ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013 COMMITTEE STATEMENT LB104

Hearing Date:	Thursday February 14, 2013
Committee On:	Revenue
Introducer:	Lathrop
One Liner:	Provide tax incentives under the Nebraska Advantage Act for renewable energy projects

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Hadley, Harr, Pirsch, Schumacher, Sullivan
Nay:	3	Senators Hansen, Janssen, McCoy
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Representing:
Introducer
NE Chamber of Commerce/ Greater Omaha Chamber
of Commerce
Center for Rural Affairs
Center for Rural Affairs
Trade Wind Energy
NE Sierra Club
Invernergy, LLC
Representing:
Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

For purposes of the Nebraska Advantage Act, Nebraska statute defines "qualified business" to specifically include those types of business activities which may qualify for incentives under the Act. Qualified businesses may apply under various "tiers" of differing investment, job creation and incentives. LB 104 would add a new Tier 7 for businesses engaged in "the production of electricity by using one or more sources of renewable energy to produce electricity for sale", and defines the term. (LB 104, section 2, amending Neb. Rev. State Section 77-5715.) It specifies the incentives for a Tier 7 project and adds new requirements for receiving the incentives. (LB 104, section 4, amending Neb. Rev. State Section 77-5725).

The bill, as amended by the Committee, contains the provisions of LB 501. It does not create a new Tier 7 but amends the definition of "qualified business" for existing Tiers 2 through 5, using the same language as LB 104 and defines the term "sources of renewable energy" to include, but not be limited to, "wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, biomass, and transmutation of elements." [LB 501, section 1, amending Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 77-5715(1).

The fiscal note for LB 104 would be the same as the fiscal note for LB 501.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 525 adds the emergency clause for the operative date.

The amendment would repeal the current version of the statute that it would amend. [AM 525, section 3.]

Galen Hadley, Chairperson