

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2021**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB285**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday February 05, 2021  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Brewer  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to elections conducted pursuant to the Election Act

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

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 8 Senators Blood, Brewer, Halloran, Hansen, M., Hunt, Lowe, McCollister, Sanders  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Tony Baker for Senator Tom Brewer  
Wayne Bena  
Brian W. Kruse

Westin Miller  
Beth Bazyn Ferrell

**Opponents:**

Danielle Conrad

**Neutral:**

Sheri St Clair

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Nebraska Secretary of State  
NACO Law Commission for Clerks and Election Commissioners and Douglas County Election Commission  
Civic Nebraska  
NE Association of County Officials

**Representing:**

ACLU of Nebraska

**Representing:**

League of Women Voters of Nebraska

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**Submitted Written Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

**Opponents:**

Korby Gilbertson

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

**Representing:**

Media of Nebraska Inc

**Representing:**

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

This bill contains a number election law changes proposed by the Nebraska Secretary of State.

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The bill would authorize secure data-sharing with certain third parties by the Secretary of State to facilitate participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center and improve voter file accuracy. It also proposes restricting the posting, display, and internet distribution of voter lists abstained through public records requests.

The bill also adjusts provisions relating to write-in candidates and modifies certain filing deadlines for candidates and certain political subdivisions. It would also require that Education Service Units give notice to the Secretary of State when someone is appointed to fill a vacancy.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee voted to adopt Committee Amendment 431:

8 Yes - Blood, Brewer, Halloran, Hansen M., Hunt, Lowe, McCollister, Sanders

The committee amendment narrows the public records disclosure exception in Section 1 of the bill to include only information received by the Secretary of State from entities whose sole purpose is to share and exchange information in order to improve the accuracy and efficiency of voter registration systems.

In the event that the Secretary of State becomes a member of such an entity, the amendment would also require that the Secretary of State create an annual report to be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature describing the terms of membership and details on voter registration record updates resulting from the subsequent receipt of registration information from that entity.

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Tom Brewer, Chairperson