

One Hundred Sixth Legislature - Second Session - 2020

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB920

Chairperson: Senator Mike Groene

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: January 21, 2020

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

The primary focus of Legislative Bill 920 is to set the distribution of education lottery dollars for the five-year period from 2021-22 through 2025-26 as follows:

- 58% to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund
- 7% to the Department of Education Innovative Grant Fund
- 4.5% to the Community College Gap Assistance Program Fund
- 3% to the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Fund
- 3% for distance education incentives,
- 8% to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund
- 9.5% to the Behavioral Training Cash Fund
- 7% for career-readiness and dual-credit education to be distributed

LB920 allows the existing 10% statutory retainer to sunset along with the requirement that the allocation funnels through the Education Improvement Fund. It moves the Excellence in Teaching Program from the Nebraska Department of Education to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and makes some technical changes to the program.

LB920 also makes some technical changes to the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Program and the Community College Gap Assistance Program, along with adding requirements for recipients and subrecipients to file annual reports to the Auditor of Public Accounts. There are additional clean-up provisions included in the bill related to education lottery dollars and the programs they currently or have previously funded.

Finally, LB920 requires the Education Committee to submit a report in five years with recommendations on how the education allocation of lottery should be used for the five-year period beginning with fiscal year 2026-27. That report will be due December 31, 2024.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Mike Groene