

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB361

Hearing Date: Thursday February 19, 2009
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Avery
One Liner: Change roll call provisions under the Open Meetings Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 8 Senators Avery, Giese, Janssen, Karpisek, Pahls, Pirsch, Price, Sullivan
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Proponents:
Senator Bill Avery
Tim Sutherland

Larry Dix
Lynn Rex

Representing:
Introducer
Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN), and
Public Alliance for Community Energy (ACE)
Nebraska Association of County Officials
League of Nebraska Municipalities

Opponents:

Neutral:
Alan Peterson

Representing:
Media of Nebraska, Inc.

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 361 allows entities created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act and the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act to utilize an electronic voting device to record roll call or viva voce votes of the governing body of such entities. Currently, only municipalities are authorized to utilize an electronic voting device.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment makes several changes to the bill.

The first change adds counties to the list of entities who are allowed to utilize electronic voting devices to satisfy the requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote.

The committee amendment also adds the provisions of two bills: LB 465 and LB 639.

The provisions of LB 465 add educational service units to the list of public entities which are allowed to hold public meetings by videoconferencing and telephone conference.

The provisions of LB 639 allow a governing body of a risk management pool and the advisory committees of the governing body to hold more than half of their meetings by telephone conference if the governing body's quarterly

meetings are held in person. Under current law, no more than one-half of the meetings in a calendar year held by governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees may be held by telephone conference call.

Bill Avery, Chairperson