

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1

Introduced by Executive Board: Watermeier, 1, Chairperson.

Read first time January 05, 2017

Committee: General File

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to ethanol; to amend section 66-1333, Reissue
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 66-1345, Revised Statutes
3 Cumulative Supplement, 2016; to eliminate defined terms; to repeal
4 obsolete provisions relating to the Ethanol Production Incentive
5 Cash Fund and a corn and grain sorghum excise tax; to eliminate a
6 penalty; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal
7 section 66-1345.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and
8 sections 66-1345.01, 66-1345.02, and 66-1345.04, Revised Statutes
9 Cumulative Supplement, 2016.
10 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 66-1333, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 66-1333 For purposes of the Ethanol Development Act, unless the
4 context otherwise requires:

5 (1) Agricultural production facility or ethanol facility means a
6 plant or facility related to the processing, marketing, or distribution
7 of any products derived from grain components, coproducts, or byproducts;

8 (2) Board means the Nebraska Ethanol Board;

9 ~~(3) Commercial channels means the sale of corn or grain sorghum for
10 any use, to any commercial buyer, dealer, processor, cooperative, or
11 person, public or private, who resells any corn or grain sorghum or
12 product produced from corn or grain sorghum;~~

13 ~~(4) Corn means corn as defined in section 2-3610;~~

14 ~~(5) Delivered or delivery means receiving corn or grain sorghum for
15 any use other than storage;~~

16 ~~(6) First purchaser means any person, public or private corporation,
17 association, partnership, or limited liability company buying, accepting
18 for shipment, or otherwise acquiring corn or grain sorghum in Nebraska,
19 and includes a mortgagee, pledgee, lienor, or other person, public or
20 private, having a claim against the grower, when the actual or
21 constructive possession of the corn or grain sorghum is taken as part
22 payment or in satisfaction of such mortgage, pledge, lien, or claim;~~

23 ~~(3 7) Grain means wheat, corn, and grain sorghum;~~

24 ~~(8) Grower means any landowner personally engaged in growing corn or
25 grain sorghum, a tenant of the landowner personally engaged in growing
26 corn or grain sorghum, and both the owner and tenant jointly and includes
27 a person, partnership, limited liability company, association,
28 corporation, cooperative, trust, sharecropper, and other business unit,
29 device, and arrangement;~~

30 (4 9) Name plate design capacity means the original designed
31 capacity of an agricultural production facility. Capacity may be

1 specified as bushels of grain ground or gallons of ethanol produced per
2 year; and

3 (~~5 10~~) Related parties means any two or more individuals, firms,
4 partnerships, limited liability companies, companies, agencies,
5 associations, or corporations which are members of the same unitary group
6 or are any persons who are considered to be related persons under the
7 Internal Revenue Code. ~~;~~ and

8 (~~11~~) ~~Sale includes any pledge or mortgage of corn or grain sorghum~~
9 ~~after harvest to any person, public or private.~~

10 Sec. 2. Section 66-1345, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
11 2016, is amended to read:

12 66-1345 (1) There is hereby created the Ethanol Production Incentive
13 Cash Fund which shall be used by the board to pay the credits created in
14 section 66-1344 to the extent provided in this section. Any money in the
15 fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
16 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
17 State Funds Investment Act. The State Treasurer shall transfer to the
18 Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund such money as shall be (a)
19 appropriated to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund by the
20 Legislature, (b) given as gifts, bequests, grants, or other contributions
21 to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund from public or private
22 sources, (c) made available due to failure to fulfill conditional
23 requirements pursuant to investment agreements entered into prior to
24 April 30, 1992, (d) received as return on investment of the Ethanol
25 Authority and Development Cash Fund, and (e) ~~credited to the Ethanol~~
26 ~~Production Incentive Cash Fund from the excise taxes imposed by section~~
27 ~~66-1345.01 through December 31, 2012, and (f) credited to the Ethanol~~
28 ~~Production Incentive Cash Fund pursuant to sections 66-489, 66-726,~~
29 ~~66-1345.04, and 66-1519.~~

30 (2) The Department of Revenue shall, at the end of each calendar
31 month, notify the State Treasurer of the amount of motor fuel tax that

1 was not collected in the preceding calendar month due to the credits
2 provided in section 66-1344. The State Treasurer shall transfer from the
3 Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund to the Highway Trust Fund an
4 amount equal to such credits less the following amounts:

5 (a) For 1993, 1994, and 1995, the amount generated during the
6 calendar quarter by a one-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to sections
7 66-489 and 66-6,107;

8 (b) For 1996, the amount generated during the calendar quarter by a
9 three-quarters-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to such sections;

10 (c) For 1997, the amount generated during the calendar quarter by a
11 one-half-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to such sections; and

12 (d) For 1998 and each year thereafter, no reduction.

13 For 1993 through 1997, if the amount generated pursuant to
14 subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection and the amount
15 transferred pursuant to subsection (1) of this section are not sufficient
16 to fund the credits provided in section 66-1344, then the credits shall
17 be funded through the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund but shall
18 not be funded through either the Highway Cash Fund or the Highway Trust
19 Fund. For 1998 and each year thereafter, the credits provided in such
20 section shall be funded through the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash
21 Fund but shall not be funded through either the Highway Cash Fund or the
22 Highway Trust Fund.

23 If, during any month, the amount of money in the Ethanol Production
24 Incentive Cash Fund is not sufficient to reimburse the Highway Trust Fund
25 for credits earned pursuant to section 66-1344, the Department of Revenue
26 shall suspend the transfer of credits by ethanol producers until such
27 time as additional funds are available in the Ethanol Production
28 Incentive Cash Fund for transfer to the Highway Trust Fund. Thereafter,
29 the Department of Revenue shall, at the end of each month, allow transfer
30 of accumulated credits earned by each ethanol producer on a prorated
31 basis derived by dividing the amount in the fund by the aggregate amount

1 of accumulated credits earned by all ethanol producers.

2 ~~(3) The State Treasurer shall transfer from the Ethanol Production~~
3 ~~Incentive Cash Fund to the Management Services Expense Revolving Fund the~~
4 ~~amount reported under subsection (4) of section 66-1345.02 for each~~
5 ~~calendar month of the fiscal year as provided in such subsection.~~

6 ~~(4) On December 31, 2012, the State Treasurer shall transfer one-~~
7 ~~half of the unexpended and unobligated funds, including all subsequent~~
8 ~~investment interest, from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund to~~
9 ~~the Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund and the~~
10 ~~Grain Sorghum Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund in the same~~
11 ~~proportion as funds were collected pursuant to section 66-1345.01 from~~
12 ~~corn and grain sorghum. The Department of Agriculture shall assist the~~
13 ~~State Treasurer in determining the amounts to be transferred to the~~
14 ~~funds. The State Treasurer shall transfer the remaining one-half of the~~
15 ~~unexpended and unobligated funds to the General Fund.~~

16 ~~(5) Whenever the unobligated balance in the Ethanol Production~~
17 ~~Incentive Cash Fund exceeds twenty million dollars, the Department of~~
18 ~~Revenue shall notify the Department of Agriculture at which time the~~
19 ~~Department of Agriculture shall suspend collection of the excise tax~~
20 ~~levied pursuant to section 66-1345.01. If, after suspension of the~~
21 ~~collection of such excise tax, the balance of the fund falls below ten~~
22 ~~million dollars, the Department of Revenue shall notify the Department of~~
23 ~~Agriculture which shall resume collection of the excise tax.~~

24 ~~(3 6) On or before December 1, 2003, and each December 1 thereafter,~~
25 ~~the Department of Revenue and the Nebraska Ethanol Board shall jointly~~
26 ~~submit a report electronically to the Legislature which shall project the~~
27 ~~anticipated revenue and expenditures from the Ethanol Production~~
28 ~~Incentive Cash Fund through the termination of the ethanol production~~
29 ~~incentive programs pursuant to section 66-1344. The initial report shall~~
30 ~~include a projection of the amount of ethanol production for which the~~
31 ~~Department of Revenue has entered agreements to provide ethanol~~

1 production credits pursuant to section 66-1344.01 and any additional
2 ethanol production which the Department of Revenue and the Nebraska
3 Ethanol Board reasonably anticipate may qualify for credits pursuant to
4 section 66-1344.

5 Sec. 3. Original section 66-1333, Reissue Revised Statutes of
6 Nebraska, and section 66-1345, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
7 2016, are repealed.

8 Sec. 4. The following sections are outright repealed: Section
9 66-1345.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections
10 66-1345.01, 66-1345.02, and 66-1345.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative
11 Supplement, 2016.