

Chairperson:	Chris Langemeier
Committee:	Natural Resources
Date of Hearing:	January 22, 2009

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

Legislative Bill 5 would repeal the prohibition for trapping in county road rights-of-way.

It is the intent of LB 5 to undo the negative consequences of the prohibition that were not fully taken into consideration when it was put into place. Some of these consequences are the difficulty for counties to trap animals that are damaging county roads, the difficulty of adequately managing certain animals that damage crops and livestock, and the economic hit to individuals and businesses dependent on fur harvesting. These are real increased costs to county budgets, businesses, and individual incomes.

The prohibition that LB 5 proposes to repeal was inserted into LB 299 in 2007 by the adoption of AM1351 during Select File. In the 2008 session, LB 743 was introduced to repeal the prohibition and was advanced to General File and prioritized, but was not debated due to time constraints.

The regulating of fur harvesting in the county rights-of-way would return to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, as was their authority prior to the ban.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Mark Christensen