

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 18**

Introduced by Christensen, 44.

Read first time January 8, 2009

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to water resources; to state intent; and  
2 to prohibit irrigation of certain educational lands as  
3 prescribed.  
4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
2 purpose of the state to properly develop the water and related  
3 land resources of the state and that it is in the public interest  
4 to protect the development, preservation, and maintenance of the  
5 state's water and related land resources. The Legislature further  
6 finds that ownership of water is held by the state for the benefit  
7 of its citizens, that ground water is one of the most valuable  
8 natural resources in the state, and that an adequate supply of  
9 ground water is essential to the general welfare of the citizens of  
10 this state.

11           Sec. 2. Upon the expiration of any lease of school lands  
12 existing on the effective date of this act, which lands are in  
13 any river basin, subbasin, or reach that has been designated as  
14 overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713 or determined by the  
15 department to be fully appropriated pursuant to section 46-714, any  
16 subsequent lease negotiated by the Board of Educational Lands and  
17 Funds with respect to such school lands shall contain a condition  
18 that such school lands shall not be irrigated for the duration of  
19 the lease.