

NET Television and NET Radio Plan Coverage of the Nebraska Legislature's Special Session

LINCOLN, Neb. (Oct. 29, 2009) -- Debate and decisions by Nebraska's 49 state senators during the Nebraska Legislature's upcoming budget-cutting special session beginning Wednesday, Nov. 4, will be the focus of coverage by NET Television. Gavel-to-gavel coverage will be provided each day of the session on NET2 and on NET's Web site at netNebraska.org/capitol, including live broadcasts of the Appropriations Committee hearings. Other committee hearings will also be available on the Web site.

Gov. Dave Heineman called lawmakers into this special session to determine how to close an estimated \$335 million gap in the state budget for the current and next fiscal year. Heineman has said the session's agenda will not allow any move to increase taxes. That leaves some tough choices about what to cut, with lawmakers saying everything is on the table.

On the eve of the session, Nebraskans from across the state will be able to share their questions and concerns about balancing the state budget with key state lawmakers during an hour-long live call-in show Tuesday, Nov. 3, at 6:30 p.m. CT, broadcast on NET Radio.

NET Radio's Fred Knapp will host "Special Session Call-In" with three members of the Appropriations Committee discussing the issues and responding to questions and concerns called in by listeners. Joining Knapp will be Appropriations Committee Chair Lavon Heidemann, District 1, Elk Creek; Senator Danielle Conrad, District 46, Lincoln; and Senator John Harms, District 48, Scottsbluff.

For additional summaries of legislative happenings, NET Radio listeners can catch highlights of each day's session at 5:30 p.m. CT during the "Nebraska News" break in "All Things Considered," as well as a recap of the previous day's legislative business during "Morning Edition's" "Nebraska News" break at 6:06, 7:06 and 8:06 a.m. CT.

When the Legislature is not in session, NET2 will broadcast regularly scheduled programming, including other news, public affairs, history and science programs. NET Television's coverage of legislative issues began in the mid-1950s with the interview series "Your Unicameral," followed by occasional live and videotaped coverage of specific legislative activities beginning in 1967. Live gavel-to-gavel coverage began in 1980.

NET2 is part of NET Television. NET Television and NET Radio are services of NET. For more information about NET programming, go to netNebraska.org/television or netNebraska.org/radio.

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NET Television:

NET1 is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral and other news, public affairs, history and science programs; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.

NET Radio: Broadcasts on the following frequencies: Alliance/91.1 FM; Bassett/90.3 FM; Chadron/91.9 FM; Columbus/90.3 FM; Culbertson/92.7 FM; Falls City/91.7 FM; Harrison/89.5 FM; Hastings/Grand Island/89.1 FM; Lexington/88.7 FM; Lincoln/91.1 FM; Max/93.3 FM; Merriman/91.5 FM; Norfolk/89.3 FM; and North Platte/91.7 FM.