

AMENDMENTS TO LB 246

Introduced by Natural Resources.

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following  
2 new sections:

3           Section 1. (1) The Legislature recognizes the importance  
4 of biotechnology and the role that biotechnology plays in  
5 the economic well-being of the State of Nebraska. The Natural  
6 Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be responsible for  
7 the development of a statewide strategic plan for biotechnology in  
8 Nebraska. The plan shall include a baseline review and assessment  
9 of the potential in the biotechnology economy in Nebraska and a  
10 strategic plan for the state's efforts in creating wealth and jobs  
11 in the biotechnology economy. The plan shall address strategies  
12 for developing the biotechnology economy and shall include, but  
13 not be limited to, research, testing, agricultural feedstock and  
14 chemicals, drugs and other pharmaceuticals, medical materials,  
15 medical laboratories, and advanced biofuels. The plan shall  
16 estimate the wealth and the number of jobs that may be generated  
17 from expanding the biotechnology economy.

18           (2) The Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature,  
19 in consultation with the Executive Board of the Legislature, shall  
20 commission a nonprofit corporation to provide research, analysis,  
21 and recommendations to the committee for the development of the  
22 plan. The nonprofit corporation shall be incorporated pursuant  
23 to the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act, shall be organized

1 exclusively for nonprofit purposes within the meaning of section  
2 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in section  
3 49-801.01, shall be engaged in activities to facilitate and promote  
4 the growth of life sciences within Nebraska, shall be dedicated to  
5 the development and growth of the biotechnology economy, and shall  
6 agree to provide one hundred thousand dollars for the research  
7 required by this section. The nonprofit corporation shall retain  
8 such consultation services as required for assistance in providing  
9 research, analysis, and recommendations. The nonprofit corporation  
10 shall present its research, analysis, and recommendations to the  
11 committee by June 30, 2010.

12 (3) The Natural Resources Committee shall prepare  
13 and present to the Legislature a statewide strategic plan for  
14 biotechnology during the One Hundred Second Legislature, First  
15 Session, for consideration by the Legislature. The committee  
16 shall prepare annual updates to the plan for consideration by the  
17 Legislature.

18 (4) The Biotechnology Development Cash Fund is created.  
19 The Natural Resources Committee shall use money in the fund  
20 to commission the nonprofit corporation and provide access to  
21 resources necessary for developing the plan. It is the intent of  
22 the Legislature to appropriate one hundred thousand dollars to the  
23 fund for fiscal year 2009-10. Any money in the fund available  
24 for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer  
25 pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska  
26 State Funds Investment Act.

27 (5) For purposes of this section:

1           (a) Biotechnology means the technological application  
2 that uses biological systems, living organisms, or derivatives of  
3 biological systems or living organisms to make or modify products  
4 or processes for specific use; and

5           (b) Biotechnology economy means economic activity derived  
6 from scientific and research activity focused on understanding  
7 mechanisms and processes at the genetic and molecular levels and  
8 the application of the mechanisms and processes to industrial  
9 processes.

10           Sec. 2. The following section is outright repealed:  
11 Section 66-1701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.