

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB272

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 20, 2013
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Carlson
One Liner: Change provisions relating to chemigation permits and fees

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Brasch, Carlson, Dubas, Haar, Johnson, Schilz, Smith
Nay:
Absent: 1 Senator Kolowski
Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Laurie Lage John Turnbull	Representing: Introducer Nebraska Association of Resources Districts
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Opponents: Scott Merritt	Representing: Nebraska Corn Growers Association
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Neutral: Jay Rempe Ed Woeppel	Representing: Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation Nebraska Cooperative Council
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Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 272 would raise the caps on chemigation permit fees to help offset the costs to the natural resources districts and the Department of Environmental Quality of administering the permit program. The original bill proposed new caps for the various permits, with a portion of each, not to exceed twenty percent, to be paid to the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill would also change the time period that a natural resources district has to review and decide on an emergency chemigation permit from 48 hours to two working days.

Explanation of amendments:

The amendment replaces the \$500 emergency permit fee with a fee cap of \$500; reinstates the existing fee portions to be paid to the Department of Environmental Quality; allows the natural resources districts to establish permit fees, which are to be sufficient to cover the reasonable ongoing administrative and inspection program costs; and sets permit fee caps at \$150 for regular and special permits, and \$100 for renewal permits.

