

*“The Salvation of the State is Watchfulness in the Citizen.”*

## Legislature convenes short (60-day) session

[Nebraska lawmakers](#) gathered January 4 to open the 101<sup>ST</sup> Legislature, Second Session with a new face in the body of 49. Sen. [Bob Krist](#) (Omaha) was appointed by Governor Heineman to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Sen. Mike Friend.

The dark cloud that will hang over this session is the shortfall in tax revenue from our sputtering economy. Still reeling from last November’s Special Session in which approximately \$334M was cut from the budget, senators returned this session believing even deeper cuts may be necessary. A Department of Revenue [report](#) released last Friday confirms that revenue is \$31M short of projections in December.

Bill introductions will conclude on the tenth day. After only three days, it appears there are fewer bills than usual, up to 20% fewer bills in some committees. With a virtual ban on no new spending, public policy issues or protecting existing programs will be the focus of most bills introduced this year.

Speaker Flood begins the week with [floor debate](#) on [carryover bills](#) from last session.



## NAIFA watch list

Twelve bills from the 90-day legislative session in 2009 carried-over to the 60-day session in 2010. Only a few bills have come to our attention after the first three days of bill introductions.

The list of bills on the following pages provides you information about each bill and NAIFA’s position. The list of 2010 bills is tentative as your legislative committee will meet soon to study all bills and formalize our positions. Each bill number is hyperlinked to the corresponding bill at the Nebraska Legislature’s website for complete history and status.



## NAIFA bills of interest

*Press Ctrl+Click on the [bill number](#) for detailed information*

<a href="#">LB 405</a>	Introduced by Sen. Cornett	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - SUPPORT
Change income tax provisions related to irrevocable planned gifts to Nebraska permanent endowments.			
<a href="#">LB 637</a>	Introduced by Sen. Mello	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - SUPPORT
Requires insurers or other entities that issue group health benefit plans of fifty-one or more eligible employees to provide information on an annual basis.			
<a href="#">LB 149</a>	Introduced by Sen. Pankonin	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - OPPOSE
Requires insurance coverage of prosthetics.			
<a href="#">LB 176</a>	Introduced by Sen. Lathrop	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - OPPOSE
Insurers could not use credit information in the issuance, underwriting, renewal, cancellation, or denial of insurance. Insurers could not use insurance score calculated using income, gender, address, zip code, ethnic group, religion, marital status, or nationality of the consumer as a factor.			
<a href="#">LB 159</a>	Introduced by Sen. Gay	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - SUPPORT
Allows nonrefundable income tax credit up to 25% of premiums paid for long-term care insurance.			
<a href="#">LB 378</a>	Introduced by Sen. Gloor	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - OPPOSE
Requires insurance coverage of clinical trials.			
<a href="#">LB 493</a>	Introduced by Sen. Karpisek	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - OPPOSE
Requires insurance coverage for cochlear implants.			
<a href="#">LB 197</a>	Introduced by Sen. Fulton	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
State Treasurer may transfer funds from the trust's administrative fund to its endowment fund, and proposes changes to address the difficulty in determining appropriations for trust operating costs.			
<a href="#">LB 46</a>	Introduced by Sen. Wightman	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
Clarifies actions that taken and expenses incurred in discharge of the duties of a personal representative are properly considered costs and expenses of administration of the estate.			
<a href="#">LB 66</a>	Introduced by Sen. Rogert	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
Change limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.			
<a href="#">LB 459</a>	Introduced by Sen. Harms	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
Appropriate funds that would be used for the Stay in the Game program; as reimbursement for screening and early detection of colon and rectal cancer.			
<a href="#">LB 656</a>	Introduced by Sen. Harms	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
Creates the Health Care Plan Advisory Council charged with developing recommendations for comprehensive health insurance to all residents of Nebraska, encouraging healthy lifestyles among Nebraskans, encouraging health care providers to practice in underserved areas, etc.			

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<a href="#">LB 780</a>	Introduced by Sen. Lathrop	Our Position -
Change Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act provisions relating to personal injuries.		
<a href="#">LB 813</a>	Introduced by Sen. Gloor	Our Position -
Prohibit prepaid dental service plans from limiting fees for certain services		
<a href="#">LB 814</a>	Introduced by Sen. Gloor	Our Position -
Change provisions relating to transactions exempt from securities registration.		
<a href="#">LB 816</a>	Introduced by Sen. Fischer	Our Position -
Change motor vehicle industry regulation provisions.		
<a href="#">LB 830</a>	Introduced by Sen. Coash	Our Position -
Limit small tourism business liability and encourage liability insurance.		
<a href="#">LB 832</a>	Introduced by Sen. Fischer	Our Position -
Eliminate a private insurance requirement relating to petroleum release remedial action.		
<a href="#">LB 833</a>	Introduced by Sen. Fulton	Our Position -
Provide for confidentiality of Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court records.		
<a href="#">LB 807</a>	Introduced by Sen. McCoy	Our Position -
Require automobile liability policies to be issued for a minimum term.		