

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2021
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB479

Hearing Date: Friday February 19, 2021
Committee On: Revenue
Introducer: McKinney
One Liner: Change the membership of a committee under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Albrecht, Bostar, Flood, Briese, Friesen, Lindstrom, Linehan, Pahls

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Terrell McKinney

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Jack Cheloha

Representing:

City of Omaha

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB479 proposes to change the membership on the committee in an area with a high concentration of poverty formed to distribute the funds appropriated to a metropolitan city under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act.

The current make-up of this committee is a member of the city council, a county commissioner and a resident of an area with a high concentration of poverty. The resident of the area with a high concentration of poverty is appointed by the city council and county commissioner members.

This bill would retain the city council member and the county commissioner member and increase the resident of the area with a high concentration of poverty to 2 members. LB479 will include the member of the Legislature whose district includes a majority of census tracts which contain a percentage of people below the poverty line of greater than 30% within the area with a high concentration of poverty. This member is a non-voting member of the committee.

Explanation of amendments:

The amendment does the following:

- Makes several changes to committees formed under subsection 3B of 13-2610. This statute section deals with a portion of the state's sales tax turnback under the Convention Center Support Fund.

- The amendment adds assisting small businesses to the qualified expenditure of funds by these committees.
- It requires publication and solicitation for residents to apply for membership on the committee and requires a public hearing prior to an appointment being made.
- It requires a report from such committees on or before July 1st, 2022, and every July 1st thereafter to the legislature. Such reports shall include a description of the projects funded, the location of the projects, a description of the outcomes of the projects, and a ten-year strategic plan on how the committee will meet the goals of the act.

The Committee voted to amend LB479 with AM372

8 Yes - Linehan, Lindstrom, Albrecht, Bostar, Briese, Flood, Friesen, Pahls

Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson