Introduced by Brewer, 43; Linehan, 39.

Read first time January 18, 2017

Committee: Agriculture

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Apiary Act; to amend section 81-2,165.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to provide for voluntary registration of Nebraska apiaries and bee hives as prescribed; to provide duties for the Department of Agriculture; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
Section 1. Section 81-2,165.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2,165.01 Sections 81-2,165 to 81-2,180 and section 2 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Apiary Act.

Sec. 2. Any Nebraska resident owning or operating an apiary in the state may voluntarily register the location of such apiary and associated hive or hives with the department. The purpose of such registration shall be to protect Nebraska apiaries and hives from proximity exposure to any out-of-state apiaries. Upon such registration, no owner or operator of any commercial beekeeping operation domiciled outside the State of Nebraska shall be allowed to locate any apiary or hives from outside the state less than three miles from any registered Nebraska apiary or hive.

A person registered pursuant to this section may report any violation of the three-mile quarantine to the department. The department shall immediately inspect, and if such violation is confirmed, the department shall issue notice that removal or relocation of the out-of-state apiary or hive be carried out within three days by the owner or operator. Any owner or operator of such apiary or hive failing to obey such notice shall be in violation of the Nebraska Apiary Act and shall be punished as provided in section 81-2,179.

Sec. 3. Original section 81-2,165.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.