

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB354**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday March 04, 2015  
**Committee On:** Judiciary  
**Introducer:** McCollister  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to crime victims and witnesses

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Indefinitely postponed

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	6	Senators Coash, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Seiler, Williams
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>	2	Senators Chambers, Ebke
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

SEN. JOHN MCCOLLISTER  
TONI JENSEN  
ROBERT SANFORD  
  
RHONDA ROLLES

**Representing:**

INTRODUCER  
NEBRASKA COALITION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME  
NEBRASKA COALITION TO END SEXUAL AND  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
OMAHA DOUGLAS COUNTY VICTIM ASSISTANCE

**Opponents:**

SHAWN RENNER

**Representing:**

MEDIA NEBRASKA INC

**Neutral:**

DARRELL FISHER

**Representing:**

NE CRIME COMMISSION

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Section 1 would amend 81-1802 to add a member to the Crime Victims Reparations Committee, to represent crime victims.

NOTE: What is the difference between the "public members" and the five "members of the commission"?

Section 2 would amend 81-1803 to provide that each member of the Crime Victims Reparations Committee shall serve for a 4-year term.

Section 3 would amend 81-1807 to explicitly state that forms requesting compensation do not have to be notarized.

Section 4 would amend 81-1823 to increase the overall limit on compensation, and to provide limits on how the funds are to be spent.

The overall limit on a disbursement from the Victim's Compensation Fund would be increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Compensation for funeral expenses would be limited to \$10,000. Compensation for medical expenses would be limited to \$20,000. Compensation for other expenses would be limited to \$5,000.

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Section 5 would amend 81-1848 to explicitly state that crime victims and witnesses have a right to have any personal identifying information, other than their name, withheld from publicly available court documents.

Section 6 would repeal the sections amended by this act.

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Les Seiler, Chairperson