

2022 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE—END OF SESSION April 15,2022

AGC Nebraska Building Chapter 2022 LEGISLATIVE BILLS OF INTEREST- EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

- [LB730](#) [Lindstrom](#) Adopt the Growing Our Workforce Investment Now Act and provide tax credits- Defines industry-recognized credential and other terms including “apprentice” AND “qualified trainee”. An employer that employs a qualified apprentice or trainee for at least seven months of taxable year shall be allowed a nonrefundable credit against the income tax imposed by State. The credit shall be equal to \$1,000 for each such qualified apprentice or trainee employed. The credit can be claimed for up to 4 years. **SUPPORT This bill was a Revenue Committee Priority bill. We testified in support of this bill at hearing on 2-9-22. The original LB730 later landed in AM 2087 Sec. 1-5. This provides non-refundable state income tax credits to businesses that employee employ qualified apprentices OR qualified trainees. The Chapter supported 730 with public testimony at the public hearing in early February because it provided for an array of types of training. With the Amendment the bill also included the main concepts of LB 701,702,1103,1117, and 1237. Unfortunately, 1237 was controversial at hearing so it was likely the demise of the entire bill and time ran out. It did not advance.**
- [LB778](#) [Brewer](#) Adopt the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act- This is pretty much the same bill as in 2017 and 2019. Only real wording change is Sec. 4 (3) regarding scoring criteria on p.4 line 6-8. **SUPPORT In Government Affairs Committee Hearing was 1-27-22. Bill did not get out of committee or have a priority designation. Once again it waits for another year.**
- [LB847](#) [Wishart](#) Redefine political subdivision under the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act- Adds metropolitan utilities district, public power district, public power and irrigation districts to the definition of political subdivision in the Act. **This bill passes and was signed by the Governor on March 14th**
- [LB884](#) [Cavanaugh, M.](#) Provide notice to private residential owners under the One-Call Notification System Act- includes private residential owners in the chain of notification before excavating on their property; defines “sewer plane; clarifies that underground facilities includes private sewer lines owned by private residential owners if lines operate at sewer depth within the sewer plane. **MONITOR- NUCA IS HANDLING Transportation Committee Hearing date 1-25-22 Did not get out of committee or have a priority designation.**

LB1037	Arch	Require the Department of Administrative Services to contract for an evaluation of the state's procurement practices INFORMATIONAL- MONITOR This bill was Arch's Priority Bill. It was amended to include obtaining an electronic procurement system. Portion of electronic system to be paid for by bidders & contractors. Passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor.
LB1085	Pansing Brooks	Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education for career and technical educational student organizations. Allocate \$5M for FY 22-23 from Fed funds and \$1.3M each year beginning FY 22-23 state funds to Dept. of Education for Career & Tech Education in middle and high school to extend the classroom to real-world learning experiences; carrying out the Center for Student Leadership activities; and support student organizations. SUPPORT Appropriations Committee had hearing for bill on 2-28-22. We submitted a letter of support. Did not advance.
LB1093	Flood	Adopt the Enhancement Project Financing Assistance Act and provide for the use of certain sales tax revenue- A financing tool for Villages within 5 miles of a NE state park to improve their infrastructure; build lodging; build things that bring in and enhance tourism, etc. Allows the village to use Revenue Bonds and some state assistance on approved projects to pay back bonds over time from sales tax revenue. Introduced for the village of Niobrara. INFORMATIONAL
LB1125	Aguilar	Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for new construction of industrial rail yards- Sets a \$75M appropriation to DED to provide grants for the construction of new rail yards needed to overcome logistical and supply chain disruption challenges by Covid. INFORMATIONAL
LB1153	McCollister	Change the number of members and qualifications for certain members of the State Electrical Board- Will increase Board from 7 to 9 members. Will require that 2 members (rather than current 1) be a journeyman electrician, one of which must be a labor union member and e selected from a list of recommended ones from such organization. Will also require 2 members be electrical

contractors OR master electricians, one of which must be affiliated with an electrical union and selected from a recommended list. **At the Government Affairs Committee Hearing, 2-3-22, the introducer stated that this bill will be amended into the credentialing bill LB263 which is still in Committee and is not a priority bill. LB 263 died in committee. Senators tried to amend 1153 onto another bill late in session; that attempt was defeated.**

[LB1166](#)

[Sanders](#)

Change provisions of the One-Call Notification System Act- Changes One-Call Act as follows, “excavators shall not be strictly liable to the operator for the cost of all repairs to any underground facility that is a telecommunications line on residential property buried at a distance of 12” or more from a building and at a depth of less than 10”. It goes on to define “telecommunications line”
MONITOR Not a priority bill.

[LB1167](#)

[Flood](#)

Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Economic Development for internships and expanding and retaining Nebraska's workforce- Appropriates \$30M in ARP Act funds to DED to create an internship grant program. Also, bill appropriates another \$20M to NDOL for other training and apprenticeship upscaling. **SUPPORT We submitted a letter of support for hearing before Appropriations Committee on 2-24-22. Parts of 1167 survived and got included in the cash fund transfer bill (LB 1012) It take \$20M out of Cash Reserve Funds to enhance the build out of the NE InternNE Program, LB1014, which allocates the ARPA funds, includes \$10M for apprenticeship and customized workforce training programs.**

[LB1232](#)

[McDonnell](#)

Appropriate funds from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Department of Economic Development for a capital construction grant for the United States Strategic Command Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications public-private partnership facility- Sets \$20M from Cash Reserve to DED to provide Capital Construction Grant to appropriate entity that provides documentation of support from U.S. Strategic Command to develop a public-private partnership AND documentation of a \$20M match in private or other funds. **The funding for 1232 was included in the cash transfer bill passed as (LB 1012). It takes \$20M out of Cash Reserve Funds for intent of LB1232.**

[LB250](#)

[Hunt](#)

Adopt the Interior Design Voluntary Registration Act- Establish rules and regulations for licensing Interior Designers on a voluntary basis. The program would be implemented by the State Treasurer. AIA-Nebraska is very much against

this and has asked that as in the past we side with them to oppose this bill. **CARRY OVER BILL Oppose—On General File with 6 AMs filed. Have spent much time working with a coalition group on this bill in first session and again this session. Time did run out without any action this session. Bill is dead until another time.**