

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 241

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Brandt, 32; Briese, 41; Dorn, 30; Gragert, 40; Kolterman, 24; Scheer, 19; Slama, 1; Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to develop an environmental action plan for the state, including assessments of vulnerability, risks, economic impacts, and mitigation strategies. The state has experienced devastating, costly, and historic floods in the last ten years. An increase in highly destructive weather events, including floods, drought, and high winds present serious, diverse, and ongoing issues. All of Nebraska's industries, especially agriculture, are negatively impacted by these destructive and increasingly frequent extreme weather events. Even the water supplies of the state's largest population centers have been compromised by flooding. Appropriate and proactive planning is needed to develop strategies to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of extreme weather events on the health and well-being of Nebraskans. An effective plan to meet the challenges posed by extreme weather events will enable the state to take advantage of opportunities resulting from adaptation and mitigation strategies. Such strategies have the potential to attract new businesses and investments to Nebraska and to reduce the negative impacts of extreme weather events on the environment.

The select interim committee shall:

- (1) Select two co-chairs from the membership of the committee;
- (2) Gather, share, examine, and analyze data and information related to environmental impacts on the resources and people of Nebraska;
- (3) Examine laws, programs, policies, and planning efforts for extreme weather events, including those developed in other states;
- (4) Examine environmental action plans developed in other states; and
- (5) Consult with relevant stakeholders and academic experts on extreme weather events, including, but not limited to, the University of Nebraska, the

Nebraska state colleges, Nebraska community colleges, emergency management officials, conservation organizations, political subdivisions, state agencies, and the public.

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

1. That a select interim committee of the Legislature shall be designated to carry out the purposes of this resolution. The select interim committee shall be composed of the chair of the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature, or his or her designee, the chair of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature, or his or her designee, the chair of the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature, or his or her designee, and four members of the Legislature selected by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.