



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 509**

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**Chairperson:**       **Ron Raikes**  
**Committee:**       **Education**  
**Date of Hearing:**   **March 12, 2007**

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

LB 509 would allocate \$50 million to establish the Scholarship Trust Fund, which would provide scholarships to students who are willing to study in particular fields and who agree to then “pay back” the scholarship with a time commitment in Nebraska communities where that need is the greatest.

Students would be required to agree to work where they are needed the most for the same number of years as the scholarship. In other words, if a student receives a four-year scholarship, then they would be required to work in a particular community of need for four years to fulfill their commitment.

The Scholarship Trust Fund would be managed and implemented by the Coordinating Commission For Postsecondary Education. The Commission would be responsible for identifying the particular employment needs across Nebraska, administering the scholarships to qualifying students, and tracking the students’ compliance with their commitment. Only the interest on the \$50 million principle would be used for scholarships and for administrative costs. Any interest not used would be returned to the principle.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Bill Avery**