

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

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB922

Hearing Date: February 27, 2008

Committee On: Revenue

Introducer(s): (Dubas)

Title: Adopt the Cellulosic Biomass Renewable Energy Initiative and impose and change taxes

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5 Yes	Senators Burling, Cornett, Janssen, Preister, Raikes
0 No	
3 Absent	Senators Dierks, Langemeier and White
0 Present, not voting	

Proponents:

Senator Annette Dubas
Todd Sneller
Duane Gangwish

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Ethanol Board
Nebraska Cattlemen

Opponents:

William E. Peters
Justin Brady
Doug Clark
Jill Becker
Darwin Pierson
Mary Campbell

Representing:

BNSF Railroad
Tyson
Metropolitan Utilities District
Aquila Networks
NE Oil & Gas Association
Industrial Energy Users of NE

Neutral:

None

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or change:

LB 922 would have created a fund and a program for granting incentives to cellulosic ethanol production. There were to be three types of incentives: 1) grant incentives for pilot projects or special circumstances, 2) loan incentives for bringing technology to commercial scale, and 3) production incentives of 20 cents per megajoule for commercial production of cellulosic ethanol.

The fund was to collect money from a new one cent per million BTU tax on natural gas imported into Nebraska, an increase in the severance tax on non-stripper oil from three percent to five percent and a doubling of the train mile tax to fifteen cents per train mile. The three excise taxes would have been suspended if the amount of money in the Fund exceeded \$10 million and restarted if the balance in the Fund fell to \$5 million.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ray Janssen, Chairperson