



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 37

Chairperson: Lavon Heidemann
Committee: Appropriations
Date of Hearing: March 3, 2009

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

LB 37 would appropriate operational funds for a new division of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing in Norfolk, Nebraska—specifically \$814,609 from the General Fund for the upcoming fiscal year and \$1,460,724 for FY2010-11. The bill also states it is the intent of the Legislature that the following amounts be appropriated from the General Fund to provide ongoing state operating support: \$1,798,144 for FY2011-12 and \$1,636,573 for FY2012-13.

The prospective College of Nursing will be located on the Northeast Community College campus in Norfolk. Most of the \$11.9 million it will cost to construct and equip the joint state of the art facility has already been raised through private fundraising efforts.

Nebraska is in the midst of a nursing shortage that is expected to intensify as baby boomers age and the need for health care increases. This shortage of qualified nurses threatens the future of quality healthcare in northeast Nebraska and across the State.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Mike Flood