

**ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB429**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday February 08, 2013  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Crawford  
**One Liner:** Require disclosure of state contracts

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	7	Senators Avery, Bloomfield, Karpisek, Lautenbaugh, Murante, Scheer, Wallman
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>		
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>	1	Senator Price

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**Proponents:**

Senator Sue Crawford  
Don Stenberg  
Jack Gould  
Korby Gilbertson

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Nebraska Treasurer's Office  
Common Cause Nebraska  
Media of Nebraska, Inc.

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Under current law, the State Treasurer is required under the Taxpayer Transparency Act to develop and maintain a website providing information to document the sources of all tax receipts and the expenditure of state funds by all state agencies.

LB 429 requires this web site to include a link to the web site of the Department of Administrative Services, upon which will be published a copy of each contract or subcontract that is a bases for an expenditure of state funds. All agencies of the state will provide to the Department of Administrative Services copies of such contracts in electronic form.

The Department will publish the contracts and subcontracts on their web site in a format that is searchable by vendor, agency, and dollar amount.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment strikes the original sections of the bill and replaces them with the following provisions:

The amendment requires, beginning July 1, 2014, that the State Treasurer's web site required under the Taxpayer Transparency Act will include a link to the web site of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

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The Department of Administrative Services' website will include a data base that includes a copy of each active contract that is a basis for a state expenditure, including any amendment to such contract.

The amendment only requires contracts to be included in the data base and all references to subcontracts are removed.

All agencies and departments of the state will provide to DAS in electronic form, copies of the contracts beginning with contracts that are active on and after January 1, 2014.

DAS will also have a data base that includes copies of all expired contracts that were previously included in the data base referred to above.

The amendment also allows agencies to redact certain information in the contracts such as: a social security number or federal identification number; protected health information; information that may be withheld under the public records laws; or any information that is confidential under state or federal law.

Contracts entered into by the Department of Health and Human Services that are letters of agreement for the purpose of providing specific services to a specifically named individual or his or her family are exempt from the requirement that these contracts be included on the DAS web site.

DAS will adopt policies and procedures regarding the creation and maintenance of the data bases and the process for agencies and departments to provide copies of the contracts.

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Bill Avery, Chairperson