

To: NSATA Members

**From: NSATA Executive Board
NSATA Governmental Affairs Committee**

Regarding: Update on LB 436

Greetings, everyone. We are excited to announce that on February 23, 2022, Senator Mike Hilgers designated LB 436 as one of his 25 Speaker priority bills. It does not guarantee anything. However, this places our bill in a much stronger position to be heard during this session.

Last summer we informed you that the bill was on general file and that it was the hope of our bill sponsor, Senator Ben Hansen, that it would be moved along early in this session. Unfortunately, that did not happen. This news yesterday gives us hope that the bill will move through the process described below.

There are currently 106 priority bills from the 2022 session and approximately 25 priority bills remaining from the 2021 session at various stages in the Legislative Process. The 2022 session is a short session meaning that it is 60 days in length. It started on January 5th and officially ends on April 20th.

Reminder of where we are in the Legislative process:

1. Introduction of Bill (Bill introduced by a Senator)
 - a. LB 436 introduced by Senator Ben Hansen on January 15, 2021
 - i. Senator Murman's name added on March 9, 2021
2. Committee (Assigned to a committee, public hearing scheduled)
 - a. Referred to Health and Human Services Committee- January 20, 2021
 - b. Public Hearing- February 11, 2021
 - i. One group on file in opposition (Nebraska Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association)
3. General File (First time full legislature has a chance to hear the bill and amendments. Takes 25 votes to move bill from General File to next stage)
 - a. LB 436 placed on General File March 1, 2021 by unanimous support from the Health and Human Services Committee
 - b. February 24, 2022- LB 436 remains on General File with a priority designation by Speaker Mike Hilgers.
4. Enrollment and Review (Amendments incorporated and bill checked for technical and grammatical accuracy)
5. Select File (Second round of debate and voting. Bill advances or may be postponed indefinitely)
6. Final Reading (Bill read aloud. May not be amended or debated)
7. Sent to Governor (If signed or declines to act, bill becomes law. Can also Veto)
8. Law (most bills become law within 3 calendar months of the adjournment of the legislature)

What is the NSATA doing at this time?

The NSATA Governmental affairs team remains active with targeted meetings with Senator Hansen and other Senators in Lincoln. We have material available on the web-site for you to review about our bill. If you have any questions, please contact any of our Governmental Affairs Committee Members.

What can you do?

1. Continue to stay informed. Information coming to the membership at this point is targeted and specific. As previously stated, if you don't see communication and have questions, please feel free to contact a member of our committee. You can find additional information on the NSATA Governmental Affairs page: <https://www.nsata.org/athletic-trainers/gac-member-information/>.
2. Communication with your Senators. If you have connections with your Senator and would like to communicate with or engage them at this time, please feel free to do so. However, we would also like to ensure that our communication is targeted and timely (see item 3 below).
3. Be ready! If/when the bill is placed on the agenda to be heard, we will be in immediate communication with the membership.
4. **Please contact us if you have any questions!** There may be some things that you are unsure of and that's why the Governmental Affairs Committee and Executive Board are here. Please let us know if you have any questions. As discussed, some of you may have connections that would be helpful to capitalize on.

The following are GAC contacts for the NSATA. Please feel free to reach out to Rusty if you have any questions!

NSATA Governmental Affairs Chair:
Rusty McKune
Email- gov@nsata.org
Phone: 402-250-5720

NSATA Lobbyist:
Coleen Nielsen
Husch Blackwell Strategies, LLC

NSATA GAC Committee Members:
Stacy Dahlkoetter
Jason Ensrud
Cassie Metzner
Andrew Sheridan
Sam Wilkins