

**One Hundred Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2026**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LR298CA**

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**Chairperson: Senator Tom Brandt**

**Committee: Natural Resources**

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

LR298CA is a proposed constitutional amendment to preserve the intent and viability of the Nebraska Environmental Trust by requiring that all grants be awarded through a competitive process and by limiting state agencies use of the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund. State agencies will be able to access Trust funds only if they provide a grant request that is granted in a competitive process, with evidence of a match for those funds of 50% from a political subdivision, the federal government, or private donors. This allows leveraging of Trust funds by state agencies. Grant applications from nonprofit groups and political subdivisions are not affected by the amendment.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tom Brandt**