

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB629

Chairperson: Senator Chris Langemeier

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: February 09, 2011

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 629 creates the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Reclamation and Recovery Act. Hazardous liquid is defined as petroleum including crude oil or any fraction of crude oil.

The purpose of the Act is to ensure that no pipeline carrier is allowed to construct or operate a hazardous liquid pipeline through Nebraska unless the Nebraska Public Service Commission certifies that the pipeline carrier has provided reasonable and sufficient proof of financial responsibility, as determined by the Commission. The Commission is given authority to promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Act and to contract for professional services and expert assistance as needed.

Proof of pipeline carrier financial responsibility is intended to protect areas through which the pipeline is constructed from the pipeline carrier's failure to provide reclamation and to cover damages caused by the discharge or leakage of hazardous liquid from the pipeline.

County boards, city councils and village boards are allowed to adopt regulations requiring financial assurances for the maintenance and repair of roads, bridges or other infrastructure for damages related to the construction, maintenance or operation of a pipeline by a pipeline carrier subject to the act.

Section 9 provides a severability clause for the bill. Section 10 provides an emergency clause for the bill.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Kate Sullivan