



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 680

Chairperson: Lavon Heidemann
Committee: Appropriations
Date of Hearing: March 26, 2009

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

LB 680 was introduced to provide a focal point for a public hearing on federal funds flowing to Nebraska as a result of passage of the federal act, the "American Recovery and Reconstruction Act of 2009," or "ARRA." Further, it was known upon passage of ARRA that there were heavy demands for accountability and transparency on states and it was thought a bill such as LB 680 might be useful in meeting those demands.

LB 680 was introduced nine days after the act was signed by the President, at a time when very little was known about the specifics of the ARRA act. LB680, as introduced, consists of the basic "boilerplate" structure necessary to enact appropriations.

The specific programs to be included and amounts to be included in the bill are yet to be determined as more is learned and the Appropriations Committee progresses through post-hearing budget deliberations. Most ARRA funding flows are dependent upon issuance of guidance by federal departments, specific application processes and certifications, some of which has only just started in recent weeks.

Principal Introducer:

Lavon Heidemann, Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations