



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2002
Committee Statement
LB 1230

Hearing Date: February 5, 2002

Committee On: Urban Affairs

Introducer(s): (Hartnett)

Title: Require metropolitan utilities districts to make payments to counties for retail water and gas sales as prescribed

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5	Yes	Senators Connealy, McDonald, Preister, Redfield, and Synowiecki
2	No	Senators Hartnett & Janssen
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:

Senator D. Paul Hartnett

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Dan Crouchley

Representing:

MUD

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

This legislation deals with metropolitan utilities districts, proposing to require payments to counties in which such districts provide gas and water service at retail, the payments set an amount equal to two percent of the annual gross revenue derived from the sale of gas and water in unincorporated parts of the county.

The bill creates a new section of statutes which requires a metropolitan utilities district to pay each county in which it sells gas or water or both a sum equivalent to two percent of the annual gross revenue derived from all retail sales of gas and water in the county (but outside of the corporate boundaries of any city or village in the county which already receives payments from the district). The annual payments to any county (in which such service is provided) cannot be less than fifty thousand dollars per year regardless of the level of sales. In return for the

payments, counties are not to levy any license, occupation, or excise taxes from the district (although counties currently do not have any authority to levy such taxes).

All other changes in the bill are merely for the purpose of harmonization.

The language used in Section 1 precisely parallels that found in subdivision (1) of §14-2138 in which metropolitan utilities district are required to pay 2% of the annual gross revenue of water and gas sales sold by the district within the metropolitan class city (and also the same language in §14-2139 in which the payments are made to all other cities in which a metropolitan utilities district sells water or gas).

Currently there is only one metropolitan utilities district in Nebraska, the one serving the Omaha metropolitan area.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator D. Paul Hartnett, Chairperson