



# SIERRA CLUB

## NEBRASKA CHAPTER

**To:** Nebraska Chapter of the Sierra Club  
**From:** James P. Cavanaugh  
**Date:** February 15, 2019  
**RE:** Nebraska 2019 Legislative Session, Week Ending February 15, 2019

**Special Invitation Notice:** Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE 68508.

### WEEK IN REVIEW

Today is a recess day. Thursday February 14<sup>th</sup> was the 26th day of the 90 day 2019 legislative session. Monday February 18<sup>th</sup> will be a recess day marking the Presidents' Day holiday.

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

On Monday February 11<sup>th</sup> we testified (see attached) in favor of **LB283** (PRO Pansing Brooks) "Provide for a climate change study" in the Executive Board. Also testifying were 18—PRO, 4--ANTI 0—Neutral. Also testifying in our favor were: Ken Haar, Verdis Group, Nebraska Elders Climate Legacy, AIA, and Citizens Climate Lobby.

On Wednesday February 13<sup>th</sup> **LB124** (PRO Crawford) "Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act" advanced to select file.

**LB302** (ANTI Hughes) "Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality" is on Select File for Tuesday February 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Hearing Dates Sierra Club

<b>LB729 PRO</b>	Walz	Adopt the Soil Health and Productivity Incentive Act	<b>2/19/19</b> <b>Agriculture Committee</b>
<b>LB368 ANTI</b>	Hughes	Eliminate overappropriated river basins, subbasins, and reaches	<b>2/20/19</b> <b>Agriculture Cmte</b>
<b>LB46 PRO</b>	Chambers	Eliminate provisions relating to the hunting of mountain lions	<b>2/21/19</b> <b>Nat. Resources</b>
<b>LB621 PRO</b>	Kolowski	Change provisions relating to solar energy and wind energy, declare certain instruments void and unenforceable, and provide for a civil cause of action	<b>2/21/19</b> <b>Natural Resources Cmte</b>
<b>** (BoSI) LB51 PRO</b>	Vargas	Change license applications, prohibited acts,	<b>2/26/19</b>

	and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicle Industry Regulation Act	<b>Trans&amp;Telecom</b>
<b>LB366 ANTI</b>	Bostelman Change registration fee for alternative fuel-powered Motor Vehicles	<b>2/26/19 Trans&amp;Telecom</b>
<b>LB157 PRO</b>	Brewer Provide for voluntary registration, duties for the Department of Agriculture, and a cause of action under the Nebraska Apiary Act	<b>2/26/19 Ag. Cmte</b>
<b>LB401 PRO</b>	Quick Adopt the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact	<b>3/05/19 Trans&amp;Telecom Cmte</b>
<b>** (BoSI) LB509 PRO</b>	McCollister Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility	<b>3/14/19 Natural Resources Cmte</b>

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Tuesday February 19, 2019 Agenda  
LB283 testimony materials

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 Nebraksa Chapter of the Sierra Club**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	
<b>LB 51</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Vargas	Change license applications, prohibited acts, and franchise restrictions under the Motor Vehicile Industry Regulation Act
1/31/2019		Hunt	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
<b>LB283</b>	<b>PRO</b>		Pansing Brooks Provide for a climate change study
2/4/2019		Hunt	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
<b>LB509</b>	<b>PRO</b>	McCollister	Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility
1/24/2019			Referred to Natural Resources Committee
1/22/2019			Date of introduction
<b>LB678</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Vargas	Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality
1/25/2019			Referred to Appropriations Committee
1/23/2019			Date of introduction
<b>LB691</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB704</b>	<b>PRO</b>	McCollister	Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles
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**

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	
<b>LB 23</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB 45</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Chambers	Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act
		1/14/2019	Referred to Agriculture Committee
		1/10/2019	Date of introduction
<b>LB 46</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB 51</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB124</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Crawford	Change provisions relating to jointly created clean energy assessment districts under the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act
		2/13/2019	Urban Affairs AM199 adopted
		2/13/2019	Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial
		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
<b>LB157</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	
<b>LB243</b>	<b>MON</b>	Gragert	Crate 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
<b>LB283</b>	<b>PRO</b>		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
<b>LB302</b>	<b>ANTI</b>	Hughes	Merge the State Energy Office with and rename the Department of Environmental Quality
	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
<b>LB366</b>	<b>ANTI</b>	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
<b>LB368</b>	<b>ANTI</b>	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
<b>LB373</b>	<b>ANTI</b>	Brewer	Provide setback and zoning requirements for wind energy generation projects
	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
<b>LB401</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	
<b>LB509</b>	<b>PRO</b>	McCollister	Redefine the terms net metering and qualified facility and change powers and duties of a local distribution utility
	1/24/2019		Referred to Natural Resources Committee
	1/22/2019		Date of introduction
<b>LB585</b>	<b>MON</b>	Friesen	Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program, eliminate a sales tax exemption, and provide for grants
	1/24/2019		Referred to Revenue Committee
	1/22/2019		Date of introduction
<b>LB606</b>	<b>MON</b>	Groene	Provide for water augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed
	1/25/2019		Referred to Natural Resources Committee
	1/23/2019		Date of introduction
<b>LB621</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB665</b>	<b>MON</b>	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
<b>LB678</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Vargas	Create the Volkswagen Settlement Cash Fund and provide duties for the Department of Environmental Quality
	1/25/2019		Referred to Appropriations Committee
	1/23/2019		Date of introduction
<b>LB691</b>	<b>PRO</b>	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
<b>LB700</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Bostelman	Provide for decommissioning and reclamation of a wind energy conversion system
	1/25/2019		Referred to Natural Resources Committee
	1/23/2019		Date of introduction

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Sen.</b>	
<b>LB704</b>	<b>PRO</b>	McCollister	Provide for a request for proposals for renewable energy for state-owned buildings and a study regarding state vehicles
	1/25/2019		Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
	1/23/2019		Date of introduction
<b>LB729</b>	<b>PRO</b>	Walz	Adopt the Soil Health Productivity Incentive Act
	1/31/2019		Notice of hearing for February 19, 2019
	1/25/2019		Referred to Agriculture Committee
	1/23/2019		Date of introduction