

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 450**

Hearing Date: 3/11/2015
Introducer: Mello
One Liner: Authorize grants to aid tourism, create a fund, and change funding provisions

Proponents:
Senator Heath Mello
Kathy McKillip

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Tourism Commission

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 450 cleans up and updates the statutes that guide the Tourism Commission through clarification of procedures and the establishment of a new cash fund. The changes brought by LB 450 include the following:

- Clarification that the salary of the executive director is set by the commission.
- Allowing the State Visitors Promotion Cash Fund to accept gifts, bequests, and other contributions.
- Expanding the use of the State Visitors Promotion Cash Fund to include marketing assistance grants.
- Providing a process for the disbursement of marketing assistance grants.
- Creates the Tourism Conference Cash Fund.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Committee Action: Amended into LB 449

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 569**

Hearing Date: 3/11/2015
Introducer: Brasch
One Liner: Change the Business Innovation Act

Proponents:
Senator Lydia Brasch
Brenda Hicks – Sorensen

Michael Dixson
Ron Sedlacek

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Department of Economic
Development
University of Nebraska
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The bill's primary purpose is to modify certain provisions in the Business Innovation Act ("Act") to add flexibility to the programs authorized under the Act. The Act encourages and supports the development of Nebraska-based technology and innovation in rural and urban areas of the state.

The key changes in LB569 to the Act include the following:

1. Includes the STTR grant program (Section 1);
2. Adjust the maximum amounts of funds to be awarded under the Phase One/Matching SBIR grant program, prototyping program, value-added agriculture program, commercialization program, and the research and development program to \$4 million which will allow more flexibility for allocating funding among the various programs within the Act (Sections 2-6);
2. Increases the maximum for prototyping grants from \$50,000 to \$150,000 (Section 3);
3. Clarifies the matching requirement for the commercialization program to a 1 to 1 match (Section 5); and
4. Establishes confidentiality of information, other than information required in the Department of Economic Development's annual report, since most information submitted involves innovative ideas and company information.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Committee Action: Amended into LB 449

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 125**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Create a fund relating to health care homes for the medically underserved

Proponents:
Senator Jeremy Nordquist
Rebecca Rayman

Representing:
Introducer
Health Center Association of NE

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The intent of LB 125 is to appropriate 25 percent of the Medicaid fraud settlement funds to the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund that is distributed to the federally qualified health care centers in Nebraska.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 185**

Hearing Date: 3/9/2015
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: Appropriate funds to implement the Master Teacher Program Act

Proponents:

Senator Kate Bolz
Jason Hayes

Nila Jacobson
Sherry West
Katie Mcleese Stephenson

Jay Sears

Tom Dickey

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska State Education
Association
Self
Self
Lincoln Public Schools Board of
Education
Nebraska State Education
Association
Nebraska State Education
Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

Provide for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 from the General Fund to implement provisions of the Master Teacher Program Fund.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	1,000,000 G
FY16-17	1,000,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	500,000 G
FY16-17	500,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 318**

Hearing Date: 3/11/2015
Introducer: Kuehn
One Liner: State intent to fund planning and development regions

Proponents:
Senator John Kuehn
Cheryl Brandenburgh

David Taladay

Thomas L. Hlgenbotham

Mary Berlie

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Economic Developers
Association
Black Hills Energy
Southeast NE Economic
Development District
Southeast Nebraska Development
District
Northeast Nebraska Economic
Development District
Grand Island Area Economic
Development Corp.
South Central Economic
Development District

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

To provide \$500,000 in both FY2015-16 and FY2016-17 to the Department of Economic Development to provide for direct funding to Economic Development Districts pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 13-1901 through 13-1907.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	500,000 G
FY16-17	500,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	500,000 C
FY16-17	500,000 C

Additional Note: Fund Source, Civic and Community Center Financing Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 332**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Kuehn
One Liner: Appropriate funds for the statewide prescription drug disposal project

Proponents:
Senator John Kuehn
Marcia Mueeting

Daniel King
Carey Pomykata

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Pharmacists Association
& Nebraska Meds
Self
Dillon's House/ Coalition Rx

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 332 appropriates six hundred thousand dollars for fiscal year 2016-17 and six hundred thousand dollars for fiscal year 2017-2018 to the Department of Health and Human Services to contract for services for implementation of a statewide drug disposal project. Annual reporting requirements are also specified in the bill.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	600,000 G
FY16-17	600,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	300,000 G
FY16-17	300,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 374**

Hearing Date: 3/12/2015
Introducer: Haar
One Liner: Direct transfers from the State Recreation Road Fund

Proponents:
Senator Ken Haar
Roger Kuhn

Pam Dingman

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Game and Parks
Commission
Lancaster County Engineering

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 374 amends provisions relative to the State Recreation Road Fund creating an automatic spillover when the fund exceeds \$15 million to the Game and Parks State Park Improvement and Maintenance Fund.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 0
FY16-17 0

Additional Note: Transfer between cash funds. The committee action changed the language to apply to the fund when it exceeds \$14,000,000 rather than the proposed \$15,000,000 as introduced. The State Treasurer shall transfer the amount greater than \$14,000,000 in the State State Recreation Road Fund to the Game and Parks State Park Improvement and Maintenance Fund.

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 397**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Harr
One Liner: State intent relating to funding for a lead-based paint hazard reduction grant

Proponents:
Senator Burke Harr
Steve Zivny

Representing:
Introducer
City of Omaha

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The purpose of Legislative Bill 397 is to appropriate three hundred thousand dollars from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund for FY2015-16 to the Department of Economic Development in order to provide a grant to a city of the metropolitan class. The grant would be contingent upon formal notification by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development that it intends to award a grant to a city of the metropolitan class to carry out the federal Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, 42 U.S.C. 4852, as such section existed on January 1, 2015.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 300,000 C
FY16-17

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 300,000 C
FY16-17

Additional Note: Fund Source: The Medicaid Fraud Settlement Fund within the Department of Health and Human Services Cash Fund.

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 418**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Change distribution of cigarette tax proceeds

Proponents:
Senator Jeremy Nordquist
Thomas Murray
Prem Sagar Paul
Walt Jesteadt

Jennifer Larsen

Representing:
Introducer
Creighton University
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Boys Town National Research
Hospital
University of Nebraska Medical
Center

Opponents:
Kyle Otte
Don Wesley

Representing:
Nebraska State Patrol
Motorola

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The intent of LB 418 is to distribute \$2 million annually from funds included in the Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund and the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund to the Health Care Cash Fund for the purposes of biomedical research.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 2,000,000 C
FY16-17

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 1,000,000 C
FY16-17

Additional Note: Fund Source: Health Care Cash Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 532**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Hilkemann
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska

Proponents:
Senator Robert Hilkeman
Jeffrey Gold

Elizabeth Blowers
Michael Visenio
James Linder

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska Medical
Center
University of Nebraska
UNMC Student Delegates
University of Nebraska

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 532 would authorize the University of Nebraska Board of Regents to design and build the Global Center for Advanced Interprofessional Learning at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The purpose of the bill is to fund the Center, which would create a new model to prepare all healthcare professionals to work in the real world of modern day patient care.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	5,000,000 G
FY16-17	20,000,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	5,000,000 G
FY16-17	20,000,000 G

Additional Note: Cash Reserve Transfer

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 533**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Stinner
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska

Proponents:
Senator John Stinner
Jeffrey Gold

Elizabeth Blowers
Michael Visenio
James Linder

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska Medical
Center
University of Nebraska
UNMC Student Delegates
University of Nebraska

Opponents:
Neutral:

Representing:
Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 533, the Global Center for Advanced Interprofessional Learning, is a foundational component of the programmatic change in the way experiential learning can enhance the skill and performance competency of healthcare students and providers. The Global Center will position UNMC as the global leader in the delivery of highly integrated learning for the health sciences, through immersive virtual reality and other methods. This will improve health care provider performance, recruit the best and brightest students and faculty, lower costs and, most importantly, improve patient outcomes. LB 533 appropriates \$1.5 million from the General Fund for FY 2015-16 and \$3 million from the General Fund for FY 2016-17 to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the start up of operations of the Global Center for Advanced Interprofessional Learning at University of Nebraska Medical Center.

LB 533 states that is the intent of the Legislature to provide \$5 million from the General Fund for both FY-2017-18 and FY 2018-19 for the operations of the center.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	1,500,000 G
FY16-17	3,000,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	1,000,000 G
FY16-17	2,000,000 G

Additional Note: Cash Reserve Transfer to NCCF

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 584**

Hearing Date: 3/2/2015
Introducer: Schilz
One Liner: Transfer funds of the Cash Reserve Fund for a dental clinic and oral health training facility

Proponents:
Senator Ken Schilz
Mark Latta
Frank Patterson
Alan Badour
Dean Cope
Jeanne Weiss

Representing:
Introducer
Creighton School of Dentistry
Self
Self
Self
Building Healthy Futures

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB584 creates a one-time grant program for the construction of a dental clinic and oral health training facility. The bill recognizes a shortage in oral health care and the oral health care workforce in Nebraska. The bill provides that the Dental Clinic and Educational Facility Grant Fund is to be used to provide a one-time grant for construction of a dental clinic and oral health training facility to serve the public health needs of Nebraska residents. Additionally, the bill identifies grant eligibility criteria and a grant application process. Eligibility requirements for this grant include providing \$4 of private money for every \$1 of state funding, educating at least 100 students annually, and providing charitable or discounted oral health care in at least five different counties throughout Nebraska.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 16,290,000 CR
FY16-17

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 8,016,875 C
FY16-17 17,375 C

Additional Note: Cash Reserve Transfer to the Oral Health Training and Services Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 593**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska to study current health data systems

Proponents:
Senator Jeremy Nordquist
Jim Stimpson

Bruce Rieker

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Nebraska Hospital Association

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The intent of LB 593 is to appropriate \$250,000 from the General Fund for FY2015-16 to the University of Nebraska to provide funds to the University of Nebraska Medical Center to study current health data systems available to the State of Nebraska and make recommendations about health data systems that are currently unavailable that would be beneficial to the state for purposes of increasing efficiency and effectiveness of public health care dollars spent in the state. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Insurance cooperate with this study. The University of Nebraska Medical Center shall report electronically to the Nebraska Legislature its findings no later than December 1, 2015.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 250,000 G
FY16-17

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 250,000 G
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 82**

Hearing Date: 3/17/2015
Introducer: Cook
One Liner: Appropriate funds in support of dental services

Proponents:
Senator Tanya Cook
Kenny McMorris

Kathy Nordby

David O'Doherty

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:
Introducer
Charles Drew Health Center
Health Center Association of
Nebraska
Health Center Association of
Nebraska
Nebraska Dental Association

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

Appropriate funds to expand dental services at Nebraska's seven Federally Qualified Health Centers.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	1,050,000 G
FY16-17	1,050,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	1,050,000 G
FY16-17	1,050,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 110**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Larson
One Liner: Appropriate funds for pediatric cancer specialists

Proponents:

Jeff Fryman
David Holmquist

Andrew Hoffman

Gary Peters
Mitchell Ahlschwede
Shelley Sahling-Zart
Kenneth Cowan

Don Coulter
Sarah Thayer Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:

Introducer (Senator Larson's office)
American Cancer Society – Cancer
Action Network
Team Jack Foundation & Nebraska
Brain Tumor Families
Self
Self
Self
Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer
Center
Pediatric Cancer Research Groups

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

Legislative Bill 110 appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund for FY2015-16 and \$500,000 from the General Fund for FY2016-17 to the University of Nebraska for pediatric cancer research and clinical care at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Included in the appropriation are funds to support two additional pediatric cancer specialists. It is intended that the funds appropriated be utilized to leverage additional private funding.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 500,000 G
FY16-17 500,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 300,000 G
FY16-17 300,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 233**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Howard
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services

Proponents:
Senator Sara Howard
Ann Anderson Berry

John Sparks

Representing:
Introducer
NE Perinatal Quality Improvement
Collaborative
Self

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 233 appropriates funds from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with the University of Nebraska Medical Center for the Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	100,000 G
FY16-17	100,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	100,000 G
FY16-17	100,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 263**

Hearing Date: 3/11/2015
Introducer: Johnson
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Nebraska State Historical Society

Proponents: Senator Jerry Johnson Bob Puschendorf	Representing: Introducer Nebraska State Historical Society
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Opponents:	Representing:
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Neutral:	Representing:
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Statement of Intent:

LB 263 will appropriate \$100,000 from the General Fund for FY 2015-16 and \$100,000 from the General Fund for FY 2016-17 to the Nebraska State Historical Society for the purpose of providing funding for the Nebraska Main Street Program.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	100,000 G
FY16-17	100,000 G

Committee Action: carried

FY15-16	100,000 G
FY16-17	100,000 G

Additional Note: Ongoing transfer from the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 485**

Hearing Date: 3/17/2015
Introducer: Stinner
One Liner: State intent relating to appropriations for child welfare

Proponents:
Senator John Stinner
Ivy Svoboda

Brent Lottman
Joe Kelly
Jamie Vetter

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Alliance of Child
Advocacy Centers
Nebraska County Sheriffs
Lancaster County Attorney
Family Advocacy Network

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The intent of LB 485 is to provide funding for a service mandated by State law but not funded by State appropriations. Section 28-728 R.R.S. 2008 requires "each county attorney or county attorney representing a contiguous group of counties is responsible for convening a child abuse and neglect investigation team and ensuring that protocols are established and implemented. . . . Each team must have protocols which, at a minimum, shall include procedures for:

(iii) Arranging for video-recorded forensic interview at a child advocacy center for children who are three to eighteen years of age and alleged to be victims of sexual abuse or serious physical abuse or neglect, have witnessed a violent crime, are found in a drug-endangered environment, or have been recovered from a kidnapping."

LB 485 will provide funding for this mandate by providing funding for child advocacy centers to operate accredited satellite offices so that video-recorded forensic interviews will be provided that are accessible to children, their families and law enforcement. This funding will allow child advocacy centers to fulfill their two fold mission to help heal children who have experienced a traumatic event, and to hold perpetrators accountable.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 500,000 G
FY16-17 500,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	500,000 G
FY16-17	500,000 G

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 496**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Kuehn
One Liner: Appropriate funds for the Yeutter Institute for International Trade and Finance

Proponents:
Senator John Kuehn
Ronnie Green

Lavon Heidemann

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska –
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
Nebraska State Chamber of
Commerce

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 496 seeks to create the Yeutter Institute for International Trade and Finance at the University of Nebraska. Through investment in the human resources of our state, the Yeutter Institute will provide a strong international focus that will bring global attention to further enhance Nebraska's position as a leader in agriculture, business, and law. LB 496 appropriates \$1.25 million from the General Fund for fiscal years 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for Program 781, the Yeutter Institute for International Trade and Finance. The state funds will be matched dollar for dollar by the private sector in a public-private partnership.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	1,250,000 G
FY16-17	1,250,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	1,250,000 G
FY16-17	1,250,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 57**

Hearing Date: 3/6/2015
Introducer: Scheer
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Department of Administrative Services to demolish certain buildings

Proponents:
Senator Jim Scheer
Michael Chipps

Representing:
Introducer
Northeast Community College

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB57 will allocate monies to the Department of Administrative Services to demolish vacant buildings on the Norfolk Regional Center campus. The campus currently has several vacant buildings that are falling into disrepair and becoming a public safety concern.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 1,000,000 G
FY16-17

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16 1,000,000 NCCF
FY16-17

Additional Note: Fund Source: Nebraska Capital Construction Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 98**

Hearing Date: 3/16/2015
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: State intent regarding appropriations for tobacco use prevention control

Proponents:
Senator Kate Bolz
David Holmquist

Joanna Hejl
Cindy Jeffrey

Representing:
Introducer
American Cancer Society – Cancer
Action Network
Self
Health Education Inc.

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

To appropriate \$7 million for each fiscal year 15-16 and 16-17 to Agency No. 25, Program No. 30 to use for tobacco use prevention control from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	4,630,000 C
FY16-17	4,630,000 C

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	200,000 C
FY16-17	200,000 C

Additional Note: Fund Source: Health Care Cash Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 537**

Hearing Date: 3/12/2015
Introducer: Watermeier
One Liner: Appropriate funds relating to natural resources

Proponents:
Senator Dan Watermeier
Tom Carlson
John Winkler

David Clabaugh
John Miyoshi
Pat Ptacek

Lyndon Vogt
Glenn Johnson

Representing:
Introducer
Self
Nebraska Association of Resrouce
Districts and Papiro Missouri River
NRD
Lower Big Blue NRD
Lower Platte North NRD
Association of Nebraska Ethanol
Producers
Central Platte NRD
Lower Platte South NRD &
NE Water Resources Association

Opponents:
Neutral:

Representing:
Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 537, as introduced, seeks to appropriate \$15,054,000 from the General Fund to the Resources Development Fund for FY 2015-16. This is in addition to the appropriation made as part of the FY 2015-17 biennial budget request from the Department of Natural Resources. The intent is to pay off the remaining projects that were approved prior to March 30, 2014.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	15,054,000 G
FY16-17	0

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	3,140,325 G	3,000,000 C
FY16-17	3,140,325 G	3,000,000 C

Additional Note: Fund Source: Transfer from the Water Sustainability Cash Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 161**

Hearing Date: 3/11/2015
Introducer: Schumacher
One Liner: Adopt the Pairing Equity to Enterprises Act and provide for a transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund

Proponents:
Senator Paul Schumacher
Renee Fry

Representing:
Introducer
OpenSky Policy Institute

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Reprel:

Statement of Intent:

The purpose of LB161, the Pairing Equity to Enterprises Act, is to address several chronic issues in the Nebraska economy. Among these issues are: the lack of investment vehicles available to all Nebraskans through which they can invest their money in substantial local economic enterprises; the massive application of the capital reserves of the agricultural sector to land appreciation resulting in acute malfunction in an otherwise sound property tax mechanism; the hyper-cautious nature of local savers which tends to magnify risk and underestimate opportunity; the reasonable lack of financial sophistication and knowledge of corporate organization among Nebraskans wanting to make passive local equity investments; the great local difficulty in transitioning an entrepreneurial idea or invention through the proof of concept stage to the actual financing of a viable enterprise bringing it to market; the considerable social cost and revenue loss of using tax and developmental incentives to bait distant corporate decision makers into locating economic activity in the state; the loss of the power of local money when it is placed in the control of distant financial markets through existing investment vehicles; the intense competition by sister states which neutralizes the effectiveness of existing development efforts; the resemblance of many existing economic development programs to corporate welfare producing an inconclusive success record; the strong public desire for an appropriation of some existing public revenue streams back to the citizens on a fair and equitable basis to relieve the burdens of foreseeable social and economic stress; and the need for personal responsibility, savings, and investment. LB161 realizes that a dollar has far more value and social utility when organized for purposes of production than it does when dissipated for purposes of consumption. As a general rule the power and effectiveness of capital grows exponentially with the degree of its amount and organization. It also recognizes that the recent history of corporate excesses has produced a business focus on short term results rather than long term success and has produced a disproportionate distribution of corporate wealth to an increasing smaller portion of the population. LB161 incorporates elements of venture organization dating from the Dutch East India Company to the concepts of creating public wealth being explored in the leading universities today. It begins by the sovereign chartering of an operational entity under the control of a publicly appointed Board. It carefully defines the indicia of target enterprises that would integrate well into the Nebraska economic landscape. It is baited with a onetime appropriation to the Fund to reduce the perceived risk to investors. It then leverages the appropriation by requiring the private investment to be determined by the marketplace,

but subject to a minimum multiple of the appropriation. The mechanics of the equity sale to the public is left to the Board which can expected to be made in increments small enough to be acquired by all who have the desire to invest. Once the capitalization is complete, the Board acquires or finances the target businesses and positions them in the Nebraska economy. Once firmly planted and growing, the target business may be distributed to the investors; or may be used to grow the Fund or produce dividends for investors. In the discretion of the Board investors may receive the fruits of their investment as shares in the target businesses, as dividends, or as capital gains upon its transfer to others. In the event the LB161 is not successful in organizing the requisite amount of private capital by January 1, 2017, the investors receive a refund, as does the state. LB161 is bold. By mobilizing a capital on a large scale from a broad population base for discretionary investment in an ever-changing sea of opportunity, it is the first of its kind to marry the merits of public interest management with private capital to create wealth for all parties. It proposes a strong, new, innovative force in Nebraska's economic development arsenal.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	xxx
FY16-17	xxx

Committee Action: no action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 381**

Hearing Date: 3/17/2015
Introducer: Cook
One Liner: State intent relating to appropriations for housing services

Proponents:
Senator Tanya Cook
Kristin Hallberg
Chris McGuire

Representing:
Introducer
Oxford House Inc.
Oxford House Inc.

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, Program 38, Behavioral Health Aide for the purpose of providing housing services to support persons recovering from substance abuse disorders. Support evidence-based practices that conform to nationally recognized standards for residential treatment for persons recovering from substance abuse disorders. Increase access to residential treatment for persons recovering from substance abuse disorders in geographic areas of the state with demonstrable need. Support the administrative needs of providing housing services to persons recovering from substance abuse disorders.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	200,000 G
FY16-17	0

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 506**

Hearing Date: 3/17/2015
Introducer: Krist
One Liner: Increase funding for community-based developmental disability providers

Proponents:
Senator Bob Krist
Alan Zavodny
Lynn Redding
Brian Kanter

Representing:
Introducer
NorthStar Services
Self
Developmental Services of
Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 506 increases rates paid to providers of community based developmental disability services by 3% in 2015-16 and an additional 3% in 2016-17.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	4,408,269 F
	3,809,082 G
FY16-17	9,167,181 F
	7,923,015 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	2.25% Rate Increase
FY16-17	2.25% Rate Increase

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 108**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Crawford
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska to fund behavioral health internships

Proponents:
Senator Sue Crawford
Joseph Evans

Anne Buettner

Tara Wilson
Erin Pllacek
Ashton Ohde
Barbara Kibugi

Opponents:

Neutral:

Representing:
Introducer
UNMC/ Behavioral Health
Education Center of Nebraska
Nebraska Association of Marriage
and Family Therapy, National
Association of Social Workers,
Nebraska Chapter, Nebraska
Counseling Association
Wayne State College
Self
Self
Self

Representing:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 108 appropriates \$500,000 over two years to the University of Nebraska to establish twelve one-year behavioral health master's level internships in rural and underserved areas of Nebraska. Currently, the state funds eight psychiatry residencies and ten one-year doctoral-level psychology internships in rural and underserved areas of Nebraska. Both of these programs are overseen by the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	250,000 G
FY16-17	250,000 G

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 154**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Hadley
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska

Proponents:
Senator Galen Hadley
James Linder
Bruce Bohrer

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce and
Greater Omaha Chamber of
Commerce
AG Builders of Nebraska

Bart Ruth
Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 154 appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund for FY2015-16 and \$20,000,000 from the General Fund for FY2016-17 to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for economic competitiveness initiatives.

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents will distribute the funds to advance strategic, multi-campus initiatives that will advance Nebraska's economic competitiveness, including, but not limited to:

- (1) the Peter Kiewit Institute;
- (2) Nebraska Innovation Campus;
- (3) Building a Healthier Nebraska Kearney Health Science Programs;
- (4) the Rural Futures Institute;
- (5) the National Strategic Research Institute;
- (6) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) initiatives;
- (7) the Nebraska Advanced Biomedical Technology Innovation and Discovery Institute;
- (8) Nebraska Business Development initiatives; and
- (9) Veteran workforce development initiatives.

Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	10,000,000 G
FY16-17	20,000,000 G

Committee Action: The following items carried:

(3) Building a Healthier Nebraska Kearney Health Science Programs;

FY15-16 1,424,000 G

FY16-17 2,424,000 G

(7) the Nebraska Advanced Biomedical Technology Innovation and Discovery Institute; and

FY15-16 750,000 G

FY16-17 1,000,000 G

(8) Nebraska Business Development initiatives.

FY15-16 100,000 G

FY16-17 100,000 G

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 237**

Hearing Date: 3/10/2015
Introducer: Coash
One Liner: Appropriate funds for correctional facilities

Proponents:
Senator Colby Coash

Representing:
Introducer

Opponents:
Richard Halvosen

Representing:
Self

Neutral:
Alan Peterson

Representing:
ACLU of Nebraska

Statement of Intent:

LB237 appropriates \$261,614,000 to the Department of Correctional Services to renovate and expand corrections facilities identified as Phase I in the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services 2014 Master Plan Report dated October 27, 2014.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	261,614,000 G
FY16-17	0

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 274**

Hearing Date: 3/9/2015
Introducer: Hansen
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the State Department of Education for mentor teacher programs

Proponents:

Senator Matt Hansen
Jay Sears

Laurie Johnson- Newell

William West

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska State Education
Association
Nebraska State Education
Association/ Lincoln Education
Association
Nebraska State Education
Association/ Lincoln Education
Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The purpose of LB 274 is to appropriated funds to the State Department of Education, to implement the 4 provisions of section 79-761 for mentor teacher programs in local systems.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 2,500,000 G
FY16-17 2,500,000 G

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 309**

Hearing Date: 2/27/2015
Introducer: Davis
One Liner: Appropriate additional funds to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund

Proponents:
Senator Al Davis
Pat Ptacek

Representing:
Introducer
Association of Nebraska Ethanol
Producers

Opponents:
Renee Fry

Representing:
OpenSky Policy Institute

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB309 makes a one-time transfer of \$25 million from the General Fund to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund for fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	25,000,000 G
FY16-17	25,000,000 G

Committee Action: No Action (see budget bills for appropriation to the Property Tax Credit Program)

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 364**

Hearing Date: 2/27/2015
Introducer: Watermeier
One Liner: Provide for transfers to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund and appropriations

Proponents:
Senator Dan Watermeier
Lavon Heidemann
Pat Ptacek

Norm Wallman
Walt Radcliffe

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
Association of Nebraska Ethanol
Producers
Self
Nebraska Realtors Association

Opponents:
Renee Fry

Representing:
OpenSky Policy Institute

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 364 would transfer \$60 million in each year of the biennium from the General Fund to the Property Tax Credit program.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	60,000,000 G
FY16-17	60,000,000 G

Committee Action: No Action (see budget bills for appropriation to the Property Tax Credit Program)

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 387**

Hearing Date: 2/27/2015
Introducer: Schnoor
One Liner: Transfer funds from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund

Proponents:
Senator David Schnoor
Pat Ptacek

Representing:
Introducer
Association of Nebraska Ethanol Producers

Opponents:
Renee Fry

Representing:
OpenSky Policy Institute

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 387 will direct the State Treasurer to transfer sixty million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund on or before December 15, 2015, on such date as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 60,000,000 CR
FY16-17

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 417**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Nordquist
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska for pediatric cancer research

Proponents:

Senator Jeremy Nordquist
David Holmquist

Andrew Hoffman

Gary Peters
Mitchell Ahlschwede
Shelley Sahling-Zart
Kenneth Cowan

Don Coulter
Sarah Thayer

Representing:

Introducer
American Cancer Society – Cancer
Action Network
Team Jack Foundation & Nebraska
Brain Tumor Families
Self
Self
Self
Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer
Center
Pediatric Cancer Research Groups
Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer
Center

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

The intent of LB 417 is to appropriate \$1.8 million from the General Fund for FY2015-16 and \$1.8 million from the General Fund for FY2016-17 to the University of Nebraska for pediatric cancer research at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The Board of Regents shall submit an electronic annual report to the Legislature stating how the funds are to be spent.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	1,800,000 G
FY16-17	1,800,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	1,500,000 G
FY16-17	1,500,000 G

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 436**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Cook
One Liner: State intent relating to appropriations for pediatric oral health services

Proponents:
Senator Tanya Cook
Megan Boyd

Representing:
Introducer
Self

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:
Jillian Wallen

Representing:
Self

Statement of Intent:

Appropriate funds to expand a state-supported pediatric dentistry residency program to address the need for dental homes in underserved urban areas. Require cost-benefit analysis of increasing state-supported pediatric dentistry residencies. Require specific reporting by pediatric dentistry residency program to the Legislature.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	115,416 G
FY16-17	308,844 G

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 442**

Hearing Date: 2/27/2015
Introducer: Bolz
One Liner: Appropriate additional funds to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund

Proponents:
Senator Kate Bolz
Pat Ptacek

Representing:
Introducer
Association of Nebraska Ethanol
Producers

Opponents:
Renee Fry

Representing:
OpenSky Policy Institute

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

Increase by \$20 million the Property Tax Cash Fund for property tax relief for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 20,000,000 G
FY16-17 20,000,000 G

Committee Action: No Action (see budget bills for appropriation to the Property Tax Credit Program)

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 461**

Hearing Date: 3/12/2015
Introducer: Pansing Brooks
One Liner: Change appropriations for the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program

Proponents:

Senator Patty Pansing Brooks
Dick Campbell

Diana Failla

Christ Beutler
Lyle Minshull

Opponents:

Neutral:

Scott Josiah

Representing:

Introducer
NE Nursery and Landscape
Association
Campbell Nurseries and Garden
Centers
Midtown Neighborhood Alliance
The Urban Bird Nature Foundation
Mayor, City of Lincoln
City of North Platte and NE
Community Forestry Council

Representing:

Representing:

Nebraska Forest Service

Statement of Intent:

LB 461 appropriates \$3 million annually to the Nebraska Forest Service for the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	3,000,000 G
FY16-17	3,000,000 G

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 560**

Hearing Date: 3/3/2015
Introducer: Williams
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the University of Nebraska and create a fund

Proponents:
Senator Matt Williams
Harvey Perlman

Representing:
Introducer
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 560 would provide a one-time appropriation of \$25 million to construct facilities on Nebraska Innovation Campus to accelerate the attraction of private sector tenants to the property. The funding in the bill would be matched with at least the same amount of private funding to construct buildings on Nebraska Innovation Campus. The DAS Budget Director would release the state funds upon receiving evidence that the private funds have been committed to the specific building project under consideration. After fifty-percent of the completed building is occupied by tenants, the share of the building owned by the University of Nebraska would be sold and all proceeds from the sale would be credited to the Nebraska Innovation Campus Building Acceleration Fund. The balance of the Fund could then be used as matching funds for additional building construction on Nebraska Innovation Campus in the same manner as the initial funding. It is the intent of LB 560 to transfer of \$25 million from the Cash Reserve Fund to the General Fund for the purpose of constructing buildings on Nebraska Innovation Campus.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 25,000,000 G
FY16-17

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note: The bill as introduced includes a Cash Reserve transfer.

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 565**

Hearing Date: 3/2/2015
Introducer: Kuehn
One Liner: State intent relating to appropriations for education and training in high-need fields

Proponents:
Senator John Kuehn
Fred Ohles
Chris Rodgers
Dennis Baack

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Creighton University
NE Community College Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 565 seeks to make financial aid available to students at postsecondary educational institutions who are enrolled in fields of study or training that are integral to the future economic well-being of Nebraska. These fields shall be those designated as "high-need" for purposes of the bill and include areas defined as construction trades, transportation, warehousing, and distribution logistics, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, health care and health services, business administration, and teacher education. LB 565 appropriates \$3 million from the General Fund, \$1 million from the Health Care Cash Fund, and \$1 million from the Job Training Cash Fund for fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17 to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. The money would be appropriated for the purpose of providing financial support to students at qualified public and private nonprofit two-year and four-year postsecondary educational institutions in Nebraska who are enrolled in those high-need programs.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	3,000,000 G
	2,000,000 C
FY16-17	3,000,000 G
	2,000,000 G

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 654**

Hearing Date: 3/10/2015
Introducer: Seiler
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Department of Correctional Services

Proponents:
Senator Les Seiler
Vern Powers
Marshall Lux
Alan Peterson

Representing:
Introducer
Mayor, City of Hastings
Ombudsman
ACLU of Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:
Annette Dubas

Representing:
Nebraska Association of Behavioral
Health Organizations (NABHO)

Statement of Intent:

LB 654 appropriates \$43,661,270 from the General Fund for FY2015-16 to the Department of Correctional Services to implement the projects identified in the LB999 Behavioral Health Treatment Center at Hastings Program Statement.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 43,661,270 G
FY16-17

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 633**

Hearing Date: 3/18/2015
Introducer: Stinner
One Liner: Appropriate funds for state aid to municipalities and counties

Proponents:
Senator John Stinner
Jean Stothert
Marlene Johnson

Gil Wigington
Chris Buetler
Lynn Rex
Pam Dingman
Renee Fry
Larry Dix

Don Wesley

Representing:
Introducer
Mayor, City of Omaha
Mayor, City of West Point and
League of Municipalities
Colfax County
Mayor, City of Lincoln
League of NE Municipalities
Lancaster County
OpenSky Policy Institute
Nebraska Association of County
Officials
Cities of Kearney, Hastings, and
Lexington

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 633 is intended to restore some of the direct state aid to municipalities and counties in the amount of \$40 million of General Funds, beginning in FY 2015-16. Direct state aid to municipalities and counties was totally eliminated in 2011 with the passage of LB 383. LB 633 would provide \$20 million in state aid to municipalities and the other half, or \$20 million, to counties. These funds could be used by municipalities and counties only for public infrastructure projects as defined in section 77-27,142.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16 40,000,000 G
FY16-17

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 169**

Hearing Date: 2/23/2015
Introducer: Mello
One Liner: Change provisions governing the Cash Reserve Fund

Proponents: **Representing:**

Opponents: **Representing:**

Neutral: **Representing:**

Statement of Intent:

LB 169 strikes obsolete language pertaining to completed transfers in the section of statute that creates the Cash Reserve Fund.

Requested Funds:

FY15-16
FY16-17

Committee Action: No Action

FY15-16
FY16-17

Additional Note:

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
2015 BILL HEARING SUMMARY
LB 229**

Hearing Date: 3/10/2015
Introducer: Watermeier
One Liner: Appropriate funds to the Supreme Court for court appointed special advocate state aid

Proponents:
Senator Dan Watermeier
Corrie Kielty
Christina McIntire
Mari Jackson
Katie Zulkoski

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska CASA Association
Kearney and Buffalo County CASA
Otoe County CASA
Nebraska State Bar Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Statement of Intent:

LB 229 seeks to appropriate \$400,000 in each year of the biennium to the Supreme Court for court appointed special advocate state aid (CASA program).

Requested Funds:

FY15-16	400,000 G
FY16-17	400,000 G

Committee Action: Carried

FY15-16	300,000 G
FY16-17	300,000 G

Additional Note:
