

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB406**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday January 31, 2019  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Gragert  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to abandoned property reports and notices, disposition and transfer of funds, and duties of the State Treasurer under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act

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

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	7	Senators Blood, Brewer, Hilgers, Hunt, Kolowski, La Grone, Lowe
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>	1	Senator Hansen, M.
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Tim Gragert  
Meaghan Aguirre

**Representing:**

Introducer  
State Treasurer's Office

**Opponents:**

Jill Becker

**Representing:**

Black Hills Energy

**Neutral:**

Robert Bell

**Representing:**

Nebraska Insurance Federation

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

This bill was brought at the request of the Office of the State Treasurer and pertains to that office's Unclaimed Property Division. It would make the following changes:

\*Removes the practice of aggregating properties under \$25 and will require holders to report owner names and addresses on all items reported.

\*Increases the property amount at which the owner's name is required to be published in Nebraska newspapers to \$50.

\*Increases the property amount required to notify an owner by mail to \$50.

\*Consolidates the demutualization trust fund into the Unclaimed Property Escheat Trust Fund.

\*Removes language for transfers that are no longer occurring as they have been fulfilled as defined within the statute.

\*Increases the minimum amount maintained in the Unclaimed Property Escheat Trust Fund after the annual fund transfer is made to the Permanent School Fund.

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\*Adds language to allow the Treasurer to delegate to a member of his staff the task of reviewing early escheat requests.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment strikes Section 3 of the introduce bill, deleting language that would have removed the exception allowing for aggregation of properties under \$25. The amendment also revises the repealer in Section 7 accordingly.

It also revises language in existing Section 69-1317(a)(1) clarifying that it the purpose of the Unclaimed Property Escheat Fund is for "expenses relating to unclaimed property" and not merely "auditing expenses."

It similarly revises language currently in Section 69-1317(c) relating to expense deductions made by the State Treasurer before deposits to the permanent school fund or general fund.

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Tom Brewer, Chairperson