

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 178

Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the Nebraska need-based financial aid program (Nebraska Scholarship Act) that was created by the Nebraska Legislature in 2003 and other issues relating to higher education. The study shall include: (1) A determination of the differences in allocations of state funds to students attending particular sectors of higher education institutions in the state compared to the allocations to students before 2003, and whether those changes were intended and are appropriate in light of changing state policies; (2) a determination of student aid currently available from all sources, including direct and indirect state assistance, federal assistance from financial aid programs, including changes made in the stimulus plan enacted by the United States Congress in 2009, institutional assistance, and private sector assistance, and a comparison with other states' efforts relating to student aid, including eligibility of students attending for-profit colleges; (3) a determination of whether the state's investment in higher education has resulted in an appropriately-educated workforce in Nebraska; (4) an analysis of college graduate migration patterns to and from Nebraska; (5) an analysis of the ability of the state to maintain successful institutions and educational programs in

Nebraska, both public and private nonprofit, in the event that financial resources become more scarce in the future; and (6) an analysis of other issues relating to higher education and higher education financial aid programs in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education and Appropriations Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.