Department of Administrative Services – Director's Office From the Director's Desk



Teammates,

Several weeks ago, the 2nd session of the 107th Nebraska Legislature commenced. I previously highlighted the <u>Governor's State of the State Address</u> where he discussed his priorities for this Legislative session.

While DAS will work to support the Governor's initiatives in any way we can, we also have a number of priorities, initiatives, and potential legislation that will impact our Department directly:

- <u>LR271</u> Introduced by Senator Tom Brewer, this resolution would finalize the naming and dedication of the 1526 K Street Building as the <u>First</u> <u>Nebraska Administrative Building</u>, and the naming and dedication of the 521 South 14th Street Building as the Chief Standing Bear Justice Administration Building.
- <u>LB294</u> Introduced by Senator Mike Flood, this bill would allow for discretionary classifications for certain positions, such as deputy directors and legal counsels, to provide agencies a competitive advantage when hiring for said positions.
- <u>LB1037</u> Introduced by Senator John Arch, this bill would enable DAS to evaluate the State's procurement practices to identify and help address areas for improvement.
- <u>LB1064</u> Introduced by Senator John Arch, this bill would establish a funding structure for DAS' Materiel Division to obtain an electronic procurement system.
- <u>LBs1083</u> & <u>1084</u> Introduced by the Business and Labor Committee, these bills relate to approving and denying payment for claims involving the State of Nebraska.

In addition to these priorities, DAS also has a number of budget requests we've made to the Legislature:

- Additional spending authority for State Building Division and Transportation Services Bureau to support the Department of Health and Human Services' Child Welfare operations in Eastern Nebraska.
- Additional spending authority to support the growth of the State Personnel SOS Temporary Program.
- Funding for our new Community College Scholarships Pilot Program, which
 would provide tuition reimbursement for dependents of state teammates
 (ages 18-25) who are enrolled in one of the State's six Community Colleges.

While these bills, resolutions, and budget requests might not apply to the work of every teammate at DAS, many of our teammates in our various divisions throughout the Department will be impacted by these potential Legislation items.

If you have any questions about any of the bills, resolutions, or budget requests associated with DAS during this session, please reach out to Sarah Skinner, Policy Advisor to the Director, at sarah.skinner@nebraska.gov.

Regards,

Jason Jackson
Director, Department of Administrative Services