

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 340

Introduced by Jacobson, 42.

WHEREAS, rangelands are natural ecosystems in which the indigenous vegetation is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs and cover more than nineteen billion acres of land globally; and

WHEREAS, rangelands are economically, socially, and culturally vital to human communities through an array of ecological services, including biodiversity, carbon sequestration and storage, food and fiber production, water resources, and wildlife habitat, provide renewable and nonrenewable energy resources, and aesthetic and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, pastoralists raise livestock or semi-domesticated animals on rangelands. Pastoralists, including ranchers, nomads, and transhumant herders, have stewarded rangelands for millennia through deep knowledge and connections with the land; and

WHEREAS, shared experiences of land, livestock and stewardship connect pastoralists around the world through historical knowledge and integration of new technologies toward sustainable rangelands; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations, in recognition of the vital nature of rangelands and the significance of pastoralism to the stewardship and societal benefits of rangelands, designated 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists; and

WHEREAS, national, regional, provincial, and local governments around the world will celebrate the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists through education, advertisements, film, and adoption of national and local policies that are supportive of rangelands and pastoralists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes 2026 as the United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in solidarity.

2. That the Legislature encourages all businesses and community members to take advantage of resources available and to celebrate the valuable contributions rangelands and pastoralists provide our state.