

**One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB274**

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**Chairperson: Senator Lydia Brasch**

**Committee: Agriculture**

**Date of Hearing: February 07, 2017**

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

LB274 amends the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act to better to more efficiently implement the provisions of the Nebraska Rangeland Grasshopper Control Act, which is being repealed. LB274 updates the Department of Agriculture's authority to respond to plant pest infections, including infections of grasshoppers, to protect the agricultural interests of the state through programs to eradicate, manage, treat or control plant pests. The bill specifically provides that the Department may receive and disperse pass through funds for the implementation of federal programs related to plant protection or plant pests in the state.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Steve Halloran