

PREPARED BY: Mike Lovelace
 DATE PREPARED: February 20, 2009
 PHONE: 471-0050

LB 666

Revision: 00

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *

	FY 2009-10		FY 2010-11	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	See below		See below	
CASH FUNDS		(See below)		(See below)
FEDERAL FUNDS	(See below)	(See below)	(See below)	(See below)
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

LB 666 would remove various powers and duties currently in place for the Niobrara Council, such as the power to approve zoning regulations, the authority to review state and local proposals that affect the corridor, the ability to purchase land and obtain conservation easements, and the authority to otherwise manage the corridor. The Council would become an advisory body to the National Park Service and local county boards.

The Game and Parks Commission provides administrative support to the Council and the appropriation of money for the Council's operations is passed through the Commission. The current appropriation is \$50,000 General Funds, \$1,000 cash funds, and \$125,000 federal funds.

The Game and Parks Commission has indicated that the proposed changes in the Council's functions will make them ineligible to receive the annual federal grant of \$125,000. Unless General Funds are appropriated to replace this lost annual federal grant the Council would have to reduce their operating budget by about 70%. The Commission also believes it is likely that separate federal funding earmarks in the amounts of \$4,000,000 and \$200,000 for projects in the scenic river corridor could be jeopardized.

Another revenue loss identified by the Commission is the Council's ineligibility to receive the proceeds of a current grant from the Environmental Trust Fund (\$635,900). In which case the Council may have to reimburse the grant money already spent (\$14,100). There is no basis to disagree with the Commission's estimates.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

REVIEWED BY	Cindy Miserez	DATE 2/24/09	PHONE 471-4174
COMMENTS			
<p>GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION – Appropriation of General Funds will decrease \$25,000 from \$50,000 to \$25,000 for Council expense reimbursement (p. 13). Cash Funds and Federal Funds: Reduction in grant revenue will result in an equal reduction in government aid expense. I have no basis to dispute agency comments regarding decreased grant opportunities.</p>			