

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB340

Hearing Date: Tuesday January 27, 2009
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Cook
One Liner: Require the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to evaluate community college system

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Adams, Ashford, Avery, Cornett, Giese, Haar, Howard, Sullivan

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Tanya Cook
Randy Schmailzl

Representing:

Introducer
Metro Community College

Opponents:

Dennis Baak
Jack Huck

Representing:

Nebraska Community College Assn.
Southeast Community College

Neutral:

Marshall Hill

Representing:

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Ed.

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 340 would amend section 85-1412 to require the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, on or before December 31, 2010, to evaluate Nebraska's community college system to determine how to effectively and fairly fund the community colleges and recommend ways to promote a more effective and efficient community college system that promotes effective education and local control.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment strikes the original language and becomes the bill. The amendment would require the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to facilitate a study regarding the following issues related to the Nebraska community college system:

- (a) The need for changes to the statutory role and mission of Nebraska community colleges;
 - (b) Changes in the weighting of courses that may be necessary for reimbursable educational units to properly reflect the role and mission of Nebraska community colleges and the cost of providing such courses;
 - (c) Powers, duties, and mission of the Nebraska Community College Association or its successor and whether membership in such an association should be required;
 - (d) Consequences for failing to satisfy current community college association membership requirements contained in section 85-1502; and
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(e) State coordination of community colleges in the absence of a community college association or membership therein.

The Coordinating Commission would be required to include and facilitate discussion among the state's community colleges in the completion of the study. Each community college would be required to participate in the study in good faith. The Coordinating Commission would be required to report its findings to the Legislature on or before December 15, 2009.

The amendment adds the emergency clause.

Greg Adams, Chairperson