

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 168

Introduced by Ibach, 44; Brandt, 32; DeKay, 40; Dover, 19; Jacobson, 42;
Lonowski, 33; McKeon, 41; Meyer, 17; Murman, 38; Quick, 35;
Sorrentino, 39; Storm, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study of the purposes, uses, and utility of the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund and associated grants awarded pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control Act. The study shall include a review of the history and accomplishments of riparian vegetation management projects funded in whole or in part through grants awarded under the act. This history shall include:

(1) A listing of recipients of grant awards;

(2) An overview of management objectives of projects awarded grants under the program;

(3) An overview of cooperating and participating state, federal, and local governmental entities or private entities providing cost-share funds, in-kind contributions, or other contributions;

(4) An overview of landowner participation; and

(5) A review of the role of the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force.

The study shall identify and prioritize riparian vegetation management projects. Such identification and prioritization may include, along with other relevant considerations, the value and urgency of vegetation management projects to: Maintain Nebraska's compliance with obligations on compact streams and the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program; maintain stream conveyance for the efficient movement of water and to minimize consumptive losses; address riparian vegetation congestion in streambeds as a factor contributing to the frequency and severity of incidents of flooding; and mitigate degradation of wildlife habitats.

The study shall also identify potential funding sources for riparian vegetation management projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.