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 DATE PREPARED: March 29, 2012
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LB 996

Revision: 01

Revised on 3/29/12 based on amendments adopted through 3/28/12.

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2012-13		FY 2013-14	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

LB 996 relates to the mandatory attendance age for children to attend school. The bill eliminates current language allowing a parent or guardian to sign a notarized release discontinuing the enrollment of a child who has reached age sixteen and establishes a new process to withdraw a child who has reached age sixteen from school before graduation. The bill requires schools to conduct an exit interview with the parent, guardian and child. A child may be withdrawn if evidence is presented that the child is withdrawing due to financial hardships requiring the child to work or illness of the child. Children enrolled in schools pursuant to section 79-1601 which do not meet accreditation requirements may file a notarized release form prescribed by the State Department of Education (NDE). Information on withdrawals shall be provided annually to NDE.

Data compiled by NDE shows that 1,911 students, age 16 and above, dropped out of public schools in 2009-10. This equates to approximately .006% of statewide public school enrollment. NDE does not have data showing how many of the dropouts, aged 16 and above, filed a notarized release as a prerequisite to discontinuing enrollment.

It is possible the bill may result in a very minimal increase in student membership beginning in 2012-13. The increase in student membership pursuant to LB 996 is projected to have a minimal impact in terms of increased spending by school districts. However, increases in student membership may result in changes in state aid for school districts. Since the number of students impacted by the bill is projected to be small, any impact on state aid is estimated to be minimal.

NDE will have a minimal increase in workload to prescribe a withdrawal form and collect information on student withdrawals. The department indicates the activities can be handled with existing staff and resources. School districts may have a workload increase to meet with students being withdrawn from schools. It is assumed any workload increase can be absorbed with existing staff.

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LEGISLATIVE FISCAL

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

LB⁽¹⁾ 996 FISCAL NOTE
AM2622

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: (2) Nebraska Department of Education

Prepared by: (3) Brian L. Halstead Date Prepared: (4) 3/20/12 Phone: (5) 402 471-0732

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2012-2013		FY 2013-2014	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	No fiscal impact		No fiscal impact	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate: AM2389 to LB 996 requires the Commissioner of Education to prescribe the form for withdrawal of children older than 16 years of age from school under the Nebraska compulsory attendance law. In addition, the amendment requires NDE to annually either (1) collect the prescribe forms or (2) collect data from school districts pursuant to the Annual Statistical Report required in Section 79-528(2). These requirements can be accomplished within current funding to NDE.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2012-2013	2013-2014
	12-13	13-14	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....				