



Hundredth Legislature - Second Session - 2008
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 990

Chairperson: Ron Raikes
Committee: Education
Date of Hearing: February 19, 2008

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

Legislative Bill 990 would allow a special education student in Nebraska to receive a certificate of attendance and participate in their school's graduation ceremony.

Currently, some school districts may have different policies that would not allow a special education student to participate in a graduation ceremony without the completion of requirements in the students individualized education plan (IEP), or a high school equivalency.

At the request of a parent or guardian, LB 990, would allow any special education student who has reached the age of 17 and has not completed their IEP, to receive a certificate of attendance and participate with their class in a graduation ceremony. A student may receive only one certificate of attendance and participate in only one graduation ceremony base on such certificate. This bill would not prohibit a school district from allowing a student who previously received a certificate of attendance to participate in an additional graduation ceremony when that student receives a high school diploma.

This bill also clarifies that receiving a certificate of attendance does not affect the school district's obligation to continue to provide special education services to such student.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Mark Christensen