

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 226

Introduced by Brasch, 16; Bloomfield, 17; Dubas, 34; Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study concerns surrounding the operation of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (Papio-Missouri NRD). This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Whether the NRD is accomplishing its statutory objective which is to provide effective coordination, planning, development, and general management of areas which have related resources problems;

(2) Whether the agricultural interests in the Papio-Missouri NRD currently receive fair and adequate representation on the board;

(3) Whether the needs of agricultural stakeholders are being met by the current budget priorities of the Papio-Missouri NRD;

(4) What must be done statutorily to accomplish 3-to-1 board representation or the formation of a new natural resources district for the rural portion of the existing Papio-Missouri NRD;

(5) How 3-to-1 board representation of the rural portion of the existing district would affect the Papio-Missouri NRD;

(6) What fiscal impact would the formation of a new natural resources district have on the Papio-Missouri NRD if Washington, Burt, Thurston, and Dakota Counties created their own natural resources district;
and

(7) Whether the interests of agricultural and recreational stakeholders in the rural portions of the Papio-Missouri NRD would be better served by increased board representation or the formation of a new natural resources district.

To carry out the purposes of this resolution, the study committee shall consult with the board, staff, and contractors of the Papio-Missouri NRD, the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts, water use associations, landowners, water users, agricultural interests, and other associations and stakeholders with an interest in the management of natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.