

IRRIGATION RIGHTS

ACTION ALERT

- Our rights to use the groundwater under our land for irrigation are under attack once again.
- Back in 2003 a governor appointed group called the Water Policy Task Force drew up a new law known as LB 962 that was adopted by the state legislature in 2004. Nebraskans First was the only agricultural group that actively opposed LB 962.
- LB 962 allows the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to declare basins and sub-basins in the state as “fully appropriated” or “over appropriated”.
- Once declared fully appropriated, new groundwater development is stopped. If declared over appropriated, existing groundwater irrigation will be subject to ramped up regulations.
- DNR has already closed down most all of western, central and southwestern Nebraska.
- DNR now is targeting eastern Nebraska with their new proposed regulations. This will include the Loup, Elkhorn, Little Blue, Big Blue and Lower Platte Basins.
- On August 11, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in Kearney at the Holiday Inn the DNR will hold a public hearing on their proposed extreme regulations that will be used to shut down irrigation using LB 962.
- If the DNR has its way our irrigation rights will again be adversely impacted. Furthermore, all ag dependent businesses, including fertilizer, implement, feed and seed dealerships along with well-drillers will be adversely affected. This negative impact in turn will ripple through our communities and weaken our local economies.

THIS IS WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE RIGHT NOW!

- Call your state senator and the governor and express your opposition to the DNR’s proposed LB 962 regulations. (See phone numbers on back.)
- Attend and testify against the proposed regulations at the August 11 hearing in Kearney. Encourage everyone you know to go to that hearing and speak out against the proposed regulations. Nebraskans First will be at the hearing and testify in opposition to the proposed extreme regulations.
- For more information on this important matter contact Don Adams of the Nebraskans First Groundwater Irrigators Coalition at 402-434-2938.

NEBRASKANS FIRST

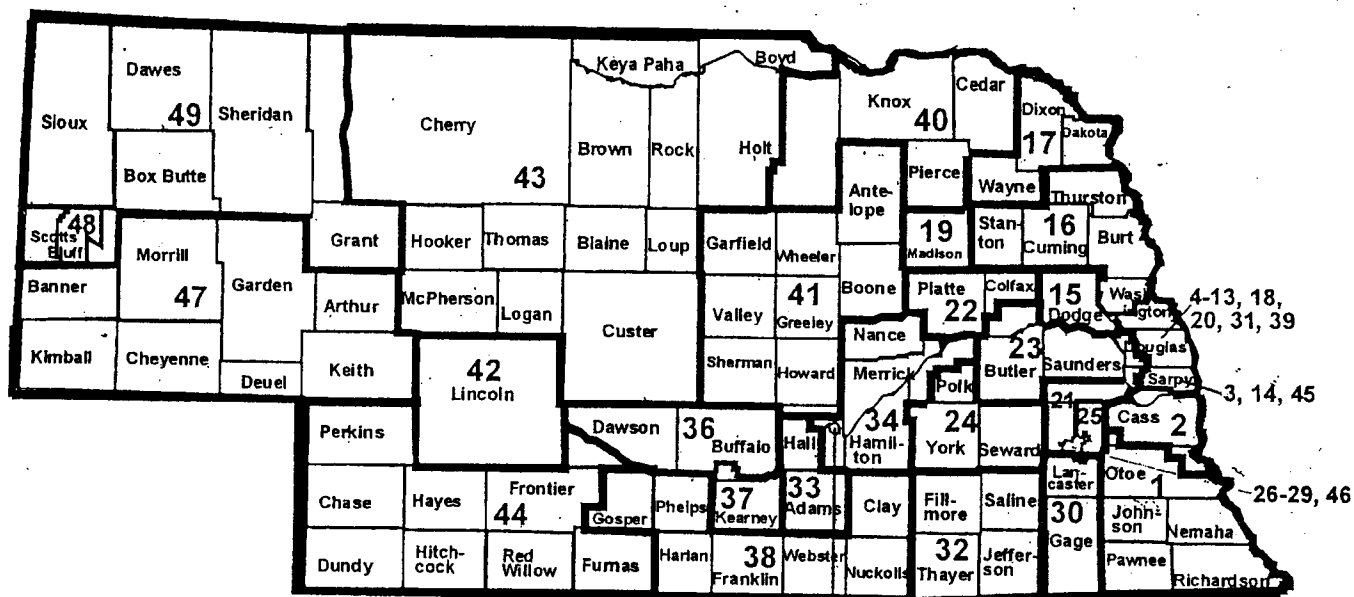
Protecting Nebraska's Groundwater for Agriculture

301 South Thirteenth Street #401

Lincoln, NE 68508



Nebraska Legislative Districts



Governor Dave Heineman 402-471-2244

| District # | State Senators in Key Areas | Capitol Phone Number | Home/Business Phone Number |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 35 | Ray Aguilar (Grand Island) | 402-471-2617 | 308-382-4321 |
| 44 | Tom Baker (Trenton) | 402-471-2805 | 308-334-5248 |
| 33 | Carroll Burling (Kenesaw) | 402-471-2712 | 402-752-3524 |
| 32 | Jeanne Combs (Friend) | 402-471-2711 | 402-947-6311 |
| 16 | Matt Connealy (Decatur) | 402-471-2728 | 402-349-5443 |
| 36 | Jim Cudaback (Riverdale) | 402-471-2642 | 308-893-3171 |
| 40 | Doug Cunningham (Wausa) | 402-471-2801 | 402-586-2332 |
| 17 | Pat Engel (South Sioux City) | 402-471-2716 | 402-494-3266 |
| 47 | Phil Erdman (Bayard) | 402-471-2616 | 308-586-1212 |
| 43 | Deb Fischer (Valentine) | 402-471-2628 | 402-376-2744 |
| 19 | Mike Flood (Norfolk) | 402-471-2929 | 402-371-4844 |
| 15 | Ray Janssen (Nickerson) | 402-471-2625 | 402-721-8329 |
| 37 | Joel Johnson (Kearney) | 402-471-2726 | 308-234-1659 |
| 34 | Bob Kremer (Aurora) | 402-471-2630 | 402-694-3421 |
| 23 | Chris Langemeier (Schuyler) | 402-471-2719 | 402-352-3254 |
| 49 | Leroy Loudon (Ellsworth) | 402-471-2725 | 308-762-5036 |
| 41 | Vickie McDonald (St. Paul) | 402-471-2631 | 308-754-4391 |
| 38 | Ed Schrock (Elm Creek) | 402-471-2732 | 308-995-4665 |
| 48 | Adrian Smith (Scottsbluff) | 402-471-2802 | 308-220-3211 |
| 24 | Elaine Stuhr (Bradshaw) | 402-471-2756 | 402-736-4427 |
| 22 | Arnie Stuthman (Platte Center) | 402-471-2715 | 402-246-5111 |