

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 193**

Introduced by Andersen, 49; Bostar, 29; Holdcroft, 36; Sanders, 45.

Read first time January 13, 2025

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Committee on Pacific Conflict; to amend
- 2 section 81-836, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change
- 3 provisions relating to committee membership; to eliminate obsolete
- 4 provisions; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original
- 5 section.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           **Section 1.** Section 81-836, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
2 amended to read:

3           81-836 (1) It shall be the policy of the State of Nebraska to:

4           (a) Support the civilian and military command of the United States  
5 and its efforts to promote and maintain prosperity, peace, and security  
6 for America and its allies;

7           (b) Enhance the defensive posture of this state so as to protect  
8 state citizens and assets and to contribute to the broader defensive  
9 posture of the United States by reducing security vulnerabilities within  
10 this state; and

11           (c) Exercise foresight and make reasonable preparations for a  
12 potential regional or global conflict centered on the Pacific theater  
13 which could involve attacks upon the United States and its allies in the  
14 Pacific theater, which could involve asymmetrical attacks on the American  
15 homeland, and which could cause the disruption or complete severing of  
16 supply chains between this state and its vendors and the People's  
17 Republic of China, the Republic of China, or other countries in the  
18 Pacific theater.

19           (2) The Committee on Pacific Conflict is hereby created. The  
20 committee shall consist of the following seven voting members:

21           (a) The Director of State Homeland Security, appointed pursuant to  
22 section 81-830, who shall serve as chairperson of the committee;

23           (b) The Director of Administrative Services;

24           (c) The state investment officer;

25           (d) The Adjutant General; and

26           (e) Three individuals with applicable knowledge of the threats posed  
27 to this state in the event of a Pacific conflict, including at least one  
28 individual who represents an entity that is responsible for the operation  
29 and maintenance of critical infrastructure in this state. Such  
30 individuals shall be appointed by the Governor.

31           (3) The committee shall also include five ~~four~~ members of the

1 Legislature, to be appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative  
2 Council. The legislative members shall be nonvoting members of the  
3 committee.

4 ~~(4) Appointments to the committee shall be made within sixty days~~  
5 ~~after April 17, 2024.~~

6 (4) ~~(5)~~ The committee shall be authorized for an initial period of  
7 three years.

8 (5) ~~(6)~~ The first meeting of the committee shall be held within  
9 ninety days after April 17, 2024.

10 (6) ~~(7)~~ The committee shall meet no less than once every three  
11 months. Additional meetings may be called at the will of the majority of  
12 the voting members of the committee, and emergency meetings may be called  
13 at the will of the chairperson of the committee or the Governor. In the  
14 interest of state and national security, meetings of the committee shall  
15 not be subject to the Open Meetings Act and the records and documents of  
16 the committee shall not be considered public records for purposes of  
17 sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.

18 (7) ~~(8)~~ At the discretion of the committee, an advisory board may be  
19 established and subject matter experts may be consulted to provide  
20 expertise or collaborative research support.

21 (8) ~~(9)~~ The committee is authorized to liaise with relevant federal  
22 government authorities, authorities from other state governments, and  
23 experts from research institutions for the purpose of obtaining  
24 information that is useful for the committee's work.

25 (9) ~~(10)~~ The committee is authorized to produce policy  
26 recommendations for the State of Nebraska.

27 (10) ~~(11)~~ The committee is authorized to conduct secure hearings or  
28 briefings with critical infrastructure providers for the purpose of  
29 understanding the threats, risks, and vulnerabilities posed to critical  
30 infrastructure in the event of a Pacific conflict, including potential  
31 mitigation or emergency response strategies.

1            (11) ~~(12)~~ The Governor shall annually produce and publish a state  
2 threat assessment no later than the day prior to the annual address made  
3 to the Legislature by the Governor. The annual state threat assessment  
4 shall provide an overview of the substantial threats to state or national  
5 security, state or national economic security, state or national public  
6 health, or any combination of such matters, occurring within and  
7 threatening the State of Nebraska to the extent such information can be  
8 provided and stored in a manner that meets national security standards.  
9 The state threat assessment shall include summary nonconfidential  
10 findings of the Committee on the Pacific Conflict. Such summary  
11 nonconfidential findings shall include no information that would create  
12 any risk to state critical infrastructure or other sensitive state  
13 assets.

14            (12) ~~(13)~~ The committee may, at the discretion of the committee and  
15 upon an affirmative vote of five of the committee's seven voting members,  
16 produce a confidential report that shall be kept in a secure location to  
17 be determined by the Governor and which shall only be accessed with the  
18 approval of the Governor. Such report shall contain information,  
19 instructions, and other findings that the committee deems useful to  
20 preserve for the elected leaders of the State of Nebraska.

21            **Sec. 2.** Original section 81-836, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
22 Nebraska, is repealed.