

LEGISLATIVE BILL 149

Approved by the Governor May 25, 1973

Introduced by Kremer, 34; Stromer, 36

AN ACT to amend section 85-106, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1972, as amended by section 2, Legislative Bill 248, Eighty-third Legislature, First Session, 1973, relating to the University of Nebraska; to provide the organizational structure of the university; to provide for additional officers; to establish an institute of agriculture and natural resources and provide for its organization and responsibilities; and to repeal the original section, and also section 72-702, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943.

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

Section 1. The University of Nebraska shall be composed of a chief governing administrative unit and three universities, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska Medical Center, and such other institutions and units as may be designated by the Legislature.

Sec. 2. That section 85-106, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1972, as amended by section 2, Legislative Bill 248, Eighty-third Legislature, First Session, 1973, be amended to read as follows:

85-106. The Board of Regents shall have power (1) to enact laws for the government of the university; (2) to elect a chancellor; president, vice presidents, chancellors, vice chancellors, deans, associate deans, assistant deans, directors, associate directors, assistant directors, professors, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, other members of the faculty staff, and employees generally of the university, and to provide for academic tenure for professors, associate professors, and assistant professors; (3) to prescribe the duties of such persons, not inconsistent with section 4 of this act; (4) to fix their compensation; (5) to provide, in its discretion, retirement benefits for present and future employees of the university, subject to the following: (a) The cost of such retirement benefits shall be funded in accordance with sound actuarial principles with the necessary contributions for both past service and future service being treated in the university budget in the same way as

any other operating expense, (b) the maximum university contribution under any such retirement plan shall not exceed the sum of (i) six per cent of each university employee's salary or wage earnings for any calendar year before any agreement for reduction of salary or wage earnings, and (ii) pursuant to an agreement for reduction of salary or wage earnings, the amount of the reduction of salary or wage earnings, (c) each employee's contribution shall at least equal the university's contribution to any such retirement fund; Provided, that in lieu of making such contribution, each such employee may enter into an agreement for reduction of salary or wages for the purchase by the Board of Regents of an annuity contract for such employee, under the provisions of the Technical Amendments Act of 1958 to the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, but the amount of the reduction of salary or wages allowable under this subdivision may not include credit for service prior to March 29, 1972, (d) the retirement benefits of any employee for service prior to September 1, 1961 shall be those provided under the retirement plan then in force which benefits shall not be abridged; Provided, that such retirement benefits shall become fully vested in the event of an employee's termination of employment, if such an employee shall have at least ten years of service at the date of termination, and (e) the investment of retirement funds shall be pursuant to sections 72-1237 to 72-1259; (6) to equalize and provide for uniform benefits for all present and future employees, including group life insurance, group hospital-medical insurance, group long-term disability income insurance and retirement benefits; (7) to provide, through the University Extension Division, for the holding of classes at various localities throughout the state avoiding unnecessary duplication of courses offered by other educational institutions in such localities; (8) to remove the chancellor, president, vice presidents, chancellors, vice chancellors, deans, associate deans, assistant deans, directors, associate directors, assistant directors, professors, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, other members of the faculty staff, and employees generally, when the interests of the university shall require it; and (9) to pay expenses for recruitment of academic, administrative, professional, and managerial personnel.

Sec. 3. A University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be established at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, which shall embrace but not be limited to the following divisions or administrative units: (1) College of Agriculture; (2) School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis; (3) Agricultural Experiment Station; (4) Cooperative Extension Service; (5) Conservation and Survey Division;

and (6) Water Resources Research Institute. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be headed by a vice chancellor and each division or administrative unit shall have a dean, director, or other chief administrative officer.

Sec. 4. The vice chancellor for the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be responsible for providing leadership for all agricultural and natural resources affairs in the University of Nebraska as they involve the office of chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the President and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. He shall coordinate agricultural, natural resources, and related matters of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As senior agricultural and natural resources administrator in the University of Nebraska, he and the chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln shall together provide advice and counsel to and assist the President and Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska in agricultural, natural resources, and related matters.

Sec. 5. That original section 85-106, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1972, as amended by section 2, Legislative Bill 248, Eighty-third Legislature, First Session, 1973, and also section 72-702, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, are repealed.