

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 278

Introduced by Bostar, 29; Andersen, 49; Ballard, 21; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Conrad, 46; Dorn, 30; Guereca, 7; Hansen, 16; Kauth, 31; McKinney, 11; Prokop, 27; Sorrentino, 39; von Gillern, 4; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Public Power District purchased two hundred two acres of farmland for more than five million dollars from the Nebraska Public Power District's Land Management Manager, who is responsible for the land purchase and the Chief Audit and Ethics Officer; and

WHEREAS, neither the Land Management Manager nor the Chief Audit and Ethics Office filed a conflict-of-interest statement as of May 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS, section 49-1499.03 requires that an employee of a political subdivision identify potential conflicts if the salary and benefits of the employee exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars and if the employee would be required to take any action that would cause financial benefit or detriment to him or her; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Audit and Ethics Officer made more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the substantive discussion by the Nebraska Public Power District's Board of Directors regarding the purchase took place in an executive session, closed to the general public; and

WHEREAS, an appraisal conducted by the Nebraska Public Power District priced the fair market value of the land at eleven thousand dollars per acre, approximately two million three hundred thousand dollars total, but the final purchase price was set at twenty-five thousand dollars per acre, just over five million dollars total; and

WHEREAS, the difference of two million seven hundred thousand dollars will be paid by Nebraska ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska Public Power District's Chief Executive Officer stated "As I look back at this particular transaction and how it was approached, I

think we did all things right."

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes the Nebraska Public Power District for its purchase of the two hundred two acres of farmland.