

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB474

Hearing Date: Monday February 09, 2015
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: Chambers
One Liner: Provide for Mountain Lion Protection Plates and create a fund

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Brasch, Davis, Friesen, Garrett, Murante, Seiler, Smith
Nay: 1 Senator McCoy
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:
Senator Ernie Chambers
Angelika Byorth

Representing:
Introducer
Self

Opponents:
Timothy McCoy

Representing:
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The legislation would establish a new category of vehicle license plate- Mountain Lion Protection Plates. The Department of Motor Vehicles is to design the plate and such design shall reflect support for the protection of the mountain lion. The plate shall consist of two types:

- 1) Alphanumeric with up to five characters and no county designation; and
- 2) Personalized message with up to five characters allowed.

In addition to all other fees required for vehicle registration the following fees shall be collected upon issuance of the plate:

- 1) Issuance of an alphanumeric plate shall include payment of a \$5 fee. The fee is directed to the Game and Parks Commission Educational Fund; and
- 2) Issuance of the personalized message plate shall include payment of a \$40 fee. The fee is to be distributed as follows: \$10 to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund; and \$30 to the Game and Parks Commission Educational Fund.

Section 1 of the bill creates the Game and Parks Commission Educational Fund. The fund is to receive money raised from the sale of Mountain Lion Protection Plate and any other money appropriated by the Legislature. The fund is to be used to provide youth education programs relating to wildlife conservation practices.

Explanation of amendments:

The Committee considered and adopted an amendment which accomplishes the following:

The amendment strikes references to the word "protection" and replaces it with the word "conservation".

Jim Smith, Chairperson