



**Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001  
Committee Statement  
LB 175**

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**Hearing Date:** February 26, 2001  
**Committee On:** General Affairs

**Introducers:** (Hudkins, Cunningham, Wehrbein)  
**Title:** Change provisions relating to required payments by wineries to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

- Advanced to General File
  - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
  - Indefinitely Postponed
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**Vote Results:**

8	Yes	Senator Burling, Cunningham, Erdman, Janssen, McDonald, Quandahl, Redfield and Schrock
	No	
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

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**Proponents:**  
Senator Hudkins  
Jim Ballard  
Jim Johnson

**Representing:**  
Introducer  
James Arthur Vineyards  
Blue Valley Vineyards

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**  
Paul Read

**Representing:**  
UNL

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

To provide financial support for the Nebraska grape and wine industry, current law requires all Nebraska wineries to pay to the Liquor Control Commission twenty dollars for every ton of grapes crushed by their facilities. Those funds are then remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Winery and Grape Producers Promotional Fund, which is located within the Department of Agriculture and utilized by that department for the development and maintenance of programs assisting with the promotion of Nebraska agricultural products used in the wine industry. LB 175 changes the current statutory language to require instead that each Nebraska winery pay to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission twenty dollars for every "one hundred and sixty

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gallons of juice produced or received" by its facility. In addition, the bill allows "funds appropriated by the Legislature" to be included among the gifts, grants, and bequests currently permitted to be received for the support of the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

The amendment removes the "Funds appropriated by the Legislature" language.

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**Senator Ray Janssen, Chairperson**