

**ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2014**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB1115**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 12, 2014  
**Committee On:** Natural Resources  
**Introducer:** Davis  
**One Liner:** Appropriate funds to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a study and state public policy

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Brasch, Carlson, Dubas, Haar, Johnson, Schilz, Smith  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:** 1 Senator Kolowski  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Proponents:**  
Senator Al Davis  
Richard Lombardi  
James Williams  
David Levy  
Eric Johnson  
John Hansen  
George Johnson

**Representing:**  
Introducer  
The Wind Coalition  
Invenergy  
Geronimo Energy  
Banner County Wind Energy Association  
Nebraska Farmers Union  
Cherry County Wind Energy Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**  
Paul Malone  
  
Tim Texel  
Ken Winston

**Representing:**  
Nebraska Power Association; Nebraska Public Power District  
Nebraska Power Review Board  
Nebraska Sierra Club

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 1115 would provide funding for an electricity transmission study to be conducted by the Nebraska Power Review Board.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment would replace the bill and do the following:

\* Provide legislative intent to appropriate \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Nebraska Power Review Board for a study of state, regional, and national transmission infrastructure and the future needs for transmission infrastructure to serve Nebraska electric consumers, utilities, and generation facilities seeking to export electricity from Nebraska.

\* Provide that it is the state's policy to encourage and allow opportunities for development and operation of renewable energy export facilities in Nebraska.

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- \* Provide that the purpose of the study is to identify electric transmission and generation constraints and opportunities as well as identification of regulatory requirements and practices, transmission plans, possible markets for export, barriers to export, and economic benefits to expanded state, regional, and national transmission.
- \* Require that the scope of the study receive input from a working group consisting of members of the Legislature, the State Energy Office, the Department of Economic Development, public power districts and other electric providers, renewable energy development companies, municipalities, the Southwest Power Pool, the Western Area Power Administration, and other transmission owners, transmission operators, transmission developers, and environmental interests.
- \* Authorize the Power Review Board to issue a request for proposals.
- \* Require the Power Review Board to submit the results of the study to the Legislature by December 15, 2014.

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Tom Carlson, Chairperson