

One Hundred Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2022

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1015

Chairperson: Senator Bruce Bostelman

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: February 09, 2022

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

LB 1015 secures Nebraska's water supply from the South Platte River under the 1923 South Platte Compact signed with Colorado. Enactment of the Perkins County Canal Act provides Nebraska water users certainty of continued South Platte River flows to protect Nebraska's communities, businesses, agriculture, and environment. Without this project, Colorado's water planning documents and recent legislation have identified the South Platte River flows to Nebraska as excess that should be stored and diverted to other uses within Colorado.

LB 1015 protects Nebraska's water supply by providing the Department of Natural Resources all necessary authority to develop, construct, manage, and operate the Perkins County Canal Project consistent with the terms of the South Platte River Compact. These include managing and expending funds of the Perkins County Canal Project Fund, acquiring real estate, and any other necessary functions consistent with the Compact required to achieve the purposes of the Act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Speaker Hilgers, 21