



SIERRA CLUB

NEBRASKA CHAPTER

To: Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club
From: James P. Cavanaugh
Date: February 22, 2109
RE: Nebraska 2019 Legislative Session, Week Ending February 22, 2019

Special Invitation Notice: Wednesday March 13th 5-7 PM Cavanaugh&Associates invites you to a St. Patrick's Day party we are co-sponsoring, honoring Senators and Legislative Staff at the Nebraska Club at the Top of the US Bank 233 South 13th St. Lincoln, NE 68508.

WEEK IN REVIEW

Today is Friday, February 22nd which is the 30th day of the 90 day 2019 legislative session. Monday February 25th will be in recess. Tuesday, February 26th will be the 31st legislative day.

The Legislature continues to devote its efforts to conducting half day floor debate on bills out of committees (first on General File, then Select File, then Final Reading) and devoting half-days to committee hearings. Committee hearings are expected to continue until the end of March.

On Tuesday, February 19th we submitted written testimony supporting **LB 729 PRO** Walz "Adopt the Soil Health and Productivity Incentive Act" in its Agriculture Committee hearing.

On Wednesday, February 20th the Agriculture Committee held its hearing on **LB 368 ANTI** Hughes Eliminate overappropriated river basins, subbasins, and reaches.

On Thursday, February 21st we submitted written testimony supporting **LB 621 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" in its hearing before the Judiciary Committee.

Also on Thursday, February 21st the Natural Resources Committee held its hearing on **LB 46 Chambers PRO** "Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of mountain lions". We will submit written testimony supporting LB 46 and were joined by two Nebraska citizens submitting written comment. The Nebraska Games and Parks Commission appeared in opposition, sending a biologist and a Deputy Director. Also in opposition were the Nebraska Sportsman Foundation, and five Nebraska citizens, four by written comment.

No Bills of Special Interest (BoSI) for the Sierra Club had action this last week.

Upcoming Hearing Dates Sierra Club

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|---------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| ** (BoSI) LB51 PRO | Vargas | Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act | 2/26/19 Trans&Telecom |
| LB366 ANTI | Bostelman | Change registration fee for alternative fuel-powered Motor Vehicles | 2/26/19 Trans&Telecom |

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|--------------------------|-------------|---|---|
| LB157 PRO | Brewer | Provide for voluntary registration, duties for the Department of Agriculture, and a cause of action under the Nebraska Apiary Act | 2/26/19 Ag. Cmte |
| LB492 MON | Wayne | Adopt the Regional Metropolitan Transit Authority Act | 2/26/19 Urban Affairs |
| LB401 PRO | Quick | Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact | 3/05/19 Trans&Telecom Cmte |
| **(BoSI)LB509 PRO | McCollister | Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility | 3/14/19 Natural Resources Cmte |

ATTACHMENTS:

Tuesday February 26, 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

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|--------------|------------|----------------|--|
| 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 |
| | | Feb 04, 2019 | Hunt name added |
| | | 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 |
| | | | Hearing scheduled for March 14th |
| | | Jan 24, 2019 | Referred to Natural Resources Committee |
| | | Jan 22, 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 |
| 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 |
| 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 |

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| | | 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 |
| | | Feb 21, 2019 | Notice of hearing for March 05, 2019 |
| | | 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 |
| | | Feb 14, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 21, 2019 |
| | | Jan 14, 2019 | Referred to Natural Resources Committee |
| | | Jan 10, 2019 | Date of introduction |
| LB51 | PRO | Vargas | Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act Bill of Special Interest |
| | | 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 |
| LB124 | PRO | Crawford | Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act |
| | | Feb 22, 2019 | Crawford AM405 filed |
| | | Feb 21, 2019 | Placed on Select File |
| | | Feb 13, 2019 | Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial |
| | | Feb 13, 2019 | Urban Affairs AM199 adopted |
| | | Feb 08, 2019 | Urban Affairs AM199 filed |
| | | Feb 08, 2019 | Placed on General File with AM199 |
| | | Jan 25, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019 |
| | | Jan 14, 2019 | Referred to Urban Affairs 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 |
| | | Feb 13, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019 |
| | | Jan 15, 2019 | Referred to Agriculture Committee |
| | | Jan 11, 2019 | Date of introduction |
| LB243 | MON | Gragert | Create the Healthy Soils Task Force |

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| | | Jan 22, 2019 | Notice of hearing for January 29, 2019 |
| | | Jan 16, 2019 | Referred to Agriculture Committee |
| | | Jan 14, 2019 | Date of introduction |
| LB283 | PRO | Pansing Brooks | Provide for a climate change study Bill of Special Interest |
| | | Feb 04, 2019 | Hunt name added |
| | | Jan 30, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 11, 2019 |
| | | Jan 18, 2019 | Referred to Executive Board |
| | | Jan 15, 2019 | Date of introduction |
| LB302 | ANTI | Hughes | Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality |
| | | Feb 21, 2019 | Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment |
| | | Feb 13, 2019 | Placed on Select File |
| | | Feb 07, 2019 | Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial |
| | | 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 |
| | | Feb 13, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 20, 2019 |
| | | 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 |
| | | January 17, 2019 | Date of introduction |

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| LB492 | MON | Wayne | Adopt the Metropolitan Transit Authority Act Jan 25, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019 Jan 24, 2019 Referred to Urban Affairs Committee Jan 22, 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 Bill of Special Interest Hearing scheduled for March 14th Jan 24, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee Jan 22, 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 Feb 05, 2019 Notice of hearing for February 21, 2019 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 |
| LB678 | PRO | Vargas | Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality Bill of Special Interest Jan 25, 2019 Referred to Appropriations Committee Jan 23, 2019 Date of introduction |
| LB691 | PRO | Cavanaugh | Provide for Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates Bill of Special Interest 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 |

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| 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 | |
| LB704 | PRO | McCollister | Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles Bill of Special Interest |
| | Jan 25, 2019 | Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee | |
| | Jan 23, 2019 | Date of introduction | |
| LB729 | PRO | Walz | Adopt the Soil Health and Productivity Incentive Act |
| | Feb 20, 2019 | Brandt name added | |
| | Jan 31, 2019 | Notice of hearing for February 19, 2019 | |
| | Jan 25, 2019 | Referred to Agriculture Committee | |
| | Jan 23, 2019 | Date of introduction | |