

# **One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB905**

---

**Chairperson: Senator Tom Carlson**

**Committee: Agriculture**

**Date of Hearing: February 07, 2012**

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

LB 905 would revise the manner of calculating the promotional assessment collected under the Nebraska Wheat Resources Act upon marketings of wheat to apply the assessment as a percentage of value rather than as a set amount per bushel. The bill would prescribe by statute an assessment rate beginning on July 1, 2012 with authority for the Wheat Board to adjust the rate within a statutory maximum.

LB 905 further clarifies funds that are remitted to the Nebraska Wheat Development, Utilization and Marketing Fund. Existing statutory text is interpreted to confine the fund to serve as the repository for checkoff assessments. LB 905 would expand permitted remissions to include gifts, grants and other non-checkoff revenues including repayments to the fund such as license fees and royalties that derive from intellectual properties developed through research investments of the Wheat Board.

The bill would remove a restriction in the Wheat Resources Act not present in other commodity development programs that limits research contracts that are entered into by the board to contracts of one year duration.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tom Carlson**