

One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB454

Chairperson: Senator Tom Carlson

Committee: Natural Resources

Date of Hearing: February 28, 2013

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

The intent of the LB 454 is to provide households in Nebraska with convenient programs to recycle selected electronic equipment when they have reached their end of life. The legislation requires manufacturers of the covered electronic equipment to be responsible for the recycling of their products. Covered electronic equipment includes: computers, televisions; small scale computer servers; computer peripheral equipment (monitors, keyboards, mice, fax machines, scanners, and printers); small electronic equipment (VCR's, DVR's, digital converter boxes, cable and satellite receivers, electronic or video game consoles).

Nebraska households can recycle this equipment at no cost because manufacturers pay for the collection, transportation and recycling according to their market share of sales in the State. The legislation establishes statewide goals and manufacturers are assigned their portion according to their market share. Manufacturers must submit annual reports to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) and pay a surcharge if they do not achieve their recycling goal.

LB 454 ensures the safe and environmentally sound management of covered electronic equipment, encourages the design of electronic devices that are recyclable and less toxic. It establishes performance standards for recycling collection and recycling facilities and requires annual reports to NDEQ. It has a phased disposal ban of electronic equipment with the household ban occurring in January 2019.

The legislation will also help create new jobs for the collection, handling and recycling of covered electronic equipment in the state.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Ken Haar

