

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2023

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB516

Chairperson: Senator Dave Murman

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: March 13, 2023

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

The intent of LB516 is to increase school safety in the State of Nebraska and better support student's mental health. LB516 does the following:

- The Department of Education will hire regional specialists to assist schools and increase the availability of training, provide tailored technical support and serve as a center point of contact for school districts.
- After federal funding for the Safe2HelpNE hotline ends in fiscal year 2023-24, general funds will begin funding the program.
- Create a grant program that schools may apply to for critical infrastructure needs like surveillance equipment, door-locking systems and double-entry doors.
- Create a grant program to provide funding to local health departments or educational service units to hire mental health practitioners and school psychologists to provide services to students and the community.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Lynne Walz