

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB372

Hearing Date: Monday February 07, 2011
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Adams
One Liner: Change provisions relating to postsecondary course and program offerings

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Howard, Schilz, Sullivan, Adams, Avery, Council, Cornett, Haar

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Greg Adams
Marshall Hill

Linda Pratt

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary
Education
University of Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Dennis Baack

Representing:

Community College Association of Nebraska

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 372 would amend role and mission statutes that pertain to authority of the University of Nebraska and community colleges to offer associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

Section 85-943 currently limits the University's authority to offer associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to specified fields, subject to approval by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. The section would be amended to enable the University to offer certificates in additional fields upon approval from the Coordinating Commission if the preponderance of the courses comprising any such certificate are above the associate-degree level. The bill would also replace existing use of the term certificates-in-course with the term certificates.

The bill would also amend section 85-961 to modify the level of courses that comprise associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates awarded by community colleges, in accordance with the changes proposed to section 85-943. Community colleges are currently authorized to award associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates in less than baccalaureate degree program areas. The bill would limit the award of associate degrees, diplomas and certificates by community colleges to those comprised of courses at the associate-degree level or below.

Greg Adams, Chairperson