



Hundred Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 12

Chairperson: Philip Erdman
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: January 16, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 12 would change the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act in the following ways:

1. Allow for a flat license fee for those licensees that do not serve cats or dogs.
2. Require the Department of Agriculture to conduct preinspections of facilities applying for a license as well as annual inspections of licensed facilities. Currently, there is no requirement for such inspections and facilities are inspected largely on a complaint-only basis.
3. Allow for the Department of Agriculture to impose administrative fines up to \$5,000 for violations of the act or the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act.
4. Appropriate \$411,559 from the General Fund and \$127,000 Cash Funds for fiscal year 2007-08 to the Department of Agriculture to carry out the act. These funds will be used by the Department to add four additional inspectors and one veterinarian to better administer this program. At this time, Nebraska has only one inspector for the 700 kennels, pet stores and shelters that are licenced under this act. The bill specifies that any money appropriated shall be used solely to carry out the purposes of the act.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Mick Mines