ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2010 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LR295CA

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 02, 2010

Committee On: Urban Affairs

Introducer: McGill

One Liner: Constitutional amendment to authorize use of revenue bonds to develop property for use by nonprofit

enterprises

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Coash, Cook, Krist, Lathrop, McGill, Rogert, White

Nay: Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents: Representing:

Amanda McGill (Introducer)

Jerry Stilmock Nebraska Bankers Association

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LR 295 CA is a Constitutional Amendment to authorize use of revenue bonds to develop property for use by nonprofit enterprises.

Comments/Analysis:

LR 295 CA would amend Article 13, Section 2 of the Nebraska State Constitution, and would allow any municipality to acquire property for use by non-profit enterprises and to issue revenue bonds to defray the cost of acquiring, developing or financing such property.

The revenue bonds are not repayable from any property of the county or municipality; funding would come from the project revenues. Cities may not levy taxes to repay these bonds.

Details:

This bill was introduced in 2007, and was adopted by the 2008 legislature. It is currently slated to appear on the 2010 ballot, but questions have been raised as to the constitutionality of directing a proposed constitutional amendment to be placed on a ballot in the future as opposed to the next election following its adoption by the legislature. Introduction and passage of this bill this year would allow this measure to be placed on the ballot in the general election.

Nearly identical amendments were approved by the legislature without dissent in 2002 and 2006, but were voted down in the general election in both years.

Amanda McGill, Chairperson
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