

LEGISLATIVE BILL 970

Approved by the Governor April 10, 1984

Introduced by Vickers, 38; Haberman, 44; Scofield, 49; Lundy, 36; Kahle, 37; H. Peterson, 35; Remmers, 1; Hefner, 19; Von Minden, 17; Kilgarin, 7; Carsten, 2; Clark, 47; R. Johnson, 34; Barrett, 39; Chronister, 18; V. Johnson, 8

AN ACT relating to state colleges; to amend sections 85-941, 85-951, 85-954 to 85-956, and 85-958, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943; to authorize certain master's programs as prescribed; to create a joint advisory committee; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 85-941, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-941. The University of Nebraska shall have sole responsibility for all graduate programs at the specialist and master's degree level and all baccalaureate professional programs throughout the public sector of postsecondary education in Nebraska; with the exception of programs in education and other areas authorized by the Legislature at the four state colleges. The University of Nebraska shall have primary responsibility for instruction in agriculture and natural resources and primary statewide responsibility for research and public service in agriculture and natural resources. All baccalaureate and baccalaureate transfer programs in agriculture and natural resources initiated after July 1, 1978, at state colleges and technical community colleges, shall be conducted in cooperation with the University of Nebraska.

Sec. 2. That section 85-951, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-951. The state colleges, collectively and individually, shall have as their first instructional priority the provision of baccalaureate general academic, baccalaureate occupational, and baccalaureate professional degree programs in education. The colleges' second instructional priority shall be master's programs in education and other areas authorized by the Legislature. Such colleges' third priority shall be the continuation and development of applied research and public service activities. The colleges' fourth priority

shall be the awarding of the specialist degree in education.

Sec. 3. That section 85-954, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-954. ~~New master's degree programs shall be limited to these in education:~~ The colleges are encouraged to develop master's level curriculum in educational technology and to explore innovative new areas for master's level instruction in the field of education. The state colleges may deliver, in ~~cooperation~~ consultation with the University of Nebraska, graduate courses in business to meet regional needs.

The state colleges and the University of Nebraska shall establish a joint advisory committee to ensure coordinated program development and delivery in offering the master's degree in business administration. Such joint advisory committee shall meet not later than June 15, 1984.

The joint advisory committee shall be composed of the following individuals or their designees: Two members of the Nebraska Board of Regents; two members of the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges; the presidents of the University of Nebraska, Kearney State College, Wayne State College, and Chadron State College; the chancellors of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha; and the dean or head of business colleges or business divisions of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Kearney State College, Wayne State College, and Chadron State College. The Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education shall provide staff services and assistance to the advisory committee.

The joint advisory committee shall conduct a study of options available to the state in making master of business administration degree programs available on a statewide basis. The study shall address the following factors: (1) Access to master of business administration degree programs in all areas of the state; (2) the needs of all areas of the state for master of business administration degree programs; (3) the cost effectiveness of different methods of making master of business administration programs available on a statewide basis, including any additional personnel and software costs; (4) the resources currently available at the University of Nebraska and the state colleges for providing the services necessary to offer master of business administration programs; and (5) any other factors relevant to the goal of ensuring coordinated program development and delivery of a master of business administration program or programs on a statewide basis.

The joint advisory committee shall prepare a report for delivery to a joint meeting of the Legislature's Education and Appropriations Committees to be held not

later than September 15, 1984, stating the options considered and making a recommendation or recommendations for a system to deliver master of business administration programs on a statewide basis in a coordinated and cost-efficient fashion.

On September 16, 1984, the membership of all members initially appointed to the joint advisory committee shall terminate. On or before September 20, 1984, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska shall each appoint not more than four members to serve on the advisory committee.

Sec. 4. That section 85-955, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-955. Kearney State College may maintain its existing baccalaureate general academic, baccalaureate occupational, and baccalaureate professional degree programs, and shall limit new baccalaureate degree programs to the needs of its unique service area generally defined as the state's central region. Kearney State College shall not independently award the master's degree in business administration after September 17, 1980. Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of Nebraska State Colleges, Kearney State College may independently award the master's degree in business administration.

Sec. 5. That section 85-956, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-956. Chadron State College may maintain its existing baccalaureate general academic, baccalaureate occupational, and baccalaureate professional degree programs, and shall limit new baccalaureate degree programs to the needs of its unique service area generally defined as the state's western region. Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of Nebraska State Colleges, Chadron State College may independently award the master's degree in business administration.

Sec. 6. That section 85-958, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-958. Wayne State College may maintain its existing baccalaureate general academic, baccalaureate occupational, and baccalaureate professional degree programs, and shall limit new baccalaureate degree programs to the needs of its unique service area generally defined as the state's northeast region. Subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of Nebraska State Colleges, Wayne State College may independently award the master's degree in business administration.

Sec. 7. Sections 3 and 9 of this act shall become operative on the effective date of this act. The remaining sections shall become operative on January 1, 1985.

Sec. 8. That original sections 85-941, 85-951, 85-955, 85-956, and 85-958, Reissue Revised Statutes of

Nebraska, 1943, are repealed.

Sec. 9. That original section 85-954, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, is repealed.

Sec. 10. Since an emergency exists, this act shall be in full force and take effect, from and after its passage and approval, according to law.