

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Special Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB4

Chairperson: Senator Chris Langemeier

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: November 08, 2011

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

LB 4 would create the Oil Pipeline Route Certification Act, a process through which an entity intending to construct an oil pipeline through Nebraska must apply to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for certification of the route. The bill clarifies that the state has a compelling interest in protecting its natural resources and environment for economic, aesthetic, recreational and other purposes, is required to protect such interests under various provisions of the state constitution and statute, and that the supreme executive power is vested in the Governor, who is to ensure that the state's laws be faithfully executed and the affairs of the state efficiently and economically administered. These inherent duties justify the route certification process and the authorization of the Governor to appoint a panel to make a recommendation from which he or she is to approve or deny certification of the applicant's route.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Chris Langemeier