

# **One Hundred Third Legislature - First Session - 2013**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB179**

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**Chairman: Senator Kate Sullivan**

**Committee: Education**

**Date of Hearing: February 26, 2013**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 179 would terminate the Learning Community and the Learning Community Coordinating Council as of July 1, 2014. The boundaries of the Bellevue, Bennington, Douglas County West, Elkhorn, Gretna, Millard, Omaha, Papillion-LaVista, Ralston, Springfield-Platteview, and Westside public school districts will be frozen as the boundaries exist on July 1, 2014 or until changed in accordance with any reorganization entered into by one or more of the school districts as allowed under current law.

All records, books, papers, funds and personal property belonging to the Learning Community would be required to be delivered to the State Board of Education, to be distributed to the school districts which were members of the Learning Community immediately prior to its mandated dissolution. Any funds of the Learning Community delivered to the State Board of Education would be required to be distributed to each member school district in the same proportion as the taxable valuation of the taxable real property within the geographical boundaries of the Learning Community.

The purposes of this significant policy change are to eliminate the failed Learning Community experiment which, after numerous years of existence, has added to the property tax burden of the taxpayers of Douglas and Sarpy Counties without having any substantial improvement of minority academic achievement.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Bill Kintner**