

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION -
2008**

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB1068

Hearing Date: February 25, 2008

Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications

Introducer(s): (Louden)

Title: Create the road classification of remote residential road

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Placed on General File with Amendments

Vote Results:

8 Yes Senators Aguilar, Fischer, Hudkins, Lautenbaugh,
Louden, Pedersen, Schimek, Stuthman

0 No

0 Absent

0 Present, not voting

Proponents:

Senator LeRoy Louden

Larry Dix

Jack Andersen

Pete McClymont

Jay Rempe

Representing:

Introducer

Nebraska Association of County Officials

Sheridan County Board

Nebraska Cattlemen

Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

Opponents:**Representing:****Neutral:**

Gene R. Acklie

Barbara Keegan

Dick Pierce

Representing:Board of Public Roads Classifications
StandardsBoard of Public Roads Classifications
StandardsBoard of Public Roads Classifications
Standards**Summary of purpose and/or change:**

LB 1068 creates a new road classification of “remote residential road” and sets standards for the new classification.

Currently there are eight functional classifications of rural highways: Interstate, expressway, major arterial, scenic recreation, other arterial, collector, local, and minimum maintenance. The bill adds a new classification of remote residential, which consists of segments of roads in remote areas of counties with

- a. a population density of no more than five people per mile; or
- b. an area of at least 1000 square miles and which roads serve as primary access to seven or less residences.

The counties are responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of remote residential roads.

Within six months after the effective date of the bill, the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards shall adopt and promulgate specific criteria for remote residential roads.

If a county board wants to designate a segment of road as remote residential, it is required to hold a public hearing prior to requesting the department to reclassify the road.

The standards for a remote residential road shall provide a minimum level of maintenance sufficient to provide access to remote residences, farms, and ranches by passenger and commercial vehicles. The standards will allow for one-lane traffic with safety concerns included. Signs shall be erected to warn the public that they are traveling on a one-lane road. Lower speed limits shall be at the discretion of the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards.

Explanation of Amendments

The committee amendment, AM 1983, makes several technical changes to the bill.

AM 1983 amends § 39-2110 to provide that whenever a new road or street is to be opened or an existing road or street is to be extended, the department shall assign a functional classification to such segment. This change reflects current practice regarding new (first-time) classifications.

Section 7 amends § 39-2112 to conform with current practice for changing a functional classification due to a change of jurisdiction, or if a county wants to reclassify an existing segment.

The amendment pushes back the time the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards has to promulgate the specific criteria for LB 1068 from six months after the effective date of the bill to eighteen months after the effective date.

The sentence “the board may stipulate that lower speed limits apply to any such road” is also removed from original section 7, subsection (4). The Board does not have this power as under state law, speed limits are set by the operating jurisdiction.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Deb Fischer, Chairperson