



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 856

Chairperson: Bob Kremer
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: January 31, 2006

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

LB 856 expands authorities of the Department of Agriculture under the Poultry Disease Control Act to update the act to reflect current avian influenza disease concerns, and to make the act current with the National Poultry Improvement Plan and Auxiliary Provisions. The bill is part of the heightened national and international vigilance in monitoring for H5/H7 subtypes of low pathogenic avian influenza which can mutate into highly pathogenic avian influenza with potentially serious economic and public health consequences.

LB 856 authorizes the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to establish testing protocols to monitor the presence of H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza Type A, in both breeding and commercial poultry flocks; to enter premises maintained for the production of both breeding and commercial poultry flocks to examine poultry or hatching eggs for the presence of dangerous, contagious, infectious or otherwise transmissible disease, exempt the State of Nebraska from state-funded indemnity payments to owners of poultry flocks infected with avian influenza, and to be consistent with the proposed USDA/APHIS/VS Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Bob Kremer