

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 552

Introduced by Haar, 21; Mello, 5.

WHEREAS, well-managed budgetary decisions and appropriation of state funds are vital to the health of Nebraska's economy through maintaining infrastructure, supporting educational systems, assisting political subdivisions, and providing for the necessary operations of state government; and

WHEREAS, vision and far-sighted fiscal and budgetary planning have helped Nebraska maintain a vibrant economy, an excellent educational system, and a strong infrastructure and support the necessary functions of state government and its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, climate change is already having impacts on revenue generation and the funding and budgetary needs of the state and its agencies, including, but not limited to, emergency management, natural resources, agriculture, game and parks, health and human services, forestry, education, economic development, and insurance. The state's fiscal and budgetary process is also affected by the impact of climate change on infrastructure, educational systems, and political subdivisions, including, but not limited to cities, counties, and natural resource districts; and

WHEREAS, future climate change is likely to have even more significant impacts on revenue generation and the funding and budgetary needs of the state and its agencies, infrastructure, educational systems, and aid to political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, there exist opportunities for economic development and revenue generation arising from efforts to adapt to or mitigate the impacts of climate change that impact the budgetary process. These include budgetary decisions that support development of Nebraska's abundant wind and solar resources,

biofuel development, changes to health systems and the insurance industry, investment in new technology, and development of opportunities that will benefit Nebraska's agricultural economy, including new crops and livestock; and

WHEREAS, vision and far-sighted fiscal and budgetary planning are needed to attract new businesses to Nebraska and attract and keep young people in the state; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal and budgetary process needs to consider the funding needed to enable academic and business research to develop the innovations to meet the challenges of the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to create the framework for a plan to address the economic, revenue, and budgetary implications of climate change on the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to develop a plan to address funding and budgetary issues related to climate change.

2. That the study shall examine the funding and budgetary impact of climate change on state agencies, including, but not limited to, issues related to the following areas:

- (a) Public health;
- (b) Agriculture;
- (c) Emergency management;
- (d) Natural resources;
- (e) Game and parks;
- (f) Forestry;
- (g) Water resources;
- (h) Education;
- (i) Insurance; and
- (j) Economic development.

3. That the study shall examine the funding and budgetary impact of

climate change on the following:

- (a) Public infrastructure;
- (b) Rural and urban communities;
- (c) Colleges and universities;
- (d) Natural resource districts; and
- (e) Other political subdivisions.

4. That the study shall examine the funding and budgetary impact of climate change on efforts to take advantage of opportunities related to climate change, including, but not limited to, issues related to the following:

- (a) Academic research;
- (b) Business research; and
- (c) Economic development opportunities.

5. That the committee shall examine any other issues necessary for a complete examination of this matter.

6. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.