

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2018
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1123

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 07, 2018
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Groene
One Liner: Provide for streamflow augmentation projects and retention of water rights as prescribed

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Bostelman, Geist, Hughes, Kolowski, McCollister, Quick
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	2	Senators Albrecht, Walz

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Mike Groene
Larry Dix
Randy Robinson
Ryan McIntosh
Marvin Knoll
Steve Mossman
Conrad Nelson
Tracy Olson
Marcia Olson
Becky Robinson
Ashlyn Robinson
Jim Smith
Ron Sabata
Mick Margritz
Dan Estermann
Bill Henry
Jim Becker
Kenneth Kennedy
Matt Hasenauer
Greg Wilke
Chance Shilling
Chris Klaasmeyer
Dewey Schaffer
Suzanna Klaasmeyer
Andy Olson
Kirk Olson

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Association of County Officials
Landowners for a Common Purpose
Landowners for a Common Purpose
self
Landowners for a Common Purpose
Wallace School District
self
Landowners for a Common Purpose
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
self
Landowners for a Common Purpose
self
self

Opponents:

Tom Schwarz

Representing:

Nebraska Farm Bureau, Nebraska Farmers Union,

Terry Martin

Kurt Bernhardt

Russell Callan

Ty Walker

Nelson Trambly

Dean Large

Don Blankenau

Nebraska Cattlemen, Nebraska Soybean Association,
Nebraska Corn Growers

Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement
Project (NCORPE)

self

Lower Loup Natural Resources District

self

self

Upper Republican Natural Resources District

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Neutral:

Anthony Schutz

Jack Russell

Jeff Fassett

Representing:

self

Middle Republican Natural Resources District

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1123 would have created new language to:

- Provide an intent statement that each natural resources district has the power and authority to develop augmentation projects as described in the Ground Water Management and Protection Act, and to acquire real property for such projects;
- Authorize the project owner to sell the overlying surface interest and retain and reserve the right to the ground water located beneath the land;
- Entitle the project owner to the reasonable and beneficial use of ground water to which the right was retained and reserved;
- Allow the quantity of ground water available for the augmentation project to be the same amount as if the augmentation project owner still owned the overlying surface interest.

Dan Hughes, Chairperson