



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2006
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 916

Chairperson: Bob Kremer
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: January 24, 2006

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

LB 916 is introduced to resolve potential implementation issues regarding mandatory reporting of price and other data for all cash and contract purchases by packers of swine and cattle under §§54-2607 and 54-2627 of the Nebraska Competitive Livestock Markets Act. Such sections have lain dormant since shortly after enactment by the Legislature due to federal preemption by the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 to 1636h). The federal act expired on September 1, 2005 therefore leaving no federal preemption impediment to implementation of reporting provisions of the state law.

LB 916 adds new text stating legislative findings of the value of mandatory price reporting under the federal law. Further stated is the additional purpose of the Competitive Livestock Markets Act as amended by LB 916 to preserve the benefits of mandatory price reporting for Nebraska producers and to provide for an orderly implementation of existing state price reporting provisions in the event Congress fails to reauthorize the federal system. The bill also acknowledges the preemption of state price reporting provisions by the cited federal act. In the event Congress fails to reauthorize the federal act before Dec. 1, 2006, the bill directs the Department to prepare a budget and appropriation request to implement the price reporting sections and other duties assigned to the Department under the Act for consideration by the Legislature during the 2007 session. Implementation of price reporting would then begin on October 1, 2007. In the event Congress does reauthorize the federal law before December 1, 2006, the bill directs that the Department shall prepare such budget request 12 months after any future expiration date, and that full implementation of state price reporting would begin 18 months after expiration.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Bob Kremer