

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB63

Hearing Date: Thursday January 24, 2019
Committee On: Revenue
Introducer: Groene
One Liner: Change tax levy provisions relating to rural and suburban fire protection districts and change the Mutual Finance Assistance Act

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 8 Senators Briese, Crawford, Friesen, Groene, Kolterman, Lindstrom, Linehan, McCollister
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents: Senator Mike Groene Marvin Knoll Jerry Stillmock	Representing: Introducer Self Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighter Association, Nebraska Fire Chiefs Association
--	---

Opponents:	Representing:
-------------------	----------------------

Neutral:	Representing:
-----------------	----------------------

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB63 relates to rural and suburban fire protection districts and to the Mutual Finance Assistance Act. The bill has an operative date of January 1, 2020.

Rural and Suburban Fire Protection Districts

Members of the board of directors of a rural or suburban fire protection district may receive up to \$50 for each meeting of the board.

o Current language provides them with \$25 for each meeting.

Rural or suburban fire protection districts that have levy authority will be required to certify the amount of tax levied to the county clerk on or before September 20.

o Current language requires certification to the county clerk on or before August 1.

Rural or suburban fire protection districts that do not have levy authority shall be required to request the amount of tax to be levied on or before August 1 pursuant to the provisions in 77-3443(3).

o Under the provisions of 77-3443(3), if a political subdivision fails to submit the request, the political subdivision may not use the procedures to exceed the final levy allocation (levy override election).

Mutual Finance Assistance Act

An agreement to create a mutual finance organization shall include the following :

o A duration of at least 3 years;

o Requirement that all members of the mutual finance organization levy the agree-upon property tax request rate within their boundaries for 1 of every 3 tax years covered by the agreement; and

o A requirement that all members of the mutual finance organization levy no more than the agreed-upon property tax rate for the remaining tax years covered by the agreement.

The property tax rate excludes levies to retire bonded indebtedness.

Any mutual finance organization does not meet the requirements stated above will not be eligible to receive monies from the Mutual Finance Assistance Fund.

Explanation of amendments:

The amendment removes the original operative date and replaces it with the emergency clause.

Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson