

NARD CA & BILL SUMMARY of NEW LEGISLATION

2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE BILLS

FINAL VERSION

**NARD LEGISLATIVE
CONFERENCE
EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL**

**LINCOLN, NE
JANUARY 25-27, 2016**

Voting Procedures

Any cell phone ringing during session will require the owner to submit a tax-deductible \$5.00 donation to the NARD Foundation.

Tuesday Morning Business Session

- 1) The first session on Tuesday morning will be spent going through the list of bills. Please wait for motions until we are completely through the outline.
- 2) A list of carry-over bills and the NARD position taken from last year will also be provided (Blue Cover Sheet) but will not be reviewed unless a specific request is made on a bill in the list by a delegate. No vote is required on this list to retain the position on the bill.
- 3) After the Legislative Chairman has finished the outline, districts may make motions to vote on bills individually with a stated position. A second will be required to advance for a vote. Prior to the break for caucus, a motion and a second will be required to accept the balance of the NARD Legislative Committee recommendations. Final votes will be taken after the caucus period.
- 4) Only the voting delegate of the district, or the alternate in the case of the delegates' absence, can make a motion and vote on behalf of a district. Other NRD directors and employees can speak on issues at the request of the voting delegate of the district, or the alternate in the case of the delegates' absence.

Tuesday Afternoon Caucus

- 5) Caucus rooms are available in Chancellor Rooms I, II & III on a first come/first serve basis. Please share the rooms and feel free to move chairs as needed. The Atrium area may also be available, but is not reserved specifically for our group. You may also use any part of Regents A, which is the area where the general sessions are.

Tuesday Afternoon Business Session

- 6) At the session following the caucus, votes will be taken on motions made in the morning session. Each district will have five votes and a simple majority is needed to pass a motion. Simple majority is 58 of 115.
- 7) Only the voting delegate of the district, or the alternate in the case of the delegates' absence, can make a motion and vote on behalf of a district. Other NRD directors and employees can speak on issues at the request of the voting delegate of the district, or the alternate in the case of the delegates' absence.
- 8) After the individual motions are voted on, and before final action is taken on the remaining NARD Legislative Committee recommendations, a final opportunity to vote on any other bill separately will be provided. Following a second, a majority vote will be required to consider the motion. Again, a simple majority vote will be used to determine whether the motion to take action on that bill passes or fails.
- 9) After a motion and second, a final vote will be taken to accept the recommended position of the NARD Legislative Committee on the remaining bills. A simple majority vote will be used to determine whether this final motion passes or fails.

2016 NARD Voting Delegates
NARD Legislative Conference
January 25-27, 2016

District	Delegate's Name	Alternate's Name
<i>Central Platte NRD</i>	Jim Bendfeldt	Jerry Wiese
<i>Lewis & Clark NRD</i>	Marcel Kramer	Dan Kollars
<i>Little Blue NRD</i>	Lyle Heinrichs	Chuck Rainforth
<i>Lower Big Blue NRD</i>	Doug Stokebrand	Steve Kelley
<i>Lower Elkhorn NRD</i>	Bob Huntley	Kurt Janke
<i>Lower Loup NRD</i>	Dean Rasmussen	Virgil Gellermann
<i>Lower Niobrara NRD</i>	Sterling Schultz	Diana Wendt
<i>Lower Platte North NRD</i>	Robert Hilger	Bob Clausen
<i>Lower Platte South NRD</i>	David Potter	Larry Ruth
<i>Lower Republican NRD</i>	Nelson Trambly	David Bartels
<i>Middle Niobrara NRD</i>	Dean Jochem	Martin Graff
<i>Middle Republican NRD</i>	Shane Rippen	John Palic
<i>Nemaha NRD</i>	Daniel Hodges	Donald Siske
<i>North Platte NRD</i>	Gerald Dillman	Dave Ost diek
<i>Papio-Missouri River NRD</i>	Rich Tesar	Jim Thompson
<i>South Platte NRD</i>	James C. "Jim" Johnson	Larry L. Rutt
<i>Tri-Basin NRD</i>	Dave Raffety	Larry Reynolds
<i>Twin Platte NRD</i>	Joe Wahlgren	Jerry Weaver
<i>Upper Big Blue NRD</i>	Larry Moore	Gary Eberle
<i>Upper Elkhorn NRD</i>	Dale Wiles	Chris Dierks
<i>Upper Loup NRD</i>	Judy Ridenour	Bobbi Jo Christensen
<i>Upper Niobrara White NRD</i>	Tod Dorshorst	Scott Berndt
<i>Upper Republican NRD</i>	Jason Kunkel	Tom Terryberry

<u>Bill or CA</u>	<u>Bill Description</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Page #</u>
LB 672	Eliminate fees on tires as prescribed	Krist	17
LB 693	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	Morfeld	14
LB 711	Change provisions of the Noxious Weed Control Act and create the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force	Hughes	15
LB 714	Provide for and change a provision relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation	Stinner	21
LB 716	Provide and eliminate provisions regarding pedestrians and bicyclists	Kolowski	23
LB 720	Change certain invasion of privacy provisions to include unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft systems	Kuehn	27
LB 728	Authorize electronic voting devices for natural resources districts	Johnson	6
LB 737	Change provisions of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act	Friesen	18
LB 802	Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force	Haar	25
LB 806	Adopt the Riverfront Development Act	Mello	24
LB 810	Eliminate the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program and transfer funds to the Cowboy Trail Fund	Davis	23
LB 821	Adopt the Workplace Privacy Act	Larson	13
LB 825	Provide reporting requirements for tax-exempt property	Davis	8
LB 850	Adopt the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Act	Crawford	12
LB 876	Authorize electronic voting devices for public bodies in public meetings	Murante	6
LB 887	Extend sunset of the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund	Schilz	19
LB 899	Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act	Baker	18

LB 935	Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts	Schilz	12
LB 940	Adopt the Tax Stabilization Act	Johnson	8
LB 956	Provide for deficit appropriations	Speaker (Request of Governor)	7
LB 958	Change provisions relating to budgets, the valuation of agricultural land, and levy limitations	Gloor (Request of Governor)	9
LB 992	Provide a restriction on installment contracts for the purchase of real or personal property by political subdivisions	Ebke	11
LB 1019	Change provisions relating to support of the Niobrara Council by the Game and Parks Commission, require legislative confirmation of certain appointments to the council, and require an annual report.	Davis	20
LB 1024	Change a provision of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act relating to an interest in a government contract	Larson	11
LB 1038	Change water appropriation application provisions	Davis	21
LB 1070	Change powers and duties of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to require liability insurance and restrict permits as prescribed	Haar	19
LB 1082	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and provide for a periodic well fluid analysis, report, and notice as prescribed	Schilz	19
LB 1084	Change and provide duration requirements for certain state agency contracts	Stinner	7
LB 1095	Require employer identification numbers and the use of the federal immigration verification system	Kintner	14
LB 1101	Require the Department of Environmental Quality to examine the status of solid waste management programs	Mello	17
LR 378CA	Constitutional amendment to guarantee the right to engage in certain farming and ranching practices	Kuehn	15
LR 380CA	Constitutional amendment to change the distribution of state lottery proceeds	Bloomfield	7

Directors & Elections

A. Voting Procedures

LB 728 - Authorize electronic voting devices for natural resources districts. Johnson.

The bill adds natural resources districts to the list of political subdivisions that can use electronic voting for roll call and public votes on motions. The law requires the electronic boards to be readily seen by the public.

Current law allows municipalities, city councils, village boards, counties, learning communities, joint entities created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, joint public agencies created pursuant to the Joint Public Agency Act, or an agency formed under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act to use such devices.

Hearing Date: 1/21/2016 **Committee:** Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

LB 876 - Authorize electronic voting devices for public bodies in public meetings. Murante.

The bill authorizes all public bodies to use electronic voting for roll call and public votes on motions. The law requires the electronic boards to be readily seen by the public.

Current law allows municipalities, city councils, village boards, counties, learning communities, joint entities created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, joint public agencies created pursuant to the Joint Public Agency Act, or an agency formed under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act to use such devices.

Hearing Date: 1/21/2016 **Committee:** Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

Funding & Taxes

A. State Budget Modifications

LB 956 - Provide for deficit appropriations. Speaker Hadley, at the request of the Governor.

The bill makes changes to the appropriations for FY 2015-16 and 2016-17 as recommended by the Governor. In the bill, the Governor proposes to maintain funding for the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Quality. The un-expended balances for these agencies are re-appropriated. There are minor adjustments to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission funding.

The major budget adjustments to make up the shortfall are transfers of excess cash funds from the banking and insurance funds to the general fund. There is also a reduction in funding to the UNL Veterinary Sciences Lab.

Hearing Date: 2/1/2016

Committee: Appropriations

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

LB 1084 - Change and provide duration requirements for certain state agency contracts. Stinner.

The bill would change duration requirements for contracts for services and purchases or lease of personal property by State agencies. No contract for services, purchase or lease could be amended to extend the contract for a period of more than fifty percent of the initial contract term.

Following the adoption of any amendment to extend the contract for a period of fifty percent or less of the initial contract term, no further extensions of the original contract would be permitted. This would not prohibit exercising any renewal option provided in the original contract.

Hearing Date:

Committee: Government, Military & Veterans Affairs

Bill Status:

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

B. Nebraska Environmental Trust

LR 380 CA - Constitutional amendment to change the distribution of state lottery proceeds. Bloomfield.

The proposed Constitutional Amendment would reduce the amount of funding from net lottery proceeds to the Nebraska Environmental Trust by 40% (from 44.5% to 26.5% of net proceeds)

and the Nebraska State Fair 25% (from 10% to 7.5% of net proceeds). The funding for education would increase 46% (from 44.5% to 65% of net proceeds).

Hearing Date: 1/25/2016

Committee: General Affairs

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Position: Oppose

General Administration

A. Local Budgets & Property Taxes

LB 825 - Provide reporting requirements for tax-exempt property. Davis.

The bill requires owners of exempt property to file a report with the county assessor every year that would include the organization that owns the property, legal description, date of acquisition, list of improvements, whether it is leased or has been leased in the last two years and estimated market value.

The counties would then be required to submit a report to the Nebraska Department of Revenue on the fair market value amount of exempt property.

The reporting requirements would not apply to exempt property owned by the state and political subdivisions.

Hearing Date:

Committee: Revenue

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

LB 940 - Adopt the Tax Stabilization Act. Johnson.

The stated purpose of the Tax Stabilization Act is to provide property tax relief to property owners across the state and to give the Legislature time to consider appropriate changes to state law that would reduce the reliance on property taxes for the funding of school districts. The stabilization period would be from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019.

During the stabilization period, the bill freezes all real property tax values at assessed values as of January 1, 2016. In addition, the state property tax credits would also be frozen at 2016 levels.

During the stabilization period the maximum amount of property tax levy, subject to the levy limitations, a political subdivision could increase would be by the percentage growth in the state budget. If the state budget would decrease, the property tax levies would have to decrease by the same percentage.

If the Legislature passes reform legislation at any time during the stabilization period, the stabilization period shall end on December 31 after the passage of such reform legislation and the restrictions in the bill would no longer apply.

If the stabilization period ends without the Legislature passing reform legislation, the restrictions go away but the following rules shall apply:

- On January 1, 2020, the assessed value of all real property in subject to taxation shall be equal to its assessed value as of January 1, 2016, multiplied by the percentage growth in the state budget from fiscal year 2018-19 to fiscal year 2019-20, if any;
- On January 1, 2021, and each January 1 thereafter, the assessed value of all real property in this state subject to taxation shall be equal to its assessed value as of January 1 of the preceding year multiplied by the percentage growth in the state budget from the most recently completed fiscal year to the current fiscal year, if any; and
- The allowed growth in the values would continue until the values for property reach the taxable market values used currently – Seventy-five percent of market value for Ag land and full market for all other classes of real property.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Revenue **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: See Policy Position

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: See Policy Position (page 28)

NARD Position: See Policy Position (page 28)

LB 958 - Change provisions relating to budgets, the valuation of agricultural land, and levy limitations. Gloor, at the request of the Governor.

The bill proposes changes to budget growth limits, levy limits and Ag land values.

Budget Growth

The bill would remove the following exceptions to the budget growth of two and one-half percent:

- Restricted funds budgeted for capital improvements.
- Restricted funds expended from a qualified sinking fund for acquisition or replacement of tangible personal property with a useful life of five years or more.
- Restricted funds budgeted in support of a service which is the subject of an agreement or a modification of an existing agreement whether operated by one of the parties to the agreement or by an independent joint entity or joint public agency.

For any budget adopted by a governmental unit for a fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2016, and before June 30, 2017, the total amount of unused restricted funds authority shall be increased by an amount equal to:

- The restricted funds budgeted for the immediately prior fiscal year for capital improvements;
- The restricted funds budgeted for the immediately prior fiscal year in support of a service which is the subject of an agreement or a modification of an existing agreement whether operated by one of the parties to the agreement or by an independent joint entity or joint public agency;
- The restricted funds expended in the immediately prior fiscal year from a qualified sinking fund for acquisition or replacement of tangible personal property with a useful life of five years or more; and
- The restricted funds budgeted for the immediately prior fiscal year in support of a service which is the subject of an interlocal agreement or a modification of an existing agreement.

For any budget adopted by a governmental unit for a fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2017, the total amount of unused restricted funds authority carried forward cannot exceed three percent of the budgeted restricted funds for the governmental unit for such fiscal year.

Property tax levy limits

The bill eliminates the following exceptions to the property tax levy limits:

- a) Judgments, except judgments or orders from the Commission of Industrial Relations, obtained against a political subdivision which require or obligate a political subdivision to pay such judgment, to the extent such judgment is not paid by liability insurance coverage of a political subdivision;
- b) Preexisting lease-purchase contracts approved prior to July 1, 1998,
- c) Payments by a public airport to retire interest-free loans from the Department of Aeronautics in lieu of bonded indebtedness at a lower cost to the public airport are not included in the levy limits established by this section.

The bill adds language that bonds issued after July 1, 2016, must be approved by a majority of voters.

Ag Land Values

The bill also makes some changes to agriculture land values as follows.

For tax year 2016 and each tax year thereafter, if the resulting aggregate taxable value of all agricultural and horticultural land in the state for the current tax year exceeds the aggregate taxable value of all agricultural and horticultural land in the state for the prior tax year by three percent or more, the assessed values for agricultural and horticultural land shall be reduced uniformly and proportionately until the current year's aggregate taxable value equals one hundred three percent of the prior year's aggregate taxable value.

On or before May 15 of each year, the Property Tax Administrator would be required to provide information to the Tax Equalization and Review Commission necessary to determine the adjustments for agricultural land and horticultural land. By May 20 of each year, the commission would be required to determine the adjustment necessary to achieve the aggregate taxable value required.

The valuation notice sent to property owners by the county would have to show the value prior to and after adjustment.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Revenue **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: See Policy Position

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: See Policy Position (page 28)

NARD Position: See Policy Position (page 28)

LB 992 - Provide a restriction on installment contracts for the purchase of real or personal property by political subdivisions. Ebke.

The bill would prohibit counties, cities, villages, school districts, NRDs or other political subdivision of the State of Nebraska from entering into installment contracts for the purchase of real or personal property from having outstanding obligations under such installment contracts that exceed twenty-five million dollars.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Government, Military & Veterans Affairs
Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Position: Oppose

LB 1024 - Change a provision of the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act relating to an interest in a government contract. Larson.

The bill proposes to increase the maximum amount of a contract from two thousand dollars to ten thousand dollars that a public official or public employee, a member of that individual's immediate family, or business with which the individual is associated can enter into with government body unless the contract is awarded through an open and public process.

The bill also proposes that the maximum amount be adjusted for inflation annually based on an amount equal to the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers as published by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. The increased amount would have to be rounded to the next highest one-thousand-dollar amount.

As a side note, this section of statute does not apply to conservation cost share programs for NRD directors, employees or immediate families as other sections of law address those situations.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Government, Military & Veterans Affairs
Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

B. Public Records, Notices & Reports

LB 935 - Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts. Schilz.

The bill establishes deadlines and penalties for reports required for governing bodies that enter into agreements under the Interlocal Cooperation Act and the Joint Public Agency Act.

Under current law, the State Auditor, on or before December 1 each year, requests information from each governing body regarding (1) trade names, corporate names, or other business names under which the governing body operates and (2) agreements to which the governing body is a party under the Interlocal Cooperation Act and the Joint Public Agency Act. Each governing body is to provide the information to the auditor on or before December 31.

Under the bill, if the information is not received on or before December 31, it would be considered delinquent and the auditor shall notify the political subdivision of the delinquency. If the information is not received within thirty days after the initial December 31 deadline, five hundred dollars shall be withheld from the next state aid payment to such political subdivision. For each additional thirty days that the delinquent information is not received, another five hundred dollars shall be withheld from the political subdivision's next state aid payment.

Under this section, state aid payment is defined as any money appropriated from the General Fund for payment to a political subdivision.

The bill also provides that if a political subdivision fails to provide the information requested under this section on or before December 31, the auditor may, at his or her discretion, audit such political subdivision. The expense of such audit would have to be paid by the political subdivision.

Finally, the bill establishes an interest rate of fourteen percent on delinquent payments of any fees for audits and services owed to the State Auditor. For an entity created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act or the Joint Public Agency Act, any participating public agencies would be jointly and severally liable for the fees and interest owed if such entity is defunct or unable to pay.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Government, Military & Veterans Affairs
Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor
NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor
NARD Position: Monitor

C. Employee Leave

LB 850 - Adopt the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Act. Crawford.

The bill creates the Paid Family Medical Leave Act for all employees in Nebraska to be operated by the Department of Labor. The act would apply to all employers subject to the Employment Security Law. Self-employed individuals would be eligible to participate as well. The program

would be funded by a payroll tax of up to one-half of one percent of payroll as determined by the Commissioner of Labor.

The bill would require that covered employees be entitled to take up to twelve weeks of paid family medical leave for the following reasons:

- To care for a new child of the covered individual during the first year after the birth, adoption, or placement through foster care of that child (Eight Weeks);
- Because the covered individual has a serious health condition, including pregnancy, that makes the covered individual unable to perform the functions of the position held by such covered individual (Twelve Weeks);
- To care for a family member of the covered individual who has a serious health condition (Eight Weeks);
- To care for a covered service member who is the covered individual's next of kin (Eight Weeks); or
- For qualifying exigency leave (Eight Weeks).

Exigency leave relates to leave for active duty individuals and family members of active duty individuals.

The individual that would be taking paid leave under the act would apply to the Commissioner of Labor for approval. If approved, the Commissioner of labor would make the payments on a pro-rated amount of the existing individual's wages. Up to 95 percent of the wages would be paid if the wage is less than 20 percent of the Nebraska's average wages. The maximum amount would be 65% of the wage at 50% of the Nebraska average wages.

All other benefits due to the employee would have to be paid by the employer and all other benefits offered to the employee (vacation, sick leave, etc.) would have to accrue during the leave if they are allowed to accrue for any other type of leave granted by the employer.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Business & Labor **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Position: Oppose

D. Workplace Privacy

LB 821 - Adopt the Workplace Privacy Act. Larson.

The bill adopts the Workplace Privacy Act to prevent employers from demanding passwords to employees' or applicants personal social networking sites or accounts. The bill also prohibits employees from installing personal social networking applications on employer equipment without permission of the employer.

Upon violation of the Workplace Privacy Act, an aggrieved employee or applicant may institute a civil action in district court within one year after the date of the alleged violation or the discovery of the alleged violation, whichever is later.

The district court shall try such case as any other civil action. Any successful complainant would be entitled to appropriate relief, including temporary or permanent injunctive relief, general and special damages, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Business & Labor **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

E. Employee Identification

LB 1095 - Require employer identification numbers and the use of the federal immigration verification system. Kintner.

The bill requires all employers making any payment of wages subject to withholding to register annually with the Tax Commissioner for identification numbers. The bill also requires each employer to register with and use the federal immigration verification system (e-verify) to verify each employees employment eligibility and sign a sworn affidavit with the Tax Commissioner confirming employer compliance.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Judiciary **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

F. Tort Claims

LB 693 - Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act. Morfeld.

The bill extends the time for a claim against a political subdivision, or employee of a political subdivision, for wrongful acts from one year to two years after such claim accrued.

Hearing Date: 1/28/2016 **Committee:** Judiciary **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Position: Oppose

Land Use

A. Farming & Ranching

LR 378CA - Constitutional amendment to guarantee the right to engage in certain farming and ranching practices. Kuehn.

A Constitutional Amendment to guarantee forever the rights of citizens and lawful residents of Nebraska to engage in farming and ranching practices. The amendment would prohibit the Legislature from passing a law which abridges the right of citizens and lawful residents of Nebraska to employ agricultural technology, livestock production and ranching practices without a compelling state interest.

The amendment also adds language to assure the proposed language shall not be construed to modify any provision of law relating to trespass, eminent domain, dominance of mineral interests, easements, rights of way, or any other property rights.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Agriculture **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

Noxious Weeds

A. Riparian Vegetation Management

LB 711 - Change provisions of the Noxious Weed Control Act and create the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force. Hughes.

The bill re-creates the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force that operated from 2007-12. For administration and budgeting purposes, the task force would be under the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

The Governor appointed membership of the task force would be the same membership as the previous task force and would include the following:

- A) One surface water project representative from each river basin that has ever been determined to be fully appropriated or over-appropriated;
- B) One representative from the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Natural Resources, the office of the Governor, the office of the State Forester, the Game and Parks Commission, and the University of Nebraska;
- C) Two representatives nominated by the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts;

- D) Two representatives nominated by the Nebraska Weed Control Association;
- E) One riparian landowner from each of the state's congressional districts; and
- F) One representative from the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

The Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force, in consultation with appropriate federal agencies, would be required to develop and prioritize vegetation management goals and objectives, analyze the cost effectiveness of available vegetation treatment, and develop plans and policies to achieve such goals and objectives. Any plan shall utilize the principles of integrated vegetation management and sound science.

The bill would require the efforts of the task force to be initially directed toward river basins designated by the Department of Natural Resources as fully appropriated or over-appropriated. Task force meetings would have to be held in communities within the Republican River and Platte River basins.

The bill provides intent language for funding beginning in fiscal year 2016-17 of two million dollars annually for the management of vegetation within the banks of a natural stream or within one hundred feet of the banks of a channel of any natural stream. The funds could only be used to pay for activities and equipment as part of vegetation management programs that have as their primary objective improving conveyance of streamflow in natural streams.

Grants from funds appropriated as provided in this subsection could only be disbursed to weed management entities, local weed control authorities, and natural resources districts, whose territory includes one or more fully appropriated or over-appropriated river basins with priority given to fully appropriated river basins that are the subject of an interstate compact or decree.

The Director of the Department of Agriculture is also instructed to apply annually for a Nebraska Environmental Trust Grant and funds from NRCS under the bill, but the amounts are not specified. Intent language is added to direct that the expenses of the task force not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars per fiscal year.

An annual report would have to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30 each year with the first report due on June 30, 2017.

Hearing Date: 2/11/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

Solid Waste

A. Tire Recycling

LB 672 - Eliminate fees on tires as prescribed. Krist.

The bill eliminates the \$1/tire fee on tires sold in Nebraska on October 1, 2016. The bill also repeals the Tire Recycling Act on January 1, 2017.

Hearing Date: 1/21/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Oppose

NARD Position: Oppose

B. Solid Waste Programs

LB 1101 - Require the Department of Environmental Quality to examine the status of solid waste management programs. Mello.

The bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality to conduct a study to examine the status of solid waste management programs operated by the department and make recommendations to modernize and revise such programs. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- Whether existing state programs regarding litter and waste reduction and recycling should be amended or merged;
- A needs assessment of the recycling and composting programs in the state, including the need for infrastructure development operating standards, market development, coordinated public education resulting in behavior change, and incentives to increase recycling and composting;
- Methods to partner with political subdivisions, private industry, and private, nonprofit organizations to most successfully address waste management issues in the state;
- Recommendations regarding existing funding sources and possible new revenue sources at the state and local level to address existing and emerging solid waste management issues; and
- Revisions to existing grant programs to address solid waste management issues in

The bill also requires the Director to establish an advisory committee of no more than nine members to advise the department on findings of the study. The bill requires the department to submit a report, including recommendations, to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council and the Natural Resources Committee, Urban Affairs Committee, and the Appropriations Committee no later than December 15, 2017. Under the bill, costs related to the study would be eligible for grant funds.

Hearing Date: 2/10/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

Water Quality

A. Wastewater

LB 737 - Change provisions of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act. Friesen.

The bill proposes a couple changes to loans made under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act made to municipalities or to counties.

First, the bill expands the categories of loan eligibility to include: A) Acquisition of land integral to the treatment process; B) Acquisition of land and interests in land necessary for construction; C) water conservation, efficiency, or reuse; D) energy efficiency; reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water; E) development and implementation of watershed projects; and F) measures to increase the security of treatment works.

Second, the maximum term of the loans are extended from twenty years to thirty years.

Hearing Date: 1/20/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

B. Safe Drinking Water Act

LB 899 - Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act. Baker.

The bill amends the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act and sets maximum standards for lead with respect to solders and flux for pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures of public water supply systems.

The definition of “lead free” in the bill is: (a) not containing not more than two-tenths percent lead when used with respect to solder and flux and (b) not containing more than a weighted average of twenty-five hundredths percent lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures

The bill also allows the Director of Public Health of the Division of Public Health to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations regarding the use of lead-free materials in public water systems

in compliance with national standards established in accordance with national standards as such existed on January 1, 2016.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Health & Human Services **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

C. Oil & Gas

LB 887 - Extend sunset of the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund. Schilz.

The bill extends the termination date for reimbursements out of the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund (leaking underground fuel storage tanks) from June 30, 2016 to June 30, 2020.

Hearing Date: 2/5/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

LB 1070 - Change powers and duties of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to require liability insurance and restrict permits as prescribed. Haar.

The bill would require liability insurance for recovery injection wells.

Before a permit could be issued for any underground enhanced recovery injection well or disposal well, the applicant would have to provide proof of liability insurance in an amount of not less than \$1 million.

Before a permit could be issued to any commercial disposal facility which disposes of more than five hundred barrels per day of injection well-produced wastewater, the applicant would have to provide proof of liability insurance in an amount of not less than \$5 million.

Hearing Date: 2/17/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

LB 1082 - Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and provide for a periodic well fluid analysis, report, and notice as prescribed. Schilz.

The bill makes several changes to the Oil and Gas Commission authorities.

First, the bill expands the commission's authorities to require: 1) Periodic sampling and reporting of injection fluids injected into Class II underground injection wells; 2) Certification and monitoring of produced water transporters; and 3) Periodic evaluation of financial assurance

requirements on existing and proposed wells to ensure ability to pay the costs of plugging, abandonment, and surface restoration.

Second, the commission would be authorized to require public informational meetings and forums for public interaction on permit applications under the jurisdiction of the commission.

Third, after receipt of a commercial underground injection well permit application, the commission would be required to provide notice to the county, city, or village within which the proposed well would be located and provide such county, city, or village with copies of all permit application materials.

Fourth, the bill would require operators of a Class II underground injection well to sample and analyze at least once a year the fluids injected into each disposal well or enhanced recovery project well at sufficiently frequent time intervals to yield data representative of fluid characteristics. A copy of the analysis would have to be submitted to the commission.

Finally, the bill would require the owner of the bond currently required under law; 1) To not revoke the bond without providing notice to the commission; and 2) shall annually submit evidence that the required bond is current and in full force and effect.

Hearing Date: 2/17/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

Water & Wetlands

B. Niobrara Council

LB 1019 - Change provisions relating to support of the Niobrara Council by the Game and Parks Commission, require legislative confirmation of certain appointments to the council, and require an annual report. Davis, Haar.

The bill proposes to make several changes to the Niobrara Scenic River Council.

First the bill makes the four governor appointments to the council subject to confirmation by the Legislature. These are: 1) an individual from each of Brown, Keya Paha and Rock Counties; 2) A representative from a recreation business operating within the corridor; 3) A timber industry representative operating within the corridor; and 4) A representative of a recognized, nonprofit environmental, conservation, or wildlife organization.

Second, the bill proposes to expand the authorized use of NGPC funds from just administrative support to also include budgetary, operational, and programmatic support. The bill also eliminates the \$50,000 cap on expenditures for such.

Finally, the bill requires that on December 1, 2016, and on each December 1 thereafter, the council shall electronically submit an annual report to the Clerk of the Legislature and the chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature describing expenditures made pursuant to the Niobrara Scenic River Act.

Hearing Date: 2/24/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support

NARD Position: Support

C. Water Right Appropriations

LB 714 - Provide for and change a provision relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation. Stinner.

The bill adds to the list of sufficient causes to maintain a surface water right for non-use.

Current law allows for a surface water right to be maintained if the land subject to the appropriation is under an acreage reserve program, production quota or is otherwise withdrawn from use as required for participation in any federal or state program, or such land previously was under such a program but currently is not under such a program and there have been not more than five consecutive years of nonuse on that land since that land was last under that program.

The first change is to add participation in any local program.

The second change is if the appropriation is temporarily transferred to a natural resources district or other competent authority for the purpose of depletion offsets, aquifer recharge, stream augmentation, or maintenance of instream flows.

Under this section of statute, sufficient cause for nonuse shall be deemed to exist for up to fifteen consecutive years.

Hearing Date: 1/22/2016 **Committee:** Natural Resources **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

LB 1038 - Change water appropriation application provisions. Davis

This is a place-holder bill for the Niobrara River Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NPPD, the Niobrara NRDs and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Under the MOU, the NRDs and the NGPC would jointly purchase and hold the water rights from the Spencer Hydroelectric generation facility and convert the right to provide a protected instream flow for the Niobrara River. The agreement also protects all existing uses of domestic, livestock, municipal, surface water irrigation and groundwater irrigation.

The bill in its introduced form just changes reference numbers in the surface water transfer sections and makes no substantive changes.

The first draft of the bill has been put on hold because of objections by surface water irrigation interests and Nebraska surface water organizations. They want the NRDs to purchase the water right and give it to the surface water irrigators at no cost. In addition, they would support an instream flow right but only if it has the lowest priority and lowest preference so surface water irrigation can claim all of the water in the river.

When the bill comes up for hearing, an amendment will be offered to the bill to address the MOU and issues brought up by surface water irrigators.

Here is a summary of the first draft of the bill that implements the MOU.

- Proposes to allow an appropriation for manufacturing of hydropower to be changed in the full amount to an instream basin-management appropriation to be held jointly by the Game and Parks Commission and any natural resources district or combination of natural resources districts to maintain the functional stream flow for conservation of fish and wildlife and for recreation that existed by the manufacturing of hydropower and to assist in the implementation of integrated management of ground water and surface water resources.
- The Priority Date of the Water right would be maintained so that the instream flow portion for the River is protected by a senior date, i.e., a senior priority. This would also address concerns raised by the National Park Service (NPS) that Nebraska's instream flow laws are inadequate for the Niobrara Scenic River. If the priority date is maintained, the NPS has indicated they will not pursue a federal water right for the Niobrara River. If they did secure a federal water right, all water uses in the basin, including livestock wells and surface water irrigation, would be subject to federal approval and regulation.
- Proposes to provide another reason for the director to approve a transfer of a water right if it was to maintain surface water flows. Current law in this section only provides that it was to augment surface water flows.
- Requires that the new appropriation shall be subject to condemnation and subordination agreements that exist under the current NPPD hydropower appropriation and that any person who held a subordination agreement or condemnation award prior to the transfer shall be allowed to enter into a new subordination agreement for the original term of subordination agreement or condemnation award at no additional cost.
- Places limits on the cost of subordination agreements (compensation) to the cost per acre-foot of water subordinated for the hydropower appropriation at the time of approval of transfer. The amount of compensation shall be adjusted annually in accordance with the Consumer Price Index or, if publication of the Consumer Price Index is discontinued, a comparable index selected by the Director of Natural Resources. This protects all existing agreements to their current cost and limits future agreements to the hydropower cost.

- Places the basin-management appropriation behind domestic and agriculture in preference so both domestic and agriculture uses are protected.

Hearing Date: 2/18/2016

Committee: Natural Resources

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Support

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Support with Language to Implement the Niobrara MOU (see pages 22-23)

NARD Position: Support with Language to Implement the Niobrara MOU (see pages 22-23)

Recreation & Trails

A. Trail Funding

LB 810 - Eliminate the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program and transfer funds to the Cowboy Trail Fund. Davis.

The bill eliminates the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program and transfers the funds to Cowboy Trail Fund for the development of undeveloped portions of the Cowboy Trail. However, the funds would have to be matched both by a public entity and by a private entity before expenditures could be made.

Hearing Date: 2/3/2016

Committee: Appropriations

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

B. Bicycle Use

LB 716 - Provide and eliminate provisions regarding pedestrians and bicyclists. Kolowski.

Makes the following changes to traffic laws related to bicycles.

- At or adjacent to the intersection of two highways at which a path designated for bicycles and pedestrians is controlled by a traffic control signal, a pedestrian who lawfully enters a highway where the path crosses the highway shall have the right-of-way within the crossing with respect to vehicles and bicycles.
- Where a path designated for bicycles and pedestrians crosses a highway, a pedestrian who is in the crossing in accordance with the traffic control signal shall have the right-of-way within the crossing with respect to vehicles and bicycles.
- No bicyclist shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or ride into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to stop.
- A person who is operating a bicycle on a path designated for bicycles and who lawfully enters a highway where the path crosses the highway shall have the right-of-way within

the crossing with respect to any vehicle. A bicyclist who enters a crossing with the traffic control signal is lawfully entering the highway. Nothing in this subsection relieves the bicyclist or the driver of a vehicle from the duty to exercise care.

- Eliminates the requirement that bicycles stay off the highways when usable paths are provided adjacent to highways.

Hearing Date: 1/25/2016

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

Other

D. Riverfront Development

LB 806 - Adopt the Riverfront Development District Act. Mello.

The bill allows for the creation of Riverfront Development Districts to provide a means by which cities may fund, manage, promote, and develop riverfronts within their corporate limits. The bill is limited to cities that are on major rivers in the state.

Under the bill, a city may create a riverfront development district by the adoption of an ordinance which specifies the following:

- (a) The name of the river or rivers along which the district will be created;
- (b) The boundaries of the district, a map of which shall be incorporated by reference in the ordinance;
- (c) The qualifications and terms of office of members of the authority;
- (d) A statement that the businesses and users of space in the district shall be subject to the general business occupation tax or that the real property in the district will be subject to the special assessment authorized under the act;
- (e) The proposed method of assessment to be imposed within the district or the initial rate of the occupation tax to be imposed; and
- (f) Any penalties to be imposed for failure to pay the occupation tax or special assessment.

The bill requires that the ordinance shall recite that the method of raising revenue, and that it shall be fair and equitable. In the use of a general business occupation tax, the tax shall be based primarily on the square footage of the owner's and user's place of business. In the use of a special assessment, the assessment shall be based upon the special benefit to the property within the district. The district would also have bonding authority.

The boundaries of any district created under the bill would have to be wholly contained within the corporate limits of the city and shall not extend more than one-half mile from the edge of the river or rivers along which the district is created.

The projects undertaken by the new district would include, but are not limited to:

- To create and implement plans for improvements and redevelopment within the boundaries of the district, either on its own or in conjunction with the city or other public and private entities;
- To develop, manage, and coordinate public activities and events taking place within the boundaries of the district;
- To acquire, construct, maintain, and operate public off-street parking facilities for the benefit of the district;
- To improve any public place or facility within the boundaries of the district, including landscaping, physical improvements for decoration or security purposes, and plantings;
- To construct or install pedestrian shopping malls or plazas, sidewalks or moving sidewalks, parks, meeting and display facilities, bus stop shelters, lighting, benches or other seating furniture, sculptures, trash receptacles, shelters, fountains, skywalks, pedestrian and vehicular overpasses and underpasses, and any other useful or necessary public improvements within the boundaries of the district;

Hearing Date: 2/16/2016

Committee: Urban Affairs

Bill Status: Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

E. Climate

LB 802 - Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force. Haar

The bill creates the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force to create a strategic plan for the State of Nebraska related to the impacts of climate change on the health and well-being of Nebraskans that includes:

- (1) Measurable goals and benchmarks, including actions needed to meet the goals and benchmarks for addressing the negative impacts of climate change on human health, opportunities to improve health and well-being and increase resilience, including strategies for adaptation and mitigation; and
- (2) Recommendations for new policies and changes to policies and programs that support the goals and benchmarks based on the information and data collected and generated under the act, including funding needs and recommendations for legislation.

The task force shall consist of two voting members of each the following Legislative Committees (Appointed by the chair of that committee): Agriculture; Appropriations, Education, Health and Human Resources and Natural Resources.

The task force would also include the following nonvoting, ex officio members:

- The Director of Agriculture or his or her designee;
- The Director of Environmental Quality or his or her designee;

- The chief executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee;
- The Director of Insurance or his or her designee;
- The Director of Natural Resources or his or her designee;
- The Director of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency or his or her designee;
- The Director of the State Energy Office or his or her designee;
- The Director of the Bureau of Business Research of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or his or her designee;
- The Director of the National Drought Mitigation Center of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or his or her designee;
- The State Climatologist of the Nebraska Climate Office of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or his or her designee;
- The Director of the High Plains Regional Climate Center of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or his or her designee;
- The Director of the College of Public Health of the University of Nebraska Medical Center or his or her designee;
- The State Forester of the Nebraska Forest Service of the University of Nebraska or his or her designee; and
- The Director of the Daugherty Water for Food Institute of the University of Nebraska or his or her designee.

The voting members of the task force shall appoint a non-voting advisory committee using an application and selection process. The advisory committee members shall be appointed to represent (a) academic experts in issues related to public health and climate change, (b) advocacy groups that work on issues related to climate change, (c) advocacy groups that work on public health issues, (d) business organizations, (e) counties, (f) municipalities, (g) natural resource districts, (h) public health officials, (i) public power districts, (j) state and federal agencies, and (k) such other members as deemed appropriate.

In development of the strategic plan required by this proposal, the task force would be required to gather, share, examine, and analyze data and information related to the impacts of climate change on human health and well-being, including assessments of vulnerability, risks, economic impacts, and adaptation and mitigation actions.

Issues to be examined would include the implications of climate change on the following:

- Extreme events such as blizzards, droughts, fires, floods, heatwaves, and tornadoes;
- Food and food security, including changes to agricultural production;
- Vector borne illnesses;
- Air pollution;
- Water quantity and quality and resulting impacts to agriculture, domestic use, and power production;
- Energy production and use;
- Ecosystems, including forests, wildlife, and habitat;
- Rural and urban communities;
- Mental health, including social change and migration;
- Insurance;

- National and local security; and
- The extent that the public is being provided accurate and current information about climate change and its impacts on health and well-being.

The task force would also have to examine opportunities related to climate change, including:

- Strategies for adaptation and mitigation that will improve the health and well-being of the people of Nebraska;
- Economic opportunities with a particular emphasis on development and adoption of new methods and management strategies in support of the agricultural economy of the state, methods of generating power, or beneficial use of land and water that can be used to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change on human health and well-being that will provide jobs and economic return to Nebraskans; and
- Opportunities for public education and outreach.

To accomplish its duties the task force may hold public meetings and request information from any state or local governmental entity or institution, including academic reports.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Health & Human Services **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

F. Drone Use

LB 720 - Change certain invasion of privacy provisions to include unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft systems. Kuehn.

The bill adds to the right of action for invasion of privacy for unmanned aircrafts or aircraft systems.

Under the bill, a person is presumed to be liable for invasion of privacy if he or she operates an unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft system:

1. Within the airspace overlaying privately owned real property less than two hundred feet above the ground level of such real property.
2. Without the express permission of the owner of the real property or the owner's agent, and
3. While capturing any type of visual image, sound recording, or other representation or physical impression of the plaintiff.

The individual would also be liable for reasonable damages for the invasion of privacy.

The new definitions included are:

1. Aircraft means anything that is used or designed for flight or navigation of flight;
2. Unmanned aircraft means an aircraft that is operated without direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft; and

3. Unmanned aircraft system means an unmanned aircraft and associated elements, including communication links and the components that control the unmanned aircraft that are required for an individual to operate the aircraft.

The bill includes language that this new section shall not impair or limit any otherwise lawful activities of law enforcement personnel or employees of governmental agencies or other public or private entities that have the right to enter land by operating an unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft system within the airspace overlaying the real property of another.

Hearing Date: **Committee:** Judiciary **Bill Status:** Committee

Manager Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Legislative Committee Recommendation: Monitor

NARD Position: Monitor

NARD POLICY POSITION ON TAX REFORM

We will work with the Legislature and Governor Ricketts on reasonable property tax reform measures. We support reforms that reduce property tax reliance for funding education. We oppose restrictions on local budgets that harm the ability of local governments: 1) To implement programs and projects to meet state and federal mandated programs; 2) Make local annual adjustments to meet the needs of the local citizens; and 3) provide local funding for efficient programs to protect natural resources and the economy.

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Bill or CA	Description	Sponsor(s)	Priority	NARD POSITION	Committee	Hearing Date	Status	Amendments/Notes
LB 19	Change provisions relating to laboratory certification under the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Safety Act	Krist		Support	Health & Human Services	1/30/2015	General File	
LB 51	Require disclosures prior to joining a risk management pool under the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act	Scheer		Monitor	Banking, Commerce & Insurance	2/24/2015	Committee	
LB 86	Change number of districts and members of Game and Parks Commission	Davis		Support	Natural Resources	1/23/2015	Committee	
LB 130	Change provisions relating to the Water Sustainability Fund	Watermeier		Support	Natural Resources	2/25/2015	Committee	
LB 143	Provide training cost reimbursement relating to underground storage tanks	Schilz		Monitor	Natural Resources	1/28/2015	Committee	
LB 174	Redefine nonpoint source control systems under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act.	Schilz		Support	Natural Resources	1/22/2015	Committee	
LB 208	Provide an exemption to water storage reservoir permit requirements as prescribed	Schilz		Support	Natural Resources	2/18/2015	Committee	
LB 344	Provide natural resources districts with the power to issue general obligation bonds	Kolowski		Support	Natural Resources	3/6/2015	Committee	
LB 374	Direct transfers from the State Recreation Road Fund	Haar		Oppose	Appropriations	3/12/2015	Committee	Incorporated into LB 661
LB 404	Provide for evidentiary hearings relating to certain water-use applications	Davis		Support	Natural Resources	2/27/2015	Committee	
LB 461	Change appropriations for the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program	Pansing Brooks		Support	Appropriations	3/12/2015	Committee	
LB 462	Change restrictions on campaigning by certain public officials and public employees	Seiler		Monitor	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	2/26/2015	Committee	
LB 512	Provide powers and duties to the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission regarding certain wastewater and charge an assessment for certain costs	Stinner		Support	Natural Resources	3/11/2015	Committee	
LB 537	Appropriate funds relating to natural resources	Watermeier		Support	Appropriations	3/12/2015	Committee	Incorporated into LB 661 & LB 657
LB 585	Change provisions relating to director qualifications and employment of personnel at the Department of Natural Resources	Schilz		Support	Natural Resources	2/4/2015	Committee	
LB 622	Change provisions relating to the Niobrara Scenic River Act	Larson		Oppose	Natural Resources	2/12/2015	Committee	
LB 646	Eliminate provisions for secret ballots for leadership under the Open Meetings Act	Kintner		Oppose	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	2/25/2015	Committee	
LB 649	Require all votes taken by public officials to be a public record as prescribed	Kintner	McCoy	Oppose	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	2/25/2015	General File	AM 821 - Pending / MO 88 Bracket Until 06/05/15 - Prevailed (31-15)

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LB 672	Eliminate fees on tires as prescribed	Krist		Oppose	Natural Resources	1/21/2016	Committee	
LB 693	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	Morfeld		Oppose	Judiciary	1/28/2016	Committee	
LB 711	Change provisions of the Noxious Weed Control Act and create the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force	Hughes		Support	Natural Resources	2/11/2016	Committee	
LB 714	Provide for and change a provision relating to sufficient cause for nonuse of a water appropriation	Stinner		Monitor	Natural Resources	1/22/2016	Committee	
LB 716	Provide and eliminate provisions regarding pedestrians and bicyclists	Kolowski		Monitor	Transportation and Telecommunications	1/25/2016	Committee	
LB 720	Change certain invasion of privacy provisions to include unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft systems	Kuehn		Monitor	Judiciary		Committee	
LB 728	Authorize electronic voting devices for natural resources districts	Johnson		Support	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	1/21/2016	Committee	
LB 737	Change provisions of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act	Friesen		Support	Natural Resources	1/20/2016	General File	
LB 802	Create the Health and Climate Resiliency Task Force	Haar		Monitor	Health & Human Services	2/3/2016	Committee	
LB 806	Adopt the Riverfront Development Act	Mello		Monitor	Urban Affairs	2/16/2016	Committee	
LB 810	Eliminate the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program and transfer funds to the Cowboy Trail Fund	Davis		Monitor	Appropriations	2/3/2016	Committee	
LB 821	Adopt the Workplace Privacy Act	Larson		Monitor	Business & Labor		Committee	
LB 825	Provide reporting requirements for tax-exempt property	Davis		Monitor	Revenue		Committee	
LB 850	Adopt the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Act	Crawford		Oppose	Business & Labor	2/1/2016	Committee	
LB 876	Authorize electronic voting devices for public bodies in public meetings	Murante		Support	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	1/21/2016	General File	
LB 887	Extend sunset of the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund	Schilz		Support	Natural Resources	2/5/2016	Committee	
LB 899	Change lead content provisions relating to the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act	Baker		Support	Health & Human Services		Committee	
LB 935	Change provisions relating to the Auditor of Public Accounts	Schilz		Monitor	Government, Military & Veterans Affairs	2/5/2016	Committee	
LB 940	Adopt the Tax Stabilization Act	Johnson		Policy Statement	Revenue	2/4/2016	Committee	

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