

**One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB504**

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**Chairperson: Senator Dan Hughes**

**Committee: Natural Resources**

**Date of Hearing: March 01, 2017**

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

Wind Energy development in the region of Nebraska known as the Sand Hills is a very divisive issue that is tearing the fabric of the community apart. Families, friends and neighbors are pitted against one another as this chaotic debate continues to intensify. This bill is designed to bring order to this very contentious issue. This bill ensures every voice is heard in an official, fair, organized way that results in a report that will guide future Wind Energy discussion in the legislature and the Sand Hills in an informed way. To accomplish this, this bill imposes a two-year moratorium on commercial wind energy development in the Sand Hills, and charges the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to form a task force and conduct a study analyzing the impact of commercial wind energy development in the Sand Hills.

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

Senator Tom Brewer