

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 219

Introduced by Wayne, 13.

Read first time January 11, 2021

Committee: Urban Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to cities and villages; to amend section
- 2 14-1801, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 18-802,
- 3 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2020; to change legislative
- 4 declarations and findings relating to traffic congestion; and to
- 5 repeal the original sections.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 14-1801, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 14-1801 It is hereby determined and declared as a matter of
4 legislative finding and policy:

5 (1) That traffic, passenger, truck, and pedestrian, in the streets
6 of cities of the metropolitan class, a county in which such a city is
7 located, adjacent counties, and cities and villages located in such
8 counties, has become severely congested by the great number of motor
9 vehicles operating therein; that such conditions have been accentuating
10 for a period of years, and all signs and indications are that such
11 congestion will continue to increase; that such conditions constitute a
12 hazard and a handicap to the use of streets within such counties, cities,
13 and villages and constitute a continuing detriment to the operation of
14 all characters of business in such counties, cities, and villages; all of
15 which is a matter of statewide concern, and, unless legislative action is
16 taken, will constitute a public nuisance; and these conditions can and
17 should be relieved by mass transportation of passengers, which an
18 authority, as herein created, could provide.

19 ~~(2) That such street traffic congestion has created a dangerous~~
20 ~~hazard to the lives and property of pedestrians and those traveling in~~
21 ~~private and public vehicles.~~

22 (2) ~~(3)~~ That uncongested and unobstructed traffic, both of
23 pedestrians and those riding in or transporting merchandise in vehicles,
24 is necessary to the public health, safety, security, prosperity, well-
25 being, and welfare of all the people.

26 ~~(4) That such existing congestion of the streets in such counties,~~
27 ~~cities, and villages handicaps and obstructs the administration of~~
28 ~~firefighting forces and police protection forces.~~

29 (3) ~~(5)~~ That the relieving of congestion in the streets of such
30 counties, cities, and villages and the providing of a comprehensive
31 passenger transportation system in such counties, cities, and villages is

1 a matter of public interest and statewide concern and within the powers
2 and authority inhering in and reserved to the state.

3 Sec. 2. Section 18-802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
4 2020, is amended to read:

5 18-802 The Legislature finds and declares that:

6 (1) Passenger, truck, and pedestrian traffic on streets located in
7 municipalities within metropolitan statistical areas or combined
8 statistical areas have been and continue to be severely congested by the
9 number of motor vehicles operating within such municipalities;

10 ~~(2) Such existing traffic congestion has created a dangerous hazard~~
11 ~~to the lives and property of pedestrians and those traveling in private~~
12 ~~and public vehicles and obstructs the administration of firefighting~~
13 ~~forces and police protection forces in such municipalities;~~

14 (2) ~~(3)~~ The availability of public transportation within such
15 municipalities plays an increasing role in the recruitment and retention
16 of both businesses and employees within such municipalities;

17 (3) ~~(4)~~ Public transportation fosters economic development, real
18 estate investment, and local job creation, and investment in new public
19 transportation projects provides both short-term and long-term impacts on
20 economic growth;

21 (4) ~~(5)~~ Interconnectivity of public transportation systems across
22 multiple municipalities within the same metropolitan statistical area or
23 combined statistical area can play a critical role in fostering economic
24 growth, avoiding duplication of service, ensuring equitable access to
25 transportation service throughout contiguous urbanized areas, and
26 supporting transportation that crosses jurisdictional boundaries; and

27 (5) ~~(6)~~ Relieving congestion on the streets of such municipalities
28 and providing for the establishment of comprehensive regional public
29 transportation systems in such municipalities is a matter of public
30 interest and statewide concern.

31 Sec. 3. Original section 14-1801, Reissue Revised Statutes of

1 Nebraska, and section 18-802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2 2020, are repealed.