
735	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to the Community Development Law for cities and villages	GF	
740	Schimek	Change provisions relating to the limitation of actions for certain political subdivisions	C	
741	Connealy	Require the Public Service Commission to adopt rules regarding safe walkways for railroad carrier workers	C	
743	Connealy	Require safety and accident reports from railroad carriers	C	
745	Synowiecki	Authorize the State Racing Commission to regulate parimutuel wagering on historic races	GF	13, 15
745A	Synowiecki	Appropriation Bill	GF	
746	D. Pederson	Provide funding for civil legal services and law enforcement training	S (+429,1078)	11, 12, 14
746A	D. Pederson	Appropriation Bill	LV	
747	Synowiecki	Adopt the Department of Probation and Parole Services Act	C	
748	Bourne	Change provisions relating to natural gas and eliminate the Municipal Natural Gas System Condemnation Act	C	
749	Foley	Change child labor provisions to prohibit certain employments as prescribed	GF	
750	Foley	Adopt the Human Embryonic Research Funding Prohibition Act	C	
751	Foley	Transfer funds from the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund	C	
752	Foley	Add information regarding fetal pain to the informed consent provisions relating to abortion	C	
757	Chambers	Change provisions relating to the assignment of appointed deputy state sheriffs	S	
759	Chambers	Prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation	C	
760	Chambers	Change the death penalty to life imprisonment without possibility of parole	C	
764	Executive Board	Revisor bill to repeal obsolete sections relating to schools	S	
765	Executive Board	Revisor bill to correct internal references relating to Laws 2005, LB 274, and Laws 2005, LB 276	S	
766	Howard	Provide for a task force to study psychotropic drug use by wards of the state	GF	
766A	Howard	Appropriation Bill	GF	
767	Howard	Change a penalty for violation of the Sex Offender Registration Act	C	7
768	Cudaback	Prohibit use of a mobile telephone as prescribed	C	5



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
769	Friend	Provide an income tax credit for certain educational expenses	IPP	
770	Friend	Delineate the right of participation in foster care review hearings	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
771	Friend	Authorize payment on certain claims under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act	S	
772	Friend	Change penalty provisions for failure to stop for certain accidents	C	
773	Friend	Prohibit picketing at a funeral	GF (>287)	12, 14
774	Friend	Change provisions relating to operating a motor vehicle to avoid arrest	C	
775	Wehrbein	Change the sales tax rate	IPP	5
776	Engel	Change requirements relating to the disposal of yard waste	S	6, 9
777	Kruse	Change and provide penalties for driving under the influence	C	
778	Langemeier	Change provisions relating to the credentialing of real property appraisers	S	
779	Flood	Change a discovery provision relating to interception of communications	WD	
780	Flood	Create the offense of assault on an officer using bodily fluids	C	
781	Mines	Change provisions relating to inheritance tax	IPP	
782	Mines	Change the legal age to purchase tobacco from eighteen to nineteen	C	8
783	Mines	Prohibit hunting through the Internet	GF	4
784	Mines	Require natural resources districts and municipalities to ensure public access to public projects	GF (>1113)	14, 15
785	Mines	Change liquor shipping license fees	IPP	
786	Mines	Change recall procedures	SF	11, 12, 13
787	Mines	Provide for calibration of radiological instruments by the Military Department	S	
788	Hudkins	Change prohibited activities near polling places and provide duties	IPP	
789	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to renewal of motor vehicle registration	S	
790	Hudkins	Adopt the Mercury Vaccine and Drug Act	IPP	
791	Fischer	Exempt animal identification devices from sales tax	IPP	3
792	Fischer	Provide for the Game and Parks Commission to acquire property in the city of Bassett	S	
793	Foley	Change provisions relating to the release of information under the Sex Offender Registration Act	C	7
794	Brown	Prohibit acts relating to computer fraud and electronic mail	C	
795	Cunningham	Change provisions relating to the repayment of incentive payments by school districts	S	8, 14
796	Cunningham	Change certain provisions relating to vehicle length	GF (>853)	
797	Kopplin	Modify a definition relating to funding of tribally controlled community colleges	IPP	
798	Baker	Change income tax provisions relating to federal bonus depreciation and expensing of capital investments	IPP (>968)	10, 12
799	Baker	Place restrictions on the use of eminent domain	C	7
800	Baker	Require registration of communications service providers with the Public Service Commission	C	
801	Baker	Repeal pre-empted statutes regarding hazardous waste transportation	GF (>1069)	
802	Cunningham	Provide for the acceptance of an abstract of marriage in place of a certified copy of a marriage license	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
803	Kopplin	Define and require reporting of total per pupil cost by school districts	C	
804	Kopplin	Change a tax levy limitation relating to schools	IPP	
805	Natural Resources	Create the Interrelated Water Management Plan Program	GF (>1226)	13, 14, 15
806	Landis	Adopt the Car Tax Reduction Act	IPP	5
807	Landis	Change references to the Internal Revenue Code	IPP (>1003)	5, 6, 9
808	Landis	Change provisions relating to zoning, civil service, and property tax	S (+407,671, 812,813,1106)	12, 14
809	Landis	Change income tax adjustments relating to federal bonus depreciation and expensing of capital investments	IPP	
810	Landis	Provide an earned income tax credit	IPP (>968)	10, 12



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
811	Landis	Change report requirements relating to alcoholic liquor taxes	IPP	5, 6, 9
812	Landis	Change property tax protest and appeal provisions	GF (>808)	12, 14
813	Landis	Change property tax provisions	GF (>808)	12, 14
814	Hudkins	Change motor fuel taxes and reallocate certain sales tax revenue	IPP	7
815	Hudkins	Change provisions relating to the limited use of historical vehicles	S	
816	Hudkins	Prohibit certain vehicles from traveling in the left-hand lane	IPP	4
817	Chambers	Change salaries of state constitutional officers	VO	3, 11, 14, 15
817A	Chambers	Appropriation Bill	VO	
818	Burling	Provide for the use of tires as safety barriers	S	6, 9
819	Byars	Change provisions relating to real estate professional regulation	S (+868)	
820	Byars	Change hunting permit exemptions	IPP	
821	Erdman	Provide for participation and part-time enrollment in public schools by exempt students	S	15
822	Kremer	Change provisions relating to water well regulation and pump installation	GF (>508)	
823	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	Change fee disposition provisions for clerks of the district court	S	8, 10
824	Bourne	Change provisions relating to the Court of Appeals, county courts, juvenile courts, and search warrants	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
825	Bourne	Change infectious disease testing provisions when the state is guardian of the patient	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
826	Bourne	Allow retired clerk magistrates to perform marriage ceremonies	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
827	Business and Labor	Change Employment Security Law overpayment provisions	C	
828	Kruse	Change motor vehicle insurance and financial responsibility requirements	C	
829	Baker	Prohibit municipal taxes on motor fuel and change provisions relating to road funds	C	7
830	D. Pederson	Create a task force to evaluate progress toward postsecondary education goals	GF (>962)	
831	D. Pederson	Change the income tax exemption for contributions to an educational savings plan	IPP	5
832	McDonald	Provide for the impoundment of school permits	C (>853)	3
833	Byars	Change consultation provisions relating to out-of-state physicians	S	
834	Kremer	Change provisions of the Nebraska Seed Law to prohibit regulation by political subdivisions	GF	
835	Redfield	Change penalties for student athletes, administrators, teachers, and school employees relating to the use of anabolic steroids	IPP	4
836	Redfield	Change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Act	IPP (>1003)	5, 6, 9
837	Redfield	Change distribution of Purple Heart license plate fees	GF	
838	Cunningham	Exempt certified registered nurse anesthetists from radiation use qualifications	C	
839	Hudkins	Provide for reversing orders merging certain school districts contingent upon the outcome of an election	C	9
840	Redfield	Change taxation of natural gas and impose an excise tax	IPP	
841	Stuhr	Adopt the Safe Haven Act for newborn infants	C	3
842	Stuhr	Create the offense of forced labor or services, sexual servitude, and trafficking of victims	C (>1086)	11, 12
843	Combs	Require an employer to provide reason for employee termination	C	4
844	Byars	Adopt the Health and Human Services System Act	GF (>994)	3, 12, 14
845	Landis	Adopt and change provisions relating to retail liquor licensing and server training	S (+1160)	13, 15
845A	Landis	Appropriation Bill	S	
846	Synowiecki	Change prescription medicine provisions for indigent recipients of mental health treatment	IPP	
847	Redfield	Change residency requirements for candidates for local office	C	
848	Connealy	Establish a renewable fuel content standard for gasoline	GF	
849	Redfield, req. of Gov.	Change income tax rates	IPP	5
850	Beutler	Provide for the purchase of real property by cities of the primary class	GF (>1175)	10, 15
851	Howard	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support for health aid services	C	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
852	Byars	Appropriate funds for rate equity for developmental disability service providers	C	
853	Stuthman	Change provisions relating to commercial motor vehicles, vehicle length, road name signs, and highway use permits	S (+631,796, 832,895,947, 1172)	
854	Cunningham	Adopt the Long-Term Care Partnership Program Act	GF (>965)	6, 15
855	Kremer	Regulate exotic animal auctions and swap meets	GF (>856)	5
856	Kremer	Change provisions relating to animal safety and regulation	S (+531,584, 855,873,916)	5, 7, 9, 14
856A	Kremer	Appropriation Bill	S	
857	Smith	Change motor vehicle sales tax revenue distribution	IPP	9
858	Smith	Exempt multifuel pellet stoves from sales tax	IPP	3
859	Combs	Eliminate the additional fee for certain veterans' license plates	IPP	
860	Raikes	Provide an alternative to bonding for educational service unit treasurers	S	
861	Howard	Provide for resident home-on-leave license plates and prorating registration fees	GF	
862	Howard	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support for alcohol-related birth defects prevention programs	C	
863	Howard	Increase penalties for sexual assault of a child	C	7
864	Howard	Prohibit insurance related preexisting condition exclusions relating to pregnancy	IPP	
865	Howard	Change certain requirements involving early childhood education endorsements	C	
866	Howard	Require periodic review of rules and regulations adopted under the Quality Child Care Act	IPP (>994)	
867	Howard	Prohibit sex offenders from residing near schools or licensed child care centers	C	7
868	Mines	Change the membership of the State Real Estate Commission and change procedures and requirements relating to real estate licenses and unfair trade practices	GF (>819)	
869	Byars	Provide for reimbursements to intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded	GF	
870	Schrock	Change scrap tire grant provisions	GF	
871	Schrock	Change duties of the Environmental Quality Council relating to permits for solid waste management	GF	
872	Schrock	Provide for renewable energy tax credits and emissions trading programs	S (+896)	
872A	Preister	Appropriation Bill	LV	
873	Kremer	Change poultry disease control provisions	IPP (>856)	5
874	Kremer	Change provisions of the Pesticide Act	S	
875	Banking, Commerce & Insurance	Change and eliminate provisions relating to insurance	S (+652)	4, 10
876	Banking, Commerce & Insurance	Change provisions relating to banking and finance	S (+877,917, 926,927,929, 985,1124,1193, 1259)	5, 6, 13, 14
877	Banking, Commerce & Insurance	Change community development investment conditions for banks	GF (>876)	
878	Schimek	Change an insurance requirement relating to childhood immunizations	C	
879	Schimek	Provide for notations on drivers' licenses and state identification cards regarding advance medical directives	C	
880	Flood	Provide for reimbursement for special education costs for certain students in residential placements	IPP	
881	Stuhr	Provide for transportation of high-needs special education students	GF	
881A	Stuhr	Appropriation Bill	GF	
882	Johnson	Change provisions of the Radiation Control Act	GF (>994)	12, 14
883	Kopplin	Rename the County Industrial Sewer Construction Act and provide for residential sewerage development	C	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
884	Howard	Eliminate the position of the Policy Secretary of the Health and Human Services System	C	3
885	Fischer	Change provisions relating to impoundment of animals in conjunction with certain crimes	IPP	4
886	Fischer	Provide for jury trial in child custody cases	C	
887	Landis	Change sales and use tax provisions	S	
888	Landis	Change provisions of various tax incentive programs	IPP (>1003)	5, 6, 9
889	Janssen	Change provisions relating to liquor tax reports	GF (>562)	
890	Janssen	Allow school districts to exceed the applicable allowable growth rate for increases in energy and health insurance costs	C	
891	Combs	Adopt the Hepatitis C Education and Prevention Act	GF	
892	Stuthman	Change provisions relating to child-care licensing	GF (>994)	10, 12, 14
893	Kremer	Change the definition of allowable growth for political subdivisions	IPP	
894	Langemeier	Change provisions relating to presidential electors	GF	6
895	Langemeier	Modify provisions relating to commercial drivers' licenses to conform to federal law	C (>853)	
896	Preister	Provide a renewable energy tax credit	GF (>872)	3
897	Preister	Provide a sales tax exemption for energy efficient products	IPP	3
898	Preister	Change provisions relating to the Open Meetings Act	S	13, 14
899	Preister	Provide powers and duties to the Public Counsel	IPP	
900	Preister	Redefine public body for purposes of the Open Meetings Act	IPP	
901	Preister	Modify procedures for the granting of variances and renewals by the Director of Environmental Quality	IPP (>975)	
902	Preister	Change provisions relating to state contracts for services	IPP	
903	Preister	Change the name of the Thomas Fitzgerald Veterans' Home	GF (>994)	12, 14
904	Baker	Change street and road funding provisions	S	9, 13, 14
905	Baker	Prohibit certain exculpatory clauses in motor carrier transportation contracts	C (>1007)	
906	Price	Change applicability of the Contractor Registration Act and provide for a surety bond	C	
907	Price	Change provisions relating to outstanding obligations of annexed fire protection districts	GF	
908	Price	Exempt advanced practice registered nurses from training requirements of the Radiation Control Act	IPP	
909	Price	Prohibit driving in a passing lane	IPP	4
910	Redfield	Provide restrictions on the use of eminent domain	C	7
911	Jensen	Change provisions relating to the gallonage tax on alcoholic beverages	IPP	
912	Schrock	Exempt agricultural personal property from personal property tax	IPP	
913	Cunningham	Change an unemployment benefit disqualification condition	C	4
914	Aguilar	Provide restitution for rehabilitation of clandestine laboratories	GF	
915	Aguilar	Provide standards and procedures for rehabilitation of clandestine drug lab sites	S	12, 13
916	Kremer	Provide contingency applicability of the Competitive Livestock Markets Act	GF (>856)	5
917	Redfield	Adopt the Financial Data Protection and Consumer Notification of Data Security Breach Act of 2006	GF (>876)	6, 13, 14
918	Mines	Adopt the Personal Information Privacy Act	IPP	
919	Smith	Provide for discounted combination fishing and hunting permits for Nebraska military personnel	IPP	
920	Schimek	Change the salary of the Governor	IPP	
921	Schimek	Provide duties for the Chief Information Officer relating to oversight of the division of communications and the information management services division of the Department of Administrative Services	S	
922	Fischer	Appropriate funds for state aid to counties	IPP	6
923	Fischer	Eliminate proration of certain state aid to counties	IPP	6
924	Fischer	Restrict the use of eminent domain and change provisions relating to condominium purchaser rights	S (+1143)	7, 14, 15



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
925	Friend	Change penalty provisions relating to certain motor vehicle offenses, motor vehicle homicide, and driving under the influence	S (+295)	3, 13, 14, 15
926	Mines	Change the Nebraska Trust Deeds Act relating to the sale of trust property	GF (>876)	13, 14
927	Mines	Change Uniform Commercial Code provisions governing secured transactions	GF (>876)	
928	Mines	Change Nebraska Uniform Trust Code provisions relating to compensation of trustees	IPP	
929	Mines	Change provisions relating to installment sales and loans	GF (>876)	13, 14
930	Beutler	Establish a water conservation fee and provide for its use	IPP	
931	Beutler	Provide funding to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund	C	
932	Stuthman	Change penalties for theft offenses involving propelled vehicles or vehicle fuels	C	
933	Natural Resources	Change provisions relating to water resources	GF (>1226)	3, 13, 14, 15
933A	Schrock	Appropriation Bill	GF	
934	Agriculture	Eliminate provisions relating to fence viewers and provide for resolution of fence disputes	GF	
935	Beutler	Change distribution and allocation of certain sales tax revenue and road funds	IPP	
936	Beutler	Provide for title insurers and title insurance agents to be exempt from negligence	C	
937	Connealy	Redefine terms for purposes of the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act	IPP (>1003)	5, 6, 9
938	Baker	Provide for personal notice and recording of wellhead protection area boundaries and controls	IPP	
939	Schimek	Adopt the Redistricting Act	C	
940	Schimek	Create the Office of Homeland Security and change provisions relating to campaigns, elections, and lobbying	S (+1154, 1184, 1236, 1246)	13, 15
941	Schimek	Eliminate the limitation on the salary of the State Athletic Commissioner	S	
942	Stuthman	Increase fees charged by county treasurers that are related to real property transactions	IPP	
943	Redfield	Change income tax calculations for married persons and standard deduction provisions	IPP	5
944	Synowiecki	Change family size provisions under the Welfare Reform Act	C	
945	Smith	Exempt military retirement benefits from income tax	IPP	
946	Wehrbein	Recognize American Sign Language as a distinct language and authorize schools to offer it as a foreign language	C	3
947	Flood	Change provisions governing suspension of motor vehicle registration certificates and licenses	C (>853)	
948	Cunningham	Eliminate restrictions on adding alcohol to beer	IPP	
949	Jensen	Provide for a statewide immunization registry	GF	4
950	Jensen	Change fees relating to vital records	GF (>994)	
951	Jensen	Provide for public assistance for persons with psychiatric or developmental disability	IPP	
952	Jensen	Change and eliminate provisions relating to health care financing	GF	
953	Jensen	Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act	GF (>962)	12
953A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	GF	
954	Jensen	Include certain Department of Health and Human Services employees in assault on an officer	C	
955	Johnson	Provide factors favoring the change of county boundaries	IPP	
956	Performance Audit	Provide for the Legislative Auditor and the office of Legislative Audit and Research	S	12, 14
956A	Beutler	Appropriation Bill	S	
957	Brown	Exempt housing agencies from sales tax	GF (>1189)	3
958	Heidemann	Change provisions relating to vehicle weight	GF	
959	Janssen, req. of Gov.	Exempt construction labor from sales tax	IPP (>968)	5
960	Kremer	Change valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	IPP (>968)	
961	Louden	Redefine a term relating to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	IPP	6
962	Price	Change provisions relating to postsecondary education	S (+830, 953, 1012)	4, 8, 11, 12, 14
962A	Price	Appropriation Bill	S	
963	Price	Change provisions relating to the release of sex offender information	C	7



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
964	Price	Rename and change provisions relating to the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board	IPP	
965	Jensen	Adopt the Long-Term Care Savings Plan Act and the Long-Term Care Partnership Program	S (+854,966)	12, 15
965A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	LV	
966	Jensen	Provide income tax credits and deductions for long-term care insurance premiums	IPP (>965)	
967	Howard	Terminate the construction labor sales tax on residential home repairs on primary residences	IPP (>968)	5
968	Redfield	Provide funding for ethanol incentives and change sales tax, income tax, and property tax provisions	S (+798,810, 959,960,967, 1033,1171)	5, 10, 12, 13, 14
968A	Redfield	Appropriation Bill	S	
969	Byars	Provide limitations on school boards establishing alternating secondary course offerings	C (>1208)	11, 12, 14
970	Schrock	Change the Game Law to provide for apprentice hunter education exemptions	GF	
971	Schrock	Change tax levy provisions for natural resources districts	GF (>1226)	13, 14, 15
972	McDonald	Change provisions relating to resignations, vacancy appointments, and recall elections	C	
973	Schimpek	Change a provision relating to state employee benefits	C	7
974	Flood	Exempt certain sales at city and village celebrations from sales tax	IPP	3
975	Natural Resources	Change provisions relating to pollution regulation	S (+120,975, 901,1195)	4, 5, 8, 10, 11
976	Synowiecki	Exempt certain public retirement benefits from income taxation	IPP	
977	Schrock	Change motor fuel tax rates	IPP	7
978	Heidemann	Provide for bed and breakfast liquor licenses	C	
979	Landis	Provide for regulation and restriction of development rights related to county zoning	C	
980	Langemeier	Remove exemptions relating to special fees in insurance policies	C	
981	Thompson	Modify public records statutes to include geographical information systems data	C	
982	Thompson	Increase fees for marriage licenses	C	3
983	Thompson	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for juvenile correctional facilities improvements	C	
984	Howard	Prohibit employer mandated employee participation in certain religious or political matters	C	
985	Mines	Change provisions relating to banker's banks	GF (>876)	
986	Kremer	Change animal damage control provisions	GF	
987	Preister	Create the Education Trust Fund and provide for state funding for increased teacher salaries	C	
988	Preister	Provide an income tax credit for teachers	IPP	
989	Smith	Suspend the implementation of statutory provisions subject to the referendum process	C	6
990	Wehrbein	Change provisions of the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act and the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	S (+346)	12, 13, 14
990A	Wehrbein	Appropriation Bill	V	
991	Langemeier	Require registration for home inspectors	C	
992	Cornett	Exempt military retirement benefits from income tax	IPP	
993	Byars	Provide kindergarten programs meet standards adopted by the State Board of Education	IPP	
994	Health and Human Services	Change provisions relating to the public health and welfare	S (+318,445, 844,866,882, 892,903,950, 1002,1079, 1088,1179, 1220,1254)	10, 12, 14
994A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	S	
995	Stuthman	Terminate estate and generation-skipping taxes	IPP	9
996	Louden	Change provisions governing the state veteran cemetery system	S	6, 14
996A	Louden	Appropriation Bill	S	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
997	Beutler	Authorize income tax credits for donations of perpetual conservation easements	GF	
997A	Beutler	Appropriation Bill	GF	
998	Cornett	Provide for extension of certain school district boundaries	C	5, 14
999	Brown	Change provisions relating to training requirements for providers of child care and program licensure	IPP	4
1000	Price	Prohibit certain devices and methods for use on elephants under the Criminal Code	C	4
1001	Synowiecki	Change provisions of the Nebraska Evidence Rules with respect to privileged communications	C	
1002	Synowiecki	Change prescribing authority for nurse practitioners	GF (>994)	10, 12, 14
1003	Landis	Change provisions relating to revenue and taxation and tax incentive programs	S (+807,811, 836,888,937, 1045,1052)	5, 6, 9
1004	Hudkins	Provide for sale or shipment of alcoholic liquor by the Department of Agriculture and change farm winery license options	GF (>562)	
1005	Cudaback	Change a provision relating to tax refund contributions to the Nebraska State Fair	GF	
1006	Brashear	Constitutional amendment to permit use of educational funds for common school and early childhood educational purposes	P	6, 13, 15
1007	Baker	Change provisions relating to commercial motor vehicles and government regulation	S (+905)	
1008	Stuthman	Change the expiration date of motor vehicle operators' licenses for persons with certain vision restrictions	S	8, 10
1008A	Stuthman	Appropriation Bill	S	
1009	Cornett	Change provisions relating to DNA collection	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1010	Connealy	Change provisions relating to certain tax credits	S	8, 12, 14
1011	Mines	Provide for no presumption in favor of county appraisals for property tax protest purposes	IPP	
1012	Raikes	Eliminate obsolete budget request provisions for the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	GF (>962)	
1013	Combs	Change provisions relating to election recounts	IPP	
1014	Cunningham	State the jurisdictional amount of the Small Claims Court	GF	10
1015	Stuthman	Appropriate funds for county jail reimbursement assistance	IPP	6
1016	Schimek	Change provisions relating to child care subsidies	C	
1017	Kopplin	Change provisions relating to schools concerning tax levy limitations, transportation, and district boundaries	C	5
1018	Hudkins	Adopt the Nebraska Grape Resources Act	IPP	
1019	Retirement Systems	Change provisions relating to retirement systems	S (+1020,1023, 1140)	7, 8, 11
1020	Retirement Systems	Provide for thirty-year amortization periods for defined benefit retirement plans	GF (>1019)	7, 8, 11
1021	Retirement Systems	Change membership and contribution provisions relating to county and state retirement systems	IPP (>366)	
1022	Retirement Systems	Repeal provisions relating to investments in Northern Ireland and the MacBride principles	IPP	
1023	Retirement Systems	Change provisions relating to local health department retirement plans	GF (>1019)	7, 8, 11
1024	Raikes	Provide for learning communities	S	5, 13, 14, 15
1024A	Raikes	Appropriation Bill	S	
1025	Bourne	Remove a limitation on appropriations for county jail reimbursement assistance	IPP	6
1026	Pahls	Require a former employer to provide information regarding a person applying for the position of peace officer	C	
1027	Mines	Change employment and investment requirements under the Nebraska Advantage Act	IPP	
1028	Jensen	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support for the Ryan White AIDS Program	C (>1060)	
1029	Jensen	Change bidding requirements for construction contracts in sanitary and improvement districts	GF (>1175)	10, 15



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1030	Combs	Provide for notice of inspection of public park buildings	C	
1031	Preister	Adopt the Disposal of Electronic Devices Act	GF	
1032	Preister	Change tax levy limitations for community colleges	IPP	
1033	Connealy	Eliminate a provision relating to transfer and proration of ethanol production tax credits and provide funding	C (>968)	
1034	Brown	Authorize payment to Nebraska by Cuba in tobacco or tobacco products	IPP	
1035	Synowiecki	Change licensure requirements for alcohol and drug counselors	C	
1036	Howard	Provide certification requirements for certain Department of Health and Human Services employees	C	
1037	Erdman	Provide for the selection of housing agency commissioners by city councils	IPP	
1038	Schimek	Provide for review and approval of leases and agreements relating to the Nebraska State Fairgrounds	S	13, 14
1039	McDonald	Provide for and establish limits on expenditure of state lottery revenue	S	7, 15
1040	Bourne	Change a duty with respect to reports to the Counsel for Discipline of the Nebraska Supreme Court	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
1041	Bourne	Change disciplinary action provisions under the Nebraska Cosmetology Act	C	
1042	Cornett	Change provisions relating to the county board of equalization regarding property tax deadlines	IPP	
1043	Cornett	Change provisions relating to special valuation of agricultural and horticultural land	IPP	
1044	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for a percentage of wages earned by inmates in a work release program to be deposited into the Victim's Compensation Fund	C	
1045	Landis	Change provisions relating to investment increases in property and the Building Entrepreneurial Communities Act	IPP (>1003)	5, 6, 9
1046	Connealy	Provide a sales tax exemption for chemical catalysts and solutions	IPP	
1047	Bourne	Change provisions relating to stalking	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1048	Bourne	Provide for electronic pickle card devices	IPP	6
1049	Wehrbein	Authorize the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission to enter into certain contractual arrangements	GF (>1208)	11, 12, 14
1050	Wehrbein	Create a study committee relating to countywide school districts	C	
1051	Schrock	Exempt tangible personal property from property tax	IPP	
1052	Revenue	Change a statute of limitations applicable to income tax	C (>1003)	
1053	Hudkins	Adopt the Specialty Crop Development Act	IPP	
1054	Raikes	Change city of the primary class building regulations	GF	
1055	Raikes	Provide filing requirements for certain sales tax exemptions	IPP	
1056	Raikes	Modify the factors and weights used in determining the amount allocated to counties for roads	IPP	4
1057	Brown	Create the Roads to Economic Development Fund and provide for its use and change county road funding	IPP	4
1058	Flood	Change provisions relating to the transportation of patients in ambulances	C	
1059	Schimek	Provide emergency expenditure procedures for school districts	C	
1060	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Provide for deficit appropriations and transfers of funds	LV (+1028)	5, 11, 12, 13, 14
1061	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Create and transfer funds	S	5, 11, 12, 13
1062	Brashear, req. of Gov.	Change the Cash Reserve Fund	IPP (>1131)	5
1063	Synowiecki	Increase the training fee for filing of court cases	C	
1064	Landis	Change provisions relating to property tax liens and collection	IPP	
1065	Johnson	Change distribution of certain sales tax revenue and create the Expressway Expansion Fund	C	4
1066	Connealy	Change provisions relating to proposed proprietary budget statements in cities and villages	S	
1067	Connealy	Change requirements relating to vacancies in elected offices of cities and villages	S	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1068	Byars	Adopt the Community Action Agency Act	C	
1069	Byars	Provide for reimbursement of costs for transportation of eligible persons and eliminate certain hazardous material regulations	S (+801)	11, 14
1069A	Byars	Appropriation Bill	S	
1070	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to child abuse and neglect investigations	GF (>1113)	8, 14, 15
1071	Dw. Pedersen	Change a provision relating to certified motor vehicle liability policies	GF	
1072	Cornett	Provide limitation on liability for certain donations to volunteer fire and rescue departments	C	
1073	Raikes	Eliminate property tax on tangible personal property and certain sales tax exemptions and increase state aid and tax levy authority	IPP	
1074	Raikes	Change high school graduation requirements and require development of individual academic plans	GF	11
1075	Flood	Provide for court orders to intercept communications based upon additional offenses	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1076	Kremer	Change the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board membership	GF	
1077	Schrock	Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources	C	5
1078	Mines	Change provisions governing costs of training at the law enforcement training center	C (>746)	
1079	McDonald	Adopt the Immunosuppressant Drug Repository Program Act	GF (>994)	12, 14
1079A	McDonald	Appropriation Bill	GF	
1080	Cornett	Authorize municipalities to receive sales tax information	GF	
1081	Kremer	Change provisions of the Noxious Weed Control Act	GF (>1226)	13, 14, 15
1082	Schrock	Eliminate state park entry permits and fees	IPP	6
1083	Schrock	Appropriate funds to the Game and Parks Commission	C	6
1084	Cunningham	Transfer boiler, amusement ride, and elevator inspection provisions to the State Fire Marshal	C	
1085	Baker	Authorize the Division of Motor Carrier Services to enter into the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement	GF	
1086	Synowiecki	Adopt the Nebraska Prostitution Intervention and Treatment Act and provide and change penalties relating to prostitution and forced labor	S (+842,1253)	5, 11, 12, 14
1086A	Synowiecki	Appropriation Bill	V	
1087	Synowiecki	Exempt purchases by museums and museum memberships from sales tax	GF (>1189)	
1088	Thompson	Promote awareness of sudden infant death syndrome and shaken baby syndrome	GF (>994)	14
1088A	Thompson	Appropriation Bill	GF	
1089	Janssen	Exempt a portion of school site and building fund levy from levy limits	IPP	
1090	Howard	Provide for extended contract days for teachers	C	
1091	Business and Labor	Provide a penalty for nonpayment or late payment of wages	C	
1092	Business and Labor	Prohibit certain fraudulent acts with respect to workers' compensation premiums	C	
1093	Thompson	Modify a duty of the State Board of Education to establish a core curriculum standard	C	
1094	Stuhr	Provide for registration of agritourism operators and provide an income tax credit	IPP	
1095	Schrock	Eliminate an exemption under the Geologists Regulation Act	IPP	
1096	Synowiecki	Provide for appointment of the clerk of the district court in counties containing a city of the metropolitan class	GF	
1097	Schrock	Create the Storm Water Management Plan Program	GF (>1226)	6, 13, 14, 15
1098	Schrock	Change the definition of chemical under the Nebraska Chemigation Act	GF	
1099	Schrock	Change water reuse pit definitions for irrigation	GF (>508)	5
1100	Louden	Change penalty provisions for public indecency	C	
1101	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for mandatory parole for certain offenders	C	
1102	Pahls	Change provisions relating to ballot status for Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates	C	
1103	Synowiecki	Create an offense for selling a ticket above face value plus any reasonable fees	C	
1104	Synowiecki	Create a religious exemption from mandatory infant screening tests	C	
1105	Landis	Add sports arenas to the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	SF	



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LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1106	Raikes	Change county zoning regulation provisions	GF (>808)	
1107	Thompson	Permit students to self-manage diabetes at schools and related activities	S	13, 14
1108	Cudaback	Provide and change restrictions on the operation of a motor vehicle	C	5
1109	Schrock	Change permit and disciplinary action provisions of the Livestock Waste Management Act	GF	5
1110	Janssen	Provide for electronic keno lottery	C	6
1111	Janssen	Change provisions relating to appointments to the State Racing Commission	S	6, 9
1112	Connealy	Authorize use of the Community Development Law for projects involving agricultural processing facilities	IPP	
1113	Bourne	Change provisions relating to civil and criminal justice	S (+784,1009, 1047,1070, 1075,1144, 1146,1149, 1181,1196, 1224,1257)	14
1113A	Bourne	Appropriation Bill	S	
1114	Bourne	Change provisions relating to judges and clerks of the district court	C	
1115	Bourne	Change provisions relating to legal processes and reporting	S (+770,802, 824,825,826, 1040,1133, 1135,1136, 1137)	9, 10, 11
1116	McDonald	Change provisions of the Cancer Drug Repository Program Act	S	
1117	Heidemann	Provide for mowing and hay harvesting permits for highway right-of-ways	GF	
1118	Heidemann	Change education financing provisions by adding alternative criteria for sparse cost grouping	IPP	6
1119	Heidemann	Defer certain school reorganization requirements by one year	C	9
1120	Smith	Provide an affirmative defense for speeding in a construction zone	C	
1121	Brown	Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development to contract for an environmental study relating to a hydroelectric dam project	IPP	6
1122	Mines	Change provisions relating to giveaways by banks for opening accounts	IPP	
1123	Mines	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Uniform Trust Code	C	
1124	Mines	Change requirements relating to the Nebraska Installment Loan Act	GF (>876)	13, 14
1125	Business and Labor	Disapprove certain claims against the state	C	
1126	Business and Labor	Provide for payment of claims against the state	S	
1127	Schrock	Authorize use of electronic fund transfers by public power districts	IPP	
1128	Flood	Change Uniform Commercial Code negotiable instruments and warranties provisions and eliminate demand draft provisions	C	
1129	Louden	Change tax levy authority of and state aid to community colleges	WD	
1130	Stuthman	Authorize a local sales tax and authorize creation of transportation development districts	IPP	
1131	D. Pederson	Change Cash Reserve Fund transfer and interest provisions and create the State Capitol Restoration Fund	S (+1062)	5, 11, 12, 13
1132	Price	Provide for the use of family-centered practices in providing behavioral health services	C	
1133	Brashear	Change audiovisual court appearance procedures	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
1134	Brashear	Add arena facilities to the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	IPP	
1135	Brashear	Adopt the Uniform Conflict of Laws Limitation Act	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
1136	Brashear	Provide for modification of findings and decisions of administrative agencies in contested cases	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
1137	Brashear	Change Nebraska Probate Code provisions relating to payment or delivery of money or personal property to a minor	GF (>1115)	9, 10, 11
1138	Heidemann	Provide for additional state aid to education	IPP	6



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1139	Stuthman	Exempt fuel purchases by commercial launderers from sales tax	IPP	
1140	Retirement Systems	Change retirement system provisions relating to cash balance dividends	GF (>1019)	7, 8, 11
1141	Stuhr	Rename and change the membership and duties of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee	C	
1142	Stuhr	Redefine terms relating to retirement of school employees	C	
1143	Synowiecki	Change public-offering statements and rights of tenants under the condominium law	GF (>924)	
1144	Aguilar	Change provisions relating to autopsies performed by the county coroner or coroner's physician	GF (>1113)	15
1145	Bourne	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for community-based services	IPP	
1146	Flood	Provide exemptions from certain DNA testing limitations	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1147	Kremer	Eliminate the qualifications of the Director of Natural Resources	IPP	
1148	Cornett	Provide for student self-administration of asthma or anaphylaxis medication at school or related activities	S	13, 14, 15
1149	Cornett	Provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services relating to foreign national minors	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1150	Cornett	Provide for a fingerprinting fee	C	
1151	Cornett	Provide for Firefighter Plates and funds for training emergency personnel	GF	
1151A	Cornett	Appropriation Bill	GF	
1152	Connealy	Adopt the Local Community Rail Security Act	IPP	
1153	Bourne	Adopt the Health Care Improvement Through Deployment and Adoption of Information Technology Act	C	
1154	Schimek	Provide and change restrictions on names of new political parties	GF (>940)	13, 15
1155	Howard	Change provisions relating to adoption of state wards with special needs	C	
1156	Schrock	Prohibit irrigation of certain educational lands	IPP	5
1157	Kruse	Provide for annual rate increases in payments to providers of behavioral health care services	C	
1158	Business and Labor	Change provisions relating to the Risk Manager, the State Claims Board, and claim procedure	IPP	
1159	Byars	Exempt purchases by certain community-based mental health programs from sales tax	GF (>1189)	
1160	Kruse	Provide for a beverage server training program	GF (>845)	
1161	Preister	Provide powers and duties to the Environmental Quality Council	IPP	
1162	Stuthman	Change requirements for sale or trade of cattle in brand inspection areas	C	
1163	Stuthman	Change the statute of limitations for the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	GF	
1164	Schrock	Change provisions relating to water wells	GF (>508)	5
1165	Janssen	Provide an exemption for insurance, drug enforcement, and retirement costs for tax levy and budget purposes	IPP	
1166	Janssen	Change tax levy limits for cities, villages, and counties	IPP	
1167	Redfield	Provide for creation of new Class III school districts in certain areas	C	5
1168	Redfield	Provide for an electronic lien and paperless titling system for motor vehicle certificates of title	C	
1169	Redfield	Change provisions relating to driving under the influence and require ignition interlock devices	C	
1170	Redfield	Adopt the Regulatory Flexibility Act	C	
1171	Combs	Change homestead tax exemption qualifications	IPP (>968)	10, 12
1172	Erdman	Authorize placement of road name signs by local authorities	GF (>853)	
1173	Friend	Change redevelopment plan provisions relating to the effective date of a notice covering ad valorem tax divisions	GF (>1175)	10, 15
1174	Friend	Provide requirements for the annexation of rural water district property by a city or village	C	
1175	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to political subdivisions	S (+452,850, 1029,1173)	10, 15
1176	Urban Affairs	Change provisions relating to the computation of assumed population under the Mutual Finance Assistance Act	C	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1177	Jensen	Provide for legislation to recodify credentialing statutes for health professions and occupations	C	
1178	Jensen	Change reporting requirements for the brain injury registry	S	
1179	Jensen	Eliminate the State Behavioral Health Council	GF (>994)	12, 14
1180	Thompson	Change provisions relating to juvenile arrest and transfer to juvenile court	C	
1181	Thompson	Change juvenile detention provisions	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1182	Thompson	Authorize public employers to include elected officials in certain employer benefit plans	C	
1183	Thompson	Permit an exemption from motor vehicle tax for an unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran	IPP	
1184	Wehrbein	Prohibit certain activities relating to campaign committees	GF (>940)	13, 15
1185	Connealy	Authorize counties to enact certain ordinances	C	
1186	Connealy	Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Cost-Share Program	IPP	
1187	Connealy	Provide for the sale and use of alternative fuel	IPP	
1188	Connealy	Redefine Indian Child for purposes of the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act	WD	
1189	Synowiecki	Provide and change sales tax exemptions	S (+957,1087, 1159)	12
1189A	Synowiecki	Appropriation Bill	S	
1190	Synowiecki	Create the offense of assault on an officer using bodily fluids and change provisions relating to assault by a confined person	C	
1191	Howard	Change the distribution of county and municipal county road funds	IPP	
1192	Landis	Ensure adequate funding of the federal government's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	IPP	
1193	Landis	Change provisions of the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act	GF (>876)	13, 14
1194	Raikes	Change provisions relating to schools	C	
1195	Schrock	Require zoning exemptions for certain existing livestock waste control facilities	GF (>975)	5, 8
1196	Flood	Eliminate requirements to include a person's social security number in certain documents	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1197	Wehrbein	Adopt the Feed Bank Licensure Act	C	
1198	Connealy	Provide for microscale producers of biofuel and fuel tax treatment of such producers	GF	
1199	Bourne, req. of Gov.	Change provisions relating to the punishment, prosecution, treatment, and monitoring of sex offenders	S (+1205)	7, 13, 15
1199A	Bourne	Appropriation Bill	S	
1200	Bourne	Provide for a civil penalty for unsubstantiated or frivolous claims under the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	C	8
1201	Bourne	Provide a homestead exemption for blind persons	IPP	
1202	Engel	Change trade name registration and publication provisions	C	
1203	Stuhr	Adopt the Civics Nebraska Partnership Council	C	
1204	Dw. Pedersen	Provide for education match certificates for special education	C	
1205	Dw. Pedersen	Provide duties for the Director of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure with respect to a sex offender treatment and management working group	C (>1199)	7, 13, 15
1206	Louden	Increase the tax on alcoholic liquor to provide for citizen safety grants	IPP	
1207	Burling	Provide for grants for methamphetamine abuse prevention and education	GF	
1208	Raikes	Change education provisions and provide for distance education services	S (+969,1049)	7, 11, 12, 14
1208A	Raikes	Appropriation Bill	S	
1209	Kruse	Change taxes on alcohol and adopt the Alcohol-Related Crash Reparations Act	IPP	
1210	Jensen	Adopt the Sex Offender Court-Ordered Treatment Act	C	7
1211	Cornett	Change provisions relating to Americanism instruction	IPP	
1212	Cunningham	Provide for collection of cigarette tax by direct sellers	C	
1213	Smith	Clarify that only one parent need sign the statement regarding private schools that elect not to meet state accreditation or approval requirements	IPP	



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1214	Smith	Change Livestock Waste Management Act provisions relating to cold water Class A streams	IPP	5
1215	Baker	Change provisions relating to mobile home certificates of title	GF (>663)	9, 11
1216	Baker	Change provisions relating to assumption of the county property tax assessment function by the state	IPP	
1217	Baker	Change provisions relating to use of ethanol production tax credits	GF	
1218	Redfield	Change the definition of employee for workers' compensation purposes	IPP	
1219	Byars	Change local public health department employment provisions	IPP	
1220	Byars	Adopt the Rural Behavioral Health Training and Placement Program Act	GF (>994)	12, 14
1221	Cornett	Exempt certain car washes from sales tax	IPP	
1222	Transportation and Telecommunications	Change provisions relating to the Emergency Telephone Communications Systems Act and the Enhanced Wireless 911 Services Act	S (+341)	5, 13, 14, 15
1222A	Baker	Appropriation Bill	S	
1223	Cornett	Establish driver's safety training program requirements for pretrial diversion	C	
1224	Judiciary	Rename and change provisions relating to the State Disbursement and Child Support Advisory Commission	GF (>1113)	14, 15
1225	Langemeier	Change provisions relating to hydrologically connected water	IPP	
1226	Langemeier	Change environmental provisions relating to weed control, natural resources district tax levies, and	S (+805,933,	13, 14, 15
1226A	Schrock	Appropriation Bill	S	
1227	Cornett	Change provisions relating to issuance of handgun certificates and criminal history record checks	S	13
1228	Wehrbein	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the IANR, the departments of animal sciences, agronomy, and agricultural economics	IPP	
1229	Stuhr	Appropriate funds to the Department of Roads for a paving project referred to as the Charleston Link	IPP	
1230	Landis	Adopt the Uniform Debt Management Services Act	C	
1231	Jensen	Create the Office of Minority Health	C	
1232	Jensen	Provide for a study of behavioral health insurance parity legislation	GF (>1248)	15
1233	Jensen	Require a comprehensive implementation strategy for traumatic brain injury services	C	
1234	Landis	Change provisions relating to redevelopment project areas	IPP	
1235	Beutler	Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Arts Council for a memorial to Nebraska poets and writers	C	
1236	Schimek	Redefine terms relating to political accountability and disclosure	GF (>940)	13, 15
1237	Cunningham	Change provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act and the Workplace Safety Consultation Program	GF	5
1238	Cunningham	Change medical fee schedule provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	C	5
1239	Raikes	Change income tax calculations, rates, and schedules	IPP	5
1240	Mines	Define insurance to exclude waivers of customer liability	IPP	
1241	Urban Affairs	Eliminate an exception relating to annexation of redevelopment project areas	C	
1242	Foley	Provide for local public health departments to provide certain medical testing, diagnosis, and treatment	GF	
1243	Kremer	Require arbitration for disputes involving certain school districts over certain annexed territory	C	
1244	Howard	Provide duties for the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure relating to prevention of alcohol-related birth defects	GF	
1245	Howard	Provide for registration and regulation of interior designers	C	
1246	Engel	Change provisions relating to prohibited acts near polling places	GF (>940)	13, 15
1247	Schimek	Provide authority to the State Board of Education relating to instruction in American citizenship	C	
1248	Jensen	Adopt the Medical Assistance Act	S (+1232)	6, 14, 15
1248A	Jensen	Appropriation Bill	LV	
1249	Landis	Change provisions relating to the State Natural Gas Regulation Act	S	5, 14, 15
1250	Landis	Authorize use of the word bank by a federally chartered or state-chartered credit union	C	
1251	Synowiecki	Change and eliminate property tax levy and state aid provisions relating to community colleges	IPP	
1252	Synowiecki	Change eminent domain procedures	GF	7
1253	Synowiecki	Change provisions relating to prostitution	C (>1086)	11



# UNICAMERAL UPDATE

LB	INTRODUCER	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	INDEX
1254	Synowiecki	Change nurse practitioner scope of practice	GF (>994)	10, 12, 14
1255	Louden	Change property tax levy and state aid for community colleges	IPP	
1256	Brashear	Create the Nebraska Early Childhood Endowment and authorize a board of trustees	S	8, 13, 15
1256A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	S	
1257	Brashear	Create the Nebraska Prisoner Reentry Court	C (>1113)	
1258	Brashear	Appropriate funds for community correctional and probation services	C	6
1259	Brashear	Repeal the rejection of federal limits on registration under the Securities Act of Nebraska	GF (>876)	13, 14
1260	Brashear	Change provisions of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act	C	
1261	Brashear	Change provisions relating to corporations and limited liability companies	GF (>647)	
1261A	Brashear	Appropriation Bill	GF	
1262	Brashear	Provide for school district interdistrict academy of excellence plans	C	5
1263	Foley	Change child and spousal support modification provisions	C	
1CA	Schrock	Constitutional amendment to permit the Legislature to authorize spending part of the principal of the perpetual funds for the common schools	C	
2CA	Landis	Constitutional amendment to authorize use of revenue bonds to develop and lease property for use by nonprofit enterprises	P	6, 9
3CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to terminate term limit provisions for members of the Legislature	C	
4CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to create the Ethics and Compensation Review Commission, change and eliminate compensation provisions for employees and members of the Legislature, and provide for a legislative code of ethics	C	
5CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to provide for recall of members of the Legislature and repeal term limits for such members	C	
8CA	Schrock	Constitutional amendment to preserve the right to fish, hunt, and trap	SF	
11CA	Executive Board	Constitutional amendment to authorize the Legislature to prescribe appointment and removal procedures for certain state employees	C	
13CA	Schimek	Constitutional amendment to provide for increases in legislative salaries	C	
14CA	Schimek	Constitutional amendment to repeal term limit provisions for members of the Legislature	C	
16CA	Schrock	Constitutional amendment to change term limit provisions for members of the Legislature	C	
18CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to provide for investment by political subdivisions	GF (>75)	
22CA	Brashear	Constitutional amendment to change distribution of certain forfeited or seized money	C	
LR 23	Howard	Urge Congress to fully fund the No Child Left Behind Act	IPP	
24CA	Raikes	Constitutional amendment to permit the Legislature to direct fines, penalties, and license fees to the perpetual fund for common school purposes	IPP	
26CA	Beutler	Constitutional amendment to provide that misdemeanors related to election to office are grounds for impeachment of civil officers	C	
27CA	Langemeier	Constitutional amendment to provide for one organization day prior to ninety-day legislative session and change legislative terms accordingly	C	
28CA	Brashear	Constitutional amendment to eliminate provisions relating to creation, powers, and duties of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	IPP	
253CA	Hudkins	Constitutional amendment to provide for a vote prior to dissolution, affiliation, and merger of school districts	C	9
254CA	Landis	Constitutional amendment to prohibit laws infringing upon or interfering with privacy	C	8
259CA	McDonald	Constitutional amendment to change distribution of state lottery funds	P	7, 13, 14
262CA	Cornett	Constitutional amendment to exempt military housing from property tax	GF	
272CA	Connealy	Constitutional amendment authorizing the development, rehabilitation, acquisition, or redevelopment of property through the use of debt by political subdivisions	P (+275CA)	15
273CA	Brashear	Constitutional amendment to change separation of powers provisions to permit the Legislature to create boards and similar bodies with voting members of the legislative, executive, and judicial departments	C	
274CA	Brashear	Constitutional amendment to change separation of powers provisions to permit supervision of individuals enrolled in court programs or services by the judicial and executive departments as provided by the Legislature	P	14, 15
275CA	Landis	Constitutional amendment to permit the Legislature to extend the tax levy for certain redevelopment projects	GF (>272CA)	
LR 309	Engel	Urge the Legislature to support free trade between the United States and Taiwan by urging Congress to support negotiation of a free trade agreement	GF	
LR 441	Kremer	Support the use of agricultural products to provide 25% of domestic energy consumption by 2025	P	
LR 449	Chambers	Provide for Articles of Impeachment against University of Nebraska Regent C. David Hergert	P	15



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