

## Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 751

Chairperson: Philip Erdman
Committee: Agriculture
Date of Hearing: February 5, 2008

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Last session, Legislative Bill 701 created the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force to develop a plan to manage the overgrowth and invasive species in streambeds in fully and over appropriated basins. A grant program was created in Section 2-958.02 (4) to disburse State funds to clear the stream between its banks and within 100 feet from the banks of any natural stream in a qualified basin.

Legislative Bill 751 would increase the 100 ft (the distance from the bank where grant funds could be utilized) to 1320 ft. This would allow us to reach infestations of invasive species beyond the current 100 ft boundary and manage them more thoroughly. It would give an increased flexibility to the management process and create a larger buffer against regrowth near the stream.

| Principal Introducer: |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
|                       | Senator Mark Christensen |