

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB584

Hearing Date: Monday January 30, 2017
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: Friesen
One Liner: Change provisions relating to mowing of weeds along roads

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

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Bostelman, Briese, Friesen, Geist, Hilgers, Hughes, Murante, Smith
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Curt Friesen
Scott Smathers
Larry Dix
Jerry McDonald
Wes Sheets
Tim McCoy
Duane Hovorka
Steven Kruger

Representing:

District 34
Nebraska Sportsman's Foundation
NACO
Pheasants Forever, Inc.
Self
Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Nebraska Wildlife Federation
District 6, Washington County

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Amends section 39-1811- County roads, duty of landowner to mow.

This section currently provides that it is the duty of a landowner to mow all weeds, that can be mowed with an ordinary farm mower, from the middle of all public roads and drainage ditches at least twice a year- once before July 15 and a second time during the month of August.

LB 584 amends the mowing requirements of this section as follows:

- 1) Landowners, a county, or a township may manage roadside vegetation on road shoulders, intersections or entrances, sight distance at any time of the year, or snow control mowing as may be necessary annually;
- 2) Any person employed or under contract to a county for the purpose of mowing roadside ditches shall not do any such mowing prior to July 1 of any year; and

3) strikes the requirement that a landowner mow road and drainage ditches at least two times per year.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee considered and adopted an amendment which accomplishes the following:

1) reinstates the obligation of a landowner to mow roads and drainage ditches at least twice per year- sometime in July for the first time and sometime in September for the second time; and

2) new subsection (2) of section 39-1811 is revised to read that landowners or a county shall not be restricted in the management of roadside vegetation on road shoulders or of sight distance at intersections and entrances at any time of the year or snow control mowing as may be necessary.

Curt Friesen, Chairperson