



SIERRA CLUB

NEBRASKA CHAPTER

To: Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club
From: James P. Cavanaugh
Date: February 1, 2019
RE: Nebraska 2019 Legislative Session, Week Ending February 1, 2019

WEEK IN REVIEW

Today is the 17th day of the 90 day 2019 legislative session.

This week the Legislature conducted half day floor debate on General File bills and half day committee hearings.

On January 30th we submitted testimony in opposition to **LB302** Hughes “Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality” (see attached). Also on January 30th we submitted testimony to **LB373** Bewer “Provide setback and zoning requirements for wind energy generation projects” (see attached).

On January 29th we submitted testimony in favor of **LB243** Gragert “Create the Healthy Soils Task Force” if amended to include more effective representation on the proposed Healthy Soils Task Force (see attached).

On Tuesday February 5th **LB691** Cavanaugh (PRO) “Provide for Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates” will be heard in the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. We will testify in favor of **LB691**. Also Scheduled for that hearing will be **LB128** (PRO with amendments) Hughes “Provide for Wildlife Conservation Plates” **LB138** Blood “Provide for additional Military Honor Plates and Support Our Troops Plates”, **LB696** Bostelman “Change provisions relating to Military Honor Plates”, **LB215** Linehan “Provide for Prostate Cancer Awareness Plates”, **LB546** Wishart “Create Spay and Neuter Awareness license plates and a low-income spay and neuter grant program”.

Also on Tuesday February 5th **LB23** (PRO) “Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act” Kolterman. will be heard in the Urban Affairs Committee. We will submit testimony in favor of **LB23**.

On Monday February 11th **LB283** “Provide for a climate change study” (PRO Pansing Brooks) will be heard in the Executive Board. We will testify in favor of **LB283** “

ATTACHMENTS:

Current Hearing Schedule
Monday February 4, 2019 Agenda

The latest issue of the Unicameral Update can be found at:

<http://update.legislature.ne.gov/>

To review the full text of bills, as well as committee hearing schedules, please look on the Unicameral website at: <http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov>. Fiscal notes can also be found there.

Please call or e-mail me at any time if you have any questions. My contact information is:

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BILLS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO NEBRASKA SIERRA CLUB

LB51	PRO	Vargas	Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act Jan 31, 2019 Hunt name added Jan 30, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019 Jan 14, 2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee Jan 10, 2019 Date of introduction
LB283	PRO	Pansing Brooks	Provide for a climate change study Jan 30, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 11, 2019 Jan 18, 2019 Referred to Executive Board Jan 15, 2019 Date of introduction
LB509	PRO	McCollister	Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility Jan 24, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee Jan 22, 2019 Date of introduction
LB691	PRO	Cavanaugh	Provide for Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates Jan 25, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019 Jan 25, 2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee Jan 23, 2019 Date of introduction
LB678	PRO	Vargas	Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality Jan 25, 2019 Referred to Appropriations Committee Jan 23, 2019 Date of introduction
LB704	PRO	McCollister	Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles Jan 25, 2019 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Jan 23, 2019 Date of introduction

Bills of Interest to the Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club

BILL	SC	SENATOR	TOPIC
LB23	PRO	Kolterman	Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act

Jan 25, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019
Jan 14, 2019 Referred to Urban Affairs Committee
Jan 10, 2019 Date of introduction

LB45 **PRO** Chambers Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog
Management Act
Jan 14, 2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
Jan 10, 2019 Date of introduction

LB46 **PRO** Chambers Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of
mountain lions
Jan 14, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
Jan 10, 2019 Date of introduction

LB157 **PRO** Brewer Provide for voluntary registration, duties for the
Department of Agriculture, and a cause of
action under the Nebraska Apiary Act
Jan 15, 2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
Jan 11, 2019 Date of introduction

LB243 **MON** Gragert Create the Healthy Soils Task Force
Jan 22, 2019 Notice of hearing for January 29, 2019
Jan 16, 2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
Jan 14, 2019 Date of introduction

LB302 **ANTI** Hughes Merge the State Energy Office with and rename
the Department of Environmental Quality
Feb 01, 2019 Placed on General File
Jan 23, 2019 Notice of hearing for January 30, 2019
Jan 17, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
Jan 15, 2019 Date of introduction

LB366 **ANTI** Bostelman Change registration fee for alternative fuel-powered
motor vehicles
Jan 30, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019
Jan 18, 2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
Jan 16, 2019 Date of introduction

LB368 **ANTI** Hughes Eliminate overappropriated river basins,
subbasins, and reaches
Jan 18, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
Jan 16, 2019 Date of introduction

LB373 **ANTI** Brewer Provide setback and zoning requirements for
wind energy generation projects
Jan 24, 2019 Notice of hearing for January 31, 2019
Jan 18, 2019 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Jan 16, 2019 Date of introduction

LB401	PRO	Quick	Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact
		Jan 30, 2019	Notice of hearing for March 05, 2019
		Jan 22, 2019	Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
		Jan 17, 2019	Date of introduction
LB585	MON	Friesen	Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide for grants
		Jan 24, 2019	Referred to Revenue Committee
		Jan 22, 2019	Date of introduction
LB606	MON	Groene	Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed
		Jan 25, 2019	Referred to Natural Resources Committee
		Jan 23, 2019	Date of introduction
LB621	PRO	Kolowski	Change provisions relating to solar energy and wind energy, declare certain instruments void and unenforceable, and provide for a civil cause of action
		Jan 25, 2019	Referred to Natural Resources Committee
		Jan 23, 2019	Date of introduction
LB665	MON	Friesen	Authorize the use of electric foot scooters
		Jan 30, 2019	Notice of hearing for February 12, 2019
		Jan 25, 2019	Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
		Jan 23, 2019	Date of introduction
LB700	PRO	Bostelman	Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system
		Jan 25, 2019	Referred to Natural Resources Committee
		Jan 23, 2019	Date of introduction
LB729	PRO	Walz	Adopt the Soil Health and Productivity Incentive Act
		Jan 31, 2019	Notice of hearing for February 19, 2019
		Jan 25, 2019	Referred to Agriculture Committee
		Jan 23, 2019	Date of introduction