



**One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 550**

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**Chairperson:** Bill Avery  
**Committee:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Date of Hearing:** February 26, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 550 changes provisions relating to Military Department personnel and provides peace officer powers to National Guard members.

With LB 550, the Military Department will consist of the Adjutant General in the minimum grade of lieutenant colonel, one deputy adjutant general, a chief of staff of the Military Department or deputy director with a minimum grade of colonel, one assistant director for Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and other officers and enlisted personnel in the number and grade as prescribed by the United States Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force personnel documents.

LB 550 extends law enforcement authority to Nebraska National Guard members serving in federal Title 32 United States Code status. It also extends law enforcement authority to National Guard members from other states and territories that come to the aid of Nebraska. Currently, National Guard members have law enforcement authority while on state active duty orders in a state status. The bill also requires the Governor to specifically grant law enforcement authority and provides the ability to limit it when necessary.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Bill Avery**