

The Nebraska ENGINEER

legislative update

Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers- *A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers*

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The Ninety-Ninth Legislature convened on Wednesday, January 4, 2006. On January 12, 2006, Governor Heineman delivered the State of the State Address. The Governor noted that this was the "beginning of a unique session." When the session adjourns in April, the body will lose 20 Senators with a vast amount of expertise and knowledge. Issues that are likely to dominate the 2006 legislative session include: tax relief, water issues, Medicaid reform, and the school district boundary debate.

The Legislature spent the week of January 16, 2006 debating bills in the morning and held public hearings in the afternoon. The Natural Resources committee heard bills dealing with state water policy in an effort to clarify legislation passed in 2004. The committee advanced LB 933 – a bill that makes technical changes to the Water Policy Task Force's recommendation for water policy changes.

Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee advanced LB 817 that would increase the salaries of the state's six constitutional officers (governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, attorney general, and treasurer) and the members of the Public Service Commission.

The Health and Human Services Committee heard public testimony on two bills that would restructure the Health and Human Services System, merging the three agencies back into one and eliminating the position of the Policy Secretary.

Bills of Interest at a Glance: (click bill number to jump to bill summary)

A RECAP OF BILLS INTRODUCED IN 2005

LB 248 (Baker)	Prohibit certain city taxes, change motor fuel tax rates, and restrict use of certain tax revenue. Raises the tax from 10 ½ cents to 12 ½ cents per gallon. Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 147.
LB 359 (Kremer)	Change qualifications for the Director of Natural Resources. Status: Held in committee.
LB 814 (Hudkins)	Change motor fuel taxes and reallocate certain sales tax.
LB 829 (Baker)	Prohibit municipal taxes on motor fuel and change provisions relating to roads funds.
LB 857 (Smith)	Change motor fuel sales tax revenue distribution.
LB 906 (Price)	Change applicability of the Contractor Registration Act and provide for a surety bond.
LB 935 (Beutler)	Change distribution and allocation of certain sales tax revenue and roads funds.
LB 1065 (Johnson)	Change distribution of certain sales tax revenue and create the Expressway Expansion Fund.
LB 1097 (Schrock)	Create the Storm Water Management Plan Program.
LB 1147 (Kremer)	Eliminates the qualifications of the Director of Natural Resources. <i>Natural Resources/February 2, 2006</i>

A RECAP OF BILLS INTRODUCED IN 2005

- LB 10 (Landis) Changes the definition of employer for purposes of discriminator wage practices based upon gender. Decreases the number of employees from 25 to 15.
Business & Labor/January 24, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor March 22, 2005.
- LB 42 (Redfield) Changes provisions relating to the Nebraska Construction Lien Act. Protects homeowners who have paid a contractor for the work that has been done on their homes when the contractor has failed to pay a subcontractor. The subcontractor is prohibited from filing a lien on the homeowner's property.
Judiciary/January 21, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 43 (Redfield) Provides immunity for employers for disclosure of certain employment information. Provides civil immunity to an employer who discloses certain information to a prospective employer about a current or previous employee.
Judiciary/February 23, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 66 (Don Pederson) Provide for special valuation of historically significant real property. Enabling legislation for a constitutional amendment that was passed in November 2004. Allows for a property tax abatement when a historical property is renovated.
Revenue/January 19, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor May 31, 2005.
- LB 75 (Beutler) Authorize certain cities to make public improvements and assess the cost. Permits Omaha and Lincoln to make public improvements then assess the cost to the property improved. See storm water issue LB 102.
Urban Affairs/January 18, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 22.
- LB 77 (Baker) Eliminates the Motor Vehicle Tax Fund and requires motor vehicle registration fees to be deposited into the Highway Allocation Fund so that such fees are strictly used for county road purposes.
Transportation/January 18, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File.
- LB 102 (NRC) Authorize natural resources districts, counties and certain cities to establish and fund storm water management areas. Permits local authorities to create stormwater management areas and then assess those costs to the property owners.
Natural Resources/January 19, 2005
Status: Held in Committee.
- LB 122 (Cunningham) Provide an exemption and registry under the Boiler Inspection Act. Amends the Boiler Inspection Act.
Business & Labor/January 2, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor March 25, 2005.
- LB 166 (Synowiecki) Changes provisions relating to contractor registration. Changes provisions within the Contractors Registration Act, including increasing the fee for an application from \$25 to \$100.
Business & Labor/February 14, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 566.
- LB 184 (Don Pederson) Create a fund to implement the low-level radioactive waste settlement. Creates the fund but unclear as to how it will be funded.
Appropriations/February 17, 2005
Status: Held in committee.

- LB 201 (Cuddaback) Adopt the 2005 National Electrical Code.
Status: Approved by Governor March 25, 2005.
- LB 248 (Baker) Prohibit certain city taxes, change motor fuel tax rates, and restrict use of certain tax revenue. Raises the tax from 10 ½ cents to 12 ½ cents per gallon. Restricts how the money may be used and prohibits a city from levying an occupation tax on motor fuels.
Revenue Committee/January 27, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 147.
- LB 252 (Baker) Prohibit certain city taxes, change motor fuel tax rates, and restrict use of certain tax revenue. Raises the city and county tax from 2 cents to 4 cents per gallon. Restricts how the money can get used and prohibits a city from levying an occupation tax on motor fuels.
Revenue Committee/January 27, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed February 22, 2005.
- LB 253 (Baker) Prohibit certain city taxes, change motor fuel tax rates and restrict use of certain tax revenue. Raises the city and county tax from 2 cents to 4 cents per gallon. Restricts how the money can be used and prohibits a city from levying an occupation tax on motor fuels.
Revenue Committee/January 27, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed January 31, 2005.
- LB 255 (Redfield) Allow a bidding preference for resident bidders.
Government Committee/February 4, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed February 11, 2005.
- LB 280 (Thompson) Provide additional abuse and neglect reporting requirements. Computer technicians would be mandatory reporters of abuse.
Judiciary/February 27, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 293 (Schimek) Change application review procedures under the Livestock Waste Management Act. Affords the counties 30 days to respond to the department regarding an application instead of the 20 days currently in statute.
Natural Resources/February 16
Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 801.
- LB 325 (Raikes) Change and eliminate provisions relating to ethanol and the Ethanol Board and change fees.
Revenue/February 2, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File with Committee Amendment 295.
- LB 342 (Baker) Eliminate an advisory committee relating to a soil and water resources data bank. Repeals §2-1570 that provides for a technical advisory committee.
Natural Resources Committee/February 4, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor March 28, 2005.
- LB 351 (Preister) Change membership provisions on the Environmental Quality Council. Adds a low income/minority individual an environmental health professional, and a biologist.
Natural Resources Committee/February 23, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor April 27, 2005.
- LB 359 (Kremer) Change qualifications for the Director of Natural Resources. Removes the requirement that the Director of the Department of Natural Resources be a professional engineer. However, this bill allows either the director, deputy director, or the director of water administration to be a professional.
Natural Resources/January 26, 2005
Status: Held in committee.

- LB 394 (Redfield) Exempt certain business owners from the Employment Security Law
Business/January 31, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File.
- LB 459 (Beutler) Requires political action committees to pay a registration fee/filing of \$100.
Government/February 24, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 470 (Johnson) Provide direction to the Department of Roads relating to state roads projects.
Transportation/February 22, 2005
Status: Held in committee Johnson's 2005 priority bill and Johnson filed AM 485.
- LB 489 (Business & Labor) Change elevator inspection provisions.
Business/March 14, 2005
Status: Advanced to General File AM 1006.
- LB 490 (Thompson) Regulate access to geographic computer data bases
Government/February 16, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 508 (Schrock) Change cost-share provisions for decommissioning illegal water wells. Repeals a section of law that requires a public official to only accept plans, specifications, geologic maps, and reports that have been prepared in accordance with the Geologist Regulation Act.
Natural Resources/January 26, 2006
Status: General File Floor Amendment 77.
- LB 526 (Connealy) Provide ethanol production incentives and funding.
Revenue/February 2, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 547 (Johnson) Provide additional members of the Board of Engineers and Architects. Increases the number of representatives on the Board of Engineering and Architecture. Representation from a local code official, a building contractor, a home builder, a municipal official other than the local code enforcement official, and a real estate broker or salesperson.
Health & Human Services Committee/February 4, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed March 9, 2005.
- LB 555 (Beutler) Increase motor fuel taxes and distribute the revenue for street and road purposes. Adds an excise tax of 2 cents on all fuel. Allocates half to counties and half to cities which will then be distributed on a per capita basis.
Revenue Committee/January 27, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed January 31, 2005.
- LB 564 (Janssen) Provide requirements relating to contracts dealing with payment of federal excise tax. Impact engineering firms doing business.
Banking/February 15, 2005
Status: General File.
- LB 565 (Wehrbein) Adopt the Land Information System Program Act and provide funding. Develop easy access to accurate public land records and road and street addresses. Land surveyors and county highway superintendents referenced in bill.
Government/February 16, 2005
Status: Held.

- LB 608 (Bourne) Adopt the Thermal System Insulation and Firestop Act
Requires that persons installing, renovating, maintaining a thermal system insulation or firestop product must be licensed under the act. Requires the committee to consult with engineers and other organizations interested in public safety and health related to firestop products and mold before adopting rules and regulations.
Business/March 14, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 614 (Pahls) Authorize salary adjustments for employees of the State Electrical Division.
Appropriations/February 23, 2005
Status: Select File, Committee Amendment adopted, Schimek motion to bracket until June 3, 2005 prevailed.
- LB 615 (Howard) Exempt sales tax on residential repairs. Exempts the first \$5,000 from sales and use tax of contractor labor for residential home repairs.
Revenue Committee/February 24, 2005
Status: Indefinitely postponed March 29, 2005.
- LB 630 (Wehrbein) Require an annexing city or village to reimburse rural water districts.
Urban Affairs Committee/February 22, 2005
Status: Indefinitely Postponed.
- LB 639 (Hudkins) Include proposed beltways on the corridor location map. Defines the term beltway. Whenever the Department of Roads has received a corridor location approval for a proposed state highway or proposed beltway location in any county/municipality, DOR must prepare a map of such corridor, showing the location.
Transportation & Telecommunications Committee/ Feb. 14, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor March 28, 2005.
- LB 646 (Brashear) Adopt the Advantage Nebraska Act. The Advantage Nebraska Act encourages new businesses to locate to and existing businesses to expand and modernize in Nebraska and provide inducements to encourage new/existing businesses to do so. The goals of the policy: 1) aid in the economic and population growth of the state and 2) assist in the creation of better jobs for residents of Nebraska.
Health & Human Services Committee/February 23, 2005
Status: Approved by Governor May 31, 2005.
- LB 656 (Preister) Change provisions of and provide funding for the Workplace Safety Consultation Act.
Business/March 14, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 657 (Preister) Change provisions relating to service contracts with state agencies.
Government/March 2, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 660 (Beutler) Adopt the Home Inspector Licensing Act
Creates the Home Inspector Licensing Board, consisting of the Secretary of State and 4 members appointed by the Governor. The board shall establish procedures for the Secretary of State to receive applications for licensure under the Home Inspection Licensing Act, establish appropriate administrative procedures for processing applications, and issue licenses to qualified applications. The Board shall also adopt/publish a code of ethics and collect all licensing fees.
Judiciary/March 2, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 661 (Price) Change employment provisions and adopt the Advocacy Leave Act
Business/March 14, 2005
Status: Held in committee.

- LB 679 (Don Pederson) Change the amounts and procedures for proposing the issuance of highway bonds.
Appropriations/March 10, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 697 (Brown) Rename the Department of Roads
Transportation
Status: Advanced to General File with Com Am 723.
- LB 731 (Bourne) Provide requirements for rules and regulations under the Environmental Protection Act. The council shall not promulgate rules or regulations to carry out the EPA, or any other acts referenced in the EPA, that are more stringent than any corresponding rule or regulation promulgated by the administrator of the US EPA or otherwise administered by federal law. The council may propose to adopt rules and regs that are more stringent than corresponding federal regs if, prior to the public hearing the council provides a written statement and explains why such rules and regs are needed.
Natural Resources/February 23, 2005
Status: Held in committee.
- LB 753 (Bourne) Change a sales tax for construction services.
Revenue Committee
Status: Approved by Governor May 31, 2005.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 2006

- LB 775 (Wehrbein) Change the sales tax rate. Commencing on the start of the first calendar quarter after July 20, 2002 and until October 1, 2006 the rate of the sales tax levied shall be 5 ½ percent. Commencing October 1, 2006, the rate of the sales tax levied shall be 5%. Strikes the language permitting proceeds equal to any sales tax rate provided for in excess of 5% derived from motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers be credited to the General Fund.
Revenue/February 2, 2006
- LB 805 (Natural Resources) Create the Interrelated Water Management Plan Program whose purpose is to facilitate and fund the duties of natural resources districts arising under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act. This program is to be a grant program administered by the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources upon recommendations by the Commission. Requires the natural resources districts to provide a minimum, a local revenue match comprising 20% of the total project.
Natural Resources/January 18, 2006
Status: Advanced to General File.
- LB 806 (Landis) Adopt the car Tax Reduction Act. The purpose of the act is to reduce the motor vehicle tax levied on passenger cars and trucks registered for three tons or less. The tax relief will be distributed to owners of such passenger cars and trucks in the form of a motor vehicle tax credit that will be reimbursed to local governments from excess revenue collected by the state and appropriated for such purposes. For 2007, the amount of relief granted would be \$80 million.
Revenue/February 2, 2006
- LB 808 (Landis) Change income tax and sales tax rates
Revenue/February 2, 2006

- LB 814 (Hudkins) Change motor fuel taxes and reallocate certain sales tax. Raises the motor fuel excise tax from 10 ½ to 11 ½ cents per gallon and from 2 to 4 cents per gallon for producers, distributors, wholesalers, importers and suppliers and reallocate all such sales tax revenues to the Highway Trust Fund.
Revenue Committee/TBD
- LB 829 (Baker) Prohibit municipal taxes on motor fuel and change provisions relating to roads funds. Prohibits a city council from levying an occupation or business tax related to motor fuel. Any occupation or business tax related to motor fuel adopted prior to the operative date of this act would terminate on the operative date of this act. Also, money derived from sales and use taxes imposed upon motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers would be further restricted than current law allows.
Revenue Committee/TBD
- LB 837 (Redfield) Change distribution of Purple Heart license plate fees from the Highway Trust Fund to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Endowment Fund.
Transportation Committee/TBD
- LB 843 (Combs) Require an employer to provide reason for employee termination. Specifically, it provides employees both in the public sector and the private sector, minimal procedural due process before they can be terminated from their employment. It does not pertain to persons who are exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 213, nor does it pertain to employees whose employment rights are governed by other statutes or collectively bargained agreements. Before such persons are terminated, they are entitled to be told the reason(s) for the termination and then be given a meaningful opportunity to respond.
Business/January 23, 2006
- LB 848 (Connealy) Establish a renewable fuel content standard for gasoline. Beginning January 1, 2007 all gasoline offered for sale, sold or dispensed for use as motor fuel shall contain a renewable fuel content equal to or greater than 3 ½ percent by weight. Gasoline shall be exempt from the requirements if:
- a)for use in historical vehicle, off-road vehicle, motorcycles, boats, snowmobiles, small engines, and the exempted gas is dispensed into a can with a capacity of 6 or fewer gallons, the exempted gas is premium grade, and no more than one storage tank on premises is used for exempted gas.
 - b)premium grade fuel containing 91 or more octane
 - c) offered for sale, sold or dispensed at an airport
- Natural Resources Committee/TBD*
- LB 857 (Smith) Change motor fuel sales tax revenue distribution. Provide that the motor vehicle sales tax revenue in excess of 5% be credited to the Highway Trust Fund rather than the General Fund.
Revenue Committee/TBD
- LB 883 (Kopplin) The following excerpt is taken from the bill's Statement of Intent:
Rename the County Industrial Sewer Construction Act and provide for residential sewerage development. The current act provides counties with the statutory authority to construct sanitary sewer systems or make improvements to current systems for commercial or industrial purposes. The proposed change in the act recognizes that development of commercial and industrial facilities and the infrastructure necessary to serve those developments invariably leads to residential development in nearby areas which are oft times outside the zoning jurisdiction of local municipalities. With this bill, the county, through sound planning and management, can provide the appropriate infrastructure necessary to ensure environmental standards are maintained, prevent future threats to public health and safety, reduce overall costs of development and maintain the purity of local water supplies.
Government/January 20, 2006

- LB 888 (Landis) Proposed by the Department of Revenue to change several provisions of various tax incentive programs. To clarify and enhance administration of tax incentive acts, primarily the Nebraska Advantage Act. These changes are largely clarification, but the proposal also calls for the audit of the Nebraska Advantage Act that is performed each January 1 should not be performed if there are insufficient beneficiaries to perform the audit without disclosing confidential information.
Revenue Committee/January 19, 2006
- LB 898 (Preister) Change provisions relating to the Open Meetings Act
Amends closed session provisions, more specified agendas, posting of open meetings act in meeting room, and raising objections of violation during the meeting.
Government Committee/January 25, 2006
- LB 899 (Preister) Provide powers and duties to the Public Counsel. Gives citizens and public bodies an alternative advisory resource regarding questions and concerns about interpretations and possible violation of the state Open Meetings and Public Records provisions. A new staff member in the Public Counsel's office would be responsible for addressing these issues. Jurisdiction extends to all Nebraska public bodies.
Government/January 25, 2006
- LB 900 (Preister) Redefine public body for purposes of the Open Meetings Act. Currently both the Supreme Court of Nebraska has ruled, and the Attorney General's office has issued opinions, taking the position that any public body exercising a quasi-judicial function is exempt from the requirements of the Open Meetings Act. Under LB 900, a public body conducting quasi-judicial proceedings would be subject to the Open Meetings Act.
Government/January 25, 2006.
- LB 901 (Preister) Modify procedures for the granting of variances and renewals by the Director of Environmental Quality. Pursuant to current law, the Nebraska Environmental Protection Act which is administered by the Department of Environmental Quality requires public notice of any application for renewal of a variance. However, public notice is not required for an application for a new variance. This bills calls for public notice for any new application for a variance and published in the county in which the facility is located.
Natural Resources Committee/January 26, 2006
- LB 902 (Preister) Change provisions relating to state contract for services by proposing a cost-benefit analysis requirements apply to all contracts over \$50,000 if the job functions are being performed or have been performed within the past 12 months by a state employee covered by the classified personnel system or labor contract. There are a number of contracts and services which would be exempt from this requirement, including additional services identified in §73-507.
Government, January 25, 2006
- LB 904 (Baker) Change the distribution of certain sales tax proceeds. Until October 1, 2006, the proceeds equal to any sales tax rate provided for ... in excess of 5 % derived from motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers shall be credited to the General Fund.
Revenue/March 1, 2006
- LB 906 (Price) Change applicability of the Contractor Registration Act and provide for a surety bond. Requires all contractors doing business in Nebraska to register with the Department of Labor. The bill also requires such contractors to maintain a surety bond in the amount of \$10,000 as unit coverage for each consumer of the business. Current law requires contractors to register only if they do business in counties within a population of over one hundred thousand people and the registration fee is \$25.
Business/January 23, 2006
- LB 918 (Mines) Adopt the Personal Information Privacy Act.
Judiciary/January 26, 2006

- LB 930 (Beutler) Establish a water conservation fee and provide for its use beginning in 2006. The fee shall be imposed on irrigated real property on a per-acre basis and on municipal water service on a per capita basis in the amounts determined by the director. Establishes a fee on irrigated acres and municipal use without setting the amount of the fee.
Natural Resources/January 18, 2006
Status: Indefinitely postponed January 23, 2006.
- LB 933 (Natural Resources) Change provisions relating to water resources. Clean-up legislation designed to address issues that developed following the passage of LB 962 in 2004. these technical changes cover a broad range, including but not limited to, the correction of inaccuracies, the clarification of provisions, the addition of notice requirement and the addition of definitions. The proposed changes were developed by the department in cooperation with the surface water and ground water subcommittees of the Water Policy Task Force and were approved by the entire Task Force.
Natural Resources/January 18, 2006
Bill Status: Advanced to General File – Committee Amendment 1915.
- LB 935 (Beutler) Change distribution and allocation of certain sales tax revenue and roads funds. Amends the distribution and allocation of sales tax revenue and roads funds. The bill would provide that the State Treasurer monthly distribute the proceeds equal to a sales tax rate of one-half percent derived from motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers from the proceeds of sales and use taxes credited to the highway Trust Fund as follows: (a) one-half of such amount distributed to the counties and municipal counties for road construction purposes on a per-capita basis calculated using the most recent federal census figures certified by the Tax Commissioner; and b)one-half of such amount distributed to the municipalities and municipal counties for road construction purposes on a per capital basis calculated using the most recent federal census figures certified by the Tax Commissioner.
Revenue Committee/TBD
- LB 967 (Howard) Terminate the construction labor sales tax on residential home repairs on primary residence. Repeals the tax imposed on labor for repairs made to residential homes.
Revenue Committee/February 2, 2006
- LB 977 (Schrock) Change motor fuel tax rates
Revenue/February 15, 2006
- LB 981 (Thompson) Modify public records statutes to include geographical information systems data.
Government/TBD
- LB 1056 (Raikes) Modify the factors and weight used in determining the amount allocated to counties for roads. In the municipal formula, the weight for population is increased from fifty to sixty percent, while the weights for motor vehicle registrations and lane miles are each reduced by five percent to twenty-five and fifteen percent respectively. In the county formula, additional weight is given to the total population and total motor vehicle registration factors. These factors are increased to fifteen percent, upon from ten percent in the current formula. To accommodate this increase, the rural population and rural motor vehicle registration factors are reduced from twenty to fifteen percent. The weights for the remaining factors are unchanged.
Transportation & Telecommunications/January 24, 2006
- LB 1057 (Brown) Create the Roads to Economic Development Fund and provide for its use and change county road funding. This will fund roads and streets infrastructure that furthers economic development in the state of Nebraska. The bill would allow the state of Nebraska to be more responsive to proposed projects. The bill also alters the distribution formula for roads aid to local political subdivisions. This new formula result in a more equitable, population based distribution of road tax revenues to counties.
Transportation & Telecommunications/January 24, 2006

- LB 1065 (Johnson) Change distribution of certain sales tax revenue and create the Expressway Expansion Fund. Changes the distribution of sales tax from motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers in excess of five percent.
Transportation & Telecommunications/January 24, 2006
- LB 1077 (Schrock) Appropriate funds to the Department of Natural Resources
Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund for FY2006-09 to the Department of Natural Resources to be used for funding the duties of natural resources districts under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act to carry out an interrelated water management plan program.
Appropriations Committee/February 1, 2006
- LB 1084 (Cunningham) Transfer boiler, amusement ride, and elevator inspection to the State Fire Marshal.
Government/TBD
- LB 1091 (Business & Labor) Provide a penalty for nonpayment or late payment of wages
Business/TBD
- LB 1092 (Business & Labor) Prohibit certain fraudulent acts with respect to workers' compensation.
Business/TBD
- LB 1097 (Schrock) Create the Storm Water Management Plan Program.
The purposes of the plan are facilitation and funding of the duties of cities arising under the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq. as such act existed on January 1, 2006 regarding storm water runoff under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements. The Storm Water Management Plan Program shall function as a grant program administered by DEQ. The Environmental Quality Council shall develop guidelines and limitations for grant application for funding an applicant city's requirements.
Natural Resources/TBD
- LB 1109 (Schrock) Change permit and disciplinary action provisions of the Livestock Waste Management Act. Requires the department to reject an application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or a construction and operating permit upon a finding that the applicant is unsuited to perform the obligations of the permitholder etc. Requires the department to revoke or suspend a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System upon a finding that the permittee is unsuited to perform the obligations of a permitholder.
Natural Resources Committee/February 1, 2006
- LB 1121 (Brown) Appropriate funds to the Department of Economic Development to contract for an environmental study relating to hydroelectric dam project.
Appropriations Committee/TBD
- LB 1130 (Stuthman) Authorize the creation of transportation development districts and grant powers
Revenue Committee/TBD
- LB 1147 (Kremer) Eliminates the qualifications of the Director of Natural Resources.
Natural Resources/February 2, 2006
- LB 1183 (Thompson) Permits an exemption from motor vehicle tax for an unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran
Revenue/February 2, 2006
- LB 1186 (Connealy) Create the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Cost-Share Program administered by the Department of Economic Development.
Natural Resources Committee/TBD
- LB 1187 (Connealy) Provide for the sale and use of alternative fuel
Natural Resources Committee/TBD

LB 1191 (Howard)	Change the distribution of county and municipal county roads funds. Adds total miles driven annually by persons within each county or municipal county, as determined by the Department of Roads, 5% as a factor/weight to be used in determining the amount to be allocated to each of the counties or municipal counties for road purposes each year. <i>Transportation & Telecommunications/TBD</i>
LB 1198 (Connealy)	Provide for microsale producers of biofuel and fuel tax treatment of such producers. <i>Revenue Committee/TBD</i>
LB 1214 (Smith)	Change Livestock Waste Management Act provisions relating to cold water Class A streams <i>Natural Resources Committee/February 1, 2006</i>
LB 1217 (Baker)	Change provisions relating to use of ethanol production tax credits <i>Revenue Committee/TBD</i>
LB 1225 (Langemeier)	Change provisions relating to hydrologically connected water <i>Natural Resources Committee/TBD</i>
LB 1226 (Langemeier)	Change provisions relating to instream appropriations, ground water, and management areas <i>Natural Resources Committee/TBD</i>
LB 1229 (Stuhr)	Appropriate funds to the Department of Roads for a paving project referred to as the Charleston Link. The Department of Roads shall give priority to state gravel roads that have been identified as projects for hard-surface improvements and shall complete such improvements by 2012. <i>Appropriations Committee/February 2, 2006</i>