
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION • 2022



DISPOSITION OF LEGISLATION, RESOLUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE

Committee Members

Chairwoman Lynne Walz, District 15
Vice-Chair Adam Morfeld, District 46
Senator Jen Day, District 49
Senator Lou Ann Linehan, District 39
Senator Terrell McKinney, District 11
Senator Dave Murman, District 38
Senator Patty Pansing Brooks, District 28
Senator Rita Sanders, District 45

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***** NOTE: No action was taken on any 2021 carryover bills. *****

Please refer to the 2021 Session Summary for the details and disposition of any legislation introduced during the First Session.

Index of Bills by Bill Number

Bill Number	Introducer	One-liner	Hearing Date	Disposition ¹
LB690	Blood	Redefine basic skills competency for purposes of teachers' and administrators' certificates or permits	1/31/2022	Held in Committee.
LB711 ²	Hughes	Change provisions relating to the sale of educational land	3/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LB754 ³	Bostar	Extend the commercial air filter pilot program of the State Department of Education	1/18/2022	Approved by the Governor on March 3, 2022.
LB758 ⁴	Brandt	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act	1/18/2022	Approved by the Governor on March 3, 2022.
LB768	Albrecht	Change provisions relating to establishment of academic content standards for school districts	2/15/2022	Held in Committee.
LB838	Kolterman	Require the State Department of Education to create an aid program relating to the early childhood workforce	1/18/2022 and 2/22/2022	Held in Committee.
LB852 ⁵	Day	Require behavioral health points of contact for school districts, provide for mental health first aid training, and change education innovation grants	2/22/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 18, 2022.
LB868	Morfeld	Change provisions relating to a classification system administered by the State Department of Education	1/24/2022	Advanced to General File.
LB872 ⁶	Brewer	Authorize the wearing of tribal regalia by certain students	1/24/2022	Advanced to General File with a Committee Amendment.

¹ All bills not approved by the Governor were indefinitely postponed at sine die.

² Attorney General Opinion 22-002 issued

³ Consent Calendar

⁴ Consent Calendar

⁵ Senator Walz 2022 Priority Bill

⁶ State-Tribal Relations Committee 2022 Priority Bill

Bill Number	Introducer	One-liner	Hearing Date	Disposition ¹
LB887 ⁷	Slama	Change provisions relating to state colleges and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and eliminate certain provisions relating to morals and prohibiting religious tests	2/14/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 18, 2022.
LB888 ⁸	Day	Require the State Board of Education to adopt standards for education on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide	2/15/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 19, 2022.
LB890 ⁹	Walz	Change the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	1/25/2022	Advanced to General File with a Committee Amendment.
LB902 ¹⁰	Aguilar	Adopt the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act	2/14/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 18, 2022.
LB912	Morfeld	Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds	2/28/2022	Advanced to General File with a Committee Amendment. Provisions amended into LB852.
LB945	Linehan	Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for student loan repayment assistance, and appropriate General Funds	2/1/2022	Provisions amended into LB1218.
LB960	Vargas	Eliminate certain basic skill and content test requirements for eligibility for teaching certificates	1/31/2022	Held in Committee.
LB997	Day	Change school entrance requirements	2/8/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1001	Erdman	Limit the school term for school districts and educational service units	2/8/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1027	Hunt	Provide for grants to schools that discontinue use of American Indian mascots	2/22/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1034	Pahls	Provide for designation of progress schools and progress plans and state intent to appropriate federal funds	2/28/2022	Held in Committee.

⁷ Speaker Priority Bill

⁸ Speaker Priority Bill

⁹ Education Committee 2022 Priority Bill

¹⁰ Speaker Priority Bill

Bill Number	Introducer	One-liner	Hearing Date	Disposition¹
LB1050	Flood	Prohibit public postsecondary institutions from discriminating against student organizations based on viewpoints, beliefs, and missions	2/14/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1057 ¹¹	Brewer	Change provisions relating to Class III school districts	2/8/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 18, 2022.
LB1078	Hansen, B.	Prohibit possession of personal electronic devices by students in public school classrooms	3/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1112 ¹²	McKinney	Adopt the Computer Science and Technology Education Act and provide and change graduation requirements and academic content standards	2/15/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 18, 2022.
LB1128	DeBoer	Adopt the Student Loan Repayment Assistance for Teachers Act	2/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1143	Linehan	Require approval by the voters of a school district or educational service unit for the issuance of certain bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act	3/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1157	Linehan	Require the State Department of Education to submit reports on federal funds	3/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1158 ¹³	Sanders	Change provisions relating to parental involvement in and access to learning materials in schools and provide for withholding of funding from school districts	2/15/2022	Advanced to General File with a Committee Amendment.
LB1169	Linehan	Require the State Department of Education to create a loan forgiveness grant program	2/1/2022	Indefinitely postponed by the Committee.
LB1170	Sanders	Require schools to allow certain youth organizations to provide information, services, and activities	2/8/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1179	Groene	Adopt the Classroom Safety Intervention and Behavioral Awareness Training Act	Canceled	Hearing canceled after introducing senator resigned.

¹¹ Consent Calendar

¹² Speaker Priority Bill

¹³ Senator Sanders 2022 Priority Bill

Bill Number	Introducer	One-liner	Hearing Date	Disposition¹
LB1211	Linehan	Change provisions relating to option enrollment for students	2/22/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1212	Linehan	Change provisions relating to individualized education plans under the Special Education Act	2/22/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1218 ¹⁴	Education Committee	Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for income tax adjustments, and change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness	1/31/2022	Approved by the Governor on April 19, 2022.
LB1219	Sanders	Adopt the Extended Learning Opportunities Act	2/8/2022	Held in Committee.
LB1251	Hansen, B.	Adopt the Equal Opportunity Scholarship for Students with Special Needs Program Act and change provisions relating to the distribution of lottery funds	2/28/2022	Held in Committee.
LR278CA	Linehan	Constitutional amendment to eliminate the State Board of Education and provide for the Governor to appoint the Commissioner of Education	3/1/2022	Held in Committee.
LR335	Education Committee	Encourage postsecondary educational institutions to adopt the seventy percent attainment goal	3/23/2022	Adopted by the Legislature on April 12, 2022. Signed by the President/Speaker.

¹⁴ Education Committee 2022 Priority Bill

Index of Bills by Subject Matter

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds; Pandemic-related

LB1034 (*Pahls*) Provide for designation of progress schools and progress plans and state intent to appropriate federal funds

LB1157 (*Linehan*) Require the State Department of Education to submit reports on federal funds

LB1169 (*Linehan*) Require the State Department of Education to create a loan forgiveness grant program

Academic Standards and Curriculum

LB768 (*Albrecht*) Change provisions relating to establishment of academic content standards for school districts

LB888 (*Day*) Require the State Board of Education to adopt standards for education on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide

LB1112 (*McKinney*) Adopt the Computer Science and Technology Education Act and provide and change graduation requirements and academic content standards

Early Childhood Education

LB758 (*Brandt*) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act

LB838 (*Kolterman*) Require the State Department of Education to create an aid program relating to the early childhood workforce

LB868 (*Morfeld*) Change provisions relating to a classification system administered by the State Department of Education

Educational Service Units

LB1143 (*Linehan*) Require approval by the voters of a school district or educational service unit for the issuance of certain bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act

Enrollment Option Program

LB1211 (*Linehan*) Change provisions relating to option enrollment for students

Lottery Fund Use

LB852 (*Day*) Require behavioral health points of contact for school districts, provide for mental health first aid training, and change education innovation grants

LB912 (*Morfeld*) Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds

Lottery Fund Use *continued*

LB1179 (*Groene*) Adopt the Classroom Safety Intervention and Behavioral Awareness Training Act

LB1251 (*Hansen, B.*) Adopt the Equal Opportunity Scholarship for Students with Special Needs Program Act and change provisions relating to the distribution of lottery funds

Mental and Behavioral Health

LB852 (*Day*) Require behavioral health points of contact for school districts, provide for mental health first aid training, and change education innovation grants

LB912 (*Morfeld*) Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds

LB1179 (*Groene*) Adopt the Classroom Safety Intervention and Behavioral Awareness Training Act

Miscellaneous

LB754 (*Bostar*) Extend the commercial air filter pilot program of the State Department of Education

LB997 (*Day*) Change school entrance requirements

LB1001 (*Erdman*) Limit the school term for school districts and educational service units

LB1057 (*Brewer*) Change provisions relating to Class III school districts

LB1078 (*Hansen, B.*) Prohibit possession of personal electronic devices by students in public school classrooms

LB1170 (*Sanders*) Require schools to allow certain youth organizations to provide information, services, and activities

LB1219 (*Sanders*) Adopt the Extended Learning Opportunities Act

Native Americans

LB872 (*Brewer*) Authorize the wearing of tribal regalia by certain students

LB1027 (*Hunt*) Provide for grants to schools that discontinue use of American Indian mascots

Parental Involvement

LB1158 (*Sanders*) Change provisions relating to parental involvement in and access to learning materials in schools and provide for withholding of funding from school districts

Postsecondary Education and Postsecondary Institutions

LB887 (*Slama*) Change provisions relating to state colleges and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and eliminate certain provisions relating to morals and prohibiting religious tests

Postsecondary Education and Postsecondary Institutions cont.

LB902 (*Aguilar*) Adopt the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act

LB1050 (*Flood*) Prohibit public postsecondary institutions from discriminating against student organizations based on viewpoints, beliefs, and missions

LR335 (*Education Committee*) Encourage postsecondary educational institutions to adopt the seventy percent attainment goal

Priority School Designation; Creation of Progress Schools

LB1034 (*Pabls*) Provide for designation of progress schools and progress plans and state intent to appropriate federal funds

School Breakfast and Lunch

LB758 (*Brandt*) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act

School Finance

LB890 (*Walz*) Change the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act

School Lands

LB711 (*Hughes*) Change provisions relating to the sale of educational land

Special Education

LB1212 (*Linehan*) Change provisions relating to individualized education plans under the Special Education Act

LB1251 (*Hansen, B.*) Adopt the Equal Opportunity Scholarship for Students with Special Needs Program Act and change provisions relating to the distribution of lottery funds

State Board of Education

LR278CA (*Linehan*) Constitutional amendment to eliminate the State Board of Education and provide for the Governor to appoint the Commissioner of Education

Student Loan Forgiveness

LB945 (*Linehan*) Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for student loan repayment assistance, and appropriate General Funds

LB1128 (*DeBoer*) Adopt the Student Loan Repayment Assistance for Teachers Act

LB1169 (*Linehan*) Require the State Department of Education to create a loan forgiveness grant program

Student Loan Forgiveness *continued*

LB1218 (*Education Committee*) Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for income tax adjustments, and change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness

Student Discipline

LB1179 (*Groene*) Adopt the Classroom Safety Intervention and Behavioral Awareness Training Act

Teacher Certification

LB690 (*Blood*) Redefine basic skills competency for purposes of teachers' and administrators' certificates or permits

LB960 (*Vargas*) Eliminate certain basic skill and content test requirements for eligibility for teaching certificates

LB1218 (*Education Committee*) Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for income tax adjustments, and change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness

Summary of Bills Enacted into Law

LB754 (*Bostar*) Extend the commercial air filter pilot program of the State Department of Education

Extends the pilot program to study the efficiency of commercial air filters in classrooms, enacted in 2021 via LB630, by one additional year thus increasing the pilot program to three years (school years 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24).

LB758 (*Brandt*) Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act

Expands the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act, enacted in 2021 via LB396, to include early childhood education programs.

LB852 (*Day*) Require behavioral health points of contact for school districts, provide for mental health first aid training, and change education innovation grants

Creates a new section of statute that requires each school district, on or before August 1, 2023, to designate one or more behavioral health points of contact (POC) for each school building or other division as determined by the school district. Such POC shall have knowledge of community behavioral health service providers and other resources available for students and families, and may be an administrator, a school nurse, a school psychologist, or another designated person affiliated with such school building or other division. Each such POC shall coordinate access to community behavioral health services and facilitate access to such at school during the day. Except as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. 43-2101, such facilitation shall be approved by the student's parent or guardian.

Requires the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) to establish a training program in mental health first aid for teachers and other employees of a school district or educational service unit participating in a mental health first aid grant. The training must be given by trainers who have been properly certified by a national organization for behavioral health to provide training that meets the requirements of this section. The training must also provide an opportunity for teachers and other designated employees to become trainers in mental health first aid.

Establishes the intent of the Legislature to fund such mental health training through lottery funds and makes revisions to the Nebraska Innovative Grant Programs effective July 1, 2024.

LB887 (*Slama*) Change provisions relating to state colleges and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and eliminate certain provisions relating to morals and prohibiting religious tests

Changes the statutory authority of Peru State College to allow it to offer master's degree programs in disciplines other than education and organization management subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of State Colleges and approved by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

Provides additional technical changes in statute applicable to State Colleges.

LB888 (*Day*) Require the State Board of Education to adopt standards for education on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide

Adds a requirement to the academic content standards in social studies to include education on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide as recognized by the Congress of the United States or the United Nations as of January 1, 2022.

LB902 (*Aguilar*) Adopt the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act

Establishes the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act in statute. Previously, these scholarships have been provided exclusively in the budget bill. Provides scholarships to students who participate in an internship or work program for specific underserved workforce sectors across the state. The act becomes operative on July 1, 2023.

LB1057 (*Brewer*) Change provisions relating to Class III school districts

Changes the statutory requirements for operation of Class III school districts that have a small enrollment when such district is the only one in the county and has a high school within 15 miles on a reasonably improved highway. The enrollment threshold is changed from 35 students in grades 9-12 to 45 students in grades K-12. Changes the language from the district having a high school within 15 miles to be any school within 15 miles. Changes the election, public hearing and vote of the school board or board of education required in order to continue to operate such a school district to happen every four years instead of annually.

LB1112 (*McKinney*) Adopt the Computer Science and Technology Education Act and provide and change graduation requirements and academic content standards

Creates the Computer Science and Technology Act, which requires, beginning in school year 2024-25, each school district, in consultation with the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), include computer science and technology education in the instructional program of its elementary and middle schools as appropriate, and requires each student attending a public school to complete at least one related five credit hour high school course prior to graduation. Requires the State Board of Education to adopt measurable academic content standards for computer science and technology education under the mathematics or science standards.

Amends statute to state that the graduation requirements established pertaining to personal finance or financial literacy (adopted in 2021), as well as the financial literacy instruction requirements in elementary and middle schools, only apply to students attending public schools. Amends the language to allow the financial literacy standards to also be included under the career and technical education standards.

LB1218 (*Education Committee*) Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for income tax adjustments, and change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness

Clarifies that the State Board of Education's authority to approve teacher education programs in Nebraska does not allow such approval to require a statewide examination as an entrance requirement related to basic skills competency.

Changes the fee structure for teacher certificates from being explicitly set in statute to being set by the Commissioner with a not-to-exceed amount. Such amount was increased from the statutory fee based on inflation.

Offers an additional \$1000 of student loan forgiveness to participants in the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program after the successful completion of their student teaching.

Allows teachers from other states that hold a similar certificate or permit to demonstrate eligibility to teach in Nebraska by experience as an educator in such other state that demonstrates the academic and professional preparation of the applicant.

Expands the alternative path for a teaching certificate to apply, in addition to military spouses, to an out-of-state teacher who has been offered employment to teach, administer, or provide special services by an accredited school district or an approved or accredited private, denominational, or parochial school in Nebraska.

Adopts the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, which provides student loan repayment assistance for eligible Nebraska teachers in the amount of \$5000/year up to \$25,000/teacher. The assistance is exempt from state income taxes. Appropriates \$5 million of General Funds for such program.

Interim Study Resolutions

Resolution Number	Introducer	One-liner
LR354	McDonnell	Interim study to examine the educational experiences and outcomes of youth in foster care
LR359	Walz	Interim study to examine whether section 79-458, which authorizes certain property holders to attach their property to a different school district through a freeholder petition, should be updated or eliminated
LR373	Walz	Interim study to examine the feasibility of developing a policy and implementing a statewide process for awarding college credit in specific programs of study across all public educational institutions for military education and training
LR414	McDonnell	Interim study to examine programming, opportunities, and interventions for students attending an alternative school, class, or educational program in Nebraska
LR420	Hansen, B.	Interim study to examine the education process and procedures for serving students with special needs

Gubernatorial Appointments

Name	Board/Commission (Term)	Hearing Date	Disposition
Nicholas Baxter	Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission (January 13, 2022 – January 12, 2026)	2/1/2022	Reported favorably to the Legislature for confirmation. Confirmed by the Legislature (34-0-7-8) on February 11, 2022.
Darrin Scott Good, Ph.D.	Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission (January 13, 2022 – January 12, 2026)	2/1/2022	Reported favorably to the Legislature for confirmation. Confirmed by the Legislature (34-0-7-8) on February 11, 2022.
Dennis A. Headrick, Ph.D.	Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (January 7, 2022 – January 1, 2024)	2/14/2022	Reported favorably to the Legislature for confirmation. Confirmed by the Legislature (42-0-5-1) on February 22, 2022.