

LB 245 FACT SHEET

IN NEBRASKA.....

- There are 65 Nebraska public water systems that fluoridate serving a population of 942,537.
- There are 64 Nebraska communities over 1000 in population which do not fluoridate serving a population of 297,217.
- There are 41 Nebraska community water systems with naturally fluoridated water.

THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO LB 245 (AM542) WOULD.....

- Require cities of 1000 or more to add fluoride to their water supply in accordance with DHHS regulations if sufficient fluoride does not naturally occur.
- Those cities which do not now fluoridate may, by vote of the people, adopt an ordinance to not fluoridate. The proposed ordinance may be put on the ballot by the governing body of the city or by initiative.

THE COST OF NOT FLUORIDATING.....

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that for every \$1 invested in fluoridation, \$38 in dental treatment cost is saved.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also report that Medicaid dental programs cost as much as 50 percent less in fluoridated communities compared to non-fluoridated communities.

THE FINANCIAL COSTS TO CITIES TO FLUORIDATE.....

- According to DHHS, there is a capital cost estimate of \$5000 per city treatment point for a chemical feed system similar to that used to fluoridate public water systems. It is assumed that one fluoride feed system would be added to each treatment point (cities have various numbers of wells) and that no additional construction would be necessary to house the new equipment.
- Annual operation and maintenance is estimated at 10% of the capital cost. Chemical costs vary depending on a number of factors including natural fluoride occurring in the water and cost per pound of chemical.