

ENVIRONMENTAL PULSE
VANESSA A. SILKE, EDITOR

The Nebraska Legislature will hear and debate dozens of bills impacting environmental permitting, funding for water projects, cannabis, and drainage law.

The Second Regular Session of the 107th Nebraska Legislature convened on January 5, 2022. It will conclude on April 20, 2022. The Legislature introduced bills through January 20, 2022.

Below is a chart of the introduced bills that relate to agricultural, energy, environmental, and natural-resources law. We have also summarized each of these bills [here](#). Please contact Vanesa Silke, a registered lobbyist, to discuss any questions.

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Bill	Summary	Introducer	Committee	Hearing Date	Current Status
Agriculture					
LB 712	Change provisions of the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act	Senator Hughes	Agriculture	1/18/22	
LB 761	Adopt the Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Act and state intent regarding appropriation of federal funds	Senator Dorn	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/15/22	
LB 848	Change provisions of the Animal Health and Disease Control Act relating to catastrophic livestock mortality	Senator Halloran	Agriculture	1/25/22	
LB 889	Change provisions of the Nebraska Hemp Farming Act	Senator Halloran	Agriculture	1/25/22	
LB 970	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Agriculture for catastrophic livestock mortality and disposal events	Senator Halloran	Appropriations		
LB 1006	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for construction of new dairy processing plants	Senator Murman	Appropriations		
LB 1095	Change provisions of the Animal Health and Disease Control Act	Senator Halloran	Agriculture	2/1/22	
LB 1098	Change provisions relating to the State Fire Marshal, the Boiler Inspection Act, and the Conveyance Safety Act	Senator Halloran	Business and Labor	2/14/22	
LB 1103	Change provisions of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act	Senator Brandt	Revenue	1/28/22	
LB 1275	Adopt the Medicinal Cannabis Act	Senator Groene	Judiciary	2/23/22	

Bill	Summary	Introducer	Committee	Hearing Date	Current Status
LB 1277	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development to provide funds to a county agricultural society with facilities within a city of the primary class	Senator Clements	Appropriations		
Energy / Renewable Energy					
LB 775	Prohibit land disposal of wind turbine blades and their component parts	Senator Brewer	Natural Resources	1/19/22	
LB 837	Require the Director of Environment and Energy to provide certain Nebraska Energy Code information to the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature	Senator Hunt	Urban Affairs		
LB 969	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Environment and Energy to improve reliability and resiliency of the electric grid	Senator Dorn	Appropriations		
LB 1002	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for low-income home energy assistance	Senator McDonnell	Appropriations		
LB 1008	Prohibit a county, city, or village from restricting energy utility service	Senator Albrecht	Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs		
LB 1021	Provide for regulation of certain telecommunications companies by the Public Service Commission	Senator Friesen	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/8/22	
LB 1045	Change qualifications of certain public power district board members	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources	2/2/22	
LB 1046	Change provisions relating to selection of the board of directors and chief executive officer of certain public power districts	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources	1/27/22	
LB 1047	Change requirements regarding annual load and capability reports filed with the Nebraska Power Review Board	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources	1/27/22	
LB 1056	Provide for regulation of industrial wind turbines by counties	Senator Brewer	Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs		
LB 1058	Provide requirements for public power suppliers relating to base-load units	Senator Brewer	Natural Resources	1/28/22	
LB 1099	Create the Nebraska Hydrogen Hub Industry Work Group	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources		
LB 1100	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for a feasibility study relating to nuclear reactors	Senator Bostelman	Appropriations		

Bill	Summary	Introducer	Committee	Hearing Date	Current Status
LB 1101	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund and the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act	Senator Bostelman	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/8/22	
LB 1144	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act and the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act	Senator Friesen	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/8/22	
LB 1153	Change the number of members and qualifications for certain members of the State Electrical Board	Senator McCollister	Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs	2/3/22	
LB 1185	Change provisions relating to the powers of an electric cooperative corporation	Senator Morfeld	Natural Resources		
LB 1208	Adopt the Broadband Pole Replacement Fund Act and appropriate federal funds	Senator Friesen	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/15/22	
LB 1214	Change provisions of the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act	Senator Geist	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/8/22	
LB 1234	Provide for an expedited method of authorizing telecommunications wires to cross railroad rights-of-way	Senator Friesen	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/15/22	
LB 1266	Change provisions relating to operations of common carriers	Senator Halloran	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/14/22	
Environment					
LR 277	Interim study to determine what is needed to develop a plan to protect managed and native Nebraskan pollinators from current harmful practices	Senator Blood	Executive Board		
LB 722	Transfer and appropriate funds for lead-based paint hazard control	Senator Hilkemann	Appropriations		
LB 801	Redefine qualified location under the ImagiNE Nebraska Act	Senator Hughes	Revenue	2/2/22	
LB 924	Include cities of the first class as grant recipients under the Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Act	Senator Brewer	Natural Resources	1/28/22	
LB 925	Adopt the Resilient Soils and Water Quality Act and state intent regarding appropriations	Senator Gragert	Natural Resources	1/26/22	
LB 978	Provide powers and duties relating to the treatment of dredged and fill material under the Environmental Protection Act	Senator Hughes	Natural Resources	1/26/22	

Bill	Summary	Introducer	Committee	Hearing Date	Current Status
LB 1048	Appropriate federal funds to the University of Nebraska to evaluate the chemicals released and pollution caused by ethanol production facilities	Senator Blood	Appropriations		
LB 1102	Adopt the Nebraska Environmental Response Act and change provisions relating to enforcement of environmental protection requirements	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources	2/3/22	
LB 1149	Change registration fees for motor vehicles powered by alternative fuel	Senator Friesen	Transportation and Telecommunications	2/22/22	
LB 1186	Rename and change provisions of the Oil Pipeline Reclamation Act	Senator Bostar	Natural Resources		
LB 1255	Appropriate federal funds to the University of Nebraska for an updated climate change report	Senator Bostar	Appropriations		
LB 1257	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Transportation for grants for electric vehicle direct-current fast charging stations	Senator Bostar	Appropriations		
Natural Resources					
LB 806	Change provisions relating to drainage of land by the landowner	Senator Bostelman	Natural Resources	1/28/22	
LB 809	Change powers and duties of the Department of Environment and Energy and provisions relating to the use of certain funds relating to water	Senator Moser	Natural Resources	1/19/22	
LB 953	Change provisions relating to open burning permits and provide limitations on liability and nuisance relating to land-management burning	Senator J. Cavanaugh	Judiciary	1/21/22	
LB 1015	Adopt the Perkins County Canal Project Act	Speaker Hilgers	Natural Resources		
LB 1023	Adopt the Lake Development Act and the Water Recreation Enhancement Act	Speaker Hilgers	Natural Resources		
LB 1074	Create the Surface Water Irrigation Infrastructure Fund and provide for a transfer from the Cash Reserve Fund	Senator Bostelman	Appropriations	2/1/22	
LB 1081	Provide for a grant program for the design, construction, and implementation of water transport infrastructure under the Department of Natural Resources and state intent to appropriate federal funds	Senator Bostar	Natural Resources		

Bill	Summary	Introducer	Committee	Hearing Date	Current Status
LB 1082	Require the Game and Parks Commission to provide certain organ and tissue donation information on applications for certain hunting and fishing permits	Senator Gragert	Natural Resources	2/2/22	
LB 1160	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Environment and Energy for reverse osmosis systems	Senator Wishart	Appropriations		
LB 1191	Appropriate federal funds to the Commission on Indian Affairs to improve tribal-owned community drinking water	Senator Brewer	Appropriations		
LB 1196	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for lead service line replacements for a utilities district	Senator McDonnell	Appropriations		
LB 1248	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Environment and Energy for a municipal water treatment plant	Senator B. Hansen	Appropriations		
LB 1262	Adopt the Recreation Area Assistance Act and state intent regarding appropriation of federal funds	Senator Murman	Natural Resources	2/3/22	