

LEGISLATIVE BILL 135

Approved by the Governor February 14, 2018

Introduced by Lowe, 37.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Department of Agriculture; to amend sections 81-2,163 and 81-2,164.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to publicity; to eliminate publication provisions; to eliminate the power of the Director of Agriculture to designate a bureau as prescribed; to change provisions relating to the Agricultural Products Marketing Information Cash Fund; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 81-2,164, 81-2,164.01, and 81-2,164.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-2,163, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2,163 (1) ~~The Department of Agriculture may provide serve as an information bureau in reference to the state's agricultural resources, industries, and development and may assemble data relating to such the resources, and industries, and development of the state and to the physical, economical, and social conditions existing therein. The department may publish the facts ascertained and may charge for departmental publications an amount not to exceed the cost of collecting, publishing, and distributing such statistical information for the purposes of sections 81-201, and 81-2,163, and to 81-2,164.03, and by means of publicity may promote the development of the resources of the state to the welfare of its inhabitants.~~

(2) The Department of Agriculture may cooperate with the federal government, farm industry groups or associations, and any other person in assembling and disseminating information relating to agricultural products produced throughout the state.

Sec. 2. Section 81-2,164.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2,164.03 The Director of Agriculture is hereby authorized to receive voluntary gifts and contributions from the federal government, private agencies, farm industry associations, ~~and individuals, and any other person,~~ or to collect fees or charges for services or publications from any source, including, but not limited to, the federal government, state governments, public agencies, and private entities or individuals for the purpose of defraying the expenses of carrying out subdivision (3) of section 81-201 and sections 81-2,163 ~~and to 81-2,164.03.~~ All advances so received shall be credited to the Agricultural Products Marketing Information Cash Fund, which fund is hereby created. Disbursements from such fund shall be made upon vouchers approved by the director and warrants issued thereon as provided by law. All money received from the federal government, local government agencies, private research agencies, farm industry associations, ~~or individuals, or any other person,~~ which are reimbursements for expenditures made, shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Agricultural Products Marketing Information Cash Fund. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

Sec. 3. Original sections 81-2,163 and 81-2,164.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.

Sec. 4. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections 81-2,164, 81-2,164.01, and 81-2,164.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.