

NACO Legislative Report



January 10, 2025

Video Report

Nebraska Legislature Convenes for 90-day Session

The Nebraska Legislature convened on January 8, 2025 for the 109th Legislature, First Session. Newly-elected [senators](#) were sworn in and Senator John Arch was elected as [Speaker](#). Chairs were elected for each of the Legislature's [committees](#). Committee membership was approved by the full Legislature on Friday.

Senators began bill introductions on the second [day](#) and will continue to introduce bills during the first ten days of the session. By the end of the third day, 129 bills and three constitutional amendments had been [introduced](#). Because the 2025 session marks the beginning of a new biennium, bills introduced in 2024 do not carry over to this session.

The 90-day session is expected to focus on filling the projected \$432 million gap in the state's budget. Property taxes will also be on the agenda, including [LB81](#) that is intended to address the "missing year" of property tax credits resulting from revisions to the program that were made during this summer's special session.

Some of the bills introduced thus far would enact a winner-take-all process for presidential electoral college votes ([LB3](#)) and distribute five percent of nameplate capacity taxes to community colleges ([LB50](#)). Other bills would reduce the number of hours of annual training required for law enforcement officers in counties under 40,000 ([LB73](#)) and remove weight limits for certificates of title for ATVs and UTVs ([LB98](#)).

Public hearings on introduced bills will begin on the afternoon of January 22. Hearings will conclude at the end of March and the session is tentatively scheduled to adjourn on June 9.

The Legislature's daily agenda, [session calendar](#), hearings schedules and other information is available on their [website](#). [Nebraska Public Media](#) livestreams floor debate each day.

NACO Legislative Committee To Meet January 23

NACO's Legislative Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. (CST) on Thursday, January 23 to review and take positions on bills that have been [introduced](#) through the first [eight days](#) of the 2025 legislative session. Committee members will meet in person and all county officials are invited to join a live webinar of the discussion. Each affiliate group has been asked to review the bills pertinent to their office prior to the meeting and select one of their members to speak to their recommended positions on bills. Register for the meeting [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

The Committee will meet again on January 30 to take positions on bills introduced during the final two days of introductions. A webinar will not be held so comments on those bills should be provided to your NACO Board

representative to share at the meeting.

Introduced Legislation

Here are some of the new bills that would affect counties. A complete list of bills is available [here](#).

County Operations

[LB58](#) (Sanders) Eliminate provisions relating to jeweler's liens

[LB123](#) (Sanders) Change provisions relating to withholding money due to noncompliance with budget limits and annual audits for certain political subdivisions

[LB126](#) (Holdcroft) Change provisions relating to redemption of bonds of political subdivisions

Property Tax

[LB50](#) (DeKay) Change provisions relating to the distribution of the nameplate capacity tax

[LB81](#) (Hardin) Define a term and change tax credit provisions under the Nebraska Property Tax Incentive Act

[LB107](#) (Cavanaugh, M.) Provide an income tax credit for renters and change provisions relating to a property tax credit

Elections

[LB3](#) (Lippincott) Change provisions relating to selection of presidential electors

[LB105](#) (Hughes) Change procedures for voting or election precincts for public power districts

Law Enforcement, Public Safety and Courts

[LB25](#) (Ballard) Appropriate funds to the Department of Administrative Services for interoperable communication equipment

[LB37](#) (Jacobson) Adopt the Railroad Safety Act

[LB62](#) (Brandt) Appropriate funds for certain communications equipment

[LB65](#) (DeBoer) Exempt individuals under nineteen years of age from payment of certain court costs and fees and change provisions of the Nebraska Juvenile Code

[LB73](#) (DeKay) Change the number of hours of annual continuing education required for law enforcement officers

[LB101](#) (Dungan) Provide a right to trial by jury under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act

Motor Vehicles

[LB97](#) (Fredrickson) Change provisions relating to deferred judgments, the State Boat Act, the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act, the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act, the Nebraska Rules of the Road, the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund, the Uniform Motor Vehicle Records Disclosure Act, the Motor Carrier Services Division Distributive Fund, and the State Treasurer

[LB98](#) (Moser) Redefine all-terrain vehicle and utility-type vehicle in the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act, the Motor Vehicle Registration Act, and the Nebraska Rules of the Road

[LB112](#) (Quick) Change provisions relating to salvage branded certificates of title

Planning and Zoning

[LB18](#) (Cavanaugh, J.) Require certain determinations prior to utility pole installations under the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act

[LB36](#) (Brandt) Provide for notification of certain regulations and permits to controlling entities by counties, cities, and villages under the Wellhead Protection Area Act

Foreign-Owned Property

[LB7](#) (DeKay) Change provisions relating to real estate and the Foreign-owned Real Estate National Security Act

[LB43](#) (DeKay) Change provisions relating to notice and certification requirements for electric generation facilities, transmission lines, and privately developed renewable energy generation facilities located near military installations

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