## ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB259

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 08, 2011

**Committee On:** Transportation and Telecommunications

Introducer: Fischer

One Liner: Change provisions relating to railroads

## **Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File

**Vote Results:** 

Aye: 7 Senators Campbell, Dubas, Fischer, Hadley, Janssen, Lautenbaugh,

Price

Nay: 1 Senator Louden

Absent:

**Present Not Voting:** 

Proponents: Representing:

Dusty Vaughan Introducing for Senator Deb Fischer Monty Fredrickson Nebraska Department of Roads

Opponents: Representing:

Neutral: Representing:

## Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 259 eliminates the Nebraska Railway Council.

Section 1 amends Sec. 37-914 to leave approval with the federal Surface Transportation Board when re-establishing a railroad in a right-of-way that has been turned over to the Game & Parks Commission for the rails-to-trail program.

Section 2 gives authority to the Department of Roads to oversee any outstanding agreement between a railroad and the Nebraska Railway Council.

Section 3 amends Sec. 74-1427 to add definitions found in other statutes that are outright repealed under the bill. This section of law pertains to local governments' taxing and bonding authority for rail line assistance purposes.

Section 5 outright repeals all statutory sections that create the Nebraska Railway Council and outline its administration and purpose.

Deb Fischer, Chairperson