

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB114

Hearing Date: Tuesday January 25, 2011
Committee On: Agriculture
Introducer: Dubas
One Liner: Provide a standard and labeling restrictions for honey

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 6 Senators Wallman, Lathrop, Karpisek, Harr, Carlson, Brasch
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting: 2 Senators Bloomfield, Larson

Proponents:	Representing:
Senator Annette Dubas	Introducer
Warren Nelson	Nebraska Beekeepers
Keith Nielson	Nebraska Beekeepers
Michael O'Hara	Self
John Hansen	Nebraska Farmers Union

Opponents:	Representing:
Spenser Haszard	Self
Kellie Haszard	Self

Neutral:	Representing:
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Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 114 would insert a new section of statute that would provide for the promulgation of an identity standard for honey, and for related prohibitions and private civil remedy. The bill assigns a duty to the Department of Agriculture to promulgate rulemaking to declare a an identity standard for honey, consistent with a cited international standard contained in the Codex Alimentarius Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the World Health Organization. Products could not be labelled as honey unless conforming to such identity. Finally, the bill declares a cause of action to persons damaged by violations of the section to recover damages in the amount the greater of actual damages or \$1000 plus reasonable attorney's fees.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment (AM199) inserts a legislative intent statement as new subsection (1). The amendment also replaces original subsection (3) with a substitute provision that declares a violation of the labeling prohibition to constitute a violation of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act and subject to remedies available under that act.

Tom Carlson, Chairperson