**Interim Studies of Interest to Counties**

**Tax Increment Financing**. The extent to which tax increment financing (TIF) results in lost property tax revenue for local governments is one of the issues the Urban Affairs Committee will examine as part of LR599. The study will also examine transparency, the rate of return, and whether local governments should be part of the process. The hearing will be held on October 17 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1510 of the State Capitol.

Link to LR599 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=23743>

**Unfunded Mandates.** As noted in a separate article, the impact of unfunded and underfunded mandates on counties will be discussed at hearings on October 24 in Lincoln and on October 29 in South Sioux City.

Link to LR582 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=23652>

**Disaster Funding.** Timely emergency disaster payments by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be the topic of hearings hearings on October 24 in Lincoln and on October 29 in South Sioux City.

Link to LR582 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=23652>

**State Highway Needs Assessment.** The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and the Appropriations Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive a briefing on state highway needs. The hearing is scheduled for November 10 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1113 of the Capitol. Only invited testimony will be permitted.

**Retirement.** The Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems will hold a hearing on November 19 at 10:00 at the State Capitol to discuss funding needs, benefits, contributions, and the state-administration of retirement plans for counties, state employees, schools, judges, and the Nebraska State Patrol.

Link to LR521 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=23530>

**Medicad Expansion.** The fiscal impact of implementing and failing to implement Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act will be part of an interim study hearing by the Health and Human Services Committee. The hearing will be held on December 2 in Room 1510 of the State Capitol.

Link to LR601 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/Current/PDF/Intro/LR601.pdf>

**Next Generation 911.** The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee will be briefed on Next Generation 911 issues on December 5 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1113 of the Capitol. An independent study of Next Generation 911 was completed earlier this year and the final report is available here. <http://www.psc.nebraska.gov/ntips/pdf/e911/Next_Generation/State%20of%20Nebraska_NG9-1-1%20Final%20Report_7MAR14.pdf>

**Agland Valuation.** Methods used by other states to value agland (LR566) will be one of the issues discussed by the Revenue Committee on December 9. The committee will also hear about income taxes and tax incentive programs. The hearing begins at 1:30 p.m. in Room 1524.

Link to LR566 <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=23721>

**Additional Information**

A complete interim hearing schedule is available here.

<http://nebraskalegislature.gov/calendar/hearings_range.php>

Hearings also appear on the Legislature’s calendar. <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/calendar/calendar.php>

 Please check these sites periodically because more hearings may be added.

Hearings held in the State Capitol are generally available through NET’s livestreaming service. <http://www.netnebraska.org/basic-page/television/live-demand-state-government>