ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB514

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 27, 2013

Committee On: Natural Resources

Introducer: Carlson

One Liner: Provide for new funding mechanisms under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction

Assistance Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Brasch, Carlson, Dubas, Haar, Johnson, Kolowski, Schilz,

Smith

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Laurie Lage Introducer

Mike Linder Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

Jerry Stilmock Nebraska Bankers Association

Kristen Hassebrook Nebraska Cattlemen

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 514 would allow for the creation of a linked deposit program under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act to promote projects for improved water quality.

The Department of Environmental Quality would be authorized to create and regulate the linked deposit program and promote loans for the construction, rehabilitation, and enhancement of nonpoint source control systems. The bill would further authorize a portion of loan funds to be deposited with eligible financial institutions in low-yielding deposit accounts, certificates of deposit, or other agreed upon deposits, for loans at a rate lower than the prevailing rate for such loans. The bill would further authorize the department to buy or refinance debt of municipalities for wastewater treatment works.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment adds to the definition of "eligible financial institution" to ensure that banks chartered in other states and authorized to do business in Nebraska are included.

Tom Carlson, Chairperson