



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 422**

Hearing Date: January 30, 2007
Committee On: Agriculture

Introducer(s): (Erdman, 47)
Title: Change membership of the Nebraska Brand Committee

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
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Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Dubas, Wallman, Karpisek, McDonald, Dierks, Erdman, and Preister
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Chambers

Proponents:

Senator Philip Erdman
John A. Gale
Pete McClymont
John K. Hansen

Representing:

Introducer, District 47, Agriculture Chair
Secretary of State
Nebraska Cattlemen
Nebraska Farmers Union

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 422 removes the Secretary of State as a permanent member and chair of the Nebraska Brand Committee, makes other revisions to the membership on the committee, and reassigns statutory duties of the Secretary of State under the Brand Law. Membership and governance of the Committee is then as follows:

- Replaces the Secretary of State as a member with an additional cattle producer member appointed by the Governor retaining qualifications for membership as currently prescribed.
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- Reflects existing allocation of representation on the Committee of cattlemen and feeders by specifying that at least three members continue to be cattlemen and at least one member is a feeder.
- Adds the Secretary of State and the Director of Agriculture or their designees as non-voting, ex-officio members of the Committee.
- Provides for annual election of a chair and vice-chair of the Committee from among its appointed producer members

Sections 2 & 3 reassign two duties currently vested in the Secretary of State by virtue of the Secretary of State's designation as Chair of the Brand Committee.

- Amends §54-192 to provide for meetings of the Brand Committee at the call of the chair or vice-chair

Amends §54-194 to vest the Director of the Brand Committee or the chair of the Brand Committee with authority to authenticate brand recording documents by signature.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendments are for transitional purposes. The amendment adds the emergency clause to allow an operative date for changes to the Brand Committee membership brought about by the bill to coincide with the terms of Brand Committee members which on August 28. The amendment further clarifies that the Secretary of State continues as chair of the Brand Committee until a new chair is selected according to the mechanisms of the bill.

Senator Philip Erdman, Chairperson