

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
2008**

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB880

Hearing Date: January 25, 2008

Committee On: Natural Resources

Introducer(s): (Kopplin)

Title: Provide for watershed enhancement bonds

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Placed on General File with Amendments

Vote Results:

8 Yes Senators Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, Fischer,
Hudkins, Kopplin, Louden, Wallman

0 No

0 Absent

0 Present, not voting

Proponents:
Senator Gail Kopplin
Dean Edson

Representing:
Introducer
Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

John Winkler
David Petrocchi
John Fullenkamp
Marty Grate
Fred Uhe
Jerry Slusky

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources
District
City of Bellevue
ENDC-MOB4
City of Omaha/Papillion Creek Partnership
Sarpy County Board of Commissioners
Floodway Property Group

Opponents:

Linda Ryan
Mike Ryan
Andy Pollock
Shawn Melotz
Kevin Propst
Duane Wilcox
Donald Bartling
Gary Lambrecht
Ken Dreessen
Ken Winston

Representing:

Self
Self
Papillion Valley Preservation Association
Self
Self
Washington County Board of Supervisors
Washington County Farm Bureau
Self
Self
Nebraska Chapter, Sierra Club

Neutral:

None

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or change:

LB880 does the following:

- Section 1 Allows a natural resources district that encompasses a metropolitan city to issue bonds, payable by a special levy. This levy is included with the current tax levy authorization.
- Section 2 The proceeds shall pay the costs of design, rights-of-way acquisition, and construction of multipurpose projects and practices for storm water management, including flood control and water quality.
- Section 3 Grants the authority to the board of directors to issue warrants, payable from the bond proceeds.
- Section 4 Grants the authority to the board of directors to pay fees to fiscal agents in connection with the placement of warrants or bonds of the district.
- Section 5 Revisor of Statutes instructions.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment places limitations on a reservoir size that may be funded with bonds. The reservoir restriction is stated as not greater than five hundred surface acres in a permanent pool. It also requires any project that has a permanent pool greater than twenty surface acres to provide for public access.

The amendment also prohibits the use of eminent domain to acquire real property that could then be turned over to a nonpublic entity after the acquisition.

Senator LeRoy Loudon, Chairperson