

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB179

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 21, 2009
Committee On: Natural Resources
Introducer: Dubas
One Liner: Change project limit adjustments under the Nebraska Resources Development Fund

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Carlson, Dubas, Fischer, Haar, Langemeier, McCoy, Schilz
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Cook
Present Not Voting:		

Proponents:

Senator Chris Langemeier
Rex Gittins
John Miyoshi

Representing:

Introducer
Department of Natural Resources
Lower Platte North Natural Resources District

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 179 corrects the level of funding authority unintentionally deleted by a 2006 bill and restores the Department of Natural Resources' original authority.

The Nebraska Resources Development Fund was established in 1974 to provide state financial assistance for the development and wise use of Nebraska's water and related land resources. A bill passed in 1993 that set a \$10 million limit on Nebraska Resources Development Fund amounts available for each project, and allowed an annual adjustment of that limit based on a federal cost index that is no longer being used. In 2006, LB 1226 passed with the intention that the reference to the federal cost index was to be updated. However, the bill actually eliminated a reference date of 1993 for previous adjustments to the limit, meaning that the \$10 million limit, and the allowed annual adjustment, was reset to start in 2006.

The Department of Natural Resources requested this bill to fix the statute by reinstating the statutory authority that was accidentally eliminated.

Details:

Section 1 amends Sec. 2-1588, relating to the Nebraska Resources Development Fund, by adding reference to the year 1993 as the date after which the director of the department is to annually adjust the project cost limitation.

Section 2 repeals the original section.

Section 3 inserts an emergency clause.

Chris Langemeier, Chairperson