LEGISLATIVE BILL 575

Approved by the Governor May 16, 2011

Introduced by Price, 3; McCoy, 39; Mello, 5; Krist, 10; Pirsch, 4; Cook, 13.

FOR AN ACT relating to education; to amend section 79-318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and section 9-812, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, as amended by section 1, Legislative Bill 333, One Hundred Second Legislature, First Session, 2011; to adopt the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; to define terms; to provide powers and duties for the State Department of Education and the State Board of Education; to create a council; to designate a compact commissioner; to allocate money in the Education Innovation Fund for the compact; to provide an operative date; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children is hereby enacted into law and entered into with all other jurisdictions legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

Interstate Compact on Educational

Opportunity for Military Children

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

- It is the purpose of this compact to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:
- A. Facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families and ensuring that they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of education records from the previous school district or variations in entrance or age requirements.
- B. Facilitating the student placement process through which children of military families are not disadvantaged by variations in attendance requirements, scheduling, sequencing, grading, course content, or assessment.
- C. Facilitating the qualification and eligibility for enrollment, educational programs, and participation in extracurricular academic, athletic, and social activities.
- $\underline{\text{D. Facilitating the on-time graduation of children of military}} \\ \underline{\text{families.}}$
- E. Providing for the promulgation and enforcement of administrative rules implementing the provisions of this compact.
- F. Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under this compact.
- G. Promoting coordination between this compact and other compacts affecting military children.
- H. Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and the student in order to achieve educational success for the student.

ARTICLE II

DEFINITIONS

- As used in this compact, unless the context clearly requires a different construction:
- A. "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active uniformed service of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1209 and 1211.
- B. "Children of military families" means school-aged children, enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade, in the household of an active duty member.
- C. "Compact commissioner" means the voting representative of each compacting state appointed pursuant to Article VIII of this compact.
- <u>D. "Deployment" means the period one month prior to the service members' departure from their home station on military orders through six months after return to their home station.</u>
- E. "Education records" or "educational records" means those official records, files, and data directly related to a student and maintained by the school or local education agency, including, but not limited to, records encompassing all the material kept in the student's cumulative folder such as general identifying data, records of attendance and of academic work completed, records of achievement and results of evaluative tests, health data, disciplinary status, test protocols, and individualized education

programs.

F. "Extracurricular activities" means a voluntary activity sponsored by the school or local education agency or an organization sanctioned by the local education agency. Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, preparation for and involvement in public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, displays, and club activities.

- G. "Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children" means the commission that is created under Article IX of this compact, which is generally referred to as Interstate Commission.
- H. "Local education agency" means a public authority legally constituted by the state as an administrative agency to provide control of and direction for kindergarten through twelfth grade public educational institutions.
 - I. "Member state" means a state that has enacted this compact.
- J. "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Defense, including any leased facility, which is located within any of the several states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other United States territory. Such term does not include any facility used primarily for civil works, rivers and harbors projects, or flood control projects.
- K. "Nonmember state" means a state that has not enacted this compact.
- L. "Receiving state" means the state to which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.
- M. "Rule" means a written statement by the Interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to Article XII of this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the Interstate Commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a member state, and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.
- N. "Sending state" means the state from which a child of a military family is sent, brought, or caused to be sent or brought.
- O. "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other United States territory.
- P. "Student" means the child of a military family for whom the local education agency receives public funding and who is formally enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade.
- Q. "Transition" means (1) the formal and physical process of transferring from school to school or (2) the period of time in which a student moves from one school in the sending state to another school in the receiving state.
- R. "Uniformed services" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services.
- S. "Veteran" means a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

ARTICLE III

APPLICABILITY

- A. Except as otherwise provided in Section B, this compact shall apply to the children of:
- 1. active duty members of the uniformed services as defined in this compact, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1209 and 1211;
- 2. members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one year after medical discharge or retirement; and
- B. The provisions of this interstate compact shall only apply to local education agencies as defined in this compact.
- C. The provisions of this compact shall not apply to the children of:
 - 1. inactive members of the National Guard and military reserves;
- 2. members of the uniformed services now retired, except as provided in Section A;

3. veterans of the uniformed services, except as provided in Section A; and

4. other United States Department of Defense personnel and other federal agency civilian and contract employees not defined as active duty members of the uniformed services.

ARTICLE IV

EDUCATIONAL RECORDS AND ENROLLMENT

- A. Unofficial or "hand-carried" education records -- In the event that official education records cannot be released to the parents for the purpose of transfer, the custodian of the records in the sending state shall prepare and furnish to the parent a complete set of unofficial educational records containing uniform information as determined by the Interstate Commission. Upon receipt of the unofficial education records by a school in the receiving state, the school shall enroll and appropriately place the student based on the information provided in the unofficial records pending validation by the official records, as quickly as possible.
- B. Official education records and transcripts -- Simultaneous with the enrollment and conditional placement of the student, the school in the receiving state shall request the student's official education record from the school in the sending state. Upon receipt of this request, the school in the sending state will process and furnish the official education records to the school in the receiving state within ten days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission.
- C. Immunizations -- Compacting states shall give thirty days from the date of enrollment or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission, for students to obtain any immunizations required by the receiving state. For a series of immunizations, initial vaccinations must be obtained within thirty days or within such time as is reasonably determined under the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission.
- D. Kindergarten and first grade entrance age -- Students shall be allowed to continue their enrollment at grade level in the receiving state commensurate with their grade level (including kindergarten) from a local education agency in the sending state at the time of transition, regardless of age. A student that has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in the local education agency in the sending state shall be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level in the receiving state, regardless of age. A student transferring after the start of the school year in the receiving state shall enter the school in the receiving state on their validated level from an accredited school in the sending state.

ARTICLE V

PLACEMENT AND ATTENDANCE

- A. Course placement -- When the student transfers before or during the school year, the receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational courses based on the student's enrollment in the sending state school or educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state if the courses are offered. Course placement includes, but is not limited to, Honors, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, vocational, technical, and career pathways courses. Continuing the student's academic program from the previous school and promoting placement in academically and career challenging courses should be paramount when considering placement. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses.
- B. Educational program placement -- The receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational programs based on current educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state or participation or placement in like programs in the sending state. Such programs include, but are not limited to: (1) gifted and talented programs; and (2) English as a second language. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.
- C. Special education services -- (1) In compliance with the federal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., the receiving state shall initially provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his or her current Individualized Education Program; and (2) In compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794, and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12131 to 12165, the receiving state shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title

II Plan, to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

- D. Placement flexibility -- Local education agency administrative officials shall have flexibility in waiving course or program prerequisites, or other preconditions for placement in courses or programs offered under the jurisdiction of the local education agency.
- E. Absence as related to deployment activities -- A student whose parent or legal guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined by the compact, and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, shall be granted additional excused absences at the discretion of the local education agency superintendent to visit with his or her parent or legal guardian relative to such leave or deployment of the parent or guardian.

ARTICLE VI

ELIGIBILITY

- A. Eligibility for enrollment
- 1. Special power of attorney, relative to the guardianship of a child of a military family and executed under applicable law shall be sufficient for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation and consent.
- 2. A local education agency shall be prohibited from charging local tuition to a transitioning military child placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent.
- 3. A transitioning military child, placed in the care of a noncustodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent, may continue to attend the school in which he or she was enrolled while residing with the custodial parent.
- B. Eligibility for extracurricular participation -- State and local education agencies shall facilitate the opportunity for transitioning military children's inclusion in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are otherwise qualified.

ARTICLE VII

GRADUATION

- In order to facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families states and local education agencies shall incorporate the following procedures:
- A. Waiver requirements -- Local education agency administrative officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in another local education agency or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, the local education agency shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time.
- B. Exit exams -- States shall accept: (1) exit or end-of-course exams required for graduation from the sending state; (2) national norm-referenced achievement tests; or (3) alternative testing, in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state. In the event the above alternatives cannot be accommodated by the receiving state for a student transferring in his or her senior year, then the provisions of Article VII, Section C shall apply.
- C. Transfers during senior year -- Should a military student transferring at the beginning or during his or her senior year be ineligible to graduate from the receiving local education agency after all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving local education agencies shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the sending local education agency, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending local education agency. In the event that one of the states in question is not a member of this compact, the member state shall use best efforts to facilitate the on-time graduation of the student in accordance with Sections A and B of this Article.

ARTICLE VIII

STATE COORDINATION

A. Each member state shall, through the creation of a state council or use of an existing body or board, provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local education agencies and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and Interstate Commission activities. While each member state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least: the state superintendent of education, superintendent of a school

district with a high concentration of military children, representative from a military installation, one representative each from the legislative and executive branches of government, and other offices and stakeholder groups the state council deems appropriate. A member state that does not have a school district deemed to contain a high concentration of military children may appoint a superintendent from another school district to represent local education agencies on the state council.

- B. The state council of each member state shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.
- C. The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact shall be appointed by the Governor or as otherwise determined by each member state.
- D. The compact commissioner and the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex-officio members of the state council, unless either is already a full voting member of the state council.

ARTICLE IX

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL

OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

The member states hereby create the "Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children." The activities of the Interstate Commission are the formation of public policy and are a discretionary state function. The Interstate Commission shall:

- A. Be a body corporate and joint agency of the member states and shall have all the responsibilities, powers, and duties set forth herein, and such additional powers as may be conferred upon it by a subsequent concurrent action of the respective legislatures of the member states in accordance with the terms of this compact.
- B. Consist of one Interstate Commission voting representative from each member state who shall be that state's compact commissioner.
- 1. Each member state represented at a meeting of the Interstate Commission is entitled to one vote.
- 2. A majority of the total member states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by the bylaws of the Interstate Commission.
- 3. A representative shall not delegate a vote to another member state. In the event the compact commissioner is unable to attend a meeting of the Interstate Commission, the Governor or state council may delegate voting authority to another person from their state for a specified meeting.
- 4. The bylaws may provide for meetings of the Interstate Commission to be conducted by telecommunication or electronic communication.
- C. Consist of ex officio, nonvoting representatives who are members of interested organizations. Such ex officio members, as defined in the bylaws, may include, but not be limited to, members of the representative organizations of military family advocates, local education agency officials, parent and teacher groups, the United States Department of Defense, the Education Commission of the States, the Interstate Agreement on the Qualification of Educational Personnel, and other interstate compacts affecting the education of children of military members.
- D. Meet at least once each calendar year. The chairperson may call additional meetings and, upon the request of a simple majority of the member states, shall call additional meetings.
- E. Establish an executive committee, whose members shall include the officers of the Interstate Commission and such other members of the Interstate Commission as determined by the bylaws. Members of the executive committee shall serve a one-year term. Members of the executive committee shall be entitled to one vote each. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission, with the exception of rulemaking, during periods when the Interstate Commission is not in session. The executive committee shall oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of the compact including enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the compact, its bylaws and rules, and other such duties as deemed necessary. The United States Department of Defense, shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the executive committee.
- F. Establish bylaws and rules that provide for conditions and procedures under which the Interstate Commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The Interstate Commission may exempt from disclosure information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests.
- G. Give public notice of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the rules or as otherwise provided

in the compact. The Interstate Commission and its committees may close a meeting, or portion thereof, where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:

- 1. Relate solely to the Interstate Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;
- $\underline{\text{2. Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal}}$ and state $\underline{\text{statute}}$;
- 3. Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential;
- 4. Involve accusing a person of a crime, or formally censuring a person;
- 5. Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 6. Disclose investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes; or
- 7. Specifically relate to the Interstate Commission's participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.
- H. Cause its legal counsel or designee to certify that a meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exemptible provision for any meeting, or portion of a meeting, which is closed pursuant to this provision. The Interstate Commission shall keep minutes which shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the views expressed and the record of a roll call vote. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release by a majority vote of the Interstate Commission.
- I. Collect standardized data concerning the educational transition of the children of military families under this compact as directed through its rules which shall specify the data to be collected, the means of collection, and data exchange and reporting requirements. Such methods of data collection, exchange, and reporting shall, in so far as is reasonably possible, conform to current technology and coordinate its information functions with the appropriate custodian of records as identified in the bylaws and rules.
- J. Create a process that permits military officials, education officials, and parents to inform the Interstate Commission if and when there are alleged violations of the compact or its rules or when issues subject to the jurisdiction of the compact or its rules are not addressed by the state or local education agency. This section shall not be construed to create a private right of action against the Interstate Commission or any member state.

ARTICLE X

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

The Interstate Commission shall have the following powers:

- A. To provide for dispute resolution among member states.
- B. To promulgate rules and take all necessary actions to effect the goals, purposes, and obligations as enumerated in this compact. The rules shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compact states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact.
- C. To issue, upon request of a member state, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or interpretation of the interstate compact, its bylaws, rules, and actions.
- D. To enforce compliance with the compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the Interstate Commission, and the bylaws, using all necessary and proper means, including, but not limited to, the use of judicial process.
- E. To establish and maintain offices which shall be located within one or more of the member states.
 - ${\tt F.}$ To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.
 - G. To borrow, accept, hire, or contract for services of personnel.
- H. To establish and appoint committees including, but not limited to, an executive committee as required by Article IX, Section E, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission in carrying out its powers and duties hereunder.
- I. To elect or appoint such officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or consultants, and to fix their compensation, define their duties, and determine their qualifications; and to establish the Interstate Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel.
- J. To accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of it.
- K. To lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve or use any property, real, personal, or mixed.

L. To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed.

- M. To establish a budget and make expenditures.
- ${\tt N.}$ To adopt a seal and bylaws governing the management and operation of the Interstate Commission.
- O. To report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and state councils of the member states concerning the activities of the Interstate Commission during the preceding year. Such reports shall also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by the Interstate Commission.
- P. To coordinate education, training, and public awareness regarding the compact, its implementation and operation for officials and parents involved in such activity.
- Q. To establish uniform standards for the reporting, collecting, and exchanging of data.
- R. To maintain corporate books and records in accordance with the bylaws.
- S. To perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact.
- T. To provide for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under this compact.

ARTICLE XI

ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

- A. The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members present and voting, within twelve months after the first Interstate Commission meeting, adopt bylaws to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact, including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Establishing the fiscal year of the Interstate Commission;
- <u>2. Establishing an executive committee and such other committees as may be necessary;</u>
- 3. Providing for the establishment of committees and for governing any general or specific delegation of authority or function of the Interstate Commission;
- <u>4. Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Interstate Commission and ensuring reasonable notice of each such meeting;</u>
- 5. Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers and staff of the Interstate Commission;
- 6. Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the Interstate Commission and the return of surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment and reserving of all of its debts and obligations; and
- 7. Providing "start up" rules for initial administration of the compact.
- B. The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members, elect annually from among its members a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a treasurer, each of whom shall have such authority and duties as may be specified in the bylaws. The chairperson or, in the chairperson's absence or disability, the vice-chairperson, shall preside at all meetings of the Interstate Commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration from the Interstate Commission; provided that, subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in the performance of their responsibilities as officers of the Interstate Commission.
 - C. Executive Committee, Officers, and Personnel
- 1. The executive committee shall have such authority and duties as may be set forth in the bylaws, including, but not limited to:
- a. Managing the affairs of the Interstate Commission in a manner consistent with the bylaws and purposes of the Interstate Commission;
- b. Overseeing an organizational structure within, and appropriate procedures for the Interstate Commission to provide for the creation of rules, operating procedures, and administrative and technical support functions; and
- c. Planning, implementing, and coordinating communications and activities with other state, federal, and local government organizations in order to advance the goals of the Interstate Commission.
- 2. The executive committee may, subject to the approval of the Interstate Commission, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions and for such compensation, as the Interstate Commission may deem appropriate. The executive director shall serve as secretary to the Interstate Commission, but shall not be a member of the

Interstate Commission. The executive director shall hire and supervise such other persons as may be authorized by the Interstate Commission.

- D. The Interstate Commission's executive director and its employees shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for a claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred, within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided, that such person shall not be protected from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.
- 1. The liability of the Interstate Commission's executive director and employees or Interstate Commission representatives, acting within the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within such person's state may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under the Constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees, and agents. The Interstate Commission is considered to be an instrumentality of the states for the purposes of any such action. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect such person from suit or liability for damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of such person.
- 2. The Interstate Commission shall defend the executive director and its employees and, subject to the approval of the Attorney General or other appropriate legal counsel of the member state represented by an Interstate Commission representative, shall defend such Interstate Commission representative in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such person.
- 3. To the extent not covered by the state involved, member state, or the Interstate Commission, the representatives or employees of the Interstate Commission shall be held harmless in the amount of a settlement or judgment, including attorney's fees and costs, obtained against such persons arising out of an actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons.

ARTICLE XII

RULEMAKING FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

- A. Rulemaking Authority -- The Interstate Commission shall promulgate reasonable rules in order to effectively and efficiently achieve the purposes of this compact. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Interstate Commission exercises its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope of the purposes of this compact, or the powers granted hereunder, then such an action by the Interstate Commission shall be invalid and have no force or effect.
- B. Rulemaking Procedure -- Rules shall be made pursuant to a rulemaking process that substantially conforms to the "Model State Administrative Procedure Act" of 1981, Uniform Laws Annotated, Vol. 15, p. 1 (2000) as amended, as may be appropriate to the operations of the Interstate Commission.
- C. Not later than thirty days after a rule is promulgated, any person may file a petition for judicial review of the rule; provided, that the filing of such a petition shall not stay or otherwise prevent the rule from becoming effective unless the court finds that the petitioner has a substantial likelihood of success. The court shall give deference to the actions of the Interstate Commission consistent with applicable law and shall not find the rule to be unlawful if the rule represents a reasonable exercise of the Interstate Commission's authority.
- D. If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a rule by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compacting state.

ARTICLE XIII

OVERSIGHT, ENFORCEMENT, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A. Oversight

1. The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each member state shall enforce this compact and shall take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

- 2. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a member state pertaining to the subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the Interstate Commission.
- 3. The Interstate Commission shall be entitled to receive all service of process in any such proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Interstate Commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the Interstate Commission, this compact, or promulgated rules.
- B. Default, Technical Assistance, Suspension, and Termination -- If the Interstate Commission determines that a member state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact, or the bylaws or promulgated rules, the Interstate Commission shall:
- 1. Provide written notice to the defaulting state and other member states, of the nature of the default, the means of curing the default, and any action taken by the Interstate Commission. The Interstate Commission shall specify the conditions by which the defaulting state must cure its default.
- 2. Provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.
- 3. If the defaulting state fails to cure the default, the defaulting state shall be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the member states and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated from the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of the default.
- 4. Suspension or termination of membership in the compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the Interstate Commission to the Governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the member states.
- 5. The state which has been suspended or terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of suspension or termination including obligations, the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of suspension or termination.
- 6. The Interstate Commission shall not bear any costs relating to any state that has been found to be in default or which has been suspended or terminated from the compact, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing between the Interstate Commission and the defaulting state.
- 7. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Interstate Commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.
 - C. Dispute Resolution
- 1. The Interstate Commission shall attempt, upon the request of a member state, to resolve disputes which are subject to the compact and which may arise among member states and between member and nonmember states.
- 2. The Interstate Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.
 - D. Enforcement
- 1. The Interstate Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this compact.
- 2. The Interstate Commission, may by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the Interstate Commission, in the federal district where the Interstate Commission has its principal offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact, its promulgated rules and bylaws, against a member state in default. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation including reasonable attorney's fees.
- 3. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Interstate Commission. The Interstate Commission may avail itself of any other remedies available under state law or the regulation of a profession.

ARTICLE XIV

FINANCING OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION

A. The Interstate Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

- B. The Interstate Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each member state to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Interstate Commission and its staff which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover the Interstate Commission's annual budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the Interstate Commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all member states.
- C. The Interstate Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Interstate Commission pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.
- D. The Interstate Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Interstate Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Interstate Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Interstate Commission.

ARTICLE XV

MEMBER STATES, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND AMENDMENT

- A. Any state is eligible to become a member state.
- B. The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact into law by no less than ten of the states. The effective date shall be no earlier than December 1, 2007. Thereafter it shall become effective and binding as to any other member state upon enactment of the compact into law by that state. The governors of nonmember states or their designees shall be invited to participate in the activities of the Interstate Commission on a nonvoting basis prior to adoption of the compact by all states.
- C. The Interstate Commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the member states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the Interstate Commission and the member states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous consent of the member states.

ARTICLE XVI

WITHDRAWAL AND DISSOLUTION

- A. Withdrawal
- 1. Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each and every member state; provided that a member state may withdraw from the compact by specifically repealing the statute, which enacted the compact into law.
- 2. Withdrawal from this compact shall be by the enactment of a statute repealing the same, but shall not take effect until one year after the effective date of such statute and until written notice of the withdrawal has been given by the withdrawing state to the Governor of each other member jurisdiction.
- 3. The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chairperson of the Interstate Commission in writing upon the introduction of legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state. The Interstate Commission shall notify the other member states of the withdrawing state's intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt thereof.
- 4. The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of withdrawal, including obligations, the performance of which extend beyond the effective date of withdrawal.
- 5. Reinstatement following withdrawal of a member state shall occur upon the withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon such later date as determined by the Interstate Commission.
 - B. Dissolution of Compact
- 1. This compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the withdrawal or default of the member state which reduces the membership in the compact to one member state.
- 2. Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null and void and shall be of no further force or effect, and the business and affairs of the Interstate Commission shall be concluded and surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance with the bylaws.

ARTICLE XVII

SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION

A. The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision is deemed unenforceable, the remaining

provisions of the compact shall be enforceable.

B. The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.

C. Nothing in this compact shall be construed to prohibit the applicability of other interstate compacts to which the states are members.

ARTICLE XVIII

BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS

- A. Other Laws
- 1. Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a member state that is not inconsistent with this compact.
- 2. All member states' laws conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.
 - B. Binding Effect of the Compact
- $\frac{1. \ \, \text{All lawful actions of the Interstate Commission, including all rules and by laws promulgated by the Interstate Commission, are binding upon the member states.}$
- 2. All agreements between the Interstate Commission and the member states are binding in accordance with their terms.
- 3. In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any member state, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of the conflict with the constitutional provision in question in that member state.
- Sec. 2. For purposes of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and sections 2 to 6 of this act:
- (1) Council means the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children;
 - (2) Department means the State Department of Education;
- (3) Local education agency means a school district as defined in section 79-101; and
- Sec. 3. The department shall oversee and provide coordination for the state's participation in and compliance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The department shall provide staff support for the council created in section 4 of this act.
- Sec. 4. (1) The State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children is created within the department. The council shall consist of:
 - (a) The following ex officio members:
 - (i) The Commissioner of Education;
- (ii) The chairperson of the Education Committee of the Legislature, who shall serve as a nonvoting member of the council;
- (iii) The compact commissioner appointed pursuant to section 5 of this act; and
- <u>(iv)</u> The military family education liaison, who shall serve as a member of the council after his or her appointment pursuant to subsection (3) of this section; and
 - (b) The following members appointed by the State Board of Education:
- (i) The superintendent of a school district that has a high concentration of children of military families; and
- (ii) A representative of a military installation located in this state.
- (2) The members of the council appointed by the State Board of Education shall serve three-year terms. Vacancies in the council shall be filled in the same manner as the initial appointments. The members of the council shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
 - (3) The council shall have the following duties:
- (a) To advise the department with regard to the state's participation in and compliance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; and
- (b) To appoint a military family education liaison to assist families and the state in implementing the compact.
- Sec. 5. The deputy commissioner of education shall serve as the compact commissioner and shall be responsible for administering the state's participation in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.
- Sec. 6. The department shall distribute amounts from the Education Innovation Fund pursuant to section 9-812 and may accept a devise, donation, or bequest to pay for any or all of the cost of administering the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children under the authority given to the State Board of Education under section 79-318.

Sec. 7. Section 9-812, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, as amended by section 1, Legislative Bill 333, One Hundred Second Legislature, First Session, 2011, is amended to read:

9-812 (1) All money received from the operation of lottery games conducted pursuant to the State Lottery Act in Nebraska shall be credited to the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund, which fund is hereby created. All payments of the costs of establishing and maintaining the lottery games shall be made from the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund. In accordance with legislative appropriations, money for payments for expenses of the division shall be transferred from the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund to the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund, which fund is hereby created. All money necessary for the payment of lottery prizes shall be transferred from the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund to the State Lottery Prize Trust Fund, which fund is hereby created. The amount used for the payment of lottery prizes shall not be less than forty percent of the dollar amount of the lottery tickets which have been sold.

- (2) Beginning October 1, 2003, a portion of the dollar amount of the lottery tickets which have been sold on an annualized basis shall be transferred from the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund to the Education Innovation Fund, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund, the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund, the Nebraska State Fair Board, and the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund. The dollar amount transferred pursuant to this subsection shall equal the greater of (a) the dollar amount transferred to the funds in fiscal year 2002-03 or (b) any amount which constitutes at least twenty-two percent and no more than twenty-five percent of the dollar amount of the lottery tickets which have been sold on an annualized basis. To the extent that funds are available, the Tax Commissioner and director may authorize a transfer exceeding twenty-five percent of the dollar amount of the lottery tickets sold on an annualized basis.
- (3) Of the money available to be transferred to the Education Innovation Fund, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund, the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund, the Nebraska State Fair Board, and the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund:
- (a) The first five hundred thousand dollars shall be transferred to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund to be used as provided in section 71-817;
- (b) Nineteen and three-fourths percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Education Innovation Fund;
- (c) Twenty-four and three-fourths percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund;
- (d) Forty-four and one-half percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund to be used as provided in the Nebraska Environmental Trust Act;
- (e) Ten percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Nebraska State Fair Board if the most populous city within the county in which the fair is located provides matching funds equivalent to ten percent of the funds available for transfer. Such matching funds may be obtained from the city and any other private or public entity, except that no portion of such matching funds shall be provided by the state. If the Nebraska State Fair ceases operations, ten percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund; and
- (f) One percent of the money remaining after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund shall be transferred to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund to be used as provided in section 71-817.
- (4) (a) The Education Innovation Fund is created. At least seventy-five percent of the lottery proceeds allocated to the Education Innovation Fund shall be available for disbursement.
- (b) For fiscal year 2010-11, the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated as follows: The first one million dollars shall be transferred to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund to fund the Excellence in Teaching Act, and the amount remaining in the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated, after administrative expenses, for distance education equipment and incentives

pursuant to sections 79-1336 and 79-1337.

(c) For fiscal year 2011-12, the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated as follows: (i) The first two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars shall be transferred to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund to fund the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program; (ii) the next three million three hundred sixty-five thousand nine hundred sixty-two dollars shall be distributed to school districts as grants pursuant to the Early Childhood Education Grant Program; (iii) the next two million one hundred seventy-five thousand six hundred seventy-three dollars shall be distributed to local systems as grants for approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum programs for students identified as learners with high ability pursuant to section 79-1108.02; (iv) the next four hundred ninety-one thousand five hundred forty-one dollars shall be used by the State Department of Education for the development of an integrated early childhood, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary student information system; (v) the next four hundred fifty thousand dollars shall fund the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning Act; (vi) the next one hundred fourteen thousand six hundred twenty-nine dollars shall fund the multicultural education program created under section 79-720; (vii) the next one hundred twenty-three thousand four hundred sixty-eight dollars shall be used by the department to employ persons to investigate and prosecute alleged violations as provided in section 79-868; and (viii) the amount remaining shall be allocated, after administrative expenses, for distance education equipment and incentives pursuant to sections 79-1336 and 79-1337.

(d) For fiscal year 2012-13, the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated as follows: (i) The first forty-five thousand dollars shall be transferred to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund to fund the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program; (ii) the next three million three hundred sixty-five thousand nine hundred sixty-two dollars shall be distributed to school districts as grants pursuant to the Early Childhood Education Grant Program; (iii) the next two million one hundred seventy-five thousand six hundred seventy-three dollars shall be distributed to local systems as grants for approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum programs for students identified as learners with high ability pursuant to section 79-1108.02; (iv) the next one hundred eight thousand one hundred thirty-six dollars shall be used by the department for the development of an integrated early childhood, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary student information system; (v) the next four hundred fifty thousand dollars shall fund the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning Act; (vi) the next one hundred fourteen thousand six hundred twenty-nine dollars shall be used by the department to fund the multicultural education program created under section 79-720; (vii) the next one hundred twenty-three thousand four hundred sixty-eight dollars shall be used by the department to employ persons to investigate and prosecute alleged violations as provided in section 79-868; and (viii) the next twenty-seven thousand two hundred dollars shall be used to fund the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; and (ix) the amount remaining shall be allocated, after administrative expenses, for distance education equipment and incentives pursuant to sections 79-1336 and

(e) For fiscal years 2013-14 through 2015-16, the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated as follows: (i) The first one million dollars shall be transferred to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund to fund the Excellence in Teaching Act; (ii) the next allocation shall be distributed to local systems as grants for approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum programs for students identified as learners with high ability pursuant to section 79-1108.02 in an aggregated amount up to the amount distributed in the prior fiscal year for such purposes increased by the basic allowable growth rate pursuant to section 79-1025; (iii) the next allocation shall be used by the State Department of Education for the integrated early childhood, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary student information system in an aggregated amount up to the amount used in the prior fiscal year for such purposes increased by the basic allowable growth rate pursuant to section 79-1025; (iv) the next allocation shall fund the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning Act in an aggregated amount up to the amount used in the prior fiscal year for such purposes increased by the basic allowable growth rate pursuant to section 79-1025; (v) the next allocation shall be used by the department to fund the multicultural education program created under section 79-720 in an aggregated amount up to the amount used in the prior fiscal year for such purposes increased by the basic allowable growth rate pursuant to section 79-1025; (vi) the next allocation shall be used by the department to employ persons to investigate and prosecute alleged violations as provided in section 79-868 in an aggregated amount up to the amount used

in the prior fiscal year for such purposes increased by the basic allowable growth rate pursuant to section 79-1025; and (vii) the amount remaining shall be allocated, after administrative expenses, for distance education equipment and incentives pursuant to sections 79-1336 and 79-1337.

- (f) For fiscal year 2016-17 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Education Innovation Fund shall be allocated, after administrative expenses, for education purposes as provided by the Legislature.
- (5) Any money in the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund, the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund, the State Lottery Prize Trust Fund, or the Education Innovation Fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.
- (6) Unclaimed prize money on a winning lottery ticket shall be retained for a period of time prescribed by rules and regulations. If no claim is made within such period, the prize money shall be used at the discretion of the Tax Commissioner for any of the purposes prescribed in this section.
- Sec. 8. Section 79-318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

79-318 The State Board of Education shall:

- (1) Appoint and fix the compensation of the Commissioner of Education;
- (2) Remove the commissioner from office at any time for conviction of any crime involving moral turpitude or felonious act, for inefficiency, or for willful and continuous disregard of his or her duties as commissioner or of the directives of the board;
- (3) Upon recommendation of the commissioner, appoint and fix the compensation of a deputy commissioner and all professional employees of the board:
- (4) Organize the State Department of Education into such divisions, branches, or sections as may be necessary or desirable to perform all its proper functions and to render maximum service to the board and to the state school system;
- (5) Provide, through the commissioner and his or her professional staff, enlightened professional leadership, guidance, and supervision of the state school system, including educational service units. In order that the commissioner and his or her staff may carry out their duties, the board shall, through the commissioner: (a) Provide supervisory and consultation services to the schools of the state; (b) issue materials helpful in the development, maintenance, and improvement of educational facilities and programs; (c) establish rules and regulations which govern standards and procedures for the approval and legal operation of all schools in the state and for the accreditation of all schools requesting state accreditation. All public, private, denominational, or parochial schools shall either comply with the accreditation or approval requirements prescribed in this section and section 79-703 or, for those schools which elect not to meet accreditation or approval requirements, the requirements prescribed in subsections (2) through (6) of section 79-1601. Standards and procedures for approval and accreditation shall be based upon the program of studies, guidance services, the number and preparation of teachers in relation to the curriculum and enrollment, instructional materials and equipment, science facilities and equipment, library facilities and materials, and health and safety factors in buildings and grounds. Rules and regulations which govern standards and procedures for private, denominational, and parochial schools which elect, pursuant to the procedures prescribed in subsections (2) through (6) of section 79-1601, not to meet state accreditation or approval requirements shall be as described in such section; (d) institute a statewide system of testing to determine the degree of achievement and accomplishment of all the students within the state's school systems if it determines such testing would be advisable; (e) prescribe a uniform system of records and accounting for keeping adequate educational and financial records, for gathering and reporting necessary educational data, and for evaluating educational progress; (f) cause to be published laws, rules, and regulations governing the schools and the school lands and funds with explanatory notes for the guidance of those charged with the administration of the schools of the state; (g) approve teacher education programs conducted in Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions designed for the purpose of certificating teachers and administrators; (h) approve certificated-employee evaluation policies and procedures developed by school districts and educational service units; and (i) approve general plans and adopt educational policies, standards, rules, and regulations for carrying out the board's responsibilities and those assigned to the State Department of Education by the Legislature;
 - (6) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the guidance,

supervision, accreditation, and coordination of educational service units. Such rules and regulations for accreditation shall include, but not be limited to, (a) a requirement that programs and services offered to school districts by each educational service unit shall be evaluated on a regular basis, but not less than every seven years, to assure that educational service units remain responsive to school district needs and (b) guidelines for the use and management of funds generated from the property tax levy and from other sources of revenue as may be available to the educational service units, to assure that public funds are used to accomplish the purposes and goals assigned to the educational service units by section 79-1204. The State Board of Education shall establish procedures to encourage the coordination of activities among educational service units and to encourage effective and efficient educational service delivery on a statewide basis;

- (7) Submit a biennial report to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature covering the actions of the board, the operations of the State Department of Education, and the progress and needs of the schools and recommend such legislation as may be necessary to satisfy these needs;
- (8) Prepare and distribute reports designed to acquaint school district officers, teachers, and patrons of the schools with the conditions and needs of the schools;
- (9) Provide for consultation with professional educators and lay leaders for the purpose of securing advice deemed necessary in the formulation of policies and in the effectual discharge of its duties;
- (10) Make studies, investigations, and reports and assemble information as necessary for the formulation of policies, for making plans, for evaluating the state school program, and for making essential and adequate reports;
- (11) Submit to the Governor and the Legislature a budget necessary to finance the state school program under its jurisdiction, including the internal operation and maintenance of the State Department of Education;
- (12) Interpret its own policies, standards, rules, and regulations and, upon reasonable request, hear complaints and disputes arising therefrom;
- (13) With the advice of the Department of Motor Vehicles, adopt and promulgate rules and regulations containing reasonable standards, not inconsistent with existing statutes, governing: (a) The general design, equipment, color, operation, and maintenance of any vehicle with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of eleven or more passengers used for the transportation of public, private, denominational, or parochial school students; and (b) the equipment, operation, and maintenance of any vehicle with a capacity of ten or less passengers used for the transportation of public, private, denominational, or parochial school students, when such vehicles are owned, operated, or owned and operated by any public, private, denominational, or parochial school or privately owned or operated under contract with any such school in this state, except for vehicles owned by individuals operating a school which elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval requirements. Similar rules and regulations shall be adopted and promulgated for operators of such vehicles as provided in section 79-607:
- (14) Accept, on behalf of the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired, devises of real property or donations or bequests of other property, or both, if in its judgment any such devise, donation, or bequest is for the best interest of the center or the students receiving services from the center, or both, and irrigate or otherwise improve any such real estate when in the board's judgment it would be advisable to do so; and
- (15) Accept, in order to administer the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, any devise, donation, or bequest received by the State Department of Education pursuant to section 6 of this act; and
- (15) (16) Upon acceptance of any devise, donation, or bequest as provided in this section, administer and carry out such devise, donation, or bequest in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. If not prohibited by the terms and conditions of any such devise, donation, or bequest, the board may sell, convey, exchange, or lease property so devised, donated, or bequeathed upon such terms and conditions as it deems best and remit all money derived from any such sale or lease to the State Treasurer for credit to the State Department of Education Trust Fund.

Each member of the Legislature shall receive a copy of the report required by subdivision (7) of this section by making a request for it to the commissioner.

None of the duties prescribed in this section shall prevent the board from exercising such other duties as in its judgment may be necessary

for the proper and legal exercise of its obligations.

Sec. 9. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2012.

Sec. 10. Original section 79-318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and section 9-812, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, as amended by section 1, Legislative Bill 333, One Hundred Second Legislature, First Session, 2011, are repealed.