PREPARED BY: DATE PREPARED: PHONE: Jeanne Glenn February 17, 2015 402-471-0056

LB 562

Revision: 00

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT - STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2015-16		FY 2016-17	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS		(4,000,000)		(4,000,000)
CASH FUNDS	See below	4,000,000	See below	4,000,000
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below	0	See below	0

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

LB 562 would establish the Nebraska Treasures Act and state in legislative intent that \$4,000,000 General Funds be appropriated annually to the Nebraska Treasures Fund beginning in FY15-16. The Nebraska Tourism Commission would be directed to provide grants to four existing or potential tourism sites in Nebraska that have the greatest potential to attract visitors from outside the state. Grants would be made in four \$1,000,000 installments until it is determined that the sites are fully developed and operationally stable.

Assuming that \$4,000,000 was transferred annually from the General Fund to the Nebraska Treasures Fund, there would be a General Fund revenue loss and a corresponding increase in cash fund revenue and expenditures. Because it is not known how long funding would be required to develop the tourism sites, it is not possible to estimate how long transfers from the General Fund to the Nebraska Treasures Fund would occur.

It is estimated that there would be administrative costs to the Nebraska Tourism Commission to evaluate existing and potential sites, to make determinations regarding the sites to be funded, to administer the grant program and to monitor the progress of project construction and development. Because the Nebraska Tourism Commission does not currently have staff with expertise in capital facility funding, it is estimated that the agency would need to hire contractual experts to assist with the project evaluation process, and additional staff to carry out the grant award and monitoring process. It is estimated that the costs to the Tourism Commission could be significant, and would entail consulting fees and hiring project managers. It is estimated that consulting and staffing costs could come from the State Visitors Promotion Cash Fund, and could total up to \$250,000 per year.