

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 477**

Introduced by Carlson, 38.

Read first time January 22, 2013

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to natural resources; to amend sections 2-967 and  
2 2-968, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change  
3 provisions relating to the Riparian Vegetation Management  
4 Task Force; and to repeal the original sections.  
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 2-967, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3           2-967 The Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force is  
4 created. The Governor shall appoint the members of the task force.  
5 The members shall include one surface water project representative  
6 from each river basin that has been determined to be fully  
7 appropriated pursuant to section 46-714 or 46-720 or designated as  
8 overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713 by the Department of  
9 Natural Resources; one representative from the Department of  
10 Agriculture, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department  
11 of Natural Resources, the office of the Governor, the office of the  
12 State Forester, the Game and Parks Commission, and the University of  
13 Nebraska; two representatives nominated by the Nebraska Association  
14 of Resources Districts; two representatives nominated by the Nebraska  
15 Weed Control Association; one riparian landowner from each of the  
16 state's congressional districts; and one representative from the  
17 Nebraska Environmental Trust. In addition to such members, any member  
18 of the Legislature may serve as a member of the task force at his or  
19 her option. For administrative and budgetary purposes only, the task  
20 force shall be housed within the Department of Agriculture. This  
21 section terminates on June 30, ~~2013~~. 2015.

22           Sec. 2. Section 2-968, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
23 Nebraska, is amended to read:

24           2-968 The Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force, in  
25 consultation with appropriate federal agencies, shall develop and

1 prioritize vegetation management goals and objectives, analyze the  
2 cost-effectiveness of available vegetation treatment, and develop  
3 plans and policies to achieve such goals and objectives. Any plan  
4 shall utilize the principles of integrated vegetation management and  
5 sound science. The task force shall convene within thirty days after  
6 the appointment of the members is complete to elect a chairperson and  
7 conduct such other business as deemed necessary. The efforts of the  
8 task force shall be initially directed toward river basins designated  
9 by the Department of Natural Resources as fully appropriated or  
10 overappropriated. Task force meetings shall be held in communities  
11 within the Republican River and Platte River basins with a final  
12 report due to the Governor and the Legislature prior to June 30,  
13 ~~2013.~~2015. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be  
14 submitted electronically. It is the intent of the Legislature that  
15 expenses of the task force not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars  
16 per fiscal year. This section terminates on June 30, ~~2013.~~ 2015.

17           Sec. 3. Original sections 2-967 and 2-968, Reissue  
18 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.