



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 157

Chairperson: Bob Kremer
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: January 21, 2003

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

LB 157 amends the Pesticide Act. Section 2-2646 of the Pesticide Act provides that it is unlawful for any person to use a pesticide on property without permission from the owner or lawful tenant. LB 157 provides an exemption from this provision for governmental agencies using pesticides for outdoor vector control (all products must still be used in compliance with the product label). In order to address public health threats, municipalities and other governmental agencies need to be able to use vector control pesticides in a manner that cannot be practically confined to public property, such as mosquito fogging. The emergence of the West Nile Virus has made effective mosquito control a public health concern.

LB 157 would also combine the Liming Materials Cash Fund established in the Agricultural Liming Materials Act, and the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners Administrative Fund established in the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioners Act. There is considerable overlap in the regulated public under these programs and thus considerable overlap in the public paying fees for the support of both programs, and also overlap in resources utilized by the Department in administering both programs (both programs administered in same division and the same inspectors oversee both programs, often performing regulatory functions such as inspections for both programs simultaneously.) The combining of the funds would enable more efficient utilization of cash funds fees in these programs.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Robert Kremer