



Legislative Update

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026

Welcome to this week's NRCSA Legislative Update. Each week I'll review a little of what went on that week, as well as look into the coming week. Also included each week will be my updated bill analysis, as well as contact information for our State Senators. There also may be a "call to action" request, in which I might suggest that you contact Senators, especially your own Senator on pieces of legislation. This update will go out to all members for whom we have an email address.

The NRCSA Legislative Forum will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026. We hope many of you can make it. The luncheon will offer those in attendance to be seated with Senators who join us. In many cases, you would be able to have lunch with your own Senator. The current schedule of speakers include:

8:30 a.m.--Governor Jim Pillen
9:00 a.m.--Sen. Jana Hughes
9:30 a.m.--Sen. Brad von Gillern
10:00 a.m.--TBD
10:30 a.m.--Sen. Dave Murman
11:00 a.m.--Sen. Wendy DeBoer
11:30 a.m.--Se. Myron Dorn

Registration for the NRCSA Forum may be found here:

[Register to Attend the 2026 NRCSA Legislative Forum](#)

Check Your Registration: **[2026 NRCSA Legislative Forum Registrants](#)** (as of 2/6/26))

The most notable bill hearing for NRCSA this week was LB1038 from Senator Jana Hughes. The goals of LB1038 are to (1) drop the maximum levy cap for public schools to lessen the reliance of school funding on local property taxes, (2) to increase the number of equalized school districts, and (3) to narrow the statewide difference between school districts' levy rates. After meeting with Sen. Hughes and her aide, Matt Howe, NRCSA, the NRCSA Legislative Committee decided to support LB1038 in testimony by pointing out concepts which NRCSA supports, but to also point out the pieces with which we either have questions or concerns. One of those concerns is that an "official" modeling of LB1038 from NDE has yet to be released. Sen. Hughes does expect that modeling any day now. Once NRCSA receives that modeling we will release it to all NRCSA Superintendents. It is hoped that they then share this with all Board of Education members. A review of LB1038 can be found in the NRCSA Bill Summaries that can be accessed below.



A bill that will receive much of NRCSA's attention in the coming week is LB765 from Senator Rick Holdcroft. LB765 is another bill aimed at limiting the ability of Boards of Education to pass bond elections for school construction. LB765 would require not only an affirmative majority of the voters voting in the bond election, but also would require a 50.1% of the registered voters to vote in the bond election. NRCSA, along with all of the other educational organizations, opposes LB765. A review of LB765 can be found in the bill summary. I would encourage you all to voice your concerns to your Senator. Access to all Senators is included later in this Update.

There are several bills with scheduled hearings in the coming week. NRCSA will weigh in on several measures either by testifying at the hearing or by submitting a letter voicing our opposition or support. NRCSA's stance on bills is identified in the NRCSA's Bill Summary, which may be accessed below.

The Unicameral has made it very easy to submit on-line views on bills prior to each bill's hearing. This on-line view will be added into the official record on the bill. If you would like to submit a letter, you can take the following steps:

1. Click on the bill number in the left hand column in NRCSA's bill summaries (this can be done in the week of or the week before the bill hearing).
2. You will see a box in the middle of the page that says "Submit Comments Online for LB.....". Click on that box.
3. You will have a box pop up that says "Written Submission". Click on "I Understand".
4. The page that opens up will be titled "Submit Written Comment". Complete each box on that page.
5. In the "Written Statement" box place your testimony. I usually put this together in Word or as a Google Doc, then cut and paste into the Written Statement box.
6. Written comment must be submitted by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing.
7. To confirm your submission, a link from Nebraska Legislature with a subject line of Verify your Written Comment for LB959 will be sent to the email that you provided. This step must be completed for every comment submitted.

I maintain a bill summary that I have used to track legislation, as well as to provide information on bills to NRCSA's Legislative and Executive Committees. A few things to notice: (a.) Carryover bills from the 2025 session appear first in the document, with those introduced in the 2026 session are listed after. (b.) Bills that have hearings in the current week are highlighted in yellow, while those scheduled for a hearing next week are highlighted in green. (c.) As bills are scheduled for hearings and NRCSA determines its stand on the bill, those pieces will be added. (d) Bills may be accessed directly to the Unicameral website by clicking on the bill number listed in the first cell. This bill summary will be updated each week.



That bill summary, which is incomplete as of this writing, may be accessed here:

[NRCSA Bill Summaries 2026](#)

If you find a need to contact a Senator, especially your own Senator, you may access the list below. You will find each Senator's office phone number and email address.

[Senator List 2026](#)