



SIERRA CLUB

NEBRASKA CHAPTER

To: Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club
From: James P. Cavanaugh
Date: March 8, 2109
RE: Nebraska 2019 Legislative Session, Week Ending March 8, 2019

Special Invitation Notice: Wednesday March 13th from 5pm until 7pm 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 a recess day. Thursday March 7th was the 38th day of the 90 day legislative session. Monday March 11th will be a recess day. Tuesday March 12th will be the 39th 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. Several new hearings of bills of interest to the Sierra Club Nebraska Chapter were announced or changed recently and are listed in the hearing dates below.

On Tuesday, March 5th we testified on two bills. **LB45 PRO** by Senator Chambers "Repeal the Black-tailed Prairie Dog Management Act". Our testimony on LB45 was quoted in the Unicameral Update. **LB401 PRO** by Senator Quick " Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact". The LB401 testimony was authored by Clyde Anderson, and I added comments based upon prior testifiers' testimony.

On Wednesday, March 6th we submitted testimony on **LB700 PRO** by Senator Bostleman "Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system". See attached those three testimonies.

Next week will be very busy as the Sierra Club has five bills of interest or bills of special interest. See the hearing dates below.

Upcoming Hearing Dates Sierra Club

LB606	MON	3/13/19	Natural Resources Committte
Groene			Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed
LB585	MON	3/13/19	Revenue Committee
Friesen			Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide for grants
BoSI LB509	PRO	3/14/19	Natural Resources Cmte
McCollister			Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility
LB285		3/14/19	Natural Resources Committee
McCollister			Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide for grants

BoSI LB704 PRO 3/15/19 Gov't Military Veterans Affairs Cmte
McCollister Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles

BoSI LB678 PRO 3/20/19 Appropriations
Vargas Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality

ATTACHMENTS:

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Agenda
Testimonies for LB45 LB401 LB700

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 Chapter of the Sierra Club

Bill #	Position	Sen.	
LB 51	PRO	Vargas	Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act
	1/31/2019	Hunt name added	
	1/30/2019	Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019	
	1/14/2019	Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee	
	1/10/2019	Date of introduction	
LB155 – ANTI		Brewer	Change eminent domain provisions that apply to privately developed renewable energy generation facilities
	Feb 27, 2019		Failed to advance to Enrollment and Review Initial
	Feb 27, 2019		Pending
	Feb 14, 2019		Placed on General File
	Feb 06, 2019		Brewer priority bill
	Jan 31, 2019		Notice of hearing for February 07, 2019
	Jan 15, 2019		Referred to Natural Resources Committee
	Jan 11, 2019		Date of introduction

- LB283 PRO** Pansing Brooks Provide for a climate change study
2/4/2019 Hunt name added
1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for February 11, 2019
1/18/2019 Referred to Executive Board
1/15/2019 Date of introduction
- LB492 PRO** Wayne - Adopt the Regional 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
3/5/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 14, 2019**
1/24/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
1/22/2019 Date of introduction
- LB678 PRO** Vargas Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality
3/4/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 20, 2019**
1/25/2019 Referred to Appropriations Committee
1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB691 PRO** Cavanaugh Provide for the Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates
1/25/2019 Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019
1/25/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
1/23/2019 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
3/4/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 15, 2019**
1/25/2019 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
1/23/2019 Date of introduction

Bills of Interest to the Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club

- | Bill # | Position | Sen. | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| LB 23 | PRO | Kolterman | Change the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act |
| | | 1/25/2019 | Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019 |
| | | 1/14/2019 | Referred to Urban Affairs Committee |
| | | 1/10/2019 | Date of introduction |

- LB 45 PRO** Chambers Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act
2/21/2019 Notice of hearing for March 05, 2019
1/14/2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
1/10/2019 Date of introduction
- LB 46 PRO** Chambers Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of mountain lions
2/14/2019 Notice of hearing for February 21, 2019
1/14/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
1/10/2019 Date of introduction
- LB 51 PRO** Vargas Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act
1/31/2019 Hunt name added
1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019
1/14/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
1/10/2019 Date of introduction
- LB124 PRO** Crawford Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act
3/6/2019 **Placed on Final Reading**
3/1/2019 Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment
3/1/2019 Crawford AM405 adopted
2/22/2019 Crawford AM405 filed
2/21/2019 Placed on Select File
2/13/2019 Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial
2/13/2019 Urban Affairs AM199 adopted
2/8/2019 Urban Affairs AM199 filed
2/8/2019 Placed on General File with AM199
1/25/2019 Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019
1/14/2019 Referred to Urban Affairs Committee
1/10/2019 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
2/13/2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019
1/15/2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
1/11/2019 Date of introduction
- LB243 MON** Gragert Create the Healthy Soils Task Force
1/22/2019 Notice of hearing for January 29, 2019
1/16/2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee
1/14/2019 Date of introduction

- LB283 PRO** Pansing Brooks Provide for a climate change study
2/4/2019 Hunt name added
1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for February 11, 2019
1/18/2019 Referred to Executive Board
1/15/2019 Date of introduction
- LB285 -PRO** McCollister State intent to appropriate funds to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a study and state public policy
Mar 05, 2019 **Notice of hearing for March 14, 2019**
Jan 17, 2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
Jan 15, 2019 Date of introduction
- LB302 ANTI** Hughes Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality
2/27/2019 Placed on Final Reading
2/21/2019 Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment
2/13/2019 Placed on Select File
2/7/2019 Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial
2/1/2019 Placed on General File
1/23/2019 Notice of hearing for January 30, 2019
1/17/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
1/15/2019 Date of introduction
- LB366 ANTI** Bostelman Change registration fee for alternative fuel-powered motor vehicles
1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for February 26, 2019
1/18/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
1/16/2019 Date of introduction
- LB368 ANTI** Hughes Eliminate overappropriated river basins, subbasins, and reaches
2/13/2019 Notice of hearing for February 20, 2019
1/18/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
1/16/2019 Date of introduction
- LB373 ANTI** Brewer Provide setback and zoning requirements for wind energy generation projects
3/5/2019 Brewer AM428 filed
1/24/2019 Notice of hearing for January 31, 2019
1/18/2019 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
1/16/2019 Date of introduction
- LB401 PRO** Quick Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact
1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for March 05, 2019
1/22/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee

- 1/17/2019 Date of introduction
- LB509 PRO** McCollister Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility
- 3/5/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 14, 2019**
- 1/24/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
- 1/22/2019 Date of introduction
- LB585 MON** Friesen Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide for grants
- 3/6/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 13, 2019**
- 1/24/2019 Referred to Revenue Committee
- 1/22/2019 Date of introduction
- LB606 MON** Groene Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed
- 3/5/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 13, 2019**
- 1/25/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee
- 1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB621 PRO** Kolowski Change provisions relating to solar energy wind energy, declare certain instruments void and unenforceable, and provide for a civil cause of action
- 2/5/2019 Notice of hearing for February 21, 2019
- 1/25/2019 Referred to Judiciary Committee
- 1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB665 MON** Friesen Authorize the use of electric foot scooters
- 1/30/2019 Notice of hearing for February 12, 2019
- 1/25/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
- 1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB678 PRO** Vargas Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality
- 3/4/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 20, 2019**
- 1/25/2019 Referred to Appropriations Committee
- 1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB691 PRO** Cavanaugh Provide for the Ornate Box Turtle Conservation license plates
- 1/25/2019 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
- 1/25/2019 Notice of hearing for February 05, 2019
- 1/23/2019 Date of introduction
- LB700 PRO** Bostelman Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system
- 2/27/2019 Notice of hearing for March 06, 2019

1/25/2019 Referred to Natural Resources Committee

1/23/2019 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

3/4/2019 **Notice of hearing for March 15, 2019**

1/25/2019 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

1/23/2019 Date of introduction

LB729 PRO Walz Adopt the Soil Health Productivity Incentive Act

2/20/2019 Brandt name added

1/31/2019 Notice of hearing for February 19, 2019

1/25/2019 Referred to Agriculture Committee

1/23/2019 Date of introduction