

Legislative Update

9/14/2021

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State Legislative Update



2021 Nebraska Legislative Calendar

Nebraska's 107th Legislature

- January 6th – Legislature convened at 10 am
- January 20th – Last day of bill introduction
- January 25th – All day public hearings begin
- March 4th - Date to complete committee hearings, except Judiciary Committee on introduced bills
- March 10th – Deadline for Speaker priority requests
- March 12th – Deadline for designation of Committee and Senator priority bills (extended)
- March 12th - Judiciary Committee hearings to be completed
- March 15th – Full-day debate
- May 27th – Sine die
- September 13th – 30th Special Session on redistricting

2021 Special Session

- Convene September 13th - Sine Die September 30th
 - September 27th, 28th, 29th Recess days
- The Redistricting Committee could not agree on which plan to forward, so they will be presenting both sets of maps for the hearings on September 14-16.
 - Committee members consist of Senators: Carol Blood, Tom Briese, Tom Brewer, Suzanne Geist, Steve Lathrop, John Lowe, Adam Morfeld, Justin Wayne
- Maps have been provided to Senators of the various existing districts with their deviation rates from the ideal size. This will be the basis of their work.
- The Committee will hold hearings in the 3 congressional districts
 - September 14th - Grand Island
 - September 15th - Capitol in Lincoln
 - September 16th - Omaha at the Scott Conference Center

2021 Special Session

- September 14th – 16th Standing Committees will conduct gubernatorial appointments for the following committees;
 - Education, General Affairs, Government, HHS, Natural Resources, Judiciary, Business and Labor and Retirement
- General File debate will begin on September 17th
 - Saturday, September 18th is a working day
- September 24th work must be completed

2021 Legislative Resolutions - Interim Studies

LR & Current Status	Summary
LR 23 Erdman	Interim study to examine the progress of natural resources districts in fulfilling their originally intended purpose. Includes a study of flood control
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Natural Resources Committee</i>
LR 34 Slama	Interim study to examine the structure and funding of the Nebraska Environmental Trust. OPPD has received \$600,000 for battery storage, butterfly and EV charging station grants over the years
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Natural Resources Committee</i>
LR 83 M. Hansen	Interim study to examine the gubernatorial appointment process of members to boards, commissions and similar entities
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Executive Board</i>
LR 102 Wishart	Provide the Legislature take steps to combat the climate and ecological crisis
	<i>4/22/21 Referred to Natural Resources Committee</i>
LR 106 Kolterman	Interim Study to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions as required by 13-2402.
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee. 11/6/21 Hearing scheduled</i>

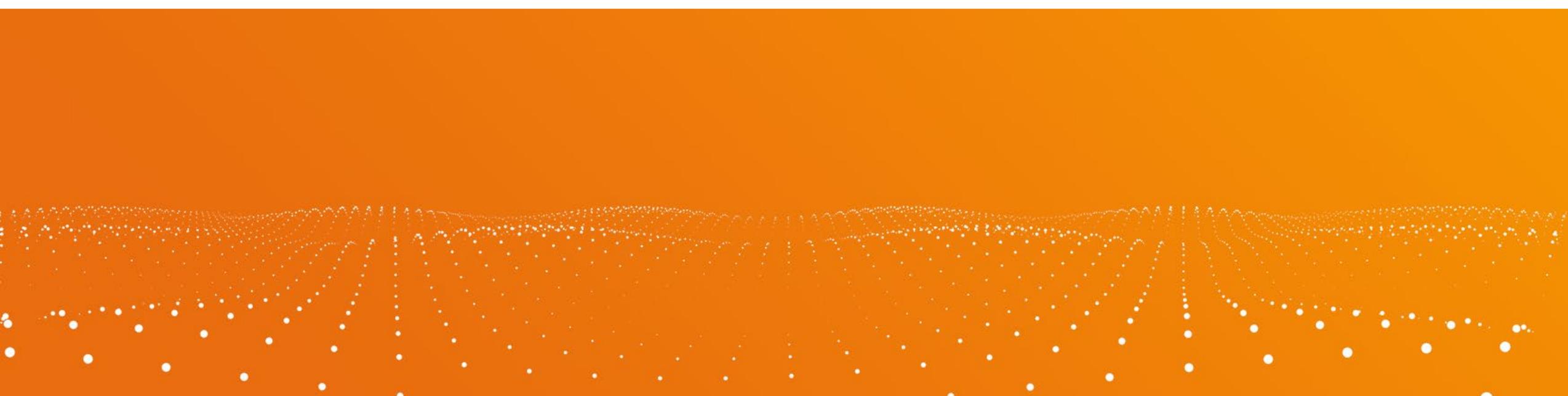
2021 Legislative Resolutions - Interim Studies

LR & Current Status	Summary
LR 136 Brewer	Interim Study to examine and evaluate the causes, costs, and impacts of rolling electrical power outages during the extreme weather events of February 2021
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Natural Resources Committee</i>
LR 147 J. Cavanaugh	Interim study to examine the transfer of state-owned property to local political subdivisions
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee</i>
LR 170 McKinney	Interim study to examine the potential impact that innovation hubs could have in Nebraska
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Business and Labor Committee. 8/11/21 hearing held</i>
LR 193 De Boer	Interim study to examine broadband mapping and broadband speed testing in Nebraska
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunications Committee</i>
LR 199 Slama	Interim study to examine the creation of rural economic development program
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee</i>

2021 Legislative Resolutions - Interim Studies

LR & Current Status	Summary
LR 202 HHS Committee	Interim study to examine federal legislation regarding COVID-19 pandemic assistance
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to HHS Committee</i>
LR 211 Lowe	Interim study to examine issues related to adopting construction codes
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Urban Affairs Committee, Hearing held August 6</i>
LR 234 Friesen	Interim study to examine issues related to the regulation and taxation of electric vehicles
	<i>5/20/21 Referred to Transportation and Telecommunication Committee</i>
LR 246 NR Committee	Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Committee
	<i>5/26/21 Referred to Natural Resources Committee</i>

Federal Legislative Update



Federal Update

- Infrastructure and budget reconciliation packages are the major focus.
 - The bipartisan \$1.2 trillion, infrastructure package (H.R. 3684) passed Senate 69-30 on August 10th. House scheduled to vote September 27th.
 - Committee markups for \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation due September 15th.
- Other major bills of interest:
 - H.R. 848, the GREEN Act (renewable energy tax incentives).
 - H.R. 1512, the CLEAN Future Act (Clean Energy Standard) – the basis for the House Climate Package.
 - H.R. 1848, LIFT America Act

*House committees are expected to incorporate components of these bills into the budget reconciliation package.
- 7850 bills introduced in the 117th Congress as of September 2nd

Infrastructure and Budget Reconciliation Negotiations

The \$3.5 trillion budget resolution passed the House on August 24, prompting Senate committees to draft legislation for the final spending bill by a target date of September 15.

- Instructions given to House and Senate Committees may provide funding for various programs including the following:
- A Clean Electricity Payment Program (CEPP)
- Clean energy, manufacturing, and transportation tax incentives and grants
- New polluter fees (methane and carbon imports)
- Investments in climate, smart agriculture, and forest management for farmers and rural communities
- Coastal and ocean resiliency programs
- Investments in drought and wildfire prevention and the Department of the Interior
- New consumer rebates for home electrification and weatherization
- Environmental justice and climate resilience
- Investments in federal vehicle fleet and buildings electrification