

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 94

Introduced by Kopplin, 3

PURPOSE: To examine the issues relating to the rapid urbanization of the Papillion Creek Watershed. Current research and measurements of urban growth have found that:

(1) On an annual basis, in the Papillion Watershed, three square miles of farm ground are converted to urban uses;

(2) County and regional planning authorities have determined that the entire watershed will be built out by 2040; and

(3) Engineering studies in the watershed have shown an increase of flood flow of twenty-five percent, jeopardizing over 750 homes and businesses in the watershed.

The issues to be addressed by this study shall include the review of the existing governmental collaborations in the watershed that seek to coordinate flood control, water quality, preservation of vulnerable ecosystems, development of wildlife habitats, and the costs of such efforts. Specifically, the study shall review the use of bonding and other financial mechanisms that would reduce the long-term cost and liability associated with the impact of urban growth on the taxpayers in the affected areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the

Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall convene a meeting of the appropriate representatives from each city and county in the Papillion Creek Watershed to discuss current collaboration efforts and agreements and methods for future coordination and collaboration and any potential legislation that may be necessary.

3. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislature.