



Nebraska Legislative Bills Introduced 2021 (107th Legislature, First Session)

June 14, 2021 Update

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Bill No.	Bill Description	Status
LB20	Provide for insurance coverage of and medical access to proscribed	
Blood	and medical access to proscribed contraceptives Employer Impact: This bill would require that any individual or group insurance policy shall include coverage for a self-administered hormonal contraceptive that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.	Date of Introduction 1/11/2021 Referred to Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee 1/12/2021 Hunt name added
		1/15/2021 Pansing Brooks name added 2/1/2021 Hansen, M. added 2/10/2021 Notice of hearing for March 1, 2021
		3/11/2021

		Placed on General File with AM585
		3/11/2021 Banking, Commerce and Insurance AM585 filed
		1/=10.00
LB52 Lathrop	Provide for immunity for injury or death resulting from COVID-19 exposure	1/7/2021 Date of Introduction
Launop	Employer Impact: This bill would	1/11/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee
	prohibit liability in any civil action	
	for an injury or death related to alleged exposure to COVID-19 if the exposure occurs after the effective date of the act.	
	checave date of the det.	
LB53	Provide immunity for healthcare providers acting in conformance	1/7/2021 Date of Introduction
Lathrop	with the crisis standard of care during a COVID-19 state of emergency	1/11/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee
	Employer Impact: This bill would prohibit liability in any civil action for health care providers providing	2/4/2021 Notice of hearing for February 18, 2021
	care pursuant to the crisis standard of care and as related to the COVID-19 pandemic.	5/27/2021 Provisions/portions of LB53 amended into LB139 by AM 1293
LB95	Change provisions relating to garnishment	1/7/2021 Date of Introduction
DeBoer	Franksian banasti This hill manda	4/44/0004
	Employer Impact: This bill would extend the time to return a summons when wages are	1/11/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee
	involved to twenty days from the date of its issuance, and require the garnishee to answer within twenty days from the date of service upon the garnishee.	
LB122	Change provisions relating to the	1/7/2021
	minimum wage	Date of Introduction
Hunt	Employer Impact: This bill would strike language previously providing a minimum wage of two dollars and thirteen cents for	1/11/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee

	norman approximated by the first	4/25/2024
	persons compensated by way of gratuities such as waitresses, waiters, hotel bellhops, porters, and shoeshine persons.	Notice of hearing for February 1,
LB139	Adopt the COVID-19 Liability Protection Act	1/8/2021 Date of Introduction
Briese		Date of Introduction 1/12/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee 2/4/2021 Notice of hearing for February 18, 2021 3/11/2021 Slama Priority Bill

		5/18/2021 Enrollment and Review ER97 adopted
		5/18/2021 Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment
		5/18/2021 Placed on Final reading
		5/20/2021 Passed on Final Reading with Emergency Clause 41-1-7
		5/20/2021 President/Speaker signed
		5/21/2021 Presented to Governor of May 20, 2021
		5/26/2021 Approved by Governor on May 25, 2021
		5/27/2021 Provisions/portions of LB53 amended into LB 139 by AM1293
LB170	Change provisions relating to the date when compensation begins	1/8/2021 Date of Introduction
Hansen	under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act	1/12/2021 Referred to Business and Labor
	Employer Impact: This bill would revise the date on which	Committee
	compensation begins under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act. Specifically,	1/21/2021 Hanes, M. MO3 Withdraw filed
	the bill would provide that no compensation will be provided for	Hanes, M. MO3 prevailed
	the first three calendar days of disability (rather than the first seven calendar days of disability	1/22/2021
	currently in place). The law currently provides that, if such	
	disability continues for six weeks or longer, compensation is computed from the date the	
	disability begins. This bill would	

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	narrow that timeframe from six weeks of disability to two.	
LB171	Change provisions of the	1/8/2021
Hansen	Employment Security Law relating to weekly benefit amounts and	
	maximum annual amounts	1/12/2021 Referred to Business and Labor
	Employer Impact: This bill would allow for the weekly benefit	Committee
	amount determined under the Employment Security Law to be	
	increased by five percent for each	
	dependent of the individual up to a maximum of fifteen percent. The definition of dependent includes (a) a child under the age of nineteen years, (b) a child who is a full-time student under the age of twenty-six years and who is financially dependent upon the individual, or (c) a child of any age who is medically certified as disabled and dependent upon the individual.	Notice of hearing for February 8,
	The bill would also strike language capping benefits for any benefit year beginning in 2018. Under the revised language, all claims would be limited to a total amount of benefits equal to whichever is the lesser of (a) twenty-six times his or her weekly benefit amount, or (b) one-third of his or her wages in the employment of each employer per calendar quarter of his or her base period.	
LB172	Change provisions relating to benefit payments under the	1/8/2021 Date of Introduction
Hansen	Employment Security Law	
	Employer Impact: This bill provides that each eligible individual who is unemployed in any week shall be paid an amount equal to his or her full weekly benefit amount if the individual has wages payable to him with respect to such week equal to	1/15/2021 Hunt name added

	one-half of such benefit amount of less. The law currently provides that any wages due must be equal to no more than one-fourth of the benefit amount in order for benefits to be provided in that week.	Notice of hearing for March 1, 2021
LB207 McDonnell	Change provisions relating to the date when compensation begins under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act Employer Impact: This bill would revise the dates of compensation due under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act, as outlined in LB170.	1/8/2021 Date of Introduction 1/12/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 2/19/2021 Notice of hearing for March 1, 2021 3/2/2021 Hunt name added
LB230 Hunt	Prohibit discrimination in public accommodations and under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity Employer Impact: This bill would add sexual orientation and gender identity to the protected classes that may not be discriminated against with regard to access to places of public accommodation, and with regard to the sale or rental of a dwelling.	Date of Introduction 1/13/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee 1/13/2021 Cavanaugh, M. name added 2/4/2021 Notice of hearing for February 26,
LB241 Vargas	Adopt the Meatpacking Employees COVID-19 Protection Act Employer Impact: This bill would require certain employers and meatpacking operations to comply with protections related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Employer or meatpacking operation means a business with more than one hundred workers which engages in slaughtering,	Date of Introduction 1/13/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 1/13/2021 Cavanaugh, M. name added 1/14/2021 Sanders name added

butchering, meat canning, meatpacking, meat manufacturing, poultry canning, poultry packing, poultry manufacturing, pet food manufacturing, egg production, meatpacking processing of products, or rendering. The definition does not include grocery restaurants, stores. delis, butchers, or other retail entities preparing meat products for immediate consumption.

protections The include maintaining a six-foot radius of space between workers, providing face masks free of charge and requiring face masks while in the facility, providing the ability to frequently and routinely sanitize their hands, cleaning and regularly disinfecting all frequently touched surfaces, screening all individuals entering the facility for COVID. quarantining employees with symptoms and awaiting test results or who have tested positive, providing paid time for employees to go get the CVOID vaccine, and tracking all COVID-related deaths and positive cases known to the employer.

A meatpacking industry worker rights coordinator will have the authority to enforce the Act, and may conduct unannounced workplace inspections to that end. Employers must be provided no less than forty-five days to remedy any violation, and may be issued a penalty of not less than five thousand dollars in the case of a first violation and not less than fifty thousand dollars in the case of a second or subsequent violation.

Notice of hearing for March 1, 2021

3/11/2021

Vargas AM580 filed

3/12/2021

Vargas priority bill

3/16/2021

Sanders name withdrawn

3/17/2021

Walz name withdrawn

3/17/2021

Placed on General File

3/18/2021

McCollister name added

5/5/2021

Cavanaugh, J. name added

5/5/2021

McKinney name added

5/6/2021

Vargas AM580 withdrawn

5/6/2021

Vargas AM1163 filed

5/6/2021

Vargas AM1163 adopted

5/6/2021 Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial

5/7/2021

Placed on Select File with ER86

5/7/2021 Enrollment and Review ER86 filed

5/10/2021

Slama AM1330 filed

5/10/2021

Slama AM1331 filed

5/11/2021 Brandt FA46 filed 5/11/2021 Hansen, B. FA47 filed 5/12/2021 Brandt AM1417 filed 5/18/2021 Enrollment and Review ER86 adopted 5/18/2021 Lowe MO69 Bracket until June 10, 2021 filed 5/18/2021 Lowe MO69 prevailed 1/11/2021 LB249 Prohibit employers from inquiring about wage rate history under the Date of Introduction Nebraska Fair **Employment** Pansing Brooks Practice Act 1/13/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Employer Impact: This bill Committee expands the definition of unlawful employment practices to include 1/15/2021 any employer inquiry about an Notice of hearing for January 25, applicant's current or former wage 2021 rate history, except to confirm that wage rate history was voluntarily provided by applicant as part of compensation negotiations. An employer also may not (1) require disclosure of a job applicant's wage rate history or condition employment consideration for an interview or employment on disclosure wage rate history; (2) retaliate against a job applicant for failing to comply with any wage rate history inquiry; or (3) rely on the wage rate history of a job applicant in determining wages for such applicant at any stage in the employment contract, unless such applicant knowingly and willingly disclosed his or her wage rate history to the employer.

	This section does not apply to current employees apply for a new position with the same employer, and does not prohibit an employee from voluntarily sharing wage history. The section also does not apply to any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal, state, or local law that specifically authorizes the disclosure or verification of wage rate history for employment purposes.	
LB256 Hansen, M.	Change provisions relating to lump-sum settlement approval and the filing of releases under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act Employer Impact: This bill would revise the requirement to seek approval of a lump sum settlement under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act. to exclude	Date of Introduction 1/13/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 1/25/2021
	Compensation Act to exclude cases where the employee's right to receive future medical, surgical, and hospital services is specifically excluded from the settlement and medicare has not paid medical, surgical, or hospital expenses or if medicare has paid medical, surgical, or hospital expenses for which it claims it is entitled to reimbursement and medicare has been reimbursed for	Blood name added 3/12/2021 Placed on General File 5/4/2021 Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial
	such expenses at the time the settlement is executed.	
		5/20/2021

		Presented to Governor on May 19, 2021
		5/21/2021 Approved by Governor on May 21, 2021
LB258	Adopt the Healthy and Safe Families and Workplaces Act	1/11/2021 Date of Introduction
Vargas	The same and the s	
	Employer Impact: This bill would provide that employees accrue a minimum of one hour of paid sick and safe time for every thirty	Referred to Business and Labor Committee
	hours worked. Employees do not accrue more than forty hours of paid sick and safe time in a	
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	and leave may be used beginning on the sixtieth calendar day following commencement of	Hansen, M. name added
	employment. Paid leave will be	
	carried over to subsequent calendar years, except that an	Hansen, M. priority bill
	employee's use of leave in a calendar year shall not exceed forty hours unless the employer	
	sets a higher limit.	5/10/2021 Vargas AM966 filed
	An employer with a paid leave policy which makes available an	5/10/2021
	amount of paid leave which is sufficient to meet the accrual	
	requirements for paid sick and safe time and which may be used for the same purposes is not	
	for the same purposes is not required to provide additional leave.	5/10/2021 Vargas AM1348 lost
	An employee may used paid sick and safe time for: (1) an employee's mental or physical illness, injury or health condition;	Failed to advance to Enrollment and Review Initial
	or an employee's need for preventative medical care; (2) care of a family member with a mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; (3) absence	5/12/2021

necessary due to domestic abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, or stalking, regardless of whether a charge has been filed or a conviction obtained; (4) medical attention needed to recover from physical or psychological injury or disability caused by such domestic domestic abuse, sexual assault, assault, stalking; (5) services from a victim services organization; psychological or other counseling; (7) relocation due to domestic abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, or stalking; or (8) legal services, including preparing for or participating in any civil or criminal legal proceeding relating to or resulting from the domestic, abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, or stalking.

Employer is defined to include any individual, partnership, limited liability company, association, corporation, business trust, legal representative, or any organized group of persons employing four or more employees at any one time, excluding any employees who work no more than twenty weeks in any calendar year, but does not include the United States, the State of Nebraska, or any political subdivision thereof.

Employee means any individual employed by an employer who receives compensation from such employer and includes recipients of public benefits who are engaged in work activity as a condition of receiving public assistance. Employee includes both full-time and part-time employees. Employees does not include a minor child employed by a parent.

LB260 Change provisions relating to 1/11/2021 good cause for voluntary leaving Date of Introduction employment under Employment Hunt Security Law 1/13/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Employer Impact: This bill would Committee expand the definition of good cause for voluntarily leaving 1/15/2021 employment to include instances Notice of hearing for January 25, where the employee has made all 2021 reasonable efforts to preserve 3/9/2021 employment, but voluntarily leaves for purposes of caring for a Hunt priority bill family member with a health condition. 3/12/2021 Placed on General File 4/6/2021 Advanced to Enrollment and Review initial 4/9/2021 Placed on Select File 4/27/2021 Moser AM1094 filed 4/27/2021 Moser AM1094 lost 4/27/2021 Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment 4/29/2021 Placed on Final Reading 5/19/2021 Passed on Final Reading 33-11-5 5/19/2021 President/Speaker signed 5/19/2021 Presented to Governor on May 19. 2021 5/26/2021 Approved by Governor on May

24, 2021

LB290

Cavanaugh, M.

Adopt the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act

Employer Impact: The bill proposes adoption of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act. The Act would require that, beginning January 1, 2023, a covered individual may take paid family and medical leave for the following qualifying reasons: (a) to care for a new child of the covered individual during the first year after the birth, adoption, or placement through foster care of that child; (b) to care for a family member of the covered individual who has a serious health condition; (c) to care for a covered servicemember if the covered individual is a family member or the next of kin of the covered servicemember; (d) for qualifying exigency leave; or (e) because the covered individual has a serious health condition. including pregnancy, that makes the covered individual unable to perform the functions of the position held by the covered individual.

The maximum amount of paid family and medical leave that a covered individual may take is twelve weeks or, for leave taken on an intermittent basis, sixty work days during any benefit year.

A covered employer is any employer that is subject to the Employment Security Law. A covered individual is an individual who is employed by a covered employer, or a self-employed individual who has elected coverage under the Act.

Family and medical leave benefits will be paid to covered individual for at a rate of (a) ninety percent 1/12/2021

Date of Introduction

1/14/2021

Referred to Business and Labor Committee

2/1/2021

Notice of hearing for February 8, 2021

4/13/2021

Placed on General File

	of the portion of the individual average weekly wage that is at or below fifty percent of the state average weekly wage; and (b) fifty percent of the portion of the individual average weekly wage that is above fifty percent of the state average weekly wage.	
LB298 McDonnell	Change provisions of the Employment Security Law relating to the disqualification of certain aliens Employer Impact: This bill would provide that an individual is disqualified from employment benefits for any week if the services upon which the benefits are based are performed by an alien who is ineligible for unemployment benefits. An alien shall be deemed to be ineligible for unemployment benefits unless he or she is able to demonstrate work authorization. Work authorization may be demonstrated by submitting documentation issued by the federal government which shows such work authorization.	Date of Introduction 1/14/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 1/15/2021 Notice of hearing for January 25, 2021 1/19/2021 Vargas name added 1/19/2021 Hunt name added 1/26/2021 Hansen, M. name added
		5/18/2021 Business and Labor AM251 adopted 5/18/2021

		Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial 5/18/2021 Placed on Select File
LB407 McDonnell	Include certain county correctional officers in provisions governing mental injuries and mental illness under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act Employer Impact: This bill would add county correctional officers to the list of professions recognized as stressful and that mental injuries and mental illnesses may be unaccompanied by physical injury for such employees.	
		McDonnell AM1282 adopted 5/10/2021

LB413 Wishart	Require coverage of medications for substance use disorder treatment and addiction medicine services under the Medical Assistance Act Employer Impact: This bill would revise the definition of "medical assistance" under the Medical Assistance Act to include medications for substance use disorder treatment.	Date of Introduction 1/20/2021 Referred to Health and Human Services Committee 1/28/2021 Notice of hearing for February 5,
LB440 Hansen, M.	Change provisions of the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act Employer Impact: This bill would revise the disability discrimination provisions of the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act to prohibit discrimination including excluding or otherwise denying equal jobs or benefits to a qualified individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the qualified individual is known to have a relationship or association.	1/20/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 2/1/2021 Notice of hearing for February 8, 2021 3/12/2021

	The bill would also strike language requiring the Commission to issue a reasonable cause finding if the respondent does not file a written response to charge allegations within thirty days.	
LB441	Change provisions relating to compensation for individuals	1/15/2021 Date of introduction
Hansen, M.	affected by COVID-19 under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act Employer Impact: This bill would provide that an essential worker	1/20/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 2/19/2021 Notice of hearing for March 1,
LB 480	the workplace. Change the minimum wage as	1/15/2021
McKinney	prescribed	Date of introduction
The same of	Employer Impact: This bill would gradually increase the applicable minimum wage beginning with an increase to \$9 per hour until December 31, 2021; \$10 per hour beginning on January 1, 2022; \$11 per hour beginning on January 1, 2023; and continually increasing to a rate of \$23 per hour beginning on January 2032.	Referred to Business and Labor Committee 2/19/2021

LB 481	Adopt the Marijuana Conviction Clean Slate Act, decriminalize	1/15/2021 Date of introduction
McKinney	possessory marijuana and synthetic cannabinoid offenses and drug paraphernalia offenses, and change related provisions	1/20/2021 Referred to Judiciary Committee 2/4/2021 Notice of hearing for February 19,
	Employer Impact: This bill would allow individuals convicted of, or adjudicated for, certain offenses involving marijuana or synthetic marijuana, to petition for "clean slate relief" if the person has completed their sentence and paid all court-ordered financial obligations resulting from the offense.	
	An order of "clean slate relief" would nullify a prior conviction, but would not require the reinstatement of any office, employment or position which was previously held and lost or forfeited as a result of the conviction. An order of "clean slate relief" would seal records of the conviction from the public record. An employment application may not question an applicant on a sealed record, and if inquiry is made in violation of this prohibition, the applicant may respond as if the offense never occurred.	
	This bill would also decriminalize certain possession of marijuana offenses as well as certain offenses for possession of marijuana paraphernalia.	
LB 567	Change provisions relating to the	
Business and Labor Committee	maximum annual amount of	Date of introduction
DUSINESS AND LADOI COMMINICEE	benefits under the Employment Security Law	1/22/2021
		Referred to Business and Labor
	Employer Impact: This bill would cap the amount of benefits for any	Committee
	benefit year on or after October	1/25/2021
	2021 to a maximum amount of the	

	lesser of (1) twenty-six times the individual's weekly benefit amount or (2) one third of his or her wages in the employment of each employer per calendar quarter of his or her base period. The benefit amount shall be reduced by thirteen times his or her benefit amount in cases where the employee left work voluntary without good cause.	Hunt name added 3/23/2021
LB667 Halloran	Provide for confidentiality of and access to certain injury reports under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act Employer Impact: This bill would provide that a workers compensation injury report would be confidential and not open to public inspection or copying for a period of sixty days from the date of filing, except as necessary for the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court to administer and enforce other provisions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act. Exceptions apply where the individual requesting the report is (1) the employee who is the subject of the report or the attorney of that employee, (2) the employer, workers compensation insurer, third-party administrator, or their attorney, (3) the report is requested for use in a state or federal investigation, (4) the report is requested by a nonprofit organization for the purpose of sending condolences or providing memorials, and in other limited circumstances.	1/20/2021 Date of introduction 1/22/2021 Referred to Business and Labor Committee 2/19/2021 Notice of hearing for March 1, 2021