

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - First Session - 2015

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB609

Chairperson: Senator Jim Smith

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: March 09, 2015

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

LB 609 would allow for the adoption of the Bridge Repair Act. Under the act, the Bridge Repair Commission would be established and would be composed of eleven members appointed by the Governor. The members would consist of a county board member or a county commissioner from each of the eight State Highway Commission Districts and three at-large members, two of whom have construction experience. The Department of Roads would provide technical assistance to the commission.

The bill would allow for any Nebraska county to submit to the commission a prioritized list of bridges located in the county that need to be repaired or replaced. With the assistance of a program manager, the commission would evaluate and organize bridge projects into project packages.

The commission would have the authority to enter into design-build contracts with qualified bidders for the design and completion of each project package. Counties in which a bridge project is located would have the sole authority to make all final decisions concerning the performance of the work under the design-build contract.

LB 609 would establish the Nebraska Bridge Infrastructure Bank Fund. The fund would be operated by the commission in order to carry out the provisions of the Bridge Repair Act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Jim Smith