



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 648

Hearing Date: February 8, 2007
Committee On: Revenue

Introducer(s): (Preister)
Title: Provide tax credits relating to wind energy projects

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File
Advanced to General File with Amendments
X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Burling, Cornett, Janssen, Langemeier, Preister, Raikes and White
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Dierks

Proponents:

Senator Don Preister
John K. Hansen
Tom Richards
Kenneth Winston
Jerrod Haberman
Robert Byrnes
Loran Schmit

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Farmers Union
Nebraska Power Association
Nebraska Chapter Sierra Club
Panhandle Area Development District
Himself, NE Renewable Energy Systems
Himself

Opponents:

None

Representing:

Neutral:

None

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 648 would have enacted a sales tax exemption for any personal property used in a community-based wind energy project. Community-based wind energy project was to mean a project with diversity of ownership. Owners were Nebraska resident individuals or organizations, none of which owned more than 15 percent of the project or was contracted to receive payment for more than 33 percent of the energy produced. Ownership could be 33

percent if the project had less than three turbines. Wind energy project included materials to build a wind charger, wind mill, or wind turbine.

Section 4 would have amended section 77-27,235 to increase the credit available for any producer of energy from a zero-emission generation facility. This new credit was enacted last year by LB 872 (2006). The credit for such electricity generated before January 1, 2010 would have been increased from 0.075 cents per kilowatt-hour to 0.1 cent. For electricity generated from 2010 through 2012, the increase was from 0.05 cents per kilowatt-hour to 0.075. Finally, for electricity generated from 2013 through 2018, the credit was increased from 0.025 cents per kilowatt-hour to 0.05 cents. This section also increased the total amount of credits available from \$400,000 to \$750,000. Producers could not have claimed this credit for any project which received the sales tax exemption in section 3.

The act was to be operative October 1, 2007.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ray Janssen, Chairperson