

7/11/11

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LB 546

Revision: 01

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

Revised based on amendments adopted through 3/8/2011

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2011-12		FY 2012-13	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below	See below	See below	See below

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

LB546 amends provisions of the state building code. Among codes currently adopted by reference within the state building code are the International Building Code (IBC), 2000 edition, and the International Residential Code (IRC), 2000 edition, both published by the International Code Council. LB546 would amend the referenced codes to their 2009 editions. Section R313 of the referenced IRC, 2009 edition, would be specifically exempted from adoption. This section relates to requirements for installation of residential fire sprinkler systems.

Current law requires state agency compliance with the state building code. Current law also provides a mechanism for variation from the code. LB546 would authorize a state agency to adopt the IRC Section R313 residential fire sprinkler system requirements under this process of variation from the state building code. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission indicates the provisions of LB546 may represent implications for residential structures at some of the agency's park and wildlife areas. However, adoption of the IRC Section R313 requirements is uncertain and thus impacts associated with Game and Parks structures are similarly uncertain.

LB546 would also authorize, but not require, political subdivisions to adopt the IRC Section R313 residential fire sprinkler system requirements. The State Fire Marshal indicates that it is unknown how many cities might act to adopt these provisions; however, the agency applies certain assumptions to arrive at definitive estimated LB546 impacts in terms of plumber/pipe fitter licensure fee revenue, plan review fee revenue as well as expenses associated with related testing, licensing and plan reviews. However, any related impacts are heavily dependent upon unknown actions of political subdivisions to adopt the IRC Section R313 residential fire sprinkler system requirements. The number of political subdivisions that might adopt the requirements, which political subdivisions might adopt them, and the timing of adoption of the requirements will apparently affect any estimated impact of LB546 significantly. Given this significant uncertainty, any related impacts upon the State Fire Marshal could seemingly be addressed through consideration of deficit or regular biennium appropriations in response to the actions political subdivisions may take in regard to adopting IRC Section 313 residential fire sprinkler requirements.