

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 161

Introduced by Natural Resources Committee:Louden, 49, Chairperson;
Carlson, 38; Dubas, 34; Hudkins, 21; Kopplin, 3;
Wallman, 30;

Read first time January 8, 2007

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Wastewater Treatment Operator
2 Certification Act; to amend section 81-15,130, Reissue
3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change a provision
4 regarding applicant's fees; and to repeal the original
5 section.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 81-15,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 81-15,130 In order to carry out the purposes of the
4 Wastewater Treatment Operator Certification Act, the council shall
5 adopt and promulgate rules and regulations. Such rules and
6 regulations shall include, but not be limited to:

7 (1) Establishing and carrying out procedures for the
8 certification program provided for in the act;

9 (2) Classification of wastewater treatment facilities.
10 Such classification shall be based on the size and type of
11 wastewater treatment facility, the quality and quantity of
12 wastewater to be treated, and other physical, chemical, and
13 biological conditions affecting such treatment facilities and
14 according to the skill, knowledge, and experience that the operator
15 must have to supervise successfully the operation of the facilities
16 so as to protect the public health and to protect the waters of
17 the state;

18 (3) A procedure to be carried out by the department to
19 receive applications and examine the qualifications of applicants
20 for certification;

21 (4) Development of a training and continuing educational
22 program including regular training schools, short courses,
23 conferences, and programs. The council shall adopt procedures and
24 minimum requirements for the approval of correspondence courses,
25 required classroom instruction, and minimum attendance standards

1 to maintain certification;

2 (5) Requirements for the maintenance of records of the
3 classification of wastewater treatment facilities;

4 (6) Distribution of applications and notices of
5 examinations;

6 (7) Procedures in the department for preparing,
7 conducting, and grading examinations either by the department or
8 by its representatives or persons conducting approved training
9 schools, short courses, conferences, and programs, including
10 correspondence courses;

11 (8) A fee schedule to be implemented by the department
12 which shall include a fee designed to cover direct and indirect
13 costs associated with applicant's certification but not to exceed
14 ~~one~~ three hundred ~~fifty~~ dollars per application. Fees may also be
15 charged by the department for each educational program to be paid
16 by the participant. Such fee shall be an amount necessary to cover
17 program costs;

18 (9) Procedures and requirements to allow the director to
19 issue temporary certificates as provided in section 81-15,135; and

20 (10) Provisions for granting exemptions to operators of
21 individual septic tank systems, nondischarging lagoon systems, and
22 other disposal systems as determined by the council.

23 Sec. 2. Original section 81-15,130, Reissue Revised
24 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.