

# End-of-Session Summary



It was a busy and productive year for AGC in the Nebraska Legislature. We focused on bills in four different categories: work zone safety, infrastructure funding, project delivery, and human resources. **Thank you to the members who took the time to meet with Senators and testify on behalf of our bills.**

## Safety

AGC testified in favor of two work zone safety bills. LB 594, introduced by Senator Jason Prokop of Lincoln, makes it illegal to use a cell phone while driving, unless the driver is using a hands-free device. LB 600 from Senator Wendy DeBoer of Omaha authorizes the use of speed enforcement cameras in work and school zones. While neither bill was advanced from committee, they will both carry over to the 2026 session and will be eligible for further action.

## Funding

We also engaged on several bills to increase state roads funding. We testified in support of Senator Mike Moser's LB 479, which would have doubled the existing Build Nebraska Act quarter of one-cent sales tax earmark for infrastructure, and Senator Brad Von Gillern's LB 207 which increases registration fees on heavier commercial electric vehicles. Also of note was the two-year state budget signed into law in May. While lean for many other state agencies, the budget called for a slight increase in the NDOT's roads construction program that resulted in a small boost in the state variable gas tax on July 1. The Legislature also passed **LB 558**, which creates a task force to analyze the state's transportation network and make recommendations on future funding needs for the system. **AGC will be engaging closely with this task force for the remainder of the year.**

## Project Delivery

LB 452, introduced by Senator Robert Dover on behalf of a telecommunications company, requires NDOT to reimburse utility companies for the cost of moving their utilities within state right of way during roads construction projects. But **because of AGC opposition testimony that bill was not advanced from committee.** AGC supported **LB 590 from Senator Mike Moser to authorize the creation of a mitigation bank by NDOT.** That bill was passed and signed into law by the Governor in order to give the Department another tool to manage and respond to environmental challenges on projects across the state.

## Human Resources

**The Legislature passed important clarifications and adjustments to the paid sick leave ballot measure that voters passed in 2024.** **LB 415** provides that the paid sick leave requirements do not apply to businesses with 10 or fewer employees, individuals under the age of sixteen, independent contractors, and seasonal or temporary agricultural workers. Further, it **clarifies that businesses may continue offering PTO programs to satisfy the initiative's requirements**, rather than requiring employers to separate benefits packages into separately tracked vacation and sick leave. And finally, the bill specifies that eligible workers shall begin to accumulate paid sick time after working for 80 hours and provides that unused paid sick time is not required to be paid out upon the individual's separation from employment.

The Legislature is scheduled to convene again for the 2026 session on January 7 for a sixty legislative day session.