

PREPARED BY: Clinton Verner  
DATE PREPARED: February 03, 2025  
PHONE: 402-471-0056

**LB 673**

Revision: 00

# 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	\$89,000	\$0	\$92,098	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$89,000	\$0	\$92,098	\$0

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

LB 673 would transfer \$500,000,000 from the Perkins County Canal Project Fund to the Water Sustainability Fund on or before June 30, 2025 and declares an emergency.

The agency's estimate for additional cash fund appropriation for new grants awarded seems reasonable.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 673	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Department of Natural Resources	
REVIEWED BY: Joe Massey		DATE: 1/31/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4181
COMMENTS: Department of Natural Resources assessment of fiscal impact from LB 673 appears reasonable using the assumptions provided.			

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

**2025**

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 673**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Department of Natural Resources

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Isabella Peterson Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 1/30/25 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402-560-2017

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

	<b>FY 2025-26</b>		<b>FY 2026-27</b>	
	<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
CASH FUNDS	<u>89,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92,098</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>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**Explanation of Estimate:**

LB673 internally transfers funds from the Perkins County Canal Project Fund to the Water Sustainability Fund, both of which are administered by the Department. Given the influx of five hundred million dollars into the Water Sustainability Fund, the Department anticipates the need to add one Environmental Specialist II (E45012) for program administration.

The transfer of funds will effectively end the Perkins County Canal Project, as permitting agencies and other compacting states will view the project as speculative (having a low probability of being completed) and will not expend time or resources on review. As a result, all design, land acquisition, and legal efforts by Nebraska should be wound-down in the interest of fiscal responsibility.

The Department does not anticipate all funds being distributed within the biennium.

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

**Personal Services:**

<b><u>POSITION TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u></b>		<b><u>2025-26</u></b>	<b><u>2026-27</u></b>
	<b><u>25-26</u></b>	<b><u>26-27</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>
Environmental Specialist II	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>52,250</u>	<u>54,079</u>
Benefits.....			<u>33,250</u>	<u>34,414</u>
Operating.....			<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,605</u>
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			<u>89,000</u>	<u>92,098</u>