

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

Fewer bills introduced

The introduction of new bills happens the first ten days of the legislative session, and January 21 was day ten. Only 427 new bills were submitted. Bills with new or increased spending proposals generally remained on the shelf until better economic times. For most of us, that is a very good thing.

Expanded gambling, particularly horseracing, came out of the gate strong with [LB 825](#). It allows betting on horseraces at newly created satellite wagering facilities. [LB 1102](#) would allow wagering on historic horseraces via video terminals. [LB 985](#) establishes charitable poker for not-for-profit organizations.

Senators now spend their mornings in floor debate, and afternoons in their respective committees, hearing public comment on the newly introduced bills. This will continue until every bill has a public hearing. Speaker Flood has indicated that full-day debate will begin March 1.

Sen. Pahls' [LB 826](#) touched a nerve in county government. To “realize efficiencies for taxpayers,” his bill calls for the reduction of counties in Nebraska from 93 to 30 by 2018. One Lincoln man testified in favor of the bill, while county officials countered with a Bo Pelini-like defense. Counties 1 - Pahls 0.



NAIFA watch list

Two more mandated benefits bills were introduced: [LB 1017](#) (Cornett) mandates requirements for insurers for prescription drug coverage, and [LB 1067](#) (Rogert) requires pulse oximetry screening for newborns.

The NAIFA-NE Legislative Committee meets Monday, January 25 to determine if we support, oppose, or remain neutral on our bills of interest. Upcoming public hearings:

LB 814 (Gloor) Monday, January 25 – Banking Commerce & Insurance Committee
LB 830 (Coash) Thursday, January 28 – Judiciary Committee
LB 958 (Giese) Friday, January 29 – Revenue Committee



NAIFA bills of interest

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

[LB 46](#) Introduced by Sen. Wightman 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - MONITOR

Clarifies that action taken and expenses incurred in discharge of the duties of a personal representative are properly considered costs and expenses of administration of the estate.

[LB 66](#) Introduced by Sen. Rogert 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - MONITOR

Change limits on contributions and gifts under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

[LB 149](#) Introduced by Sen. Pankonin 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - OPPOSE

Requires insurance coverage of prosthetics.

[LB 159](#) 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.

[LB 176](#) 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.

[LB 197](#) 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.

[LB 378](#) Introduced by Sen. Gloor 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - OPPOSE

Requires insurance coverage of clinical trials.

[LB 405](#) Introduced by Sen. Cornett 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - SUPPORT

Change income tax provisions related to irrevocable planned gifts to Nebraska permanent endowments.

[LB 459](#) 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.

[LB 493](#) Introduced by Sen. Karpisek 2009 Carryover Bill Our Position - OPPOSE

Requires insurance coverage for cochlear implants.

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NAIFA bills of interest

Ctrl+Click on the bill number for detailed information

LB 637	Introduced by Sen. Mello	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - SUPPORT
Requires insurers or other entities that issue group health benefit plans of 51 or more employees to provide information on an annual basis.			
LB 656	Introduced by Sen. Harms	2009 Carryover Bill	Our Position - MONITOR
Creates the Health Care Plan Advisory Council to develop recommendations for comprehensive health insurance to all residents of NE, encouraging healthy lifestyles and encouraging health care providers to practice in underserved areas.			
LB 693	Introduced by Sen. Price	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
Provide authorization for foreign insurers to offer health insurance in Nebraska.			
LB 807	Introduced by Sen. McCoy	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
Require automobile liability policies to be issued for a minimum term.			
LB 813	Introduced by Sen. Gloor	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
Prohibit prepaid dental service plans from limiting fees for certain services.			
LB 814	Introduced by Sen. Gloor	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
Change provisions relating to transactions exempt from securities registration.			
LB 830	Introduced by Sen. Coash	Judiciary	Our Position -
Limit small tourism business liability and encourage liability insurance.			
LB 832	Introduced by Sen. Fischer	Natural Resources	Our Position -
Eliminate a private insurance requirement relating to petroleum release remedial action.			
LB 833	Introduced by Sen. Fulton	Business & Labor	Our Position -
Provide for confidentiality of Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court records.			

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LB 912	Introduced by Sen. Pahls	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
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Prohibit occupant recovery limits in uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.

LB 958	Introduced by Sen. Giese	Revenue	Our Position -
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Exempt retirement benefits and social security benefits from income tax.

LB 959	Introduced by Sen. Lathrop	Banking	Our Position -
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Prohibit certain discriminatory acts or practices related to the business of insurance.

LB 963	Introduced by Sen. Carlson	Business & Labor	Our Position -
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Change Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act provisions governing disability compensation after retirement.

LB 1017	Introduced by Sen. Cornett	Banking & Insurance	Our Position -
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Provide requirements for insurers for prescription drug coverage.

LB 1067	Introduced by Sen. Rogert		Our Position -
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Require pulse oximetry screening for newborns.

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