## ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB184

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 28, 2009

Committee On: Natural Resources

Introducer: Louden

One Liner: Authorize Department of Natural Resources to administer riparian water rights

## **Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File

**Vote Results:** 

Aye: 7 Senators Carlson, Cook, Dubas, Haar, Langemeier, McCoy, Schilz

Nay:

**Absent:** 1 Senator Fischer

**Present Not Voting:** 

Proponents: Representing:

Senator LeRoy Louden Introducer Vicki Wasserburger Self

Ron Bishop Nebraska Association of Resources Districts

John Hansen Nebraska Farmers Union

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Jean Angell Department of Natural Resources

## Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 184 would authorize the Department of Natural Resources to administer riparian water rights. This right is a common law doctrine that permits landowners whose land borders a river or stream to claim use of the water.

## Details

Section 1 amends 46-226, relating to adjudication of water rights, by authorizing the department to administer riparian water rights that have been recognized by the court. It further provides requirements that must be in the court order, and the priority process the department is to employ.

Section 2 repeals the original section.

Chris Langemeier, Chairperson
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