

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB161

Hearing Date: Friday January 21, 2011
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Karpisek
One Liner: Change provisions relating to recounting votes

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

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Avery, Brasch, Karpisek, Pahls, Schumacher, Sullivan
Nay:	1	Senator Janssen
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Price

Proponents:

Senator Russ Karpisek
Don Eret
Jack Gould
Laura Schneider

Representing:

Introducer
Self
Common Cause Nebraska
League of Women Voters - Nebraska

Opponents:

John Gale
David Shively
Diane Olmer

Representing:

Secretary of State
Lancaster County Election Commissioner
Nebraska Association of County Clerks, Register of Deeds, and Election Commissioners

Neutral:

Beth Bazyn Ferrell

Representing:

Nebraska Association of County Officials

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 161 allows any candidate who failed to be nominated or elected to request a manual recount at his or her expense. The recount will be conducted by the county canvassing board. The requesting candidate may provide the filing officer with a list of up to ten election precincts to be recounted first and may waive the balance of the recount after these precincts have been recounted.

The cost of the recount will be determined for both the county and the listed precincts by the county election official. If the recount involves more than one county, the county election official will certify the cost to the Secretary of State who will notify the candidate of the determined cost of each county and for the listed precincts.

Currently, recounts are conducted using the same procedure as those used for ballots on election day.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment narrows who is allowed to request a manual recount.

With the amendment, only candidates who fail to be nominated or elected by no more than the margin triggering the automatic recount outlined in section 32-1119 may request a manual recount.

Bill Avery, Chairperson