



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 791

Chairperson: Philip Erdman
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: January 22, 2008

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

LB 791 amends the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act to authorize the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to adopt by rule and regulation provisions relating to the planting of certified seed potatoes in the state. This authority would enable the Department and Nebraska's potato producers to participate in the National Harmonization Plan for seed potatoes, a voluntary, cooperative state-federal-industry effort to cooperate in potato pest management and to facilitate interstate and export shipment of seed potatoes.

The purpose of the National Harmonization Plan is to control the spread of disease and pests through consistent standards followed by state certification programs. Under the authority of LB 791, the Department of Agriculture would have authority to set minimum standards for certification of seed potatoes for disease and pest tolerances to be consistent with the National Harmonization Plan.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Philip Erdman