

**NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM WORKSHEET:  
GOOD & BAD BILLS IN THE 2019 LEGISLATURE.**

**GOOD RESOLUTION.**

To confirm conservative Gregory Neuhaus as a member of the Commission on Industrial Relations. GOOD RESOLUTION/ PASSED

**BAD RESOLUTION.**

**LR14CA: Wayne.** Allow cities and villages to pledge taxes used for TIF indebtedness for a period not to exceed 20 years instead of 15 years, if more than 1/2 of the property in the project area is designated as extremely blighted and has a high rate of unemployment and poverty. However, the bill contains no definition of extreme blight, and future senators could expand the definition. Expanding the repayment period will encourage developers to persuade officials to declare more areas blighted in order to qualify for a longer repayment period. This property would remain off the tax rolls for another 5 years, forcing property owner in other areas to pay more. TIFs have become tax giveaways to developers. BAD RESOLUTION/ PASSED

**GOOD BILLS.**

**LB 6: Blood.** To expand the parameters by which spouses and children of those in the armed forces can qualify for in-state college tuition, even if military family member assigned elsewhere after enrollment. Student must be continually enrolled. The bill meets a request from the Defense Dept. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 7: Blood.** To criminalize knowingly and intentionally manufacturing, importing, installing, distributing, or selling counterfeit seat belts or restraint systems or falsify declaration of such. Violators would face Class IV to Class II felonies, depending upon injuries incurred and number of repeat offenses. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 11: Blood.** To allow cities and towns to enter interlocal agreements with a county in which the municipality extraterritorial jurisdiction is located to make joint and cooperative agreements to stop, remove, or prevent nuisances. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 12: Blood.** Active duty military members and their spouses could waive the \$80 real estate agent license fee, if they have a valid license from another state. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 16: Briese.** To withhold additional information from disclosure under the public records law, including physical and cyber assets of critical energy or electric infrastructure, if such disclosure would threaten national security or public health and safety. The identity of personnel responsible for access to such assets or operating and maintaining them also withheld. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 29: Kolterman.** A medical professional under the Uniform Credentialing Act who provides a telehealth service to a patient may prescribe the patient a drug, if the credential holder authorized to prescribe under state and federal law. There are several exceptions. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 31: Kolterman.** To plan to transfer management of the corrupt and indebted OPS pension plan to the state retirement system. OPS must pay for the transfer plan. The incompetent OPS managers of the system would be terminated. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 34: Kolterman.** The surviving spouse of a deceased NE government employee automatically would become the default beneficiary, if not designated in a state, county, or school retirement plan. This situation already current in other NE retirement system plans. To stop a fired county or state employee from accessing up to \$25,000 from a retirement account while termination appeal pending. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 52: Stinner.** Each state official, agency, board, commission, or other entity must remit all public funds and all special purpose funds, other than pension and trust funds, to the State Treasurer for credit to the appropriate fund. The state investment officer will invest all funds available for investment pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. The accounting division shall notify the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services if a state official, agency, board, commission, or other entity fails to comply. The budget division will withhold up to 10% of any appropriation to such state official, agency, board, commission, or other entity until compliance. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 80: Friesen.** To provide an expedited process for specific vehicles inspected by county sheriffs and provide a more efficient manner to title vehicles. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 82: Friesen.** To allow the state transportation dept., counties, and cities to apply for pre-approval to use practical road design standards that provide significant benefits to users at reasonable cost. Filing requirements eliminated. The legislation would streamline several dept. processes and allow more flexibility in road design. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 103: Linehan.** Bill would automatically reduce levies of taxing entities as valuations increase. Local property taxing authorities like community colleges, educational service units, school districts, NRDs, counties, and cities must lower

their tax rate for a current tax year, so that the rate would produce no more than the amount of property taxes raised in the previous year. Local taxing authorities must hold a special public hearing and vote, if they want additional funds. The hearing notice must include the percentage increase or decrease in valuation, the property tax rate of the prior year and future fiscal year, percentage increase or decrease in property tax rate from previous year, and total operating budget comparison from the prior to the future year. The bill will not have a fiscal impact or cost to the state. This plan won much acclaim in Virginia. Bill opponents included the NE League of Municipalities, the teachers union, and NE Council of School Administrators. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 116: Kolterman.** To authorize electronic delivery of insurance policies and billing information to customers if by policyholder choice. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 119: Arch.** To offer confidentiality of records and immunity from liability for members of professional health care service entities engaged in peer review activities. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 127: Hughes.** To expand the definition of immediate family regarding deer and other hunting permits. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 135: Stinner.** To allow students enrolled in out of state Emergency Medical Services education programs to practice clinical training rotations in the State of Nebraska. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 138: Blood.** To create \$40 Support Our Troops specialty license plates for those wishing to support our military. To allow members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard to use military honor license plates. License plate fees eliminated for several military plate categories. Fees will go to the Veterans Employment Program Fund and the DMV cash fund. The state Dept. of Veterans Affairs will create a job search website specifically for vets. Also, bighorn sheep and Sand Hill crane specialty license plates available. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 141: DeBoer.** To originate the crime of physical assault by suffocation. Penalty is a Class IIIA felony or a Class IIA felony, if perpetrator previously convicted of the same crime or used a weapon. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 147: Groene.** If a student becomes violent against a teacher, staffer, or another pupil, a teacher or administrator can use necessary physical restraint to control such student. If a student shows destructive behavior to school property, a teacher or administrator can use necessary physical restraint to control such student. These teacher and administrator actions do not constitute corporal punishment. The bill clarifies that physical restraint is not corporal punishment, banned in NE. Teachers and administrators protecting themselves or a student not subject to lawsuits or administrative penalty. A teacher can have a student removed from class by an administrator for repeatedly interfering with teaching or if teacher determines that behavior is so unruly and abusive that it seriously interferes with teaching. If a student removed, principal can place him in another classroom or mandate in-school suspension or suspension. Principal cannot return student to classroom, unless teacher consents. A teacher could request a school cop to remove a disruptive student. Teachers now fear consequences of using physical force to handle violent students. Bill opponents claimed that it would disproportionately target minority kids. GOOD BILL/ GENERAL FILE

**LB 152: Brewer.** To provide for confidentiality of National Guard member residential addresses. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 155: Brewer.** The intent of this bill is to prevent private companies from using the eminent domain power of government against their neighbors in order to engage in an entirely private activity. It is anathema to good government to allow a citizen to use eminent domain for financial gain when harming neighboring property by forcing placement of connecting electrical lines. Bill support is very strong in the Sand Hills, because transmission lines kill many birds, including bald eagles, and expose the thin topsoil to erosion. The unique terrain and ecology of the Nebraska Sand Hills provide an irreplaceable habitat for millions of migratory birds and other wildlife. Neighbors would have opportunity to testify against the use of eminent domain and challenge it in court. The leftist Center for Rural Affairs opposed the bill. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 156: Brewer.** To change current Nebraska law to allow for former military vehicles, in accordance with specific requirements, to become titled and registered as vehicles in Nebraska. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 179: Hilgers.** Only an order denying a motion for summary judgment eligible for immediate appeal when such motion based on sovereign immunity or immunity of government officials. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 183: Briese.** To reduce the valuation of farm and ranch land regarding school bond issues to between 24% and 30% of market value. To repeal a personal property exemption. To offer all property owners a refundable property tax credit against state income taxes paid. To increase a state refundable income tax credit based on the federal earned income tax credit. To increase the property tax credit fund to at least \$275 million per year. The teachers union opposes the bill. GOOD BILL/ SELECT FILE

**LB 184: Friesen.** To modernize the state telecommunications laws to allow for greater investment by wireless communication providers in new technologies referred to as small cells. The bill would expand coverage and deliver the benefits of emerging technologies in wireless communications, improve public safety, create jobs, and help businesses

and schools remain competitive in a global economy by facilitating efficient and uniform statewide siting practices for small wireless facilities. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 186: Lindstrom.** To allow notaries public commissioned in Nebraska to register as an Online Notary Public and use technology to verify the identity of a person whose signature is notarized in an online notarial act or who is taking an oath or affirmation other than in the capacity of a witness. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 188: Lindstrom.** To raise the limit from 24% to 29% per annum the interest rate allowed on installment loans for an unpaid principal balance. People with bad credit ratings still could obtain small loans. GOOD BILL/ SELECT FILE

**LB 192: McCollister.** To allow those who serve in the National Guard and reserves to obtain veterans license plates or state ID cards. The bill will help veterans gain business discounts. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 200: Wishart.** To allow mental health drug treatment facilities to continue to use locked rooms for patients in their custody. HHS could not deny a license or license renewal for institutions using locked rooms. The person placed into civil protective custody can be kept in a locked room, until the person is no longer a danger to himself or others and for no more than 24 hours. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 209: Albrecht.** Medical providers must inform a woman seeking an abortion that the first of 2 drugs may not end a pregnancy. Informed by a medical provider, women could go to a state website to learn how to reverse the abortion process by obtaining materials to help locate a medical professional. The ACLU-NE and Planned Parenthood opposed this bill. To exempt breast-feeding from the state indecency law. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 212: Government Comm.** To allow several government entities to hold more than 50% of their meetings by phone or teleconferencing and extend length of phone conference calls from 2 to 5 hours. A limit of 1 yr. a period for which a governmental unit can exceed the allowable growth percentage if approved by voters at a meeting. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 227: Hughes.** This right to farm act would protect a farm or public grain warehouse from being declared a public or private nuisance, if it existed before a change in land use or occupancy of land, remains unchanged, and would not have been a nuisance before the change. Farmers would not fall subject to nuisance lawsuits, if they operated within zoning laws and state environmental quality regulations. Nuisance claims must occur within 2 yrs. after initial complaint about operation problem. GOOD BILL/PASSED

**LB 235: Crawford.** To permit unlicensed home brewers to offer their products at festivals, exhibitions, and fundraisers without a permit, if none is for sale. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 237: Crawford.** To allow county treasurers to retain additional vehicle sales tax collection fee money over \$6,000 per month otherwise going to the state for administering this service. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 268: Friesen.** To permit customers not now receiving high-speed Internet services to switch to another company in a different local exchange to receive such services. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 269: Friesen.** To expand use of school driving permits. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 298: Scheer.** To transfer \$247 million in each year to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund. GOOD BILL/PASSED

**LB 299: Scheer.** To appropriate \$54.7 million to pay for 2 additional high security housing units for the prison system. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 302: Hughes.** The State Energy Office would merge with the Dept. of Environmental Quality. Combining efforts would improve similar services provided. Duplicative administrative jobs cut. Time to obtain permits reduced. Economic development and infrastructure projects accelerated. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 316: Kolterman.** Pharmacy benefit management companies could not penalize pharmacists or remove them from networks for informing customers about RX cost differences. Pharmacists could sell customers a cheaper alternative. Health insurance plans could not prohibit customers from paying cash for an RX drug, if price less than customer co-pay. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 356: Scheer.** To allow distribution of wildlife conservation license plates. The \$40 plates will support the conservation of Nebraska wildlife, including Sand Hill cranes, bighorn sheep, and ornate box turtles. The Wildlife Conservation Fund uses the fund to provide youth education programs relating to wildlife conservation practices. Remaining funds go to the DMV cash fund. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 375: Brewer.** To allow library, archive, and museum materials for reference, research, or exhibition to become temporarily withheld from the public under the public records law. This new exception for materials received from a donor or other transferor who makes the gift or transfer conditional on confidentiality for a specified period of time. The intent of the bill is to allow public librarians, archivists, and curators to receive and preserve historically significant materials that might otherwise be lost or dispersed. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 399: Slama.** To assure that social studies curricula teach public school children an opportunity to become competent, responsible, and patriotic citizens who have a true understanding of and respect for the U.S. Constitution and state constitution and prepare to preserve, protect, and defend freedom and democracy in our nation. Foundation knowledge of civics, history, geography, and financial literacy. Attention must be given to the Declaration of Independence, the rights

and responsibilities of citizenship, economics, geography, and danger of forms of government that restrict individual freedom such as Nazism and Communism. Civics test results from 8th and 11th Grades will go to parents. Patriotic exercises on several holidays. Districts could use naturalization tests, require students to attend a government meeting followed by a project or paper, or do a project or paper and class presentation about a person or event commemorated by selected holidays. School district committees must hold 2 public hearings annually to hear input. Students will memorize and understand the background of patriotic songs and develop respect for and presentation of our Flag. The State Board of Education must adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out such activities and ascertain that every school district utilize such rules and regulations. An employee who neglects this law could face firing. Assure that the teachers are knowledgeable and accepting of the American form of government and have acceptable character (OPS beware). The teachers union opposed the bill as did the State Board of Education having all liberal members. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 442: McCollister.** To permit citizens with multiple medical RXs to coordinate, order, and collect all medication on the same day, avoiding frequent trips to a pharmacy, if covered by patient health benefit plan. The drugs must treat a chronic illness and not be controlled drugs. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 445: McDonnell.** To require all NE municipalities to annually report in their budgets the collection and use of occupation taxes levied or increased and collected in such budgets. The report must include the purpose of imposing the tax, amount of tax collected, and itemization of how the tax spent or budgeted to be spent. Also, the termination date of the tax. The report must appear on municipality websites. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 454: Clements.** To allow anyone with a home school high school diploma to qualify for a state real estate license. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 462: Friesen.** To create a resolution board to review locator training materials and propose best practices for excavators. Also, to assess the effectiveness of enforcement programs and actions, damage prevention, and public awareness programs. Operators and excavators subject to civil penalties for violations of the one-call act. A report of board findings to the Governor and Legislature. The Public Service Commission would have less regulatory authority over several services. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 463: Williams.** To better ensure that citizens at risk of losing their homes, farms, or businesses over delinquent taxes receive advance notification about payment of back taxes. Those wanting to purchase tax deeds must deliver several notices to the property owner in person or by certified mail to the home and place a legal notice in a newspaper. Notice would go to renters of property also. Purchasers must serve notice to property owners at least 3 months before applying for a deed. Better notice requirements would permit county treasurers to determine if a property owner received proper notice, and a checklist of documents would help treasurers verify that a tax sale certificate purchaser has met all legal requirements before issuing a tax deed. Currently, unscrupulous investors buy tax deeds and snatch property from elderly citizens without proof that the owner received prior notification of a property tax sale. Present law permits companies or individuals to pay the delinquent taxes on a property and after 3 years take ownership, if the owner does not pay the taxes plus interest and fees. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 470: LaGrone.** To widen allowance for an income tax deduction for contributions to 529 college savings accounts and allow the same deduction. Individuals could claim an income tax deduction against contributions from an employer. The State Treasurer supported the bill. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED/ VETOED**

**LB 486: Lowe.** To direct the Department of Veteran Affairs to create a process for a postsecondary institution to obtain a 3-year renewable designation as Veteran and Active Duty Supportive, if it meets at least 5 specific criteria. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 496: Wayne.** To increase penalties for tampering with witnesses, informants, jurors, or evidence. The charge would match the underlying felony charge, e.g., a Class II felony or higher. This charge earns a prison term of from 1 to 50 years. If a Class II misdemeanor or lower, the tampering penalty reduced to a Class I misdemeanor, 1 year in jail, a \$1,000 fine, or both. Ernie Chambers opposed the bill. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 511: Brewer.** To authorize adjustments to state employee work schedules for voluntary participation in approved youth mentoring programs for up to 1 hour per week. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 512: Linehan.** Owners of destroyed or damaged real property, like from flooding, must file a report with the county assessor and clerk before July 15 of the current assessment year. A county board would adjust value of destroyed property based on months a property was intact. The county assessor will file a report with the reassessed valuation with the county board of equalization before July 20. The county board will notify the property owner of the new assessed value. Allows a homestead exemption claimant who is denied or has the exemption amount reduced because of decreased home value to appeal the value by June 30. **GOOD BILL/ PASSED**

**LB 519: Slama.** To extend statute of limitations for prosecution of specific sex trafficking offenses to 7 years for an adult or for creating kiddie porn. The statute of limitations for possession of kiddie porn extended to 7 years or 7 years beyond 18th birthday of victim. No statute of limitations for sex trafficking of a minor and possession of kiddie porn. Law officers could apply for wiretap authorization to intercept sex trafficking communications. To criminalize law

enforcement personnel having sex with detainees or those in custody. Violation of this clause regarding custody is a Class IIA felony, with conviction earning up to 20 yrs. in prison. Sexual contact with a detainee would earn a Class IIIA felony charge, with penalty up to 3 yrs. in prison with 18 months supervision thereafter, a \$10,000 fine, or both. Anyone convicted under these provisions must register as a sex offender. To allow a court to increase the award of financial damages to an amount that matches the actual damages sustained and damages not susceptible to measurement by ordinary monetary standards, such as physical and mental pain. Examples include costs of medical and psychological treatment, lost wages, costs of necessary transportation and temporary housing, and cost of property damage. HHS will publish a list of services for child trafficking victims. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 561: Geist.** To adopt 2018 Government Accountability Office audit standards for legislative office audits. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 583: Hilgers.** To allow larger counties and metropolitan and primary class cities or joint entities to use a design-build method for transportation projects to save taxpayer money through reduced construction time and costs. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 585: Friesen.** To restore the sales tax exemption for currency and bullion, intended to cover the costs of the renewable fuels program. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 603: Lindstrom.** To eliminate a bureaucratic requirement that a bank must charge the same automatic teller fees to all other financial institutions. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 609: LaGrone.** To allow counties to authorize and reimburse for the use of a rental vehicle or commercial charter when considered economical and practical. It would cover situations in which a financial savings to the county to rent or charter instead of paying personal vehicle mileage. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 630: Morfeld.** To criminalize distributing a private image of another's intimate areas or a person engaged in sexually explicit conduct. For a first or second offense, a Class IIA felony. For future offenses, a Class II felony. For a first offense of possessing kiddie porn, a Class I misdemeanor, punishable by up to 1 yr. in prison, a \$1,000 fine, or both. Second and subsequent offenses would earn a Class IV felony, punished by up to 2 yrs. in prison with 1 yr. probation, a \$10,000 fine, or both. To criminalize threatening to distribute intimate images in order to extort, intimidate, threaten, or harass someone. Violation would earn a Class I misdemeanor. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 641: McDonnell.** To expand 211 services to include disaster and emergency response services. A proposed surcharge eliminated from the bill. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 657: Wayne.** To require the state ag dept. to establish, operate, and administer a program to license and regulate farmers to legally grow, process, and sell industrial hemp, offering them an additional profitable crop and create jobs. Congress legalized the cultivation and sale of this hemp. Background checks on growers and annual inspections by the state ag department. Hemp makes fabrics, paper, rope, drywall, and industrial oils. Neighboring Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Wyoming already have legalized hemp growing. Prohibits persons having prior felony drug convictions from obtaining licensure. Violators of this law will face a Class IV misdemeanor charge and fine up to \$1,000. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 680: De Boer.** A victim of intentional or threatened distribution of intimate images could seek monetary damages, including damages equal to monetary gain made by defendant and for emotional distress. Also, injunctive relief and attorney fees and costs. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 693: Halloran.** To prohibit anyone working in telecommunications from causing a caller ID service to knowingly provide misleading or inaccurate information in order to defraud, harm, or wrongfully obtain something of value, thus restricting telemarketers. The NE Public Service Commission could impose a fine up to \$2,000 for each offense. The state att.-gen. will investigate complaints. Complaints about telemarketers and spoofing are among leading complaints to the state att.-gen. office and FCC. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 699: Bostelman.** To decrease from 6 years to 3 years the retention period for transporter plate applicants to keep records of vehicles. To make it easier for transporters to register vehicles. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 713: Vargas.** To require the legislative fiscal analyst to create a report on revenue volatility and a budget stress test in alternate years, comparing estimated future revenue to and expenditure from major funds and tax types under various potential economic conditions, and a long-term budget for major spending programs every 4 years. These reports would provide crucial tools for senators. GOOD BILL/ PASSED

### **BAD BILLS.**

**LB 4: Stinner.** To raise the filing fees for property valuation appeals to the TERC from \$25 to \$40-\$85. BAD BILL/ FINAL READING.

**LB 15: Blood.** To require most insurance companies to cover all expenses for hearing aids for Nebraskans younger than 19, including evaluation, fitting, repairs, rehab, and training. Expenses capped at \$3,000 over 4 years. Mandated costs for such coverage passed along by higher premiums for others. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 25: Kolterman.** To impose biennial fees of \$50 for doctors and \$20 for physician assistants through 2025 via new and renewed credential fees to fund a patient safety medical malpractice fund. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 33: Kolterman.** To exempt legal compliance audit contracts from bidding requirements. To raise the per diem payments for members of the Public Employees Retirement Board from \$50 to \$75. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 44: Chambers.** To eliminate the state death penalty, after a majority of Nebraskans in 92 of 93 counties voted to restore it. His bill would apply retroactively. The ACLU-NE supports the bill. BAD BILL/ GENERAL FILE

**LB 66: M. Hansen.** To force Omaha to adopt a new comprehensive plan or update an existing comprehensive plan not later than January 1, 2022. This plan must update and include an early childhood element which assesses the supply of quality licensed early childhood education programs for children under 6, evaluates the availability and utilization of licensed child care capacity and quality for children under 6, and promotes early childhood health and education measures. The NE Association of School Boards supports the bill. City staffs lack the expertise to evaluate the number and quality of child care facilities. BAD BILL/ GENERAL FILE

**LB 86: Wayne.** To require the Dept. of Economic Development to prioritize projects located in extremely blighted areas when selecting projects for subsidization. To give a \$5,000 state income tax credit to anyone who buys a primary residence home in a blighted area. If a homeowner moves or sells his home within 5 years after receiving the credit, the Dept. of Revenue will reclaim the credit. However, there is no reliable enforcement mechanism. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 130: DeBoer.** To require more burdensome and expensive minimum standards for radon resistant new construction. Her bill will incorporate these standards into the state building code and force most county building codes to adopt them, raising home and commercial building prices. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 160: Quick.** To allow a 1st or 2nd class city or village economic development program to include early childhood education program development through grants and loans. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 169: Hunt.** To allow criminals convicted of 3 felonies for possession or use of illegal drugs to become eligible for food stamps, a right removed by previous legislation, if they complete a drug treatment program. Drug dealers do not deserve pity or a second chance. They can go to food banks or work. The prospect of losing food stamp eligibility is motivation for drug felons to obey the law. The leftist NE Appleseed Center supported the bill. BAD BILL/ GENERAL FILE

**LB 177: Lindstrom.** To allow the Papio Natural Resource District to continue to issue bonds paid for by property taxes to 2024 instead of ending this year. NRDs can complete their projects with property tax dollars without bonding authority. Papio NRD projects benefit only developers. This NRD wants the additional funding to build 6 unneeded dams in Douglas and Sarpy Counties. It has issued \$70 million in bonds over a decade for these dams and has \$71 million in bond debt. March flooding did not present this NRD with significant repair obligations. A previous election saw this effort fail, so supporters defied the will of voters. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 284: McCollister.** To tax Internet sales if a remote seller has gross revenue from NE sales over \$100,000, or if it makes 200 or more separate sales in the current or previous calendar year. These retailers must obtain a permit from the Dept. of Revenue when beginning to collect and remit the tax. A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision stated that states *may* collect sales tax from online sales. The Platte Institute and leftist Open Sky Institute both support this tax increase bill. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 294: Scheer.** A 3%, then a 3.7% spending hike. To appropriate too much money to the university system, which refuses to curtail spending and consolidate administrations on its 4 campuses. To increase general funds to the State Office of Violence Prevention by \$300,000 annually for the next 2 fiscal years. A huge \$135 million hike in state school aid over 2 years. Funds for a court-appointed special advocate state aid. Additional mandates and requirements on the welfare department. A large increase for child welfare. An \$87,500 study on service needs and recommendations for nursing home care for Medicaid patients. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 300: Lathrop.** To increase salaries for NE Supreme Court justices by 9%, far above the inflation rate. The salaries of other state, county, appellate, and juvenile judges, tied to supreme court judicial salaries, also would rise. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 300A: Lathrop.** To fund LB 300 with \$4.51 million. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 306: Crawford.** To give workers compensation to anyone who declines to come to work in order to care for a family member or relative with a serious illness. Families can rely on relatives or charitable organizations. The ACLU, AARP, and state AFL-CIO support the bill. BAD BILL/ SELECT FILE

**LB 309: Lathrop.** To add another district court judge in Douglas County, increasing county expenses for this judge and other needed staff. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 352: Morfeld.** To restrict the use of jailhouse informants. Judges, juries, and attorneys already determine the reliability of such testimony. Every county attorney office must maintain a record of each case in which a jailhouse informant provides testimony and benefit or plea deal offered. Prosecutors must tell defense lawyers informant criminal history, what benefit provided, statements made to the informant by defendant, and other cases in which the informant

testified. Prosecution must show by preponderance of evidence that testimony is reliable or it is disallowed. Disclosing such information to the defense will result in bodily harm to an informant. There are no cases in Nebraska in which the use of such informant testimony resulted in an injustice or wrongful conviction. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 354: Pansing Brooks.** To require that juvenile criminal records become sealed automatically after dismissal or completion of diversion, mediation, probation, or supervision programs. Parents or juveniles could request the sealing. Schools and employers then would not be aware of violent criminal behavior by such juveniles. A person who negligently, recklessly, knowingly and intentionally violates the law commits a Class V misdemeanor. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 384: Walz.** To force applicants for a broker or real estate license to take additional unnecessary classes. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 390: Pansing Brooks.** To require the state education dept. to develop a model governing the use of school cops or security guards. Training would include student rights, ethics, teen brain development, adolescent behavior, bias training, violence prevention, and diversity and multicultural awareness. Students informed of their constitutional rights. Process for students and parents to complain about a school cop to his law enforcement agency. To have a parent present during student interrogation. To force every school district having a school cop present to require them to take 20 hrs. training on school-based policing, as if police officers do not know the law. At least 1 administrator in each school must undergo like training. Detailed records kept on every student referred for prosecution and race of each student referred. The ACLU and NSEA supported this bill. LB 390 will prevent school cops from carrying out their duties. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 405: Hunt.** To require a county, city, or village which amends or modifies its local building or construction code to delete provisions of the Nebraska Energy Code to notify the State Energy Office of such amendment or modification within 30 days. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 418: Cavanaugh.** To allow the worker compensation court to appoint a power of attorney for a claim or settlement for illegal alien dependents, an added taxpayer expense. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 424: Quick.** To allow expansion of municipal land banks that compete with private businesses. All municipalities except primary cities could band together and join land banks. Non-profit land banks can acquire vacant properties, which they manage and develop, and not pay taxes, which is unfair competition with private developers. The bill would allow for issuance of debt and for a land bank to issue bonds *without a vote of the people*. The land bank in Omaha has taken over previous opportunities for private companies to assume control of abandoned properties. BAD BILL/ GENERAL FILE

**LB 433: M. Hansen.** Requires landlords to automatically provide the balance on a security deposit within 14 days of rental agreement termination. Extends from 3 days to 7 days time for tenants to pay back rent or non-payment of rent before facing eviction. Landlords must send unclaimed security deposits to the state treasurer after 30 days of non-claiming instead of retaining them. Renters understand when their rent is due. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 436: M. Hansen.** To allow the NE State Data Center the authority to form a 23-member census commission and solicit and spend private funds. The Governor already has the authority to form one. Leftists around the country are forming such commissions and relying on liberal nonprofit input to maximize the counting of prospective Democrat voters. The leftwing Common Cause supported the bill. Cost: \$110,000. BAD BILL/ PASSED/VETOED

**LB 468: Walz.** Until 7-1-2021, the welfare dept. cannot add skilled nursing facilities, nursing homes, assisted living services, and community-based services to the Medicaid managed care program that saves taxpayers money. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 492: Wayne.** To create a metropolitan transit authority and add a maximum property tax levy for it, 10c per \$100 of assessed valuation. To create or join, a 2/3rds majority of a municipality governing authority must agree. A 7-member bureaucracy could issue revenue bonds, paid for by property taxes, and seize private property by eminent domain. Only a current transit authority like MAT could convert into this regional one. A \$17 million potential tax increase for residents of Omaha, Douglas County, and Sarpy County. Presently, suburban communities can contract with MAT for bus service. The NE Dept. of Transportation is conducting an area transportation study due this summer to discern transportation needs. BAD BILL/ PASSED/ VETO OVERRIDDEN

**LB 492ov:** To override gubernatorial veto of LB 492. VETO OVERRIDDEN

**LB 533: Cavanaugh.** To amend all state statutes by using gender neutral words regarding marriage licenses, removing "husband and wife" and replacing with "applicants," to reflect same sex marriages. Nebraskans support traditional marriage, between 1 man and 1 woman. BAD BILL/ PASSED /VETO SUSTAINED

**LB 564: Bolz.** To obtain state grants for restoration and preservation of historic buildings and districts, public places, and recreation centers in a program established to help fund only community centers. Expands the definition of historic building and districts and thereby restricts owner property use rights. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 600: Walz.** To nullify the 2019 termination date for the NE Children's Commission and make it a permanent arrangement with 15 members. To expand a youth welfare program to additional young adults. To extend the authority

for the deputy public counsel for institutions for another year. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 600A: Walz.** To appropriate \$574,983 to fund LB 600. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 610: Lindstrom.** To require the state to match contributions to college savings accounts made on behalf of beneficiaries whose household income is not more than 250% of the federal poverty level. The match will equal 200% of the participant contribution, if the beneficiary household income is not more than 200% of the federal poverty level. Matches limited to \$1,000 per beneficiary annually. Each child born will become automatically enrolled in a college savings account, and parents must opt out. None of the new state funding could pay for private K-12 education expenses. This state subsidy discriminates against middle and upper income people. BAD BILL/ PASSED

**LB 619: Kolowski.** To force insurance companies to provide coverage and payment for mental health services delivered in a school or other educational setting. Non-school employees could bill insurance companies for services they administer. The leftist teachers union supported the bill. BAD BILL/ PASSED

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