

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB167

Hearing Date: Thursday January 31, 2013
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: McCoy
One Liner: Change balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Avery, Bloomfield, Karpisek, Lautenbaugh, Murante, Price, Scheer, Wallman

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Beau McCoy
Larry Ruth
Neal Erickson

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Uniform Law Commission
Secretary of State

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 167 changes balloting and vacancy provisions for presidential electors.

With the bill, presidential electors will execute a pledge agreeing to mark their ballots for President and Vice President of the party that selected them.

Each presidential elector will present the completed ballot to the Secretary of State who will examine each ballot and accept as cast each ballot marked by a presidential elector consistent with his or her pledge. The Secretary of State will not accept a ballot if a presidential elector marked the ballot in violation of his or her pledge or did not mark the ballot.

A presidential elector who refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or presents a ballot marked in violation of his or her pledge vacates the office of presidential ballot. This creates a vacancy which the Governor will fill.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment clarifies language in the pledge of each presidential elector.

With the amendment, the electors will pledge to mark their ballots for President and Vice President for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates who received the highest number of votes in the state if they are an at-large candidate or the highest number of votes in their congressional district if they are a congressional district presidential elector.

Bill Avery, Chairperson