



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 488

Chairperson: Ray Janssen
Committee: Revenue
Date of Hearing: February 8, 2007

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

LB 488 proposes to create an income tax credit for donations of perpetual conservation easements. To qualify for the credit, an easement must (1) satisfy certain minimum requirements, as set forth in the bill, and (2) be in one of the two areas identified by the bill (i.e. quick response water shortage areas designated by the Department of Natural Resources and the appropriate Natural Resources District; and Biologically Unique Landscapes designated in the Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan). The taxpayer will file an application with the Department of Natural Resources, which is directed to review such applications for compliance with the minimal requirements referenced above. No new applications for tax credits will be accepted after December 31, 2012.

The credit will be in an amount equal to 50% of the appraised value of the donated portion of the easement, not to exceed \$250,000. Once approved, the credit may be carried forward for fifteen succeeding taxable years. The credit may also be transferred, in whole or in part, to another taxpayer for value. The transferee can then apply the credit against his or her own taxes, subject to certain limitations.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Norman Wallman