

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 197

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Hilkemann, 4; Krist, 10; Lindstrom, 18;
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PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding the utilization of wood generated from the emerald ash borer infestation that is taking place in Nebraska. The study shall examine issues related to processed wood products (mulch, biochar, animal bedding, and biomass for energy generation), architectural wood products (cabinetry, flooring, and millwork), and lumber products (boards, slabs, pallet lumber). For each type of product, the study shall consider:

(1) The current state of wood utilization in Nebraska;

(2) Potential supply and markets, opportunities and challenges, production and operational considerations, partnerships, environmental impacts, and financial feasibility;

(3) A model for the potential partnership of communities, businesses, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the Nebraska Forest Service to examine creative ideas for developing value-added products from trees removed due to the emerald ash borer and other causes;

(4) The potential use of demonstration projects to support informed decisionmaking by the public and industry professionals; and

(5) Prospective grant opportunities from the United States Department of Agriculture and other sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH 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.