

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB445

Chairperson: Senator Greg Adams

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 14, 2011

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

Legislative Bill 445 would make technical changes to duties of the State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education.

The bill would amend section 79-318 to eliminate language that provides the State Board of Education with discretion in implementing a statewide system of student testing. The State Board is already required to implement a statewide system of assessment for public school students pursuant to the Quality Education Accountability Act. Section 79-318 would also be amended to eliminate language requiring the State Board to publish laws, rules, and regulations that pertain to governance of school lands and funds. Such laws, rules, and regulations are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds.

The bill would also amend sections 79-1044, 79-1047, and 79-1051 to update language regarding apportionment of federal forest reserve funds, public grazing funds, and flood control funds, respectively. The Commissioner of Education would determine apportionment of each of these funds based on information provided by the United States Department of Interior. The bill would eliminate language requiring the State Treasurer to annually certify to the Commissioner the amount of money received for each fund. The bill would also eliminate language requiring the Board of Educational Lands and Funds to annually certify to the Commissioner the counties entitled to receive forest reserve funds and public grazing funds, along with the number of forest reserve and grazing acres in each county. The bill would also eliminate language requiring the Commissioner to ascertain the counties in which flood control lease rentals were situated.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Greg Adams

