

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1085

Chairperson: Senator Abbie Cornett

Committee: Revenue

Date of Hearing: February 09, 2012

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

LB1085 creates the Tourism Development Act.

This bill creates the Tourism Development Act which utilizes Nebraska's sales tax structure to encourage statewide tourism. The bill "turnsback" new sales tax revenue generated by certain new hotels and retailers. The turnback applies to facilities built and that go on the state sales tax role between January 1, 2013, and December 31, 2014, and are near the Omaha Convention Center and arena. Hotels located within 450 yards of the Omaha Convention Center and arena and retailers located within 600 yards of the Omaha Convention Center and arena will turnback the sales tax they collect with the exception that any sales tax collected within 200 yards of the Omaha Convention Center will continue to go back to the city of Omaha to pay off the bonds.

The fund appropriates fifty percent to Omaha to encourage tourism with a preference to use the funds within 600 yards of the Omaha Convention Center and arena. The remaining fifty percent is appropriated to the Travel and Tourism Division of the Department of Economic Development to encourage tourism.

This fund shall be appropriated for the life of the bonds of the Omaha Convention Center and arena or no more than thirty years.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Burke Harr