

One Hundred Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2025

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB375

Chairperson: Senator Barry DeKay

Committee: Agriculture

Date of Hearing: February 04, 2025

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

LB 375 would create the Grocer Reinvestment Option Act, creating a grant program through the Department of Economic Development for small, locally-owned grocery stores in areas where residents must travel a substantial distance to shop for groceries. The grants would be used to improve the viability and long-term sustainability of independent grocery to 1) obtain assistance with applying for federal funding opportunities, 2) convert to a multi-owner or community-supported operating model, 3) purchase new equipment and technology, or 4) pilot a wholesale buying cooperative to improve purchasing power.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Teresa Ibach