

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB515**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday February 13, 2017  
**Committee On:** Business and Labor  
**Introducer:** Bolz  
**One Liner:** Create the Nebraska Integrated Education and Training Grant Program

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

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 7 Senators Albrecht, Chambers, Crawford, Halloran, Hansen, Howard, Lowe

**Nay:**

**Absent:**

**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Kate Bolz  
Greg Adams  
Mike Baumgartner

Brad Wegner

**Opponents:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Nebraska Community College Association  
Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education  
National Utility Contractors of America (NUCA)

**Representing:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Sec. 1. contains legislative findings that in order to stay competitive, Nebraska must develop educational programs in high-demand fields; that businesses consider a skilled workforce as essential to building the state's economy; that the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) included the first requirement for states to provide integrated education and training services; and that community colleges are a key tool for workforce development.

Sec. 2. definitional section. Defines adult education, commission, committee, integrated education and training, and remedial education.

Sec. 3. establishes the Nebraska Integrated Education and Training Grant Program which provides grants to community colleges for the purpose of developing and implementing local programs of integrated education and training. The committee shall administer the program and develop grant applications, procedures, and guidelines. Grants are provided up to three years to community colleges who apply to the committee.

The applicants must describe: 1) the specific model to be implemented, 2) how the local program will be designed and implemented by educators, 3) how the local program will prepare students to receive a high school diploma or equivalency, 4) how the local program will prepare students to obtain postsecondary credentials, 5) how the local program will offer industry-recognized credentials (if applicable), 6) the occupations or industry for which the local

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program will prepare students for employment and how it fits into a career pathway, 7) evidence of employer demand for those who complete the local program, 8) how the local program will provide student support services to assist with student success, 9) strategies for tracking and reporting outcomes, 10) evidence of matching funds from local or philanthropic sources of at least one quarter of the total projected cost for the local program, 11) a description of target population and how the local program will serve such target population, and 12) other information as required by the committee.

Sec. 4. requires the commission to develop an annual evaluation of the grant program that includes the local programs each community college offers by name, the number of enrolled students, the number of students who successfully complete the program, and the percentage of students who obtained employment in the occupation or industry indicated in the grant application.

Sec. 5. states the intent of the Legislature to appropriate funds for the grant program from the General Fund. Up to fifteen percent of the funds may be retained by the commission for administering grants, providing technical assistance, and conducting the annual evaluation required.

Sec. 6. includes the responsibility of administering the Nebraska Integrated Education and Training Grant Program to the committee created in 85-1536 (the Nebraska Community College Student Performance and Occupational Education Grant Committee).

Sec. 7. adds subsections (2) and (3) to section 85-1540.

Sec. 8. repealer.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

Amendment (AM 205)

The amendment qualifies that the program shall provide grants to the extent funds are appropriated by the Legislature. Secondly, section 4 qualifies the Commissioner's responsibilities of developing an annual evaluation of the program to the extent funds are appropriated by the Legislature. And finally, in Section 6, it states that the committee shall administer the program to the extent funds are appropriated by the Legislature for such purpose.

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Joni Albrecht, Chairperson