

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$94,000		\$87,500	
CASH FUNDS	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$99,000	\$5,000	\$92,500	\$5,000

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

LB828 amends the Nebraska Apiary Act in the following ways:

- Allows for the department to provide education on beekeeping practices;
- Amends definitions under the act;
- Adds definition for pollinator and specialty crop under the act;
- Adds a misdemeanor for failing to register an apiary under the act;
- Creates the Pollinator Task Force and describes the membership and duties as such:
 - o Director of Agriculture or their designee;
 - o Director of Natural Resources or their designee;
 - o Director of Environment and Energy of their designee;
 - o Director of Game and Parks or their designee;
 - o The Director-State Engineer of the Department of Transportation or their designee;
 - o The following members to be appointed by the Director of Agriculture and approved by the Legislature:
 - A representative of a natural resources district;
 - A representative of a recreation and park association;
 - A representative of a conservation organization;
 - An individual who commercially grows at least one specialty crop;
 - An individual who commercial grows crops that are dependent upon pollinators;
 - One professional educator in the field of pesticide use or environmental effects of pesticides;
 - One pesticide dealer;
 - One commercial applicator;
 - One beekeeper;
 - A member of the general public not described above.
 - o Terms are described as, "shall serve until next July 1" and members may serve multiple terms;
 - o Vacancies are to be filled by the Director of Agriculture with replacement members to serve the remainder of the term;
 - o Creates a requirement to meet twice annually;
 - o Creates a reimbursement for members expenses;
 - o Creates intent to invite participation at Pollinator Task Force Meetings from the following:
 - A representative from an Indian Tribe of Nebraska;
 - A representative from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Entomology;
 - A representative younger than nineteen who participates in an organization that encourages students to engage in agriculture; and
 - Any subject matter expert.
 - o The bill sets the purpose of the Pollinator Task Force and requires the development of a pollinator plan by the task force and lists the topics to be included;
 - o Requires the plan to be submitted to the Legislature by November 1, 2026 and each November 1 thereafter;
 - o Allows for the Task Force to employ individuals for apiary inspections and apiary or pollinator research;
- Creates the Nebraska Apiary Registry with an effective date of January 1, 2025, creates a timeline for apiary registration, lists the contents of the registry;
- Creates the following fee schedule for registration under the fund with remittance of such fees to the State Apiary Cash Fund:
 - o For veterans and persons 65 years or old, \$10, all others \$15. Each apiary location is a \$1 fee;
 - o Makes registration information confidential with listed exceptions provided to University of Nebraska faculty and departments;

- o Requires the Department of Agriculture to notify all persons with registered apiaries of any outbreaks within a five-mile radius of said apiary;
- o Allows for the Department of Agriculture to promulgate rules and regulations under the act;
- o Excepts registered apiary owners from liability related to injury or stings within a two-mile radius of such apiary with exceptions for negligence or intent; and
- o Allows for the Department of Agriculture to provide proof of registration to a party in a suit for damages.

No basis to dispute the estimates provided by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 828	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Transportation	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/16/2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Department of Transportation's estimate of no fiscal impact to the agency as a result of LB 828.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 828	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Agriculture	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/12/2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Department of Agriculture's estimated fiscal impact to the agency as a result of LB 828.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 828	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Game and Parks Commission	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/10/2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Game and Parks Commission's estimate of no fiscal impact to the agency as a result of LB 828.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 828	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Natural Resources	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/10/2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Department of Natural Resources' estimate of no fiscal impact to the agency as a result of LB 828.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 828	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Environment and Energy	
REVIEWED BY:	Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/5/2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4173
COMMENTS: Concur with the Department of Environment and Energy's estimate of no fiscal impact to the agency as a result of LB 828.			

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 828

FISCAL NOTE

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

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Ashley Dempsey Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1/4/2023 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-429-2487

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$94,000		\$87,500	
CASH FUNDS	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>\$99,000</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$92,500</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>

Explanation of Estimate:

The department will require an additional FTE for an Agriculture Program Specialist to assist the Pollinator Task Force by conducting apiary inspections and research. This position will also establish and administer the Nebraska Apiary Registry. An additional operating expense in FY2024-25 is the development of a fee collection system and software required for the registry. Travel expenses include travel for inspections and task force member reimbursement to attend meetings.

BeeCheck, a voluntary apiary registry by FieldWatch for those who sell a portion of their crop or have at least 5 hives, is currently available in Nebraska. There are approx. 275 beekeepers and 750 locations registered with BeeCheck. The Department utilized this data to determine expected revenue to the State Apiary Cash Fund. There are beekeepers and locations not realized in the BeeCheck registry; however this provides the closest estimate. The department will require General Funds to cover the shortfall to fund the program.

Current revenue into the State Apiary Cash Fund is for certificates issued at a beekeepers request as provided for in 81-2,273. Since July 1, 2018, the fund has received a total of \$600 in fees for issuing four certificates. The cash balance of the fund was \$165 as of December 31, 2023.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Agriculture Program Specialist	1.0	1.0	\$49,500	\$52,000
Benefits.....			\$27,000	\$28,000
Operating.....			\$15,000	\$5,000
Travel.....			\$7,500	\$7,500
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			<u>\$99,000</u>	<u>\$92,500</u>

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 828

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Department of Environment and Energy

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Kevin Stoner Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ January 5, 2024 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402 471-2186

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 828 creates a Pollinator Task Force and the NDEE Director or their designee is identified as being a member of this task force. There is no fiscal impact to NDEE.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 828 – Nebraska Apiary Act updates

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Christina Peters Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ January 4, 2024 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ (402) 471-5403

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Explanation of Estimate:

The bill would make updates to the Nebraska Apiary Act, including establishing a Pollinator Task Force. The Director of NGPC, or his designee, would one of sixteen members of the Task Force. Members would be eligible for reimbursement for expenses incurred while fulfilling their duties on the task force.

The Department of Agriculture will create and maintain the new Nebraska Apiary Registry.

There is no fiscal impact to Game and Parks.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 828

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Department of Natural Resources

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Isabella Peterson Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1/4/2024 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402 560 2017

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
CASH FUNDS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
FEDERAL FUNDS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
OTHER FUNDS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>

Explanation of Estimate:

No fiscal impact. This bill does not impact agency budget or operating costs.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Benefits.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Operating.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Travel.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Capital outlay.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Aid.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Capital improvements.....			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL.....			<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 828

FISCAL NOTE

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

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Rahman Rahmani Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 01/09/2024 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-479-4692

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Explanation of Estimate:

LB828 amends the Nebraska Apiary Act by defining and redefining terms. The proposed bill creates the Pollinator Task Force and requires the Director-State Engineer of the Department of Transportation or designee to be included as a member of the task force. Task members will serve without compensation but shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for expenses pursuant to sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

Participation cost in the Pollinator Task Force can be accomplished withing existing appropriation.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u> <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2025-26</u> <u>EXPENDITURES</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>		
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____