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Themes for the 2021 Session

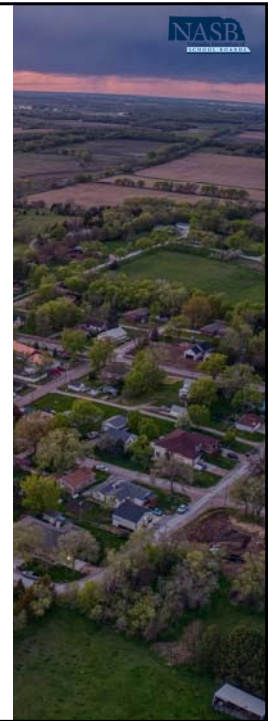
- Local Control & Its Erosion
- Covid
- Liability
- Mandates
- Education Investment/Support

2

Funding/Spending Impact on Local Control

- LR 22 CA- Constitutional Amendment to limit the total amount of property tax revenue that may be raised by political subdivisions
- LB-408 Adopt the Property Tax Request Act
 - Puts 3% limit on property tax asking regardless of valuation (excludes new construction & annexation).
 - Lids already in place:
 - Levy lid
 - Budget Growth
 - Reserve limits

Attack on local control.
On record in opposition Jan. 27 (Spatz testimony)



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Funding/Spending Impact on Local Control

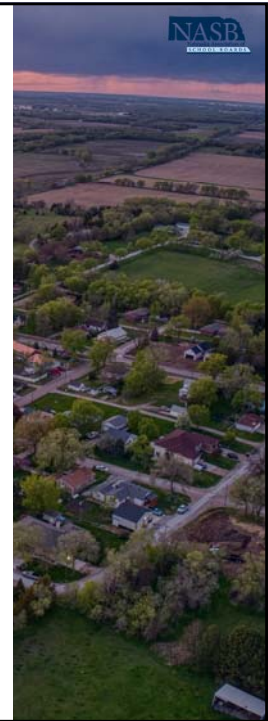
- LB 287-Change school finance base limitation and local effort rate provisions (place holder)
 - Current base limitation rate 2.5%
 - Current local effort rate \$1
 - If increased, state aid decreases
 - If decreased, state aid increases
 - Rates will be adjusted to “fit the budget”.
 - Governor has pledged to “fully fund TEEOSA”



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Funding/Spending Impact on Local Control

- LB 454- Adopt the School Property Tax Stabilization Act & change the valuation of ag land.
 - Creates School Property Tax Stabilization Act & Fund
 - To qualify for fund, a districts tax asking must exceed 70% of your formula needs
 - Districts would receive a above 70% of needs, regardless of levy
 - Changes ag land valuation for schools
 - 72% to 65% (2022) & to 55% (2023)
 - Would force levy increases (w/out state aid increases within the bill)
 - Would harm schools below the 70% threshold who would not be equalized

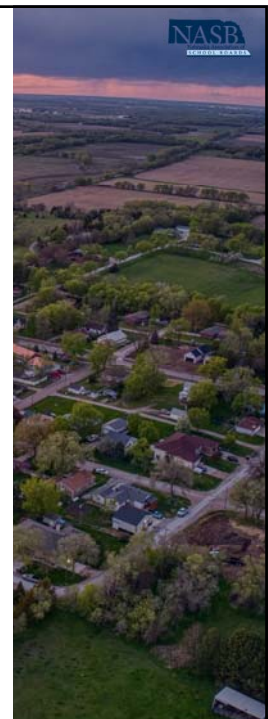


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Funding/Spending Impact on Local Control

LB 523 Change provisions relating to certain school taxes and special funds

- Currently districts can levy within the building fund for building projects and equipment up to 14 cents without vote of people. (Saves bond expenses)
- Beginning in 2031
 - Eliminates school board 14 cent levy authority and changes the ability to levy the building fund to a required special election.
 - Also terminates ability for school boards to take building levy to 17.5 cents at a special meeting where 55% of voters present can approve.
- Current process saves taxpayer money by eliminating bond and election costs
- Would require elections to complete regular maintenance (roof, boiler, remodel, etc.)
- Erodes local control



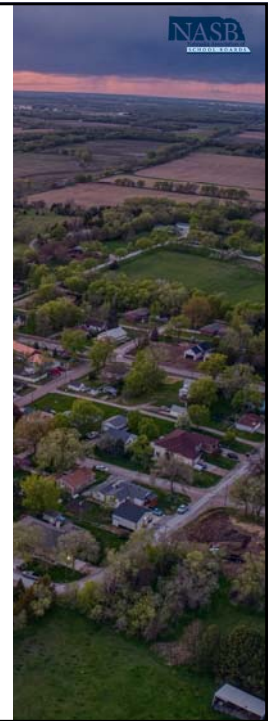
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Covid support

- LB 323-Change provision of TEEOSA relating to pandemics
 - “Hold Harmless” bill
 - Adjust TEEOSA from going down due to pandemic
- LB 361-Intent regarding appropriations to the State Dept. of Ed
 - “Catch up” bill for ESUs for core services as a result of recent cuts
 - \$12.4m (21-22) \$12.8m (22-23)
 - Funds additional technology infrastructure
 - \$3.9m (21-22), \$4m (22-23)
 - Response to increased reliance on ESUs during pandemic



NASB on record in support

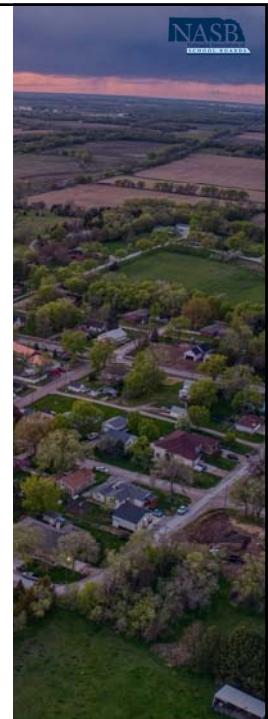


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Mandates (partial list)

- Curriculum Mandates
 - LB 327-Require a personal financial literacy credit for high school graduation
 - LB 452 Adopt the Financial Literacy Act
 - Legislative impediment of State and local Board authority to regulate curriculum.
 - LB 281-Require child sexual abuse prevention instructional programs for students & staff
 - Kindergarten through 5th grade
 - 4 sessions per year
 - Educator training requirements

Continued ...



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Mandates (partial list) Continued ...

- LB 639-Adopt the Seizure Safe Schools Act
 - Requires at least one school employee to meet training requirements to address student's w/ seizures.
- LB 200-Require FAFSA as a graduation requirement

NASB opposed to unfunded mandates.



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Public Education Support

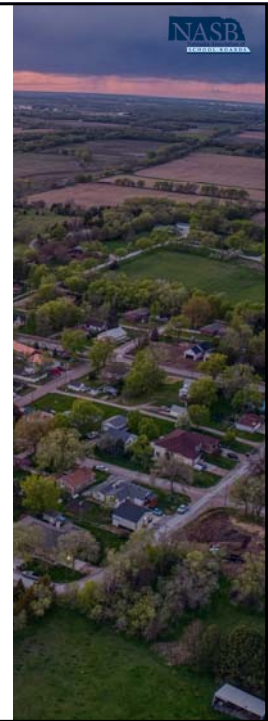
- LB 473-Adopt the Extraordinary Increase in Special Education Cost Act
 - Districts can apply to NDE if Special Ed budget exceeds prior year by 7%
 - Districts get reimbursed for cost above the 7% increase
- LB 342-Appropriate funds to NDE for early childhood grants
 - \$2.5million
- LB 146-Define/redefine terms related to school retirement
 - Shortens period for retired teachers' ability to substitute



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Public Education "Other"

- LB 651-Provide a termination date for option enrollment (July 1, 2022)
- LB 364-Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act & provide tax credits




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CALL TO ACTION

- Use your Data & Tell Your Story...
- Show your Senator the story behind your district's finances.
- Share the tough decisions you and your peers have made with your constituents.
- #weLIVEhere



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Connect

- If you want support in connecting to your Senator as a District or group of Districts....just ask.
- Vicki Walter-Winters
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 - vwinters@nasbonline.org

