

AMENDMENTS TO LB464

(Amendments to AM1674)

Introduced by Ashford

1 1. Insert the following new sections:

2 Sec. 28. Section 79-527.01, Revised Statutes Supplement,
3 2013, is amended to read:

4 79-527.01 (1) (a) The Truancy Intervention Task Force
5 Council on Student Attendance is created. The ~~task force council~~
6 shall consist of:

7 (i) A member of a school board in any class of school
8 district to be appointed by the Governor;

9 (ii) Two parents of children attending school in this
10 state to be appointed by the Governor;

11 (iii) A superintendent of a school district to be
12 appointed by the Governor;

13 ~~(a)~~ (iv) The probation administrator or his or her
14 designee;

15 ~~(b)~~ (v) The Commissioner of Education or his or her
16 designee; and

17 ~~(e)~~ (vi) The chief executive officer of the Department of
18 Health and Human Services or his or her designee.

19 (b) (i) The members of the council appointed by the
20 Governor shall serve six-year terms, except that of the members
21 first appointed pursuant to subdivisions (1)(a)(i) through (iii)
22 of this subsection, one shall serve an initial two-year term,

1 one shall serve an initial four-year term, and one shall serve
2 an initial six-year term from January 1 next succeeding their
3 appointments. Thereafter, all members shall serve six-year terms. A
4 member may be reappointed at the expiration of his or her term. Any
5 vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be
6 filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as
7 the original appointment.

8 (ii) No member shall serve beyond the time when he or
9 she holds the office, employment, or status by reason of which he
10 or she was initially eligible for appointment. Any member of the
11 council appointed by the Governor may be removed from the council
12 for cause upon notice and an opportunity to be heard at a public
13 hearing. One of the causes for removal shall be absence from three
14 regularly scheduled meetings of the council during any six-month
15 period when the member has failed to advise the council in advance
16 of such meeting that he or she will be absent and stating a reason
17 for the absence.

18 (iii) The chairperson of the council shall be designated
19 by the Governor to serve as chairperson at the pleasure of the
20 Governor. The chairperson shall be the chief executive officer of
21 the council but may delegate such of his or her duties to other
22 members of the council as may be authorized by the council.

23 (iv) Notwithstanding any provision of law, ordinance, or
24 charter provision to the contrary, membership on the council shall
25 not disqualify any member from holding any other public office or
26 employment or cause the forfeiture of such office.

27 (v) The members of the council shall serve on the council

1 without any additional compensation, but they shall be entitled to
2 receive reimbursement for any actual expenses incurred as necessary
3 incident to such service as provided in sections 81-1174 to
4 81-1177.

5 (vi) Four members of the council shall constitute a
6 quorum for the transaction of any business or the exercise of any
7 power of the council. The council shall have the power to act by a
8 majority of the members present at any meeting at which a quorum is
9 in attendance.

10 (vii) All appointments for members of the council added
11 by subdivisions (1) (a) (i) through (iii) of this subsection shall be
12 made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this
13 act.

14 (2) ~~The task force council shall: study~~

15 (a) Study and evaluate the data contained in the reports
16 required by subsection (2) of section 79-527; and shall develop

17 (b) Develop recommendations to reduce incidents of
18 excessive absenteeism;--

19 (c) Consider whether school district policies and
20 practices for addressing truancy and absenteeism are operational
21 and effectively working to address truancy and make recommendations
22 for improvements where necessary; and

23 (d) Review all school district policies developed under
24 subsection (2) of section 79-209 and make specific recommendations
25 for school district policy improvement.

26 ~~The task force council may contact a school district or~~
27 ~~a county attorney for additional information in order to carry~~

1 out its duties under this section. The task force shall report
2 electronically to the Legislature on or before October 1 of each
3 year.

4 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate
5 two million dollars to the State Department of Education for
6 the purposes of funding grants to school districts in order to
7 reduce absenteeism and truancy in Nebraska. The grants shall be
8 used solely to develop, implement, and fund programs regarding
9 absenteeism and truancy in order to foster school attendance. The
10 department shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the
11 grant application and distribution process by December 15, 2014.

12 (4) The council shall report on its activities
13 electronically to the Legislature on or before October 1 of each
14 year.

15 Sec. 29. Section 79-2121, Revised Statutes Cumulative
16 Supplement, 2012, is amended to read:

17 79-2121 The superintendents of any school districts that
18 are members of a learning community shall develop and participate
19 in a plan by August 1, 2011, to reduce excessive absenteeism
20 including a process to share information regarding at-risk
21 youth with the goal of improving educational outcomes, providing
22 effective interventions that impact risk factors, and reducing
23 unnecessary penetration deeper into the juvenile justice system.
24 For purposes of this section, at-risk youth means children who are
25 under the supervision of the Office of Probation Administration,
26 are committed to the care, custody, or supervision of the
27 Department of Health and Human Services, are otherwise involved in

1 the juvenile justice system, or have been absent from school for
2 more than five days per quarter or the hourly equivalent except
3 when excused by school authorities or when a ~~documented~~ an illness
4 makes attendance impossible or impracticable.

5 2. On page 61, line 20; and page 63, line 10, strike
6 "documented" and show as stricken.

7 3. On page 63, line 10, after "illness" insert "as
8 determined by school district policy,"; and in line 12 strike
9 "may", show as stricken, and insert "shall not".

10 4. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the
11 repealer accordingly.