



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 763

Chairperson: Ray Aguilar
Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing: January 23, 2008

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

This bill creates a task force to study the Nebraska State Capitol Environs, with a particular focus on Centennial Mall. While Centennial Mall is located in Lincoln, it serves as the scenic doorway for many to Nebraska's Capitol. The Centennial Mall fountains are often featured on postcards and calendars and have become part of the State's identity and should be a source of pride for all Nebraskans.

For many years, Centennial Mall has experienced maintenance issues, which has resulted in fountains being filled in with dirt and covered with grass. This has altered the appearance of Centennial Mall and represents a significant departure from its original design.

The Centennial Mall task force members would include the mayor of Lincoln, or his designee; a member of the Nebraska State Capitol Environs Commission; a member of the Nebraska Capitol Commission; a representative of a downtown Lincoln development association; a representative of the State Board of Landscape Architects; a representative of the Nebraska State Historical Society; two at-large members; and two state senators.

The Centennial Mall task force would be responsible for reviewing the history of Centennial Mall, reviewing the environs of other state capitol buildings, considering and analyzing possible design options, considering funding strategies, and submit its findings in a final report to the Governor and the Legislature.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Bill Avery