

LEGISLATIVE BILL 911

Approved by the Governor March 22, 1974

Introduced by Anderson, 37

AN ACT relating to education; to establish an education assistance program for Nebraska citizens attending optometry schools outside the State of Nebraska; to establish procedures; to make an appropriation; and to declare an emergency. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. There is hereby established the Nebraska Optometry Education Assistance Contract Program for the purpose of providing opportunities for citizens of this state desiring to pursue study in the field of optometry at accredited schools and colleges outside the state.

Sec. 2. The program established by section 1 of this act shall be administered by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. The board shall adopt appropriate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this act and negotiate contract arrangements with accredited schools and colleges of optometry, as provided in section 71-1,136, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, for the admission and education of qualified applicants who are citizens of Nebraska and who have demonstrated their interest, aptitude, and readiness for study in the field of optometry. The board shall require reports each year from institutions receiving payments showing the progress and suitability of each student being aided and containing such other information as the board may deem proper.

Sec. 3. The total number of students receiving annual financial payments made under this act shall not exceed sixty students during any school year. No more than fifteen of these students shall be students enrolling in a college of optometry for their first year of instruction.

Sec. 4. Financial assistance under this act shall be continued not to exceed four years until the enrolled student has received a degree in optometry. Contracts with schools and colleges shall set forth terms and provisions for continuation of such payments.

Sec. 5. There is hereby appropriated to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska from the

General Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of forty-five thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose of administering the education assistance program provided for in section 1 of this act.

Sec. 6. Since an emergency exists, this act shall be in full force and take effect, from and after its passage and approval, according to law.