

# One Hundred Fourth Legislature - First Session - 2015

## Introducer's Statement of Intent

### LB596

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**Chairperson: Senator Sue Crawford**

**Committee: Urban Affairs**

**Date of Hearing: February 24, 2015**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

It is the intent of LB596 to increase transparency and accountability for TIF projects by creating the Tax-Increment Financing Division of the Auditor of Public Accounts, whose primary responsibility would be to provide state-level assistance for tax increment financing projects. The Division would establish a fee structure to be paid by TIF project developers to cover the costs of the Division.

Under LB 596, cities would be required to report to the property tax administrator and the Division on strategies and priorities for the following year for the use of TIF and a summary of TIF's contributions to the community. These reports will be displayed on a public website created by the Division. Cities would also be required to conduct an annual review of each redevelopment plan to determine whether they have met their stated goals and objectives. If the project fails to meet its stated goals, TIF funding may be recaptured by the city.

The Division would have the authority to audit redevelopment projects and proposals to ensure compliance under the Community Development Law and all other Nebraska laws. The Division would be required to report any non-compliance to the Legislature and post such reports on the public website.

Finally, LB 596 would require that each community redevelopment authority include a member approved by the school board of the local school district, a member approved by the county board, and a member approved by the local community college board of governors.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Al Davis**