

Bromm Nielsen & Mines
Primary Election Candidates for Legislature
May 15, 2018

District 2 Incumbent - Senator Robert Clements
Cass and parts of Sarpy and Otoe Counties

Robert Clements (66) Republican (Elmwood)

<http://www.senatorclements.com>

Senator Clements was appointed to fill the District 2 seat vacated by Bill Kintner. He is executive vice president of the American Exchange Bank. Clements graduated from UNL as a math major, with minors in economics and actuarial science. He is president of the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation, a member of the Sons of the American Legion, and former Cass County GOP chairman. Senator Clements is a member of the Appropriations Committee.

James Bond (?) (Plattsmouth)

No information available.

Susan Lorence (?) Democrat (Plattsmouth)

<https://www.facebook.com/LorenceForNebraska/>

Lorence is running because she cares about the people of her community. She wants to do all she can to ensure opportunity and prosperity, both now and into the future. She and her husband have been active in Plattsmouth, their church, and community for more than 20 years. As a parent, she wants to ensure Nebraska is always a place where quality education, access to healthcare, and job security are not just talking points, but a reality for every family.

District 4 Incumbent - Senator Robert Hilkemann
Central Omaha

Robert Hilkemann (70) Republican (Omaha)

<https://www.facebook.com/senatorhilkemann/>

A retired podiatrist, Senator Hilkemann founded the Foot and Ankle Center of Nebraska. He earned his BS from Nebraska Wesleyan University and MD from the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine. Prior to becoming a podiatrist, he was a schoolteacher in Table Rock. He is a former chairman of the State Board of Health. Senator Hilkemann is a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Shannon Coryell (?) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://www.facebook.com/coryell4legislature>

Coryell wants to increase access to health care, enact prison reform, protect voting rights, fund public education, and champion better gun regulations. A single mother of two, Coryell has testified in legislative hearings as a patient advocate for Title X family planning services and for the legalization of medical marijuana.

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District 6 Incumbent - Senator Theresa Thibodeau
Central & West Central Omaha

Theresa Thibodeau (42) Republican (Omaha)

<https://www.votethibodeau.org>

Senator Thibodeau was appointed to the Legislature in 2017. She owns Primrose School of La Vista, a day care/preschool franchise. Thibodeau graduated from UNO with a BA in Psychology. She served on the City of Omaha Personnel Board, and the boards of the La Vista Community Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Senator Thibodeau serves on the General Affairs, the Agriculture and the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committees.

Machaela Cavanaugh (36) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://www.cavanaughforlegislature.org>

Cavanaugh earned her Bachelor's in Sociology from the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN) and her MPA from UNO. She works at the Buffett Early Childhood Institute. Machaela was director of development at Opera Omaha and the American Province of the Servants of Mary, and staff assistant for former U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson.

Ricky Fulton (62) Independent (Omaha)

<http://rickyfulton.com>

Fulton is a retired U.S. Postal Service rural letter carrier and community volunteer.

Sara Sinclair (?) Non-Partisan

Sinclair is a self-employed nurse practitioner.

District 8 Incumbent - Senator Burke Harr – TERM-LIMITED
Omaha - Midtown

Josh Henningsen (37) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://www.joshhenningsen.com>

Henningsen was legal counsel for the Judiciary Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee. He also worked on special legislative committees on prison oversight, prison alternatives and intergenerational poverty. Henningsen currently works for the State Inspector General for child welfare. He is president of the Metcalfe-Harrison Neighborhood Association.

Megan (Meg) Hunt (31) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://meganfornebraska.com>

Co-founder of a clothing store in Dundee. Hunt founded the nonprofit Safe Space Nebraska, which seeks to end harassment and assault in nightlife establishments. She is a trustee of the Business Ethics Alliance and has served on the boards of Friends of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Friends of the Nebraska AIDS Project and Omaha Area Youth Orchestras.

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Marienella (Mina) Davis (24) Democrat (Omaha)

<http://www.minadavis2018.com>

Davis, graduated of Creighton University with a degree in Business Intelligence and Analytics with an Information Technology focus. She owns a small business selling clothing online and has been a debate coach at Millard West, Westside and Creighton Prep. She was a fellow for Obama in 2012, and a Bernie Sanders delegate in 2016. Davis also campaigned for Heath Mellow for Mayor.

District 10 Incumbent - Senator Bob Krist – TERM-LIMITED
Bennington and North-Central Douglas County

Wendy DeBoer (43) Democrat (Bennington)

<https://wendydeboer.com>

DeBoer was a university educator and former attorney. DeBoer received her BA in Economics & English from Hastings College; MA from the Lutheran School of Theology; MA in British Literature from UNO and her JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law. She is working on a doctorate in Christian theology.

Matt Deaver (42) Republican (Bennington)

<https://mattdeaver.com>

Deaver earned his BS from UNL, MA in Business Administration from Creighton, and JD from Creighton University School of Law. He practices estate and business planning law. He also worked in the Nebraska Legislature as legislative aide to Adrian Smith, and in the Office of the Nebraska State Treasurer. Deaver is a member of the Nebraska and Iowa State Bar Associations.

District 12 Incumbent - Senator Merv Riepe
Ralston and South-Central Omaha

Merv Riepe (75) Republican (Ralston)

<http://www.mervriepe.com/meet-merv-riepe/>

Senator Riepe was a Naval hospital corpsman. He received a BS in finance from UNO, and MA in health policy and management from the University of Iowa. He was COO and interim CEO of Bergan Mercy; president of Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs; and president of Children's Physicians. Senator Riepe is chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee and a member of the Urban Affairs, General Affairs and Planning Committees.

Steve Lathrop (60) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://stevethrop.com>

A former state senator, Lathrop is an Omaha attorney focusing on personal injury, medical malpractice and workers' compensation. He earned his BS and JD from Creighton University. Lathrop represented the 12th Legislative District (2007-2014) and was term-limited. During his tenure, he was chairman of the Business and Labor Committee, the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee, and vice-chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

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District 14 Incumbent - Senator Jim Smith – TERM-LIMITED
Sarpy County - primarily Papillion and La Vista

John Arch (61) Republican (La Vista)

<https://johnarchforlegislature.com>

Arch is a health care professional from La Vista. He is Boys Town's Executive Vice President of Health Care and Director of the National Research Hospital and Clinics. Arch has a BBA from Grace University; MBA from the University of Nebraska – Omaha and Master of Arts from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary.

Jeff Parris (47) Democrat (La Vista)

<https://parrisforlegislature.com>

Parris served 23 years in the U.S. Air Force, the last eight at Offutt. He received a BBM from Peru State College and his MBA from Creighton University. Parris has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together Omaha, the Lydia House, Toys-4-Tots, and Co-Chair of the Booz Allen Hamilton Workforce Leadership Council.

District 16 Incumbent - Senator Lydia Brasch – TERM-LIMITED
Washington, Burt and Cuming Counties

Chuck Hassebrook (62) Democrat (Lyons)

<https://www.facebook.com/Vote4Chuck/>

Hassebrook spent 36 years at the Center for Rural Affairs in Lyons. He resigned as director in 2014 to run for Governor. He was unsuccessful in that race, and briefly campaigned for Senate in 2012, bowing out after former U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey decided at the last minute to run. Hassebrook served for 18 years on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

Ben Hansen (36) Republican (Blair)

<https://www.votebenhansen.com>

Hansen lives in Blair. He is a chiropractor and owns Hansen Chiropractic Wellness Center, Blair Rent-It Center and Heritage Barnwood Company. Originally from Schuyler, Hansen graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA. He is a member of the Blair City Council, Blair Lions Club and a board member of the Blair Area Chamber of Commerce.

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District 18 Incumbent - Senator Brett Lindstrom
North-Central Omaha

Brett Lindstrom (36) Republican (Omaha)

<https://www.facebook.com/senatorbrettlindstrom/>

Senator Lindstrom is a senior wealth strategy associate at The Lindstrom Group, specializing in portfolio and risk management, investment strategy and financial planning. He received his BA from the University of Nebraska. Lindstrom was a letterman for the Nebraska Cornhuskers football team. Senator Lindstrom is chairman of the Banking Commerce & Insurance Committee and a member of the Revenue Committee.

Austin Hennrich (?) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://votehennrich.com>

Originally from Emerson, Hennrich attended Wayne State College. His website says, “we need to increase the amount of taxes paid by the rich in order to finance a tax cut for workers and small businesses. We need to implement a corporate living wage and open a State Bank of Nebraska that would provide low interest loans to small businesses, as well as individuals.”

Scott Winkler (?) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://winklerfornebraska.com>

Winkler is a former accounting manager for the City of Omaha Finance Department. He has a BA in accounting and an MA in management from the University of Nebraska. He is a community activist for: Citizens for Equal Protection, Inclusive Communities and Omaha Police Department committee with responsibility to administer a federal grant for hate crimes education.

District 20 Incumbent - Senator John McCollister
Omaha - Pacific Street to Q and 72nd to 144th Street

John McCollister (70) Republican (Omaha)

<https://votemccollister.com>

McCollister earned his BBA at UNL. He has been involved with Scouting for more than 50 years. He serves on the OneWorld Health Center Board of Directors and the UNL College of Business Administration Advisory Board. Senator McCollister is a member of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance, Natural Resources and Executive Committees.

Jackie Collett (44) Democrat (Omaha)

<https://www.jackiecollett.com>

Collett lives in Omaha’s Loveland neighborhood. She has a Master Degree in Public Administration from UNO and is currently an IT project manager at CLS Investments.

Collett is a member of the ACLU, League of Women Voters, Loveland Neighborhood Association and a Teammates mentor.

Chris Anne Dienstbier (?) (Omaha)

No information available.

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District 22 Incumbent - Senator Paul Schumacher – TERM-LIMITED
Platte, Northwest Colfax and most of Stanton Counties

Doug Oertwich (54) Republican (Pilger)

<http://dougoertwich.com>

Oertwich has farmed in the Pilger-area for 25 years. He is a father of two grown children and serves on the Stanton County Planning Commission; Thunder by the River Tractor Pull board and the Stanton County Public Power District board of directors. He was appointed to the Grower Advisory Board for the Fremont Costco/Lincoln Premium Poultry project.

Francis Kuehler (59) Democrat (Humphrey)

<https://www.facebook.com/francis.kuehler>

Kuehler is a longtime firefighter and emergency medical technician. He was a member of the Columbus Public Schools Board before resigning two years ago when he and his wife moved from Columbus to Humphrey. Kuehler graduated from Northeast Community College, Rainsville, Alabama.

Kenneth Leischner (?) (Columbus)

No information available.

Mike Moser (?) Republican (Columbus)

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.moser.3979>

Moser owns Columbus Music Company. He was mayor of Columbus for 12 years and ran unsuccessfully for reelection in 2016. Moser was also unsuccessful in a 2010 campaign for District 22 in the Legislature.

District 24 Incumbent - Senator Mark Kolterman
Seward, York and Polk Counties

Mark Kolterman (66) Republican (Seward)

<http://www.koltermanforlegislature.com>

Kolterman retired from the Kolterman Agency that specializes in employee/executive benefits, estate planning and investments. He held licenses for property casualty, life, health, annuities and series 6 & 63 licenses with FINRA. Senator Kolterman is chairman of the Retirement Committee, and a member of the Banking Commerce & Insurance Committee and the Health & Human Services Committee.

Stephanie Nantkes (Seward)

<https://www.facebook.com/Stephanie-for-Legislature-314414795748344/>

Nantkes began her teaching career at the K-8, Class I School in Bee. She served on the Seward School Board and has been active in the community for many years. I care deeply about the people and will bring that caring, as well as common sense and courage, to her work as the state legislator for the people of the community.

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District 26 Incumbent - Senator Matt Hansen
Northwest Central Lincoln

Matt Hansen (29) Democrat (Lincoln)

<https://www.hansenforlegislature.com>

Hansen earned his B.A in psychology and political science from UNL, and his J.D. from the University of Nebraska School of Law. He taught sociology and math to gifted students as a mentor for Lincoln Public Schools and served as a board member of the University Place Community Organization and Lincoln's Cable Advisory Board. Senator Hansen is a member of the Judiciary, Urban Affairs and Business & Labor Committees.

Bob Van Valkenburg (78) Republican (Lincoln)

<https://www.facebook.com/bob.vanvalkenburg.3>

Van Valkenburg is self-employed as a legal consultant. Originally from Tulsa, OK Van Valkenburg received his B.A. in Chemistry from Oklahoma State University. He has run for numerous public offices and was a candidate for the Legislature in 2010 and 2014.

District 28 Incumbent - Senator Patty Pansing-Brooks UNOPPOSED
Central Lincoln

Patty Pansing – Brooks (59) Democrat (Lincoln)

<http://pattypansingbrooks.com>

Senator Pansing-Brooks graduated from Colorado College with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. She earned a JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law. She served on a number of Lincoln community boards, and co-chaired several fundraising efforts, including renovation of Centennial Mall and Union Plaza, and a bond initiative for Lincoln Public Schools. Senator Pansing-Brooks is a member of the Judiciary and Education Committees.

District 30 Incumbent - Senator Roy Baker NOT SEEKING REELECTION
Gage and Southwest Lancaster Counties

Don Schuller (61) Democrat (Wymore)

<http://donschuller.com/welcome/>

Schuller farms between Wymore and Barneston. He worked for 30 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and designs private land conservation projects. He has been active with the Gage County Democrats and serves as a member of the Wymore Fire Department Board, the Barneston American Legion Post and the American Legion Riders Beatrice Post.

Joe Murray (52) Republican (Firth)

<https://votejoemurray.com>

Murray holds a BA and BS from Union College and a JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law. He has 30 years experience as an auditor, horse trainer and former owner of a small cow-calf business. He is currently the supervising auditor for Horizon Inventory Specialists, a member of the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce, LIBA and the NRA.

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Myron Dorn (52) Republican (Adams)

Dorn is chairman of the Gage County Board of Supervisors. He is a lifelong farmer and graduated from UNL with a degree in Animal Science. He is also a member of the Adams Rescue Department, Nebraska Cattlemen, Nebraska Soybean Association, Nebraska Corn Growers, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Nebraska Farmers Union, and a Lifetime member of the University of Nebraska Alumni Association.

District 32 Incumbent - Senator Laura Ebke

Saline, Jefferson, Thayer and Fillmore and parts of Lancaster Counties

Laura Ebke (55) Libertarian (Crete)

<https://lauraebke.com>

Senator Ebke was elected as a Republican in 2014 and changed her registration to the Libertarian Party in 2016. After completing her bachelor's degree, she earned a MA in political science at the University of Memphis, and PhD in political science from UNL. Senator Ebke is chairwoman of the Judiciary Committee and a member of the Education Committee.

Al Riskowski (67) Republican (Martell)

<http://www.alfornebraska.com>

Riskowski farms in southwestern Lancaster County. He was executive director of the Nebraska Family Alliance, a board member of People's City Mission; a member of the Nebraska State Penitentiary Community Involvement Committee; co-chair of the Research Committee and a member of the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking.

Tom Brandt (?) (Plymouth)

Brandt is a farmer and president of the Plymouth Improvement Association.

District 34 Incumbent - Senator Curt Friesen - UNOPPOSED

Hamilton, Nance, Merrick and Northwest Hall Counties

Curt Friesen (62) Republican (Henderson)

<https://www.facebook.com/Friesen-For-Legislature-1415198365371193/>

Senator Friesen farms in Hamilton and Clay Counties. He is a former chairman of the Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District and mayor of Henderson. He was also served two 3-year terms on the Nebraska Corn Board. Senator Friesen is chairman of the Telecommunications and Transportation Committee and a member of the Revenue Committee.

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District 36 Incumbent - Senator Matt Williams - UNOPPOSED

Dawson, Custer and Northern Buffalo Counties

Matt Williams (70) Republican (Gothenburg)

<http://www.mattwilliamsforlegislature.com>

Senator Williams received a BBA from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and earned his JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law. He is board chairman of the Gothenburg State Bank. Williams has also served as chairman of the Nebraska Bankers Association and chaired the American Bankers Association. Senator Williams is a member of the Banking Commerce & Insurance, Health & Human Services and the Planning Committees.

District 38 Incumbent - Senator John Kuehn NOT SEEKING REELECTION

Kearney, Phelps, Franklin, Webster, Clay, Nuckolls & SW Buffalo Counties

Brian Thomas Osborn (?) (Holdrege)

No information available.

Marsha Fangmeyer (63) Democrat (Gibbon)

Fangmeyer earned a BA from the University of Nebraska and JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law. She is a member of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union: former president of the Nebraska State Bar Association and the Department of Health Certificate of Need Appeal Panel. She unsuccessfully ran for the Board of Regents in 2016.

Andrew Murphy (?) (Amherst)

No information available.

Michael Combs (?) (Superior)

Combs owns Superior Spirits and manages Fox Paw Apiary.

Dave Murman (?) (Glenvil)

No information available.

Ronald Johnson (?) (Holdrege)

No information available.

District 40 Incumbent - Senator Tyson Larson – TERM-LIMITED

Boyd, Cedar, Dixon, Holt, Knox and Rock Counties

Shane Greckel (31) Republican (Bloomfield)

<http://www.facebook.com/ShaneGreckel40/>

Greckel farms near Bloomfield. He is a member of the Knox County Farm Bureau Board, Clydesdales of the US, and the NRA. He studied computer programming at Northeast Community College and pursued a degree in computer and systems design at Mount Mary in Yankton, SD. Greckel was appointed to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.

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Timothy Gragert (59) Republican (Creighton)

<http://www.timothygragert.com>

Gragert is a graduate of UNL with a degree in natural resources. He is retired from the US Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Army National Guard. Gragert served as a helicopter pilot, deployed four times to the Middle East. He currently a member of the Creighton Fire Department, Creighton School Board and is a lifetime member of VFW Post 1151.

Keith Kube (68) Republican (Crofton)

<http://keithkube.com>

Kube has a BS in Civil Engineering from UNL with a minor in economics. His career summary includes: civil engineer, commercial real estate development, investment banker, chief financial officer, management consult, politician, author and professional musician. Kube was an unsuccessful candidate for District 40 in 2014.

Thomas Ferry (62) (Ponca)

No information available.

Michael Sobotka (32) Republican (Inman)

<https://michaelsobotkaforneb.com>

Sobotka received an Associate Degree in Biology from Northeast Community College, and a Bachelor's in Rangeland Management from Chadron State College. He served in the Nebraska Army National Guard, 755th Chemical Company, and was deployed to Iraq in 2006-2007. Sobotka a fourth-generation farmer, pro-life and he supports gun rights.

Julie Thompsen (?) Democrat (Wakefield)

Thompsen is a quality control specialist with the State of Nebraska.

District 42 Incumbent - Senator Mike Groene - UNOPPOSED
Lincoln County

Mike Groene (62) Republican (North Platte)

Senator Groene graduated from UNL. He is engaged in agricultural equipment sales. He is conservative who wants limited government that encourages personal responsibility. Senator Groene is chairman of the Education Committee and a member of the Revenue and Retirement Committees.

District 44 Incumbent - Senator Dan Hughes

**Harlan, Furnas, Red Willow, Hitchcock, Gosper, Frontier, Chase, Dundy, Hayes
and Perkins Counties**

Dan Hughes (61) Republican (Venango)

<https://www.facebook.com/dan.hughes4legislature/>

Senator Hughes graduated from Northeastern Junior College (Sterling, CO) and joined his family's farming operation. He served on several school boards, the Nebraska Ethanol Board, Nebraska Wheat Board, and was chairman of U.S. Wheat Associates. Senator Hughes is chairman of the Natural

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Resources Committee, a member of the Executive Board and the Telecommunications & Transportation Committee.

Stephanie Malcom (Palisade)

No information available.

District 46 Incumbent - Senator Adam Morfeld - UNOPPOSED
North Central Lincoln

Adam Morfeld (32) Democrat (Lincoln)

<https://adammorfeld.com>

Senator Morfeld graduated from UNL with a BA in political science. He received a J.D. from the University of Nebraska-College of Law where he was a member of the Nebraska Law Review. He specializes in voting rights and non-profit administration and compliance. He is also the executive director and founder of a nonprofit organization, Nebraskans for Civic Reform. Senator Morfeld is a member of the Judiciary and Education Committees.

District 48 Incumbent - Senator John Stinner - UNOPPOSED
Scotts Bluff County

John Stinner (66) Republican (Gering)

<https://www.voteforjohnstinner.com>

Senator Stinner was a scholarship football player on the UNL 1970 and 1971 national championship teams. He earned his BBA and MA in economics from the University of Nebraska. He co-founded Gering State Bank, renamed Valley Bank and Trust Co. that also includes Western States Bank, with eight locations in six communities. Senator Stinner is chairman of the Appropriations Committee.