

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2026
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB748

Hearing Date: Tuesday January 20, 2026
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Sorrentino
One Liner: Change provisions relating to the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and allow for the use of trust funds for recognized postsecondary credential programs

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:
Aye: 8 Senators Murman, Conrad, Hughes, Hunt, Juarez, Lonowski, Meyer, G., Sanders
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Tony Sorrentino
Doug Kagan
Joey Spellerberg
Rachel Biar

Doug Hoops

Dennis Schleis
Jay Steinacher
Tom Venzor
Alan Seybert

Opponents:

Tim Royers
Daniel Russell

Neutral:

Representing:

Opening Presenter
Nebraska Taxpayers for Freedom
State Treasurer
Deputy State Treasurer for Savings Programs, NEST 529
National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors
Nebraska Taxpayers for Freedom
Union Bank
Nebraska Catholic Conference
Nebraska Taxpayers for Freedom

Representing:

Nebraska State Education Association
Stand for Schools

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 748 amends sections 77-1416, 77-1417, 77-1419, 77-1420, 77-1422, and 77-1427 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska to expand and modernize the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust. The bill harmonizes state law with



federal tax provisions by authorizing the use of plan funds for recognized postsecondary credential programs, defines and redefines terms, expands permissible agreements and payment uses, clarifies ownership and treatment of remaining funds, enhances fund portability, and phases in authority to use program funds for elementary and secondary education.

Section-by-Section Bill Summary:

Section 1 amends section 77-1416 to redefine "qualified education expenses" to include qualified postsecondary credentialing expenses, as defined in section 529(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, as an allowable use of funds under the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust. This section removes prior statutory language that capped elementary or secondary tuition expenses at ten thousand dollars per beneficiary per taxable year, and defines "recognized postsecondary credential program" to mean a program described in section 529(f)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2 amends section 77-1417 to authorize the State Treasurer under the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust to enter into agreements with recognized postsecondary credential programs, except for agreements related to the investment of money in the administrative, expense, or program funds and includes recognized postsecondary credential programs among the entities to whom the State Treasurer can make payments pursuant to participation agreements.

Section 3 amends section 77-1419 to clarify that participation agreements under the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust do not guarantee admission to, a residency determination by, continued attendance at, or graduation from, a recognized postsecondary credential program.

Section 4 amends section 77-1420 to allow money in the Education Savings Plan Program Fund to be used for payments to recognized postsecondary credential programs.

Section 5 amends section 77-1422 to allow remaining funds, after a beneficiary graduates from a recognized postsecondary credential program, to be used for qualified education loan payments for siblings or transferred as permitted under federal law. It also includes a recognized postsecondary credential program to take ownership of payments made for qualified education expenses at the time payment is made.

Section 6 amends section 77-1427 to clarify legislative intent that funds and income credited to the Nebraska Educational Savings Plan Trust program fund may also be used at any recognized postsecondary credential program.

Section 7. Repealer.

Dave Murman, Chairperson

