



One Hundred First Legislature - Second Session - 2010
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 1109

Chairperson: John Wightman
Committee: Executive Board
Date of Hearing: February 4, 2010

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 1109 creates The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Task Force whose purpose is to develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate a climate of entrepreneurship that results in innovation and high wage employment. The task force, made up of six to ten legislators appointed by the Executive Board, shall develop a plan which includes an inventory of current state and locally sponsored programs and resources targeted to small businesses, microenterprises and entrepreneurial endeavors in Nebraska. The plan shall also provide an overview of best practices from other states, including an examination of economic gardening and angel investor programs and provide policy options.

The Legislature recognizes the importance of innovation and high wage employment and the role that both play in the economic vitality of our state. A comparative survey of programs currently in use in Nebraska and other States and their effectiveness is needed in order for policymakers to make informed decisions that will impact Nebraska's future.

The Task Force in consultation with the Executive Board shall commission a nonprofit organization,(incorporated pursuant to the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act, whose purpose is to facilitate and promote potential high growth businesses within the state) to provide research, analysis, and recommendations for the development of a statewide strategic plan. The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Task Force shall prepare and present the statewide strategic plan to the Legislature by December 1, 2010.

It is the intent of the Legislature to reallocate one hundred thousand dollars of General Funds appropriated for FY 2010-11 for the purpose of administering the Microenterprise Development Act to fund the Nebraska Operational Assistance Act to do this study.

This Act will terminate on January 1, 2011.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Danielle Conrad