

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB615

Chairman: Senator Greg Adams

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 22, 2011

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

Legislative Bill 615 provides clarification regarding a learning community's data collection, evaluation, and reporting responsibilities as they relate to Neb.Rev.Stat. § 79-2104.02 and § 79-2118 and the annual report to the Education Committee of the Nebraska Legislature.

LB 615 clarifies that a learning community is a local education authority for purposes of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. Learning communities are to collect data necessary to evaluate and measure the progress toward the goals and objectives of the learning community, which goals and objectives shall include closing the academic achievement gap based on socioeconomic status, and the effectiveness of the approaches used by the learning community which include elementary learning centers, pilot programs, open enrollment, and focus schools/programs.

LB 615, also, provides technical clean-up language that more specifically identifies the type of data to be collected to meet compliance with the annual report to the Education Committee of the Nebraska Legislature and better aligns the deadline for the data collection and reporting with current data collection deadlines in place between school districts and the Nebraska Department of Education.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Bob Krist, District 10