

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB145 makes the following amendments to the Noxious Weed Control Act:

- Requires the Department of Agriculture to administer a grant program under the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund;
- Beginning in FY2025-26 creates intent to appropriate six million annually for the act.

Current appropriation for the program is \$706,000. The Department of Agriculture has paused grant awards in past cycles. The act is funded via a General Fund appropriation and not an appropriation of cash via the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund. Should the bill be funded to its intent, the General Fund impact would be \$5,294,000 per year. The Cash Fund has insufficient funds for the increase contemplated in this bill.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 145	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Agriculture	
REVIEWED BY: Joe Massey	DATE: 1/21/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4181	
COMMENTS: Concur with the Department of Agriculture's assessment of impact from the transfer articulated in LB 145.			

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2025

LB⁽¹⁾ 145

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Ashley Dempsey Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1/17/2025 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-429-2487

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2025-26</u>		<u>FY 2026-27</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>5,294,000</u>	_____	<u>5,294,000</u>	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>5,294,000</u></u>	_____	<u><u>5,294,000</u></u>	_____

Explanation of Estimate:

The bill includes language regarding the Department’s duty to administer grants which cover general noxious weed programs described in §2-958.02(1), (2) and (3) as well as the more specific grant for the management of vegetation within the banks or flood plain of a natural stream (stream flow work) found in Subsection (4) of §2-958.02. The Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund set out in §2-958.02(1) does not carry a balance and has no revenue to support grant programs. Administration and aid of the program would not occur unless there is a transfer into the fund.

The bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate six million dollars annually for stream flow work. Currently, three million dollars is intended to be appropriated annually. However, the more specific language in §2-958.02(4) does not allow for those appropriated dollars to be used for administrative support, therefore the Department would require additional appropriation, approximately five to ten percent of dollars to be appropriated annually for administration of the grant program to ensure adequate oversight.

LB814 of 2023 appropriated \$706,000 of General Fund Aid for this program to the Department in both FY23-24 and FY24-25. The amounts shown above are the difference in current appropriation levels and intent language.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
	<u>25-26</u>	<u>26-27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	<u>5,294,000</u>	<u>5,294,000</u>
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	<u><u>5,294,000</u></u>	<u><u>5,294,000</u></u>

