



# THE POWER OF PEOPLE



## Governmental Affairs Legislative Report

NPPD Board of Directors Meeting  
June 2023

John McNally  
Governmental Affairs



Nebraska Public Power District  
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# 2023 Legislative Overview

- First Session of the 108<sup>th</sup> Legislature
  - January 4 to June 1, Legislative Day 88
  - 17 New Senators
  - New Clerk of the Legislature
  - New Governor's Policy Research Office Director
  - New Speaker, Presiding Officer, New Committee Chairs
- 820 Bills Introduced
- 107 Priority Bills
- Confirmation Reports

# 2023 Legislative Summary

- 31 Bills Passed/Signed
  - Numerous Committee packages
  - 291 Total bills including package amendments
  - 72/107 Priority Bills including package amendments
  - 24/31 Bills received 40 or more votes for passage
- Budget Bills
  - LB 814 Perkins County Canal spending authority
  - LB 818 Perkins County Canal funding - \$574 million

# Bills of Interest

- LB 565 Hydrogen Hub grant for engineering and modeling
  - \$250,000 for each FY 23-24 and 24-25
- High level managers of a PPD may serve on the board of another PPD (LB 567)
- Definition of “Reliability” (LB 567)
- Clarifies requirements for the annual Load and Capability Report to the Power Review Board (LB 567)
- Adopts the Nuclear and Hydrogen Development Act (LB 568)
  - \$200,000 to a fund which terminates on July 31, 2028
- Authorizes NDNR to use Design-Build on certain projects (LB 723)

# Bills of Interest

- **LB 683** Creates the Nebraska Broadband Office
  - Moves some broadband authority to the Dept. of Transportation including federal funding
- Withholds NUSF allocations for services and equipment which are a threat to national security (**LB 63**)
- Creates the Underground Excavation Safety Committee (**LB 122**)
  - Moves some authority (penalties up to \$10,000) from the Attorney General to the State Fire Marshall
  - Membership: Fire Marshall; three Operators; three Excavators
  - Operational date of September 1, 2024

# 2023 Interim Studies

- LR178 (Brewer) Executive Board - Interim study to examine the feasibility of constructing and operating small modular nuclear reactors to generate electric power in Nebraska
- LR216 (Dungan) Natural Resources - Interim study to examine the economic and climate impacts of the current reliance on fossil fuel energy generation in Nebraska
- LR242 (Jacobson) Revenue - Interim study to examine methods to promote the development of a competitive electric vehicle charging market in Nebraska and the creation of electric infrastructure to support such market

# 2023 Interim Studies

- LR247 (Cavanaugh, J.) GMVA - Interim study to examine issues raised in LB133, 2023, relating to laws regarding the use of eminent domain by state agencies, boards, commissions, and other political subdivisions
- LR248 (Cavanaugh, J.) Natural Resources - Interim study to survey Nebraska's small public utilities, municipalities, and cooperatives in a comprehensive manner, which consolidates information relating to rate classifications and equipment

# 2024 Legislative Preview

- 108<sup>th</sup> Legislature Second Session
  - 60 Legislative Days
  - Leadership positions serve the second of a two-year term
  - No change in rules – unless voted upon
  - First Session bills can carry over
- Statewide election dates
  - May 14 – Primary
  - November 5 – General Election





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## Questions

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