

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2010
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB546

Hearing Date: Monday March 09, 2009
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Adams
One Liner: Change school organization provisions

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Adams, Ashford, Avery, Cornett, Giese, Haar, Howard, Sullivan

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Greg Adams
John Bonaiuto
Alan Katzberg
Russ Inbody

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Association of School Boards
Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association
State Board of Education & Nebraska Department of Education

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 546 would reauthorize school district reorganization incentives with a modified formula using the remainder of the funds that were available for previous incentives.

Section 9-812 would be amended by returning any amounts transferred to the Education Innovation Fund back to the School District Reorganization Fund.

Section 9-836.01 would be amended by including the School District Reorganization Fund in the funds that may receive profits from the sale of tangible personal property related to the lottery.

Section 79-1011 would be amended to allow incentives for reorganizations occurring after May 31, 2009 and before June 1, 2011. Applications would have to be filed on or before June 15, 2009 or within 30 days following the issuance of the boundary change order, whichever is later. The required study would need to have been completed prior to the reorganization. The formula for the incentives for each district involved in the reorganization, except districts with 390 or more students, would be changed to equal: \$125,000 [(\$500 x (390 - Average Daily Membership of the District))]. The prior incentive formula for districts with less than 390 students was: ADM x {\$4,000 - [ADM x (3,000/390)]}. Up to 50% of that amount would be paid in the 1st year out of the School District Reorganization Fund. If there is not enough money in the fund, payments would be prorated. The remainder would be paid in the next year after new base year incentives had been paid. The second year payments would also be prorated if there are insufficient funds.

Section 79-1012 would be amended by eliminating transfers from the School District Reorganization Fund to the Education Innovation Fund. Two hundred thousand dollars of the fund had been set aside to provide temporary funding for aggregation routing equipment and network transport costs for Network Nebraska. All of the money in the fund, except the unused portion of the \$200,000, was to have been transferred to the Education Innovation Fund on July 1, 2008. Under current law, the rest of the remaining money is to be transferred on July 1, 2010. With the changes, the remainder of the \$200,000 would remain available for Network Nebraska until June 30, 2010. The rest of the fund would be used for reorganization incentives, including any of the \$200,000 remaining after June 30, 2010.

This measure contains an emergency clause.

Greg Adams, Chairperson