

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB655**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 08, 2017  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Murante  
**One Liner:** Authorize state employees to volunteer at public schools and certain nonprofit organizations

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

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 8 Senators Blood, Brewer, Briese, Craighead, Hilgers, Lowe, Murante, Wayne  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator John Murante  
Tom Osborne  
Deb Denbeck  
John Bonaiuto

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Teammates  
Partnership 4 Kids  
Nebraska Association of School Boards

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

Bo Botelho

**Representing:**

Department of Administrative Services

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

LB 655 authorizes the Director of Administrative Services to permit a state employee, with the authorization of his or her supervisor, to volunteer at a public school or a nonprofit organization that focuses on assisting public schools, during normal work hours without the loss of pay, vacation time, sick leave, or earned overtime. The director may adopt and promulgate rules regarding these activities.

The bill defines also defines state employee for its purposes.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 177 replaces the bill, but keeps its same concept. While the original bill limited those employees eligible to state employees, AM 177 allows all state government employees and employees of a political subdivision to participate. It also changes the check off authority from the Director of the Department of Administrative Services to the individual or entity that is responsible for the governance of the entity for which the employee works.

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John Murante, Chairperson