

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB482

Hearing Date: Friday February 24, 2017
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Smith
One Liner: Adopt the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Brewer, Briese, Craighead, Hilgers, Lowe, Murante
Nay:	2	Senators Blood, Wayne
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Jim Smith
Anne Klute

Alexa Turner
Brandon Lee

Bruce Peterson
Steven Bowen
Jay Buchanan

Representing:

Introducer
Associated Builders & Contractors - The Cornhusker Chapter
Associated Builders & Contractors
Associated Builders and Contractors, Willmar Electric Service
Electronic Contracting Company
Self
Associated Builders & Contractors - Cornhusker Chapter

Opponents:

Kevin Hilton
Susan Martin
Chris Callihan

Gregg Rhoades
Steve Simpson

Representing:

North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
Nebraska State AFL-CIO
IBEW Local 265, Lincoln Building & Construction Trades Council
Cement Masons Local #538
Lincoln Building Construction Trades Council

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 482 adopts the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act.

Section 2 states the purposes of the Act, which are:

- To provide for the efficient procurement of goods and services by governmental units.
- To promote economical, nondiscriminatory, and efficient administration and completion of construction projects funded, assisted, or awarded by a governmental unit.

Section 3 defines terms for the purposes of the Act.

Section 4 requires that, unless otherwise required by federal law, all Nebraska governmental units ensure that any requests for proposals, bid specifications for a public contract, or procurement procedures for a public contract are neutral on the question of collective bargaining relating to construction.

Section 5 prohibits a Nebraska governmental unit from entering into a contract for any construction that is the subject of public benefit, and is not neutral on the question of collective bargaining.

Section 6 makes any terms of a document of the types enumerated in section 4 that are not neutral on the question of collective bargaining relating to construction void, and request those terms to be given no effect.

Section 7 makes clear that the requirements of the Act only apply to future contracts.

Section 8 makes clear that nothing in the Act shall prohibit employers or other parties from entering into agreements or engaging in activities that are protected by federal law. Further, nothing in the Act shall interfere with labor relations of parties that are protected under federal law.

John Murante, Chairperson