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(Neb.)- Neb. Lawmakers Advance Wind Tax-Incentive Bill



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 04/24/2013 04:52 PM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Lawmakers have advanced a tax incentive bill designed to attract wind-energy companies to Nebraska.

The 30-0 vote on Wednesday came as a Kansas-based company, TradeWind Energy, considers building a possible location in northeast Nebraska.

TradeWind Energy executive Frank Costanza said the company is interested in Nebraska's wind capacity, which ranks third nationwide. But he says the state has done "almost nothing" to compete with Kansas, Oklahoma or South Dakota.

The vote came one day after Iowa approved \$18 million in tax credits for Facebook to build a nearly \$300 million data center. Kearney was vying for the project, but lost in part because Facebook has placed a heavy emphasis on sustainable wind power.

The bill was introduced by Sen. Steve Lathrop, of Omaha.