

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB412**

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**Hearing Date:** Friday February 20, 2015  
**Committee On:** Natural Resources  
**Introducer:** Mello  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to the Rural Community-Based Energy Development Act

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8                      Senators Friesen, Hughes, Johnson, Kolowski, Lindstrom, McCollister,  
Schilz, Schnoor

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Heath Mello  
Adam Herink  
David Levy  
John Hansen

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Bluestem Energy Solutions  
Sandhills Wind Energy  
Nebraska Farmers Union

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

The Community-Based Energy Development Act (C-BED) was created in 2007. It created the program to promote community-based renewable energy projects that were to provide local and regional economic development benefits while ensuring that local citizens could jointly invest in a project as developers and keep the financial benefits of ownership in the local community. LB 412 makes changes to the C-BED law so that it may be more easily used.

First, the bill requires a resolution of support to be adopted for a C-BED project from the local county board only if such board has adopted zoning regulations that require a planning commission, county board, or county commission approval for the project. Second, the bill removes the requirement that a C-BED project developer offer an ownership opportunity to property owners, and replaces it with a requirement that notice of incentives under the program are to be provided to each property owner on whose property a turbine would be placed and to the elected governing body of the same location.

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