

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 369**

Introduced by Howard, 9; Haar, 21.

Read first time January 13, 2011

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to state government; to amend section 81-1603,  
2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require energy  
3 conservation plans; to provide duties for the State  
4 Energy Office; and to repeal the original section.  
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Each state agency shall develop and implement  
2 a plan for conserving energy and set a percentage goal for reducing  
3 its usage of electricity. The plan shall include at a minimum the use  
4 of switchable power strips that are powered off when the attached  
5 equipment is not being used. The plan shall be submitted to the State  
6 Energy Office by December 1, 2011. By December 1 each year  
7 thereafter, each state agency shall report to the office the goals  
8 achieved and any additions or modifications to the plan.

9           Sec. 2. Section 81-1603, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
10 Nebraska, is amended to read:

11           81-1603 The office shall have the power to do such things  
12 as are necessary to carry out sections 81-1601 to 81-1605, including,  
13 but not limited to, the following:

14           (1) To adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the  
15 Administrative Procedure Act, to carry out the purposes of sections  
16 81-1601 to 81-1605;

17           (2) To make all contracts pursuant to sections 81-1601 to  
18 81-1605 and do all things to cooperate with the federal government,  
19 and to qualify for, accept, expend, and dispense public or private  
20 funds intended for the implementation of sections 81-1601 to 81-1605;

21           (3) To contract for services, if such work or services  
22 cannot be satisfactorily performed by employees of the agency or by  
23 any other part of state government;

24           (4) To enter into such agreements as are necessary to  
25 carry out energy research and development with other states;

1                   (5) To carry out the duties and responsibilities relating  
2 to energy as may be requested or required of the state by the federal  
3 government;

4                   (6) To cooperate and participate with the approval of the  
5 Governor in the activities of organizations of states relating to the  
6 availability, conservation, development, and distribution of energy;

7                   (7) To engage in such activities as will seek to insure  
8 that the State of Nebraska and its citizens receive an equitable  
9 share of energy supplies at a fair price; ~~and~~

10                   (8) To form advisory committees of citizens of Nebraska  
11 to advise the director of the energy office on programs and policies  
12 relating to energy and to assist in implementing such programs. Such  
13 committees shall be of a temporary nature and no member shall receive  
14 any compensation for serving on any such committee but, with the  
15 approval of the Governor, members shall receive reimbursement for  
16 actual and necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to  
17 81-1177 for state employees. The minutes of meetings of and actions  
18 taken by each committee shall be kept and a record shall be  
19 maintained of the name, address, and occupation or vocation of every  
20 individual serving on any committee. Such minutes and records shall  
21 be maintained in the State Energy Office and shall be available for  
22 public inspection during regular office hours; and -

23                   (9) To compile the energy conservation plans submitted to  
24 the office by state agencies pursuant to section 1 of this act and  
25 provide the compilation to the Governor and Legislature.

1                   Sec. 3. Original section 81-1603, Reissue Revised  
2 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.