

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - First Session - 2015

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB380

Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: March 03, 2015

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

LB 380 creates the Higher Education Affordability Commission.

The Commission shall create a ten year plan to address college affordability; draft a legislative proposal to create a pilot program; give recommendations to the overall issue of access to and affordability of postsecondary education in Nebraska.

The Commission will include six voting members of the Legislature (Speaker of the Legislature, one member each of the Education, Revenue and Appropriations Committees; 2 at large members); Four nonvoting representatives of higher education (President of the University of Nebraska system or his or her designee; Chancellor of the Nebraska State College system or his or her designee; a representative of the private, not for profit colleges and universities; and a representative of the Nebraska community college system). The executive committee may appoint up to two additional nonvoting members of the commission.

The Commission is charged with analyzing data and information regarding affordability for postsecondary education in Nebraska; to research best practices from other states; and to encourage participation from financial aid advisers and the banking community to explore strategies and solutions to the increasing cost of higher education.

The Commission shall issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council and the Education and Appropriations Committees of the Legislature on or before December 1, 2015.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Adam Morfeld

