

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB 1040

HEARING DATE: January 21, 2000

COMMITTEE ON: Natural Resources

TITLE: (Beutler, Preister, Schrock) Provide for a comprehensive study of water quality monitoring

ROLL CALL VOTE – FINAL COMMITTEE ACTION

Advanced to General File

X Advanced to General File with Amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

8	Yes	Senators Bromm, Bruning, Hudkins, Jones, Kremer, Preister, Schrock, Stuhr
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
0	Absent	

PROPOSERS

Senator Chris Beutler

Dean Edson

Mark Brohman

REPRESENTING

Introducer

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

OPPOSERS

None

REPRESENTING

NEUTRAL

Pat Rice

REPRESENTING

Department of Environmental Quality

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE AND/OR CHANGES:

Section 1: Commends the Natural Resources Districts and the Department of Environmental Quality for their efforts in monitoring groundwater quality. It also lays the foundation for establishing a statewide groundwater quality monitoring program.

Section 2: Requires the Department to conduct a comprehensive study in two phases. The first phase is to be completed by December 1, 2000, and the second phase is to be completed by June 30, 2001. It creates an advisory committee to work with the Department. The committee is composed of a designee from: the American Consulting Engineers Council of Nebraska, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Human Services, Natural Resources Commission, the League of Municipalities, Nebraska Association of Resources Districts, Game and Parks Commission, United States Geological Survey and the University

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of Nebraska. This committee is responsible for Phase I of the study. This committee shall be expanded to include all stakeholders, as determined by the Department, for Phase II of the study.

Section 3: (1) Details of what should be accomplished in Phase I of the study, which is an assessment of Nebraska's current water quality monitoring efforts. It should identify those things that are working well and those that are failing to do what needs to be done.

(2) Details of what should be accomplished in Phase II of the study, which shall consist of recommendations as to changes required to implement a statewide groundwater quality monitoring program. This Phase must also include an estimate of the funding necessary to accomplish the commendations.

Section 4: Appropriates \$50,000 to the Department of Environmental Quality to fund both phases of the study.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS, IF ANY:

The amendment to LB 1040 removes Section 4, deleting the additional funding.

Senator Ed Schrock, Chairperson