



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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March 22, 2019
(Eleventh Week)

Priority Bills Designated; Second Half Of Session Begins

State lawmakers are not in session today, March 22, but they will return to the State Capitol Monday, March 25. Senators have completed 46 working days of the 90-day legislative session. Next week, senators will conclude their afternoon hearings on new legislation. Full-day debate will begin Tuesday, April 2. In mid-April, a “late night” schedule will be announced to designate evenings in which floor debate could go well beyond 5:00 p.m.

This week brought the deadline for senators and committees to name their 2019 priority bills. With every senator allowed one priority bill and every committee allowed two, there are 81 senator and committee priority bills. In addition, Speaker of the Legislature Jim Scheer announced 25 speaker priorities this week. When a bill is designated as a priority, it has a much greater likelihood of being debated by the full Legislature between now and the session’s scheduled conclusion on June 6.

A complete list of all 106 priority bills appears near the end of this *Legislative Report*.

As the session’s second half continues, the biennial budget will command more time and attention from lawmakers. This week, there were media reports that the state budget could be significantly impacted by the extensive flooding that has affected many Nebraska counties over the past week.

At the Nebraska Chamber’s Public Affairs Council meeting this past Tuesday, Speaker Scheer said that even with federal assistance, the state and local governments will incur tremendous costs to repair damage done to roads, bridges and other infrastructure. He said it could take years before officials know exactly how much destruction has been done.

The state’s so-called “rainy day fund” will likely be impacted by the flood damage. The cash reserve is expected to contain around \$278 million under current budget recommendations – much less than the nearly \$800 million it contained earlier this decade.

By rule, the bills representing the Appropriations Committee’s budget proposal will need to be on General File by the 70th legislative day (May 2). All appropriations bills must be passed by the 80th day (May 22). The governor will then have five days, excluding Sunday, to sign or veto.

At A Glance: Noteworthy Priority Bills Of 2019

Senator and committee priority bills, along with those designated by the speaker, have a much greater likelihood of being debated by the full Legislature. The following measures – on which the State Chamber has taken a position – are among the 106 proposals designated this session as priorities:

- **Expanded Tax Relief for Ag Land Only:** Introduced and prioritized by Albion Senator Tom Briese, **LB183**, as amended, would change the assessed value of agricultural and horticultural land used to retire school bond indebtedness to 50% of the land's actual value. Under the original bill language, ag land would have been valued at 1% of its actual value. Currently, the assessed value of ag land is 75%. The amended version of LB183 would apply to bonds that are passed after the effective date of the bill. The State Chamber, which has longstanding policy opposed to any further separate classifications of property for tax purposes, opposes LB183. Since 1972, ag land has been treated differently in Nebraska than other real property. In 2017, more than two-thirds of property taxes in Nebraska were paid by residential or business property owners, who paid more than \$2.75 billion in real property taxes, while ag land owners paid \$1.24 billion.
- **Paid Family & Medical Leave Mandate:** Introduced by Bellevue Senator Sue Crawford and prioritized by Omaha Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, **LB311** would provide partial wage replacement – funded by employers – for workers who take time off for themselves, a family member, or a new child. The mandate under LB311 would cost Nebraska employers as much as \$436 million in contributions, according to the Nebraska Department of Labor. The State Chamber opposes LB311 and any other proposed expansion of family and medical leave benefits that would exceed federal requirements.
- **Financing for New Roads:** Introduced and prioritized by Lincoln Senator Mike Hilgers, **LB616**, as amended by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, would exempt highway construction projects with a payment schedule that exceeds the time beyond completion of the construction from having to pay contractor interest. The Chamber supports the concept of LB616.
- **Modernization of Nebraska's Business Incentives:** Introduced and prioritized by Seward Senator Mark Kolterman, **LB720**, which is called the ImagiNE Nebraska Act, would replace the Nebraska Advantage Act of 2005 – the state's primary economic development tool that has resulted in 850 business expansions, \$13 billion in capital invested or committed, and roughly 100,000 new jobs statewide. The Nebraska Advantage Act is set to expire at the end of next year, making LB720's passage critical this session. In general, LB720 would encourage high-quality investment and job creation, more robust reporting, and better overall transparency. It incorporates improvements suggested by independent analysis conducted for state policymakers in 2015 and 2018. The State Chamber supports LB720.
- **Improvement of Military Retirement Tax Climate:** Introduced by Gordon Senator Tom Brewer on behalf of Governor Pete Ricketts, and prioritized by Kearney Senator John Lowe, **LB153** would exempt 50% of military retirement pay from Nebraska's income tax. Currently, there are about 14,000 veterans in the state receiving military retirement pay. Nebraska's neighboring states all offer lower tax burdens for military retirees. The Nebraska Chamber supports LB153 to make our state's tax climate more competitive for military veterans, who can greatly contribute to Nebraska's

workforce. Right now, there are approximately 33,000 more job openings on NEWorks.gov, the jobs site administered by the Nebraska Department of Labor, than there are unemployed residents.

- **Internet Sales Tax Collection:** Introduced and prioritized by Omaha Senator John McCollister, **LB284** would formally authorize the State of Nebraska to collect sales taxes owed from out-of-state internet vendors selling to Nebraska residents if the vendor's gross revenue exceeded \$100,000 a year – or made 200 or more separate Nebraska sales in the previous or current year. The legislation comes after last summer's U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *South Dakota v. Wayfair* in which the court said a state can require collection of sales tax by out-of-state internet retailers. Nebraskans making online purchases are already required by law to submit uncollected sales taxes to the state, but few are doing so. The State Chamber supports the concept of LB284, which carries the emergency clause to allow the bill to take effect immediately after the governor signs it or after the Legislature overrides the governor's veto. The bill was signed by the governor on March 21.
- **Expanded Funding for the Business Innovation Act:** Introduced by Gering Senator John Stinner and prioritized by the Appropriations Committee, **LB334** would sunset the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act (AITC) and use the annual savings to increase funding for the Business Innovation Act (BIA) by \$4 million. The measure would also repeal the sunset date of the BIA, which was created in 2011 under Governor Dave Heineman's four-part Talent and Innovation Initiative. The BIA aims to promote high-tech, high-growth firms by providing access to capital in a business' early stages of product development. It provides matching seed money for startup companies, as well as funds for production of product prototypes, research and microenterprises. A recent NU study found Nebraska businesses have attracted considerable investment by using BIA programs, receiving \$6.91 in capital for every \$1 of state funding. According to the Nebraska Bureau of Business Research, the support provided by BIA programs has helped foster the creation of 1,436 jobs statewide and \$77 million in wages in areas such as software, bio-sciences, agriculture and manufacturing. The State Chamber supports the concept of LB334.

Paid Family & Medical Leave Mandate Stalls After First-Round Debate

On March 19 and 20, the full Legislature debated a bill that would establish an employer-funded paid family and medical leave insurance program in Nebraska. Introduced by Bellevue Senator Sue Crawford and prioritized by Omaha Senator Machaela Cavanaugh, **LB311** would provide partial wage replacement – funded by a new tax on employers – for workers who take time off for themselves, a family member, or a new child.

The bill would cost Nebraska employers up to an estimated \$436 million in contributions, according to the Nebraska Department of Labor. The State Chamber opposes LB311 and any other proposed expansion of family and medical leave benefits that would exceed federal requirements.

During this week's General File debate, it was noted that Nebraska Commissioner of Labor John Albin testified in opposition to the bill. After analyzing Rhode Island's law, the Nebraska Department of Labor estimated that LB311 would cost Nebraska employers approximately \$300 million a year in benefit costs, as roughly 100,000 Nebraska employees would be expected to file claims for benefits.

Last year, Nebraska was ranked the second best state for business costs by CNBC and the eighth best by Forbes. Enactment of LB311 would substantially drop Nebraska's standing in this category. So far only three states – California, New Jersey and Rhode Island – have imposed mandatory paid medical and family leave. All three are in the worst 10 states for business costs, according to both Forbes and CNBC.

Currently, federal law provides up to 12 work weeks of unpaid leave in a 12-month period for the birth of a child; adoption or foster care; care of a spouse, child or parent; a serious health condition; or due to a family member's military duties. The 2017 federal tax law included tax credits for businesses that provide leave for their employees, and several paid leave bills are being considered by Congress.

Under LB311, as introduced, qualified workers would be provided six weeks to care for a family member or "domestic partner," or 12 weeks to care for a new child or for a personal, serious health condition. The bill would mandate paid leave benefits between 95% and 85% of the employee's wages under most circumstances. Violations of LB311's requirements would result in fines of up to \$5,000 per incident, while violations of the bill's confidentiality provisions would be a Class III misdemeanor.

Under an amendment (**AM570**) offered by Business and Labor Committee, employee leave time would be reduced to six weeks for all cases personal medical leave, while "domestic partners" would be removed from the bill's list of beneficiaries.

After two mornings of debate, supporters of LB311 were unable to gather sufficient support for a cloture motion, and Speaker Jim Scheer announced that the Legislature would move on to the next bill on the Unicameral's agenda. LB311, along with its pending amendments, remains on General File and is unlikely to return to the floor for debate this session.

Revenue Committee Examines Bills On Job Training, Income Tax Hike, Corporate Boards

Last Friday, March 15, the Revenue Committee heard testimony related to legislation that would create a new jobs training program, raise Nebraska's income tax, and place new mandates on businesses participating in the state's incentives. The following are summaries of the bills heard by the committee:

- **Jobs Training Program:** Introduced by Bellevue Senator Sue Crawford, **LB714** would create the Nebraska Industrial New Jobs Training Act. The bill would allow companies and community colleges to enter job training agreements, in which employers would have the option to remit a portion of payroll taxes to pay the college for their instruction and vocational services. New job withholding payments would be based on the employee rate of pay, with 1.5% to 3% of gross wages going to the community college to finance training expenses. Senator Crawford told the committee that the bill would complement Nebraska's Customized Job Training grant program – which has been inadequately funded in recent years – as well as the Intern Nebraska program. Bryan Slone, president of the Nebraska Chamber, testified in a neutral position on LB714 as introduced. Slone commended Senator Crawford's efforts to enhance the state's skilled workforce, as he pointed to research showing that Nebraska's prime-age worker population is expected to decline over the next decade mostly due to retirements. Despite the Chamber's support for LB714's training provisions,

there are concerns with its proposed funding structure since redirection of payroll taxes can present serious legal risks for employers, Slone said.

- **Gender Diversity Mandate for Businesses Using Incentives:** Introduced by Senator Tony Vargas of Omaha, **LB724** would amend the Nebraska Advantage Act to provide that domestic corporations with a board of directors would be ineligible for the Advantage Act's incentives unless at least one-half of the business' board of directors is female. If there were an odd number of board seats, a majority would need to be female. Failure to maintain this percentage would cause recapture of incentives. The mandate would apply to applications submitted on or after the effective date of LB724. The State Chamber submitted a letter of opposition to the legislation. The letter said that while the Chamber encourages more diversity in all employment settings, allowing state government to impose a diversity mandate on corporate boards would "cross a line that differentiates the private sector from the public sector."
- **Income Tax Hike:** Introduced by Omaha Senator Justin Wayne, **LB738** is the senator's latest attempt to add a fifth bracket to the state's personal income tax structure. The new bracket would tax individual income at a rate of 7.84%. For filers who are married or filing jointly, the new rate would take effect on taxable income of \$5 million or more; for other returns, the threshold would be \$2.5 million or more. Nebraska's current top income tax rate of 6.84% is already the nation's 16th highest. If enacted, LB738 would give Nebraska the ninth highest state income tax rate in the U.S. When coupled with federal income taxes, Nebraska individuals, families and pass-through businesses would face a maximum, combined marginal rate of nearly 45% – not including federal payroll taxes such as Social Security, Medicare, and the ObamaCare Medicare surtax. Ron Sedlacek, the State Chamber's vice president-general counsel, testified in opposition to LB738. Sedlacek told the committee that income tax super brackets would "likely produce several negative economic effects" by imposing a high rate on a "highly mobile group of residents."

The committee took no immediate action on any of the measures.

Judiciary Committee Hears Bills Addressing Next Gen 911, Punitive Damages, Arbitration Law

On March 21, the Judiciary Committee heard testimony related to a bill that would modernize liability protections for providers of 911 services, as well as bills that would change Nebraska law affecting arbitration and punitive damages. The following are summaries of the bills heard by the committee:

- **Liability Protection for Next Generation 911 Service Providers:** Introduced by Gretna Senator Andrew La Grone, **LB324** would bring Nebraska 911 liability legislation in line with 44 other states that provide enhanced liability protections to 911 service providers. The bill is technology neutral and would enhance Nebraska's legal climate as the state moves ahead with implementation of "next generation 911" services. Senator La Grone noted that Nebraska's current liability protections for such services are less than even California offers. Gary Warren of Hamilton Telecommunications – and a past president of the Nebraska Chamber – testified on behalf of the Chamber in support of LB324. Warren told the committee that next generation 911 services are different than traditional services because of an individual's mobility and ever-expanding access to new communication technologies. He said Nebraska's current statutory

language puts service providers doing work in Nebraska at a disadvantage compared to doing business in other states. Current law “does not reflect the fact that today’s systems are fully integrated, highly advanced and increasingly complicated,” Warren said.

- **Changes to Nebraska’s Binding Arbitration Law:** Introduced by Omaha Senator Steve Lathrop at the request of the Nebraska teachers’ union, **LB685** would, according to the bill’s statement of intent, change Nebraska binding arbitration and mediation laws to “prohibit the denial or delay of a remedy by due course of law as prescribed in the bill.” During his comments to the committee, Senator Lathrop noted that the bill was intended to apply to contract disputes between schools and educators. He said an amendment (**AM912**) to the bill would narrow its scope to address concerns. However, opponents said the amended bill language, which retains provisions related to grievances, is still too broad and could negatively affect private-sector collective bargaining contracts. The Attorney General has noted the bill could lead to an increase in litigation. Emily Bottorf, an attorney with Baylor Evnen Curtiss Gruit & Witt LLP, testified on behalf of the Nebraska Chamber in opposition to LB685, saying the bill – even as amended – would run afoul of Nebraska’s strong laws that encourage employees to utilize all administrative procedures available before going to court.
- **Authorization of Punitive Damages:** Introduced by Omaha Senator Justin Wayne, **LB491** would authorize punitive damages in Nebraska and require the awarded money to be sent to local public school districts. In his testimony, Senator Wayne said that authorizing punitive damages and sending awarded dollars to school districts would provide more “property tax relief.” Since 1878, and as recently as 2017, the Nebraska Supreme Court has held that punitive damages are fines or penalties and that allowing a private person to collect punitive damages would violate article VII, section 5 of the Nebraska Constitution. Critics noted that the bill has no limits on who could be sued for punitive damages, nor does the bill contain limits on awards, which would bankrupt many businesses and individuals. Moreover, the bill would provide an incentive for school districts to intervene in legal cases, and could encourage jury bias due to LB491’s provisions benefitting local schools. Emily Bottorf with Baylor Evnen Curtiss Gruit & Witt LLP testified on behalf of the Nebraska Chamber in opposition to LB491. The Chamber has longstanding policy opposed to measures that would allow punitive damages in Nebraska.

The committee took no immediate action on any of the bills.

Bill To Raise Nebraska’s Income Tax Is ‘Shelved’

Earlier this week, the Legislature’s Revenue Committee “shelved” a bill to increase Nebraska’s top income tax bracket from the current 6.84% to 7.84% for Nebraska residents and pass-through businesses making \$100,000 or more. In addition to the marginal rate hike to 7.84%, **LB50** by Omaha Senator Tony Vargas would impose another 1% and 2% on individuals and pass-through businesses earning more than \$1 million and \$2 million, respectively.

According to media reports, during an executive session of the Revenue Committee, lawmakers agreed to take a pass on LB50 rather than submit it to a kill motion. No committee members spoke in favor of the bill. Currently, Nebraska has the nation’s 16th highest individual income tax collections per capita,

according to the Tax Foundation, as well as the nation's 16th highest marginal rate. Enactment of LB50 would have easily moved Nebraska into the top 10 worst states for income tax burden faced by higher earners.

The State Chamber opposes LB50 and any other proposal to increase the state income tax burden on businesses or individuals. At the bill's hearing earlier this session, the State Chamber Vice President – General Counsel Ron Sedlacek cautioned that the new tax would be imposed on highly mobile people.

THE WEEK AHEAD: Upcoming Hearing Dates For Key Legislation

During the week of March 25-29, senators will conclude public hearings on bills introduced in the 2019 session. (Note: The Legislature will not be in session Friday, March 29.)

The following are upcoming hearings on key bills of interest:

Monday, March 25

*Business and Labor
Warner Chamber - 1:30 p.m.*

LB19 – Allow withholding from public of reports of injury under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act as prescribed and provide duties for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court.

LB178 – Change provisions relating to workers' comp claims, tort claims against the state, and state vehicles.

*General Affairs
Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.*

LB592 – Provide additional powers to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission to suspend sales of alcoholic liquor.

LB682 – Provide for taxing spirits as proof gallons.

LB723 – Change taxes on manufacturers and wholesalers under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act.

Wednesday, March 27

*Revenue
Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.*

LB440 – Increase a tax on aviation jet fuel.

LB97 – Change provisions relating to highway funding.

LB338 – Change calculation of gasoline tax and distribution of proceeds.

Senator Priority Bills For 2019 Session

Senator	Bill	Description
Albrecht	LB209	Require information regarding reversal of medication abortion
Arch	LB583	Provide powers for certain counties under the Transportation Innovation Act
Blood	LB138	Provide for additional Military Honor Plates and Support Our Troops Plates
Bolz	LB109	Require position classification plan and salary/pay plan for state employees to include certain positions
Bostelman	LB698	Change load provisions and penalties for commercial motor vehicles and commercial trailers
Brandt	LB657	Adopt the Nebraska Hemp Act
Brewer	LB155	Change eminent domain provisions that apply to private renewable energy generation facilities
Briese	LB183	Change the valuation of ag land for purposes of certain school district taxes (<u>Chamber opposes</u>)
Cavanaugh	LB311	Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act (<u>Chamber opposes</u>)
Chambers	LB44	Eliminate the death penalty and change provisions relating to murder in the first degree
Clements	LB155	Change eminent domain provisions that apply to private renewable energy generation facilities
Crawford	LB323	Change eligibility provisions under the Medical Assistance Act for certain disabled persons
DeBoer	LB680	Adopt the Uniform Civil Remedies for Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images Act
Dorn	LB472	Adopt the Qualified Judgment Payment Act and authorize a sales and use tax
Erdman	LB483	Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land
Friesen	LB663	Change provisions relating to Nebraska adjusted basis
Geist	LB252	Provide a condition relating to advertisements by the state lottery
Gragert	LB243	Create the Healthy Soils Task Force
Groene	LB606	Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed
Halloran	LB693	Prohibit the selling, renting, or conveying of telephone numbers
Hansen, Ben	LB304	Exempt certain operations from definition of a food establishment under the Nebraska Pure Food Act
Hansen, Matt	LB433	Change provisions relating to return of tenant's deposits and damages
Hilgers	LB616	Provide for build-finance projects under the Build Nebraska Act & Transportation Innovation Act (<u>Chamber supports concept</u>)
Hilkemann	LB532	Change provisions relating to harassment protection orders and domestic abuse protection orders
Howard	LB556	Change provisions relating to the prescription drug monitoring program
Hughes	LB268	Change provisions relating to a certificate of convenience and necessity for a telecom company
Hunt	LB169	Change provisions relating to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Kolowski	LB619	Prohibit denial of coverage for mental health services delivered in a school
Kolterman	LB720	Adopt the ImagiNE Nebraska Act and provide tax incentives (<u>Chamber supports</u>)
La Grone	LB470	Provide a tax deduction for non-participant contributions and remove a tax deduction limit relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust
Lathrop	LB538	Change provisions relating to possession of a gambling device and provide for approval of certain mechanical amusement devices by the Department of Revenue
Lindstrom	LB610	Adopt the College Savings Tax Credit Act
Linehan	LB670	Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide tax credits
Lowe	LB153	Change provisions relating to the taxation of military retirement benefits (<u>Chamber supports</u>)
McCollister	LB284	Change sales and use tax provisions relating to out-of-state retailers and multivendor marketplace platforms (<u>Chamber supports concept</u>)
McDonnell	LB641	Provide for grants under Telecom Relay System Act for 211 Information and Referral Network
Morfeld	LB352	Provide requirements relating to the use of jailhouse informants
Moser	LB512	Change revenue and taxation provisions (Department of Revenue annual housekeeping bill)
Murman	LB585	Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide grants
Pansing Brooks	LB390	Provide duties regarding school resource officers and security guards
Senator Quick	LB149	Change provisions relating to vapor products
Scheer	LB481	State intent relating to an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services
Slama	LB593	Change and eliminate provisions relating to medical assistance reimbursement claims and liens
Stinner	LB424	Change the Nebraska Municipal Land Bank Act
Vargas	LB550	Require voter approval of fees and taxes on wireless services and eliminate the Prepaid Wireless Surcharge Act
Walz	LB570	Change provisions relating to and advisory committee and a strategic plan for services for the disabled
Wayne	LB86	Change provisions relating to the allocation of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the collection and remittance of the documentary stamp tax
Williams	LB463	Change provisions relating to treasurer's tax deeds and tax sale certificates
Wishart	LB110	Adopt the Medical Cannabis Act

Committee Priority Bills For 2019 Session

Committee	Bill	Description
Agriculture	LB320	Change various provisions of the Pesticide Act and update federal references
Agriculture	LB227	Redefine terms and change determination of a public/private nuisance under Right to Farm Act
Appropriations	LB334	Eliminate funding for the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act and increase funding and eliminate the termination date for the Business Innovation Act (Chamber supports concept)
Appropriations	LB638	Change provisions relating to the transfer of excess General Fund net receipts to the Cash Reserve Fund
Banking	LB316	Adopt the Pharmacy Benefit Fairness and Transparency Act
Banking	LB603	Change automatic teller machine fees
Business & Labor	LB418	Change provisions relating to certain medical debt collection involving workers' compensation
Business & Labor	LB428	Change eligibility for benefits for certain workers in the construction industry
Education	LB675	Change provisions relating to education
Education	LB147	Change the Student Discipline Act to provide for use of necessary physical contact or physical restraint and provide procedures and grounds for removal from a class in response to student behavior
Executive Board	LB600	Change a time limit relating to the authority of the deputy public counsel for institutions
Executive Board	LB713	Provide for long-term accountability from the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
General Affairs	LB397	Change provisions relating to tobacco and other nicotine products and tobacco manufacturers
General Affairs	LB592	Provide additional powers to the Liquor Control Commission to suspend sales of alcoholic liquor
Government	LB411	Change provisions relating to metropolitan utilities districts, county boards, elections, and political accountability and disclosure
Government	LB511	Authorize adjustments to state employee work schedules to participate in youth mentoring programs
HHS	LB460	Change criminal background check provisions under the Children's Residential Facilities and Placing Licensure Act
HHS	LB468	Prohibit additional services and populations under the Medicaid managed care program
Judiciary	LB630	Create the offense of sexual extortion and change elements and penalties for sexual offenses
Judiciary	LB686	Change provisions relating to correctional system emergencies
Performance Audit	LB560	Change provisions relating to tax credits under the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act
Planning	LB177	Change a termination date for bonding authority of natural resources districts
Natural Resources	LB700	Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system
Retirement Systems	LB31	Provide for a work plan relating to a transfer of management of the retirement system operated under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act to the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems
Retirement Systems	LB34	Change various retirement provisions
Revenue	LB288	Change income tax rates
Revenue	LB289	Change provisions relating to county assessor inspections of real property for property tax purposes
Tribal Relations	LB519	Change statutes of limitations for certain sexual and trafficking offenses and authorize interception of communications relating to such offenses
Transportation	LB184	Adopt the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act
Transportation	LB462	Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act
Urban Affairs	LB492	Adopt the Regional Metropolitan Transit Authority Act
Urban Affairs	LR14CA	Constitutional amendment to authorize municipalities to pledge property taxes for up to twenty years if more than one-half of the property in a redevelopment project is extremely blighted

2019 Speaker Priority Bills

Bill	Introducer	Description
LB6	Blood	Change residency provisions relating to persons on active duty and dependents for college tuition purposes
LB15	Blood	Adopt the Children of Nebraska Hearing Aid Act
LB23	Kolterman	Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act
LB37	Hilkemann	Change the Podiatry Practice Act to authorize a physician assistant to assist a podiatrist
LB59	Cavanaugh	Change investigation & reporting provisions under Children's Residential Facilities & Placing Licensure Act
LB87	Wayne	Provide funding in opportunity zones designated pursuant to federal law
LB96	Wayne	Change local building code provisions
LB179	Hilgers	Authorize the appeal of certain motions as final orders
LB180	Bolz	Change program eligibility criteria under the Community College Gap Assistance Program Act

LB212	Gov't Committee	Change requirements for videoconferencing and telephone conferencing under the Open Meetings Act
LB218	Lindstrom	Redefine tangible personal property and gross receipts for tax purposes
LB222	Albrecht	Change the Volunteer Emergency Responders Incentive Act
LB237	Crawford	Change provisions relating to sales and use tax collection fees
LB300	Lathrop	Change judges' salaries
LB356	Scheer	Change fee distribution for certain specialty license plates
LB375	Brewer	Allow certain library, archive, and museum materials to be withheld from the public
LB379	Kolterman	Change provisions under the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act and the Nebraska Installment Loan Act
LB445	McDonnell	Require a city of the metropolitan class to provide an annual budget report relating to use of any occupation tax levied and collected
LB478	Vargas	Prohibit use of consent by a minor as a defense or mitigation of damages or liability in certain civil actions arising from sexual assaults
LB496	Wayne	Increase penalties for tampering with witnesses, informants, jurors, or physical evidence and change provisions relating to discovery in criminal cases
LB514	Morfeld	Change bad check provisions to include obtaining child support credit and spousal support credit
LB524	Dorn	Change provisions relating to annexations under the Nebraska Budget Act
LB595	Albrecht	Change Office of Dispute Resolution to Office of Restorative Justice and Dispute Resolution and change powers and duties of the office
LB637	Stinner	Authorize sales of tourism promotional products by the Nebraska Tourism Commission
LB690	Cavanaugh	Adopt the Healthy Pregnancies for Incarcerated Women Act