

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2017-18		FY 2018-19	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	See below		See below	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below		See below	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB 499 would allow the owners of apiaries in Nebraska to voluntarily register with the Department of Agriculture to prevent proximity exposure to any out-of-state apiaries. Upon registration, no owner or operator of a commercial beekeeping operation domiciled outside of the state of Nebraska would be allowed to locate an apiary or hives within a three-mile radius of a registered apiaries or hives.

Individuals registered with the Department would be allowed to report any violation to the Department of Agriculture. The agency would be directed to conduct an immediate inspection, and if a violation is discovered, to issue a notice that the out-of-state apiary must be removed or relocated. Out-of-state violators would be required to move or relocate the hives within three days.

The Department would incur some administrative costs to develop a registration process and maintain registration information. In the event of complaints, the agency would experience costs to travel to the apiary and ascertain the proximity of the out-of-state-hives. If a violation was determined, there would be administrative costs to draft and deliver a notice and to monitor that the out-of-state hives were moved within the three-day time period. Costs to the agency will depend upon the number of registrations filed and complaints that could be investigated.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that up to \$50,000 could be spent for the program on an annual basis. All costs would come from the General Fund. The extent of program funding requirements will largely depend upon the number of voluntary registrations and complaints that are filed regarding out-of-state apiaries.

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2017

LB⁽¹⁾ 499

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Department of Agriculture

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ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2017-18</u>		<u>FY 2018-19</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$ 45,900		\$ 50,100	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$ 45,900		\$ 50,100	

Explanation of Estimate:

This proposed bill will expand already existing statutes regarding apiaries. It will require the Department of Agriculture to create and maintain a database of apiaries and bee hives for voluntary registration. Violations of out of state apiaries being located within 3 miles of a registered Nebraskan Apiary will be enforced by the Department of Agriculture.

Depending on the season, Nebraska could have between 10,000 and 77,000 colonies of hives located in the state, more than 238 operations (with more than 5 hives), and an indeterminable amount of hobbyist beekeepers. Due to the lack of registered apiaries, the location of the hives and who owns each of them as well as the purpose of the hives (i.e. commercial, hobbyist, etc) is unknown. The Department estimates a need for a .5 FTE Ag Inspection Specialist to handle field inspections and a .5 FTE Staff Assistant for office tasks in support of this legislation. For the first year, salary and benefit costs are shown for 9 months. Additional expenses for the first year would include an estimate of \$4,000 for travel, \$8,000 for creating and maintaining a database, and \$2,000 for both safety equipment during inspections at bee sites, as well as communication, outreach, and education costs.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
	<u>17-18</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Ag Inspection Specialist	.37	.50	\$ 12,100	\$ 16,500
Staff Assistant	.37	.50	\$ 11,300	\$ 15,400
Benefits.....			\$ 8,500	\$ 11,700
Operating.....			\$ 10,000	\$ 2,500
Travel.....			\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			\$ 45,900	\$ 50,100