Brief Comparison of the Bicameral and Unicameral Legislative Systems and Rules and Laws Governing their Operation in Nebraska

Prepared by Hugo F. Srb Clerk of the Legislature Lincoln, Nebraska Feb. 15, 1944

Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society, RG3298 COMPARISON-1944a & b









Page 1

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Lincoln, Nebraska February 15, 1944





Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society, RG3298 COMPARISON-1944a & b



Page 2

President

Speaker

NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE 1943

Roy W. Johnson

Robert B. Crosby

MEMBERSHIP

Joseph C. Reavis	Falls City	Let Dist.
	_Syracuse	
Tom Doolay	Papillion	3rd Dist
William J Norman	2865 Ames Ave., Omaha	4th Dist.
Harry A Foster	.4918 Grant St., Omaha	5th Dist.
Sam Klaver	204 Patterson Bldg., Omaha	6th Dist.
Charles F. Tyrdik		7th Dist.
Peter P. Gutoski	_3912 S. 36th St., Omaha	8th Dist.
Sidney J. Cullingham	_316 S. 19th St., Omaha	9th Dist.
Cliff N. Ogden	_3415 N. 60th St., Omaha	10th Dist.
Earl J. Lee	Fremont	_11th Dist.
George C. Weborg	Pender	_12th Dist_
Louis M. Jeppesen	Hubbard	_13th Dist.
Martin J. Mischke	Crofton	_14th Dist.
	Norfolk	
William A. Crossland	Wayne	_16th Dist.
A J. Brodahl	Wahoo	_17th Dist.
H. P. Heiliger	_1303 N. 42nd St., Lincoln	_18th Dist.
George L Craven	_642 Stuart Bldg., Lincoln .	_19th Dist.
C. Petrus Peterson	Bankers Life Bldg., Lincoln	_20th Dist.
Ladd J. Hubka	Beatrice	21st Dist.
J E Conklin	Hubbell	22nd Dist.
John E. Mekota	Crete	_23rd Dist
Stanley A. Matzke	Seward	_24th Dist.
Ray Thomas	Clay Center	_25th Dist.
Dudley E. Thompson	Genoa	_26th Dist.
Elmer C. Rakow	Neligh	_27th Dist
Tony Asimus	_O'Neill	_28th Dist.
John F. Doyle	_Greeley	29th Dist.
Walter R. Raecke	_Central City	30th Dist.
**Harry E. Bowman	Hastings	31st Dist.
Daniel Garber	_Red Cloud	32nd Dist.
E. M. Neubauer	Orleans	_33rd Dist_
Fred A. Mueller	Kearney	
Harry F. Burnham	_ Ansley	35th Dist.
D. S. Anderson	Lexington	
Arthur Carmody	Trenton	
Robert B. Crosby	_North Platte	_38th Dist.
Carl P. Jeffords	Mullen	39th Dist.
Don E. Hanna	Brownlee	40th Dist.
Harry E. Gantz	Alliance	41st Dist.
James H. Anderson	_Scottsbluff	42nd Dist.
Tom C. Osborne	_Bayard	_43rd Dist.
	22	

*Resigned, June 1, 1943.

**Deceased, June 18, 1943.

BICAMERAL

(Last regular session, 1935) (Last regular session, 1943)

UNICAMERAL

43

Nonpolitical basis

MEMBERSHIP

House 100 Senate 33 Political basis

SALARY

\$800.00 for regular blennial \$1,744.18 for blennium \$10.00 a day for actual attend-ance at special sessions, but not exceeding \$100.00 for a special session. special session.

MILEAGE

Ten cents a mile for each mile traveled in once going to and returning from each regular or special session of the Legislature by the most usual route.

Actual expenses in traveling by most usual route to and returning from each regular or special session. Allowed four cents a mile by automobile.

TIME OF MEETING

Regular session once every two years (in odd numbered years). Special sessions subject to call

by Governor. Regular morning session 10:00 a. m., afternoon session 2:00 p. m., the latter often continu-ing late in the afternoon and conflicting with committee meetings.

Regular session once every two years (in odd numbered (ears).

May meet in even numbered years at the request of twothirds of members.

Special session subject to call by Governor; or by re-quest of two-thirds of members.

Regular morning session from 9:00 a. m. until not later than 1:00 p. m. Does not conflict with afternoon hearings.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Under Constitution limited to 20 days. After 20 day limit, bills could be introduced upon recommendation of Governor.

No constitutional limitation. Under rules limited to 20 days. After 20 day limit, a standing committee may introduce bills upon a majority vote of its members.

After 20 day limit, bills may be introduced upon recom-mendation of Governor.

BILLS AND AMENDMENTS

on the reading of the engrossed bill by the Clerk.

Amendments adopted were pasted separately in the books of the members, with the only completed bill in the hands of the Clerk; so that members were compelied to depend up-the completed bill before the completed bill before yotso that members may study the completed bill before voting.

Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society, RG3298 COMPARISON-1944a & b







Page 3

STANDING COMMITTEES

Senate 29 House 32 No published notice given in advance of committee meetings.

17 Committee personnel and meetings scheduled so that each member serves on a committee every afternoon at 2:00 p. m. Notice of date and time of

Notice of date and time of meetings published in Legis-lative Journal 5 (calendar) days in advance. The stand-ing committees, when report-ing a bill, required to submit a brief statement of the main purpose of the bill, giving that we see secondary. their reasons for so reporting; and giving minority view, if such there be. Copies furnished to members.

BILL DRAFTERS AND REVIEWERS

employed who One person served as bill drafter and legal counsellor in the Senate in addition to counsel employed by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Bill drafter employed by Legislative Council. Bill reviewer employed by Committee on Enrollment and Review.

BILLS ON PASSAGE

Was possible under suspen-sion of rules for a bill to be introduced and pass both houses in one legislative day.

No vote upon final passage can be taken until 5 legislative days after introduction, nor until bill has been on file for final reading at least one legislative day.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Appointed by presiding offi- None. cer of each house.

JOURNAL

Ayes and nays of the members on any question entered on Journal on request of

(Under Constitution)

1 member

(Under Rules)

Committee of the Whole

5 members in Senate. 10 members in House.

2 members

Abolished.

CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Served only during the ses-

After session paid a stated sum for preparation of perm-anent Legislative Journal. The compilation of the session laws was done under the direction of the Secretary of State at a remuneration depending upon the work in-

Serves full time.

Compiles permanent Legisla-tive Journal and Laws of Ne-braska after each session; has supervision of legislative halls and property; and performs other usual duties of clerk. Is secretary of Sundry Claims Board and secretary of Com-mittee on Intergovernmental Cooperation.

ESTABLISHED UNDER UNICAMERAL SYSTEM

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Composed of 16 legislators, four from each congressional district, nominated by the members residing therein, and ap-proved by a majority vote of the Legislature; the Speaker to be a member. Meetings not less than two each year.

Its duty is to collect information of state-wide public im-portance and present a legislative program to the Legislature; and to establish and maintain bill drafting, reference and research services

Members compensated for actual expenses incurred while attending sessions of the Council.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

	(Bicameral	Session	a)	(Unicamera	1 Session	na)
	Intr	Bills oduced	Bills Passed	Int	Bills	Bills Passed
1929		896	200	1937	581	214
1930	(Special) _	27	9	1939	523	138
1931		872	164	1940 (Special)	_ 8	6
1931	(Special)	11	8	1941	_ 515	196
1933	Contraction of the second	1082	163	1943	446	240
1935	town of the local division of the	1056	192			
1935	(Special) _	54	35			

		*00			
1929	(85 days)	\$182,425.54	1937	(98 days)	\$103,4
	Special		1939	(111 days)	100.6
	(11 days)	23,861.06	1940	Special	
1931	(89 days)	186,704.42		(11 days) **	_ 3.6
1931	Special		1941	(99 days)	102,7
	(11 days)	26,746.05	1943	(103 days) .	101,
1933	(99 days)	173,023.98		200	
1935	(110 days) _	202,593.49			
1935	Special				
	(24 days)				

SALARY OF MEMBERS

Biennium Special session (1935) 13,300.00

\$106,400.00 Biennium \$75,000.00

Special session No additional (1940)

445.38

678.33

676.72 755.13

547.65

*Figures from State Auditor's office.

**Includes cost of printing permanent Legislative Journal and Laws of Nebraska, which item is not included in other reports above set out.

Courtesy Nebraska State Historical Society, RG3298 COMPARISON-1944a & b



volved.





(First Page Left Side: Map of Nebraska Legislative Districts) (First Page Right Side)

BRIEF COMPARISON of the BICAMERAL and UNICAMERAL LEGISLATIVE SYSTEMS and RULES AND LAWS GOVERING THEIR OPERATION in NEBRASKA

Prepared by Hugo F. SRB Clerk of Legislature Lincoln Nebraska February 15, 1944

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NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE 1943

Roy W. Johnson	President
Robert B. Crosby	Speaker

MEMBERSHIP

	_	
Joseph C. Reavis	Falls City	1 st Dist.
Frank Sorrell	Syracuse	2 nd Dist.
Tom Dooley	Papillion	3 rd Dist.
William J. Norman	2856 Ames Ave, Omaha	4 th Dist.
Harry A. Foster	4918 Grant St, Omaha	5 th Dist.
Sam Klaver	205 Patterson Bldg., Omaha	6 th Dist.
Charles F. Tvrdik	5236 S. 19 th St, Omaha	7 th Dist.
Peter P. Gutoski	3912 S. 36 th St., Omaha	8 th Dist.
Sidney J. Cullingham	316 S. 19 th St., Omaha	9 th Dist.
Cliff N. Ogden	3415 N. 60 th St., Omaha	10 th Dist.
Earl J. Lee	Fremont	11 th Dist.
George C. Weborg	Pender	12 th Dist.
Louis M. Jeppesen	Hubbard	13 th Dist.
Martin J. Mischke	Crofton	14 th Dist.
*H. G. Greenamyre	Norfolk	15 th Dist.
William A. Crossland	Wayne	16 th Dist.
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James H. Anderson	Scottsbluff	42 nd Dist.
Tom C. Osborn	Bayard	43 rd Dist.

* Resigned, June 1, 1943

**Deceased, June 18, 1943

(Second Page Right Side)

BICAMERAL

(Last regular session, 1935)

UNICAMERAL

(Last regular session, 1943)

MEMBERSHIP

Senate 33 House 100 Political basis 43 Nonpolitical basis

SALARY

\$800.00 for regular biennial session and \$10.00 a day for actual attendance at special sessions, but not exceeding \$100.00 for a special session. \$1,744.18 for biennium payable \$872.09 a year, with no additional salary or special sessions.

MILEAGE

Ten cents a mile for each mile traveled in once going to and returning from each regular or special session of the Legislature by the most usual route. Actual expenses in traveling by most usual route to and returning from each regular or special session. Allowed four cents a mile by automobile.

TIME OF MEETING

Regular session once every two years (in odd numbered years). Special sessions subject to call by Governor. Regular morning sessions 10:00 a. m., afternoon session 2:00 p. m., the latter often continuing late in the afternoon and conflicting with committee meetings. IEETING

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May meet in even numbered years at the request of two-thirds of members. Special session subject to call by Governor; or by request of two-thirds of members.

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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Under Constitution limited to 20 days, After 20 day limit, bills could be introduced upon recommendation of Governor. No constitutional limitation. Under rules limited to 20 days. After 20 day limit, a standing committee may introduce bills upon a majority vote of its members.

After 20 day limit, bills may be introduced upon recommendation of Governor.







BILLS AND AMENDMENTS

Ame	endments adopted were pasted	After engrossment, all bills as
sepa	arately in the books of the	amended are printed and copies
men	nbers, with the only completed	placed on the desks of members at
bill ir	n the hands of the clerk; so	least one day before final reading and
that	members were compelled to	passage, so that members may study
depe	end upon the reading of the	the completed bill before voting.
engr	ossed bill by the Clerks.	

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Senate 29 House 32 No published notice given in advance of committee meetings. 17

Committee personnel and meetings scheduled so that each member serves on a committee every afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Notice of date and time of meetings published in Legislative Journal 5 (calendar) days in advance. The standing committees, when reporting a bill required to submit a brief statement of the main purpose of the bill giving their reasons for so reporting; and giving minority view, if such there be Copies furnished to members

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One person employed who served as bill drafter and legal counsellor in the Senate in addition to counsel employed by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Bill drafter employed by Legislative Council. Bill reviewer employed by Committee on Enrollment and Review

BILLS ON PASSAGE

Was possible under suspension of rules for a bill to be introduced and pass both houses in legislative day.

No vote upon final passage can be taken until 5 legislative days after introduction, nor until bill has been on file for final reading at least one legislative day.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

Appointed by presiding officers of each house. None.

JOURNAL

Ayes and nays if the members on any question entered on Journal on request of (Under Constitution)

2 members

1 member

(Under Rules) Committee of the Whole

5 members in Senate 10 members in House

Abolished.

CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Served only during the session. After session paid Serves full time. Complies permanent Legislative a stated sum for preparation of permanent Legislative Journal. The compilation of the session laws was done under the direction of the Secretary of State at a remuneration depending upon the work involved.

Journal and Laws of Nebraska after each session; has supervision of legislative halls and property; and performs other usual duties of clerk. Is secretary of Sundry Claims Board and secretary of Committee on Intergovernmental Cooperation.







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1931	872	164	1940 (S	pecial) 8	6
1931 (Sp	ecial) 11	8	1941	515	196
1933	1082	163	1943	446	240
1935	1056	192			
1935 (Sp	ecial) 54	35			

*COST

1929 (85 days)	\$182,426.54	1937 (98 days)	\$182,425.54
1930 Special		1939 (111 days)	100,678.33
(11 days)	23,861.06	1940 Special	
1931 (80 days)	186,704.42	(11 days) * *	3,676.72
1931 Special		1941 (99 days)	101,547.63
(11 days)	26,746.05	1943 (103 days)	101,547.65
1933 (99 days)	173,023.93		
1935 Special			
(24 days)	30,769.52		

SALARY OF MEMBERS

Biennium	\$106,400.00	Biennium	\$75,000.00
Special session (1935)	13,300.00	Special session	
		(1940)	No additional

*Figures from State Auditor's office.

**Includes cost of printing permanent Legislative Journal and Laws of Nebraska which item is not included in other reports above set out.





