

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB494

Hearing Date: Thursday February 02, 2017
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Briese
One Liner: Provide for withholding public records relating to energy infrastructure

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Blood, Brewer, Briese, Craighead, Hilgers, Lowe, Murante
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Wayne

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Tom Briese
Shelley Sahling-Zart
Kevin Wailes
Kristen Gottschalk
Jill Becker
Christy Abraham

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Power Association
Lincoln Electric System
Nebraska Rural Electric Association
Black Hills Energy
League of Nebraska Municipalities

Opponents:

Shawn Renner

Representing:

Media of Nebraska, Inc.

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 494 allows information relating to physical and cyber assets of energy infrastructure, which are deemed critical, to be withheld from the public. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Records
- Maps
- Drawings
- Equipment
- Computer programs
- Data
- Identity of personnel responsible for control or maintenance of such physical or cyber assets
- Other related information the disclosure of which would pose a threat to public safety or the security of critical infrastructure.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 555 changes how the information that can be withheld is defined, but does not otherwise change the bill.

The amendment mirrors the critical energy or electric infrastructure definition contained in 18 C.F.R. 388.113, but further limits this definition to information that's disclosure would pose a threat to national security, public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.

John Murante, Chairperson