



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Council Session

## Item I-3

**#2014-27 - Consideration of Support of LB 935 Regarding the Relocation of the Grand Island Veterans Home**

Staff Contact: Mayor Jay Vavricek

# Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Mayor Jay Vavricek  
**Meeting:** February 11, 2014  
**Subject:** Support of LB 935 – Relocation of State Services  
**Item #'s:** I-3  
**Presenter(s):** Mayor Jay Vavricek

## Background

District 35 State Senator Mike Gloor has introduced legislation to determine a well-defined, transparent and understood legislative manner to re-locate future state facilities and prevent the closure of the Grand Island Veterans Home.

The legislation is co-sponsored by Senators Annette Dubas and Kate Sullivan.

## Discussion

As demonstrated by the unanimous approval of six city council resolutions supporting the service and sacrifice of veterans and the ongoing care of members in the Grand Island Veterans Home, a resolution supporting Senator Gloor and the committee's consent to advance LB 935 to the full legislature is sought.

Testimony of LB 935 is set to occur Thursday, February 13, 2014 before the Government, Military, and Affairs Committee. This resolution will become a part of its official public record of testimony and consideration.

The entire bill in its entirety is being extended for public awareness.

A full legislative discussion would provide greater transparency of the state's recommendation, greater trust in government and potentially maintain the ongoing service of the Grand Island Veterans Home in our community.

This gesture is in harmony with the outpouring of support this Mayor and every council member has demonstrated in support of the 127 year history of service as home of the Grand Island Veterans Home.

## **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand.  
The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

## **Recommendation**

City Administration recommends that the Council support LB 935.

## **Sample Motion**

Move to support LB 935.

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 935**

Introduced by Gloor, 35; Dubas, 34; Sullivan, 41.

Read first time January 16, 2014

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to state government; to require legislative
- 2 approval to move state services between jurisdictions.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. (1) A state agency that seeks to move a state  
2 service from one jurisdiction to another jurisdiction that is  
3 projected to cost or have a fiscal impact of fifteen million dollars  
4 or more shall submit the following information to the Executive Board  
5 of the Legislative Council: (a) A description of the proposed move,  
6 (b) justification for the proposed move, (c) a review of the long-  
7 term cost, if any, (d) measurable goals for improving the quality of  
8 the service, (e) an assessment of the feasibility of alternatives  
9 within the state agency to moving the service, (f) any known or  
10 foreseeable legal, environmental, or other issues related to the  
11 proposed move, and (g) a description of economic development efforts  
12 that will be undertaken to use any facility abandoned by the move or  
13 to create new economic activity for the jurisdiction from which the  
14 service is moved.

15           (2) In calculating the long-term cost under subsection  
16 (1) of this section, the state agency shall project, for twelve  
17 months and for sixty months, the following:

18           (a) Direct costs of providing the state service in the  
19 new jurisdiction and of moving from the other jurisdiction;

20           (b) Indirect costs of providing the state service in the  
21 new jurisdiction and of moving from the other jurisdiction;

22           (c) Any continuing or transitional costs of providing the  
23 state service in the new jurisdiction and of moving from the other  
24 jurisdiction;

25           (d) Additional costs of providing the state service in

1 the new jurisdiction or in the other jurisdiction; and

2 (e) Capital construction costs.

3 (3) The chairperson of the executive board or a committee  
4 staff person of the executive board shall refer the information  
5 submitted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section to the  
6 chairperson of the standing committee of the Legislature which has  
7 subject matter jurisdiction over the state service to be moved. The  
8 standing committee shall (a) investigate the proposed move and (b)  
9 hold a hearing. The standing committee shall introduce a resolution  
10 that approves, disapproves, or takes no position on moving the state  
11 service.

12 (4) Any move of a state service subject to this section  
13 shall be approved by the Legislature prior to implementation. If the  
14 Legislature approves the move by resolution or takes no position on  
15 the move, the state agency may move the state service as described in  
16 the information submitted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section.  
17 If the Legislature disapproves of the move by resolution, the state  
18 agency shall not move the state service.

19 (5) For purposes of this section:

20 (a) Jurisdiction means a county, city, or village;

21 (b) State agency means any agency, board, or commission  
22 of this state other than the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska  
23 state colleges, the courts, the Legislature, or any officer or state  
24 agency established by the Constitution of Nebraska; and

25 (c) State service means the provision of any governmental

1 service by a state agency.

2 (6) This section applies to any move of a state service  
3 proposed on or after January 1, 2013, except that if the move was  
4 proposed prior to the effective date of this act, this section shall  
5 not apply if all sources of funding for the move have been secured or  
6 have been conditionally approved by the effective date of this act.

RESOLUTION 2014-27

WHEREAS, this resolution is to best serve the State of Nebraska, its people, and Nebraska veterans; and

WHEREAS, transparency of all decisions and considerations affecting its people in our representative government is best achieved with open thorough public discussions; and

WHEREAS, such citizen trust, understanding, and acceptance occurs as a result of the “sunshine” of such proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of 49 state legislators is a necessity to address many contentious issues, correct misinformation and resolve disagreements of its citizens that otherwise left unaddressed divide communities and the state’s people from striving to achieve positive efforts; and

WHEREAS, Legislative Bill 935 is being introduced by Senator Mike Gloor, co-sponsored by Senators Dubas and Sullivan, in the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee February 13, 2014 for consideration to the full legislative body; and

WHEREAS, it has strong merit as good policy setting that recognized the Legislature's duty to oversee state agencies and operations and to avoid dividing communities in our state as evidenced by the consternation and disharmony within our state that LB 935 is designed to address; and

WHEREAS Grand Island Mayor Jay Vavricek desires to support any and all efforts to successfully address the relocation recommendation of the Grand Island Veterans Home and similarly by the expressed support of the Grand Island City Council it strongly emulates this same desire, and endorses and supports LB 935 in its entirety as presented Thursday, February 13, 2014.

THEREFORE, in honor of the committee’s deliberation of LB 935 and its public testimony designate February 13, 2014 with the same high esteem of March 4, 1887 when the State legislature fully approved and accepted 640 acres of land from the community of Grand Island designating Grand Island as the home of a veteran care facility, a facility known as the Grand Island Veterans Home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, THAT

February 13, 2014 be declared “Nebraska Veterans Sunshine Day”

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Approved as to Form	☐ _____
February 9, 2014	☐ City Attorney

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, February 11, 2014.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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Nicki Stoltenberg, Assistant to the City Administrator