

Legislature - First Session - 2019

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB483

Chairperson: Senator Lou Ann Linehan

Committee: Revenue

Date of Hearing: February 21, 2019

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

LB483 changes the way agricultural land is valued for property tax purposes. The bill changes agricultural land valuations from the current market based system to a productivity based system. The primary reason for making the change is to make agricultural land valuations fair and equitable.

This is not a bill for property tax relief. LB483 requires that total agricultural land valuations in 2020 match total agricultural land valuations for 2019. Thereafter, agricultural land valuations will be governed by an eight-year Olympic average of commodity prices, preventing sudden surges in valuations up or down.

LB483 establishes the Agricultural Land Valuation Board, consisting of eight board members. Nebraska's Director of Agriculture shall serve as the board's chair. The Agricultural Land Valuation Board shall create a manual detailing the methods to be used for agricultural land valuations.

The Nebraska Constitution, Article VIII, Section 1, subsections (4) and (5), authorize this method of assessment.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Steve Erdman