

# One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

## Introducer's Statement of Intent

### LB1055

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**Chairperson: Senator Dave Murman**

**Committee: Education**

**Date of Hearing: February 13, 2024**

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

LB1055 would require the State Department of Education to create a professional learning system to provide professional learning and training in reading for teachers and early child educators. The Department would also work alongside educational service units to provide regional coaches to give assistance and training in teaching reading to teachers who teach students from kindergarten through 5th grade. The bill would appropriate \$10 million from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for these purposes.

LB1055 would also require the Department of Education to work alongside adult education providers to develop, administer, and support voluntary adult education and literacy programming. The bill would appropriate \$2 million from the General Fund to the State Department of Education for this purpose.

LB1055 also creates the Literacy Steering Committee, which will contract with a third party in order to conduct a comprehensive literacy-needs assessment for Nebraska and develop a strategic action plan. The committee will report to the Legislature the strategic action plan by December 1st, 2024, and provide a report every December 1st thereafter relating to the implementation of the strategic action plan and any updates needed.

Finally, LB1055 would require the State Department of Education to employ a literacy coordinator to oversee the professional learning system, advise early childhood educators relating to early literacy matters, and monitor and assist with implementation of the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act, the adult education and literacy programming, and the strategic action plan.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Lynne Walz**