

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 163

Introduced by Spivey, 13; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Dungan, 26; Fredrickson, 20;
Guereca, 7; Juarez, 5; McKinney, 11; Quick, 35.

Read first time January 13, 2025

Committee: Natural Resources

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the environment; to create the Office of
- 2 Climate Action; to provide duties and deadlines; and to define a
- 3 term.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 **Section 1.** (1) There is created within the Department of
2 Environment and Energy the Office of Climate Action. The office shall
3 work with interested stakeholders in climate action, political
4 subdivisions, and organizations supporting climate action across this
5 state to enhance education and skills, provide technical support, and
6 expand access to resources to support climate action. The office shall
7 serve as a point of contact to assist with policies and programs dealing
8 with climate action.

9 (2) The Office of Climate Action shall employ personnel to create
10 policies that support climate action and fulfill the duties of the
11 office.

12 (3) On or before July 1, 2026, the Office of Climate Action shall
13 create a climate action plan that shall propose actions to:

- 14 (a) Manage the risks of climate change impacts on the state; and
- 15 (b) Reduce the causes of climate change within the state.

16 (4) On or before July 1 of each year, the Office of Climate Action
17 shall file with the Clerk of the Legislature an annual report that
18 details:

19 (a) The extent to which state legislation enacted the prior year
20 supports, hinders, or affects climate action;

21 (b) The amount of federal dollars secured for climate action across
22 this state;

23 (c) Any technical assistance provided by the Office of Climate
24 Action to stakeholders, political subdivisions, and organizations;

25 (d) The number of times the Office of Climate Action collaborated
26 with stakeholders, political subdivisions, and organizations;

27 (e) A synopsis of localized climate action plans and programs; and

28 (f) Any recommendation for additional climate action through
29 investment or activities.

30 (5) For the purposes of this section, climate action means any
31 effort to combat climate change and its effects.