

One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB663

Chairman: Senator Bill Avery

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Date of Hearing: January 23, 2014

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

Introduced at the request of the Nebraska Secretary of State, LB 663 makes two changes to current provisions regarding elections by mail. The first provision expands the number of counties that may request that a precinct's elections be conducted via mail. Current statutes allow counties with a population of less than 10,000 to apply to have certain precincts eliminate the polling site and conduct elections via mail. As any size county may have precincts with a limited number of voters, difficulty with finding Americans with Disability Act compliant locations, and longer travel times to the site, this proposal would allow any county to make application to the Secretary of State to designate such areas as by mail precincts.

The second provision expands current special election by mail provisions to include additional types of elections. Current statute prohibits special elections to be conducted by mail if the issue involves a candidate as opposed to economic or other issues. Typical special elections that involve candidates include recall elections and elections to fill vacancies. LB 663 would remove this restriction and allow all special elections to be conducted by mail.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Bob Krist, District 10