ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB249

Hearing Date: Monday January 24, 2011

Committee On: General Affairs **Introducer:** Karpisek

One Liner: Provide for waiver of restrictions on alcohol sales near postsecondary campuses

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Brasch, Coash, Karpisek, Krist, Larson, McGill, Schumacher

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Bloomfield

Proponents: Representing:

Sen. Russ Karpisek Introducer

Hobie Rupe Liquor Control Commission
Ron Withem University of Nebraska

Owen Yardley University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Opponents:Representing:Diane RiibeProject Extra Mile

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Under current law, there is a restriction prohibiting the sale of alcoholic liquor for consumption within 300 feet of a campus. Currently, there are entities located within 300 feet of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln campus that receive a special designated license (SDL) for numerous events because the 300 feet restriction can be waived for an SDL. LB 249 would allow an exception to this prohibition, but requires consideration of a number of criteria before the exception could be granted. LB 249 would not allow an exception if the property in question were surrounded by the campus.

The Liquor Control Commission expressed concerns for the number of SDLs that were being issued for places like the Champions Club across from Memorial Stadium. Requiring entities to apply for a regular liquor license provides the Commission with additional enforcement options such as cash penalties and license suspensions, which are unavailable for an SDL. The Liquor Control Commission worked with the University of Nebraska to craft LB 249.

Explanation of amendments:

AM297 clarifies the meaning of the phrase "surrounded by property owned by the college or university" on Page 3.

Russ Karpisek, Chairperson