

# **One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LR40**

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**Chairperson: Senator Tom Carlson**

**Committee: Natural Resources**

**Date of Hearing: February 22, 2013**

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

LR 40 would express legislative intent to request that the United States Forest Service reconsider its original decision not to pay a proportionate share of the replacement costs of fences destroyed by wildfires between private and public lands in Dawes, Sioux and Sheridan Counties in Nebraska.

The federal government stated it does not have funds available to be used for cost sharing to replace fences destroyed by wildfires between private and public lands in Dawes, Sioux and Sheridan Counties in Nebraska.

It is traditional for owners of adjacent lands to share the replacement costs of common fences, but the affected private landowners have already been devastated by drought and forced to liquidate approximately forty percent of their livestock. The private landowners do not have adequate funds to pay the extensive cost of replacement fences.

LR 40 would demonstrate that the legislature is supportive of efforts to maintain a partnership with the United States government on the issue of good stewardship of federal land in the state of Nebraska.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Al Davis**