

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2015**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB355**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday March 02, 2015  
**Committee On:** Education  
**Introducer:** Morfeld  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to certain education funding as prescribed

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Indefinitely postponed

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	7	Senators Baker, Cook, Groene, Kolowski, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Sullivan
<b>Nay:</b>	1	Senator Schnoor
<b>Absent:</b>		
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Adam Morfeld  
Deana Unger  
Vicki Kucera  
Chris Schwaderer  
Jodi Kupper  
RaShar Bibbs  
Matt Johnson  
Jacob Wollam  
Jeremy Brunssen  
Mike Baumgartner  
Tip O'Neill

**Representing:**

Introducer  
University of Nebraska  
Central Community College  
University of Nebraska  
Nebraska State College System  
University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Nebraska Association of Financial Aid Administrators  
self  
Kaplan University  
Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education  
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Legislative Bill 355 would continue providing the current allocation of lottery funds to Nebraska Opportunity Grants. The postsecondary education need based aid program is currently funded from both the lottery and the state General Fund and receives 24.75% of the available lottery funds after the payment of prizes and operating expenses and the initial transfer for compulsive gamblers assistance. The lottery funding is set to expire, along with all other uses of lottery funding for educational purposes, on June 30, 2016.

Section 9-812 would be amended to remove the end date for the transfers to the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund.

Section 85-1920 would also be amended to reflect the continuation of transfers of lottery funds into the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund and to remove the termination date for the Fund, which does not receive the state General Fund

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appropriation for the program.

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Kate Sullivan, Chairperson