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PREPARED BY: Doug Nichols
DATE PREPARED: January 20, 2011
PHONE: 471-0052

LB 151

Revision: 00

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2011-12		FY 2012-13	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

This bill would change location, hearing, and document provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court. The bill would allow certain hearings to be heard by the court telephonically or by videoconferencing or similar equipment at any location within the state.

The Workers' Compensation Court states that this bill will have an indeterminate impact on their budget. It could decrease expenditures for travel if certain hearings are held remotely, but it could increase expenditures for videoconferencing or similar equipment.

The response of the Workers' Compensation Court follows:

LB 151 would allow hearings under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act to be held telephonically or by videoconferencing at any location within the state. Under current law, hearings must be heard in the county in which the accident occurred unless otherwise stipulated by the parties. This results in significant travel costs and down time for the judges. Conducting hearings remotely would decrease expenditures for travel costs, but could also increase expenditures for the purchase of videoconferencing equipment and related technology. However, the court has not yet determined the circumstances under which videoconferencing would be allowed for evidentiary hearings, or the number of locations from which videoconferencing would be conducted. Therefore, it is not yet possible to quantify the potential increases or decreases in expenditures.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

REVIEWED BY	Joe Wilcox	DATE	1/20/11	PHONE	471-2526
COMMENTS					
NEBRASKA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT: No cost estimates determined. No basis to dispute agency statement relative to the Workers' Compensation Court.					

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Please complete All (5) blanks in the first three lines.

LB⁽¹⁾ 151 FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name:⁽²⁾

Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

Prepared by:⁽³⁾ Glenn Morton

Date Prepared:⁽⁴⁾ 1/19/11

Phone:⁽⁵⁾ 471-3602

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2011-2012		FY 2012-2013	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 151 would allow hearings under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act to be held telephonically or by videoconferencing at any location within the state. Under current law, hearings must be heard in the county in which the accident occurred unless otherwise stipulated by the parties. This results in significant travel costs and down time for the judges. Conducting hearings remotely would decrease expenditures for travel costs, but could also increase expenditures for the purchase of videoconferencing equipment and related technology. However, the court has not yet determined the circumstances under which videoconferencing would be allowed for evidentiary hearings, or the number of locations from which videoconferencing would be conducted. Therefore, it is not yet possible to quantify the potential increases or decreases in expenditures.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2011-2012 EXPENDITURES	2012-2013 EXPENDITURES
	11-12	12-13		
Benefits	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____	_____	_____