

AMENDMENTS TO LB565

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM827)

Introduced by Natural Resources.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 Sec. 21. Section 66-2301, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
4 2022, is amended to read:

5 66-2301 (1) The Legislature finds that there is a unique benefit
6 for the state to compete for designation by the United States Department
7 of Energy as a location for a regional clean hydrogen hub. The
8 development of a clean hydrogen hub in the state would provide the
9 potential for significant investments in clean energy production, new
10 infrastructure, and high-paying careers. The Legislature further finds
11 that Nebraska is in a unique position to compete due to its central
12 location, existing clean hydrogen-producing industry, synthetic and
13 biofuels industry, demand for fertilizer used by its large agricultural
14 industry, and railroad and trucking transportation network.

15 (2)(a) ~~(1)~~ The Department of Economic Development shall create the
16 Nebraska Hydrogen Hub Industry Work Group. The Governor shall appoint
17 members to the work group that include, but are not limited to,
18 representatives from the following sectors: (i) ~~(a)~~ Manufacturing or
19 industry, (ii) ~~(b)~~ agriculture, (iii) ~~(c)~~ transportation, and (iv) ~~(d)~~
20 energy. The work group may include a representative of a clean hydrogen
21 manufacturer.

22 (b) ~~(2)~~ The purpose of the work group is to develop and draft a
23 competitive proposal which may be submitted to the United States
24 Department of Energy to be selected as one of the ~~four~~ regional clean
25 hydrogen hubs authorized under the federal Infrastructure Investment and
26 Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58.

1 (c) ~~(3)~~ The Department of Economic Development may contract with
2 private consultants to create the competitive proposal. Specifically, the
3 work group shall determine how to maximize the state's geographic
4 location to connect a nationwide hydrogen network. Additionally, the work
5 group shall build a plan to make the case for an agricultural-based clean
6 hydrogen hub, expanding the existing eligible purposes.

7 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two hundred
8 fifty thousand dollars from the General Fund for FY2023-24 and two
9 hundred fifty thousand dollars from the General Fund for FY2024-25 to the
10 Department of Economic Development for the purpose of providing grants to
11 any public power district that serves a majority of the counties in the
12 state to be used for engineering and modeling work to prepare and support
13 the state in competing for one of the United States Department of
14 Energy's regional clean hydrogen hub designations and associated federal
15 funding.

16 (4) The Department of Economic Development may adopt and promulgate
17 rules and regulations to carry out the grant program described in
18 subsection (3) of this section.

19 Sec. 33. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,
20 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 34 of this act become
21 operative three calendar months after the adjournment of this legislative
22 session. The other sections of this act become operative on their
23 effective date.

24 Sec. 35. Original section 66-2301, Revised Statutes Cumulative
25 Supplement, 2022, is repealed.

26 Sec. 36. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
27 passed and approved according to law.