

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB389

Chairperson: Senator Curt Friesen

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: February 21, 2017

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

LB 389 modernizes Nebraska's telecommunications statutes to allow for greater investment by wireless communications providers in new technologies commonly referred to as small cells to expand coverage and deliver the benefits of fifth generation (5G) wireless capabilities to Nebraskans, improving public safety, helping businesses and schools remain competitive in a global economy, and creating jobs. Legislation is needed to facilitate efficient and uniform statewide siting practices for small wireless facilities. The bill defines small wireless facility to ensure that the streamlined siting process is not used for larger, tower structures. The bill maintains local government control over the permitting process, including authority to deny an application, and ensures that local authorities are compensated through reasonable and nondiscriminatory fees for permit applications and annual cost-based fees for small wireless facility attachments.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Curt Friesen