

**One Hundred Fourth Legislature - First Session - 2015**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB619**

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**Chairperson: Senator Tyson Larson**

**Committee: General Affairs**

**Date of Hearing: February 02, 2015**

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

LB 619 would authorize two types of poker, which are draw and community card games. LB 619 includes Legislative findings that poker is a game of skill and not a game of chance and therefore, is not prohibited under Art. III, Sec. 24(1) of the Nebraska Constitution.

Liquor licensees could apply for a poker endorsement to their liquor license and could also apply for a special poker license (SPL) with a special designated liquor license (SDL) for events on or off the licensee's premises. Non-profit organizations that qualify for an SDL could also apply for an SPL. Half the taxes collected for these games and tournaments would go towards property tax relief with the remainder going back into the communities and counties where the games and tournaments were held. The final one percent would go towards the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tyson Larson**