

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE BILL 583
Final Reading

Introduced by Haar, 21.

Read first time January 23, 2013

Committee: Agriculture

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Climate Assessment Response Committee; to
- 2 amend section 2-4902, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 3 Nebraska; to provide duties for the Climate Assessment
- 4 Response Committee; and to repeal the original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 2-4902, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 2-4902 The Climate Assessment Response Committee shall:

4 (1) Provide timely and systematic data collection,
5 analysis, and dissemination of information about drought and other
6 severe climate occurrences to the Governor and to other interested
7 persons;

8 (2) Provide the Governor and other interested persons
9 with information and advice relevant to requests for federal disaster
10 declarations and to the use of funds and other types of assistance
11 available to the state because of such declarations;

12 (3) Establish criteria for startup and shutdown of
13 various assessment and response activities by state and federal
14 agencies during drought and other climate-related emergencies;

15 (4) Provide an organizational structure that assures
16 information flow and defines the duties and responsibilities of all
17 agencies during times of drought and climate-related emergencies;

18 (5) Maintain a current inventory of state and federal
19 agency responsibilities in assessing and responding to drought and
20 other climate-related emergencies;

21 (6) Provide a mechanism for the improvement of methods of
22 assessing impacts of drought on agriculture and industry;

23 (7) Provide such other coordination and communication
24 among federal and state agencies as is deemed appropriate by such
25 committee; and

1 (8) Provide the Governor and other interested persons
2 with information and research on the impacts of cyclical climate
3 change in Nebraska, including impacts on physical, ecological, and
4 economic areas, and attempt to anticipate the unintended consequences
5 of climate adaptation and mitigation;

6 (9) Facilitate communication between stakeholders and the
7 state about cyclical climate change impacts and response strategies;

8 (10)(a) By September 1, 2014, prepare an initial report
9 on cyclical climate change in Nebraska which includes a synthesis and
10 assessment of the state of knowledge on: Historical climate
11 variability and change; climate projections; and possible impacts to
12 key sectors of the state such as agriculture, water, wildlife,
13 ecosystems, forests, and outdoor recreation. The report shall include
14 key points and a summary of the findings; and

15 (b) By December 1, 2014, review such initial report and
16 provide a final report to the Governor and electronically to the
17 Legislature which includes key points, overarching recommendations,
18 and options that emerge from the initial report; and

19 ~~(8)~~—~~(11)~~ Perform such other climate-related assessment
20 and response functions as are desired by the Governor.

21 Sec. 2. Original section 2-4902, Reissue Revised Statutes
22 of Nebraska, is repealed.