

# Nebraska State Legislature



August 25, 2020

The Honorable Robert B. Evnen  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
1445 K Street  
Suite 2300  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

RE: Request for Special Session

Secretary Evnen:

We the undersigned request you transmit to each of the members of the Legislature, according to the process delineated in Nebraska Statute Section 50-125, the following statement calling for a special session:

## PROCLAMATION

BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED in the Legislature by Article III, Section 6, of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska and Nebraska Statute Section 50-125, and we the undersigned, believing that an extraordinary occasion has arisen, DO HEREBY CALL upon our members of the Legislature of Nebraska to direct the Secretary of State to certify to all members of the Legislature this statement to convene in extraordinary session at the State Capitol on October 1, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of considering an enacting legislation on only the following subjects:

1. To adopt statutory modifications to criminal law and criminal procedure relating to police power, police practices, and the scope and authority of peace officers to detain, arrest, and use force against civilians;
2. To adopt statutory modifications to criminal law and criminal procedure relating to creation or modifications of crimes or offenses or the penalties for such any such crimes or offenses to ensure individuals and civilians are protected from

- discrimination based on race or traits or features historically associated with race;
3. To adopt statutory modifications to provide for civilian oversight over police agencies of the various political subdivisions and the state;
  4. To adopt statutory modifications to employment law to ensure that employees and individuals are provided with protection from coronavirus infectious disease (COVID-19) at workplaces and that such protection is provided to all employees regardless of employees race or ethnicity;
  5. To adopt statutory modifications to ensure that testing, personal protection, and related services for COVID-19 are provided to all employees and individuals in a manner that avoids or prevents disparate treatment to employees and individuals based on their race or ethnicity;
  6. To adopt statutory modifications to employment law to ensure that those individuals who become unemployed due to COVID-19 receive adequate unemployment compensation as a disparate number of such individuals are people of color;
  7. To adopt statutory modifications to employment law and anti-discrimination law to ensure that employees and applicants are protected from discrimination based on race or traits or features historically associated with race;
  8. To adopt statutory modifications to housing and landlord-tenant law to minimize the racial disparity against those who are subject to evictions and homelessness;
  9. To reduce or eliminate appropriations or re-appropriations approved by the 106<sup>th</sup> Legislature to appropriate funds necessary to implement any of the statutory modification made as described herein this Proclamation;
  10. To appropriate funds for the necessary expenses of the extraordinary session herein called.

The undersigned direct the Secretary of State to forthwith certify to each of the other Members of the Legislature, transmitted by either registered or certified mail, return card requested, the fact that we the undersigned have lodged this Proclamation with him of calling for an extraordinary session.

The undersigned direct that, if within ten days thereafter the Secretary of State transmits this Proclamation, an additional number of the members of the Legislature, sufficient to make two-thirds or more, shall lodge statements in like manner requesting that the Legislature meet in special session, the Secretary of State shall forthwith certify to the Governor the fact that two-thirds or more of said members

have lodged said statements with him along with the object or objects of calling such session as contained in this Proclamation.

The undersigned further direct that, upon the Secretary of State certification that two-thirds or more of said members have lodged said statements with him along with the object or objects of calling such session as contained in this Proclamation, the Governor shall call the Legislature to convene in extraordinary session pursuant to this Proclamation as required by Article IV, Section 8, of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska.

Respectfully,

Machaela Cavanaugh  
State Senator, District 6

Ernie Chambers  
State Senator, District 11

Senator Matt Hansen  
State Senator, District 26

Sara Howard  
State Senator, District 9

Megan Hunt  
State Senator, District 8

Rick Kolowski  
State Senator, District 31

John McCollister  
State Senator, District 20

Adam Morfeld  
State Senator, District 46

Patty Pansing Brooks  
State Senator, District 28

Tony Vargas  
State Senator, District 7

Justin Wayne  
State Senator, District 13