

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 211

Introduced by Stinner, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine alternatives for funding the Nebraska Tree Recovery Program, which is administered by the Nebraska Forest Service at the University of Nebraska. The Tree Recovery Program is a matching grant program that funds tree removal, disposal, and replacement costs for municipalities, counties, state agencies, civic groups, tree advisory boards, and other entities that are responsible for the upkeep of government-owned real property.

Due to severe weather conditions, diseases, and invasive species, the state's political subdivisions are experiencing a rise in tree mortality. Most subdivisions have been unable to act decisively due to insufficient funds to remove, dispose of, and replace trees situated on public land, presenting a liability and safety problem.

The interim study shall identify the availability of and eligibility requirements for funds through the federal Emergency Management Agency's Resilience Administration and strategies to leverage additional financial resources for the Tree Recovery Program.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. 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.