

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 941

Introduced by Schilz, 47; Brasch, 16; Davis, 43; Johnson, 23;
Watermeier, 1.

Read first time January 16, 2014

Committee: Agriculture

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to agriculture; to amend section 54-857, Revised
- 2 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012; to provide for a
- 3 dairy growth study and funding for the study; and to
- 4 repeal the original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) On or before November 15, 2014, the
2 Director of Agriculture shall provide a report to the Legislature, in
3 electronic format, that contains:

4 (a) A quantitative and qualitative description of dairy
5 production in Nebraska, including an overview on the numbers, sizes
6 and ownership characteristics of dairy operations in the state,
7 current quantity and value of milk production, trends in milk
8 production, and measures of productivity of dairy production in
9 Nebraska;

10 (b) A comparison of volume and value of milk production
11 and trends in milk production in Nebraska to that of neighboring
12 states and nationally;

13 (c) A listing and description of milk processing
14 facilities in Nebraska and a description of marketing affiliations
15 and final consumer markets and destinations, including self-
16 processing and direct marketing, for milk produced in Nebraska;

17 (d) An evaluation of the potential for expanded milk
18 production in Nebraska with respect to (i) the ability of
19 agricultural, institutional, and commercial assets within the state
20 to support expanded production, (ii) supplying in-state processing
21 demand, (iii) the viability of existing processing and marketing
22 outlets for Nebraska milk, (iv) serving new or expanding markets
23 outside of Nebraska, and (v) the potential for investment in new or
24 expanded dairy processing facilities;

25 (e) A discussion of constraints to the establishment of

1 new milk production facilities, expansion of milk production, and
2 relocation of dairy operations into Nebraska;

3 (f) A review of public and private programs and
4 initiatives to stimulate expanded milk production in Nebraska and to
5 recruit milk production to relocate to Nebraska; and

6 (g) A compilation and overview of state incentives and
7 outreach and marketing programs for the recruitment or relocation of
8 dairy production and processing or the stimulation of investment in
9 new or expanded dairy production and processing for states
10 surrounding Nebraska.

11 (2) In the report, the Director of Agriculture may
12 include any recommendations to the Legislature regarding actions
13 state and local governments may take to aide and encourage expansion
14 of milk production and markets for milk production in Nebraska. It is
15 the intent of the Legislature that the Agriculture Committee of the
16 Legislature shall hold a public hearing to receive the report and to
17 take public comment on the report and any recommendations.

18 Sec. 2. Section 54-857, Revised Statutes Cumulative
19 Supplement, 2012, is amended to read:

20 54-857 All money received pursuant to the Commercial Feed
21 Act shall be remitted by the director to the State Treasurer for
22 credit to the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund which is
23 hereby created. Such fund shall be used by the department to aid in
24 defraying the expenses of administering the act, to provide resources
25 to prepare the Nebraska dairy industry report as provided in section

1 1 of this act, and to aid in defraying the expenses related to a
2 cooperative agreement with the United States Department of
3 Agriculture Market News reporting program. Transfers may be made from
4 the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any
5 money in the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund available for
6 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant
7 to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
8 Investment Act.

9 Sec. 3. Original section 54-857, Revised Statutes
10 Cumulative Supplement, 2012, is repealed.