

## ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 564

Introduced by Gay, 14.

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission was created by the Legislature in 2005 to:

- (1) Define boundaries for the opportunity zone;
- (2) Focus attention on and increase awareness of the opportunities and needs in a particular region of Nebraska referred to as the opportunity zone;
- (3) Advocate by proposing solutions to development and infrastructure challenges faced in the opportunity zone;
- (4) Encourage and support continuity, coordination, and cooperation among national, state, multicommunity, and local economic development initiatives and service providers in the opportunity zone;
- (5) Serve as an advisory body to the Governor, state agencies, and the Legislature on economic development issues in the opportunity zone;
- (6) Establish an information clearinghouse on challenges and needs, development services, model initiatives, available resources, and service providers;
- (7) Foster multicommunity partnerships;
- (8) Foster regional marketing activities to promote the opportunity zone; and

(9) Study and develop recommendations for uniform county zoning within the opportunity zone; and

WHEREAS, the commission has made great progress in meeting the Legislature's expectations in both form and substance with only minimal funds; and

WHEREAS, the communities involved in the opportunity zone have shown outstanding leadership and collaboration for the sake of progress; and

WHEREAS, the business community has made generous acts of support in partnership with the Governor, the University of Nebraska, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District, the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, the Nebraska Community College Association, the county boards of the counties of Washington, Sarpy, Cass, Douglas, Saunders, and Lancaster, and others to achieve a sustainable plan that will put this area of Nebraska in a position to be very successful.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature congratulates the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission and its executive director for great accomplishments in the five-year life of the commission and eagerly awaits its final report.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission.