

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1112

Chairperson: Senator Mike Moser

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: February 12, 2024

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

LB 1112 aims to limit excessive permitting fees and lengthy approval deadlines, imposed by counties and other local governments, upon business applicants who offer (primarily) broadband communication infrastructure services. These services are to be placed on new and existing poles and towers.

Currently, there is a large disparity in permitting fees between local entities in Nebraska. Recent situations involving these excessive fees and lengthy deadlines have usually occurred due to third-party reviewers who have established contracts with local entities to handle this permitting.

LB1112 does not forbid these reviewers but rather establishes reasonable fee limits and time limits for local entities. It also sets guidelines for posting the fee structure, standards, and process on a website to facilitate convenience and transparency to the public and communication vendors.

This bill does not apply to small wireless facilities on utility poles or towers which is governed under the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Robert Clements