

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 845**

Introduced by Howard, 9; Ashford, 20; Nordquist, 7.

Read first time January 08, 2010

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to state government; to amend section 81-1603,  
2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to require energy  
3 conservation plans; to provide duties for the State  
4 Energy Office; and to repeal the original section.  
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Each state agency shall develop and implement  
2 a plan for conserving energy and set a percentage goal for reducing  
3 its usage of electricity. The plan shall include at a minimum  
4 the use of switchable power strips that are powered off when the  
5 attached equipment is not being used. The plan shall be submitted  
6 to the State Energy Office by December 1, 2010. By December 1 each  
7 year thereafter, each state agency shall report to the office the  
8 goals achieved and any additions or modifications to the plan.

9           Sec. 2. Section 81-1603, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
10 Nebraska, is amended to read:

11           81-1603 The office shall have the power to do such  
12 things as are necessary to carry out sections 81-1601 to 81-1605,  
13 including but not limited to the following:

14           (1) To adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the  
15 Administrative Procedure Act, to carry out the purposes of sections  
16 81-1601 to 81-1605;

17           (2) To make all contracts pursuant to sections 81-1601 to  
18 81-1605 and do all things to cooperate with the federal government,  
19 and to qualify for, accept, expend, and dispense public or private  
20 funds intended for the implementation of sections 81-1601 to  
21 81-1605;

22           (3) To contract for services, if such work or services  
23 cannot be satisfactorily performed by employees of the agency or by  
24 any other part of state government;

25           (4) To enter into such agreements as are necessary to

1 carry out energy research and development with other states;

2 (5) To carry out the duties and responsibilities relating  
3 to energy as may be requested or required of the state by the  
4 federal government;

5 (6) To cooperate and participate with the approval of  
6 the Governor in the activities of organizations of states relating  
7 to the availability, conservation, development, and distribution of  
8 energy;

9 (7) To engage in such activities as will seek to insure  
10 that the State of Nebraska and its citizens receive an equitable  
11 share of energy supplies at a fair price; and

12 (8) To form advisory committees of citizens of Nebraska  
13 to advise the director of the energy office on programs and  
14 policies relating to energy and to assist in implementing such  
15 programs. Such committees shall be of a temporary nature and no  
16 member shall receive any compensation for serving on any such  
17 committee but, with the approval of the Governor, members shall  
18 receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses as provided  
19 in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177 for state employees. The minutes of  
20 meetings of and actions taken by each committee shall be kept and  
21 a record shall be maintained of the name, address, and occupation  
22 or vocation of every individual serving on any committee. Such  
23 minutes and records shall be maintained in the State Energy Office  
24 and shall be available for public inspection during regular office  
25 hours; and-

1                   (9) Compile the energy conservation plans submitted to  
2 the office by state agencies pursuant to section 1 of this act and  
3 provide the compilation to the Governor and Legislature.

4                   Sec. 3. Original section 81-1603, Reissue Revised  
5 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.