

LEGISLATIVE BILL 927

Approved by the Governor February 3, 1988

Introduced by Labeledz, 5, Chairperson, Executive Board

AN ACT relating to postsecondary education; to amend sections 85-910, 85-937, 85-974, and 85-9,105, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943; to change references to the system which provides educational data as prescribed; and to repeal the original sections.

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

Section 1. That section 85-910, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-910. The commission shall have and may exercise the following powers and duties:

(1) To exercise exclusive general supervision of the administration and enforcement of this section and all rules and regulations adopted and promulgated thereunder;

(2) To facilitate communication and coordination for the mutual exchange of ideas and information between educational institutions in such areas as:

(a) The sharing of resources, expertise, and facilities among institutions or agencies; and

(b) The establishing of plans, practices, procedures, and policies on matters which affect more than one institution or agency;

(3) To encourage, participate in, and conduct studies, investigations, and research related to the purposes for which the commission was created;

(4) To utilize data from the Higher Education General Information Survey and postsecondary education information system authorized by sections 85-968 to 85-979 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System to analyze and project statewide and institutional sector trends in enrollment, degrees for academic programs, faculty and staff, finances, and facilities on a uniform basis and a regular schedule;

(5) To accept and administer loans, grants, and programs from the federal or state government and from other sources, public and private, for carrying out any of its functions, which loans and grants shall not be expended for any other than the purposes for which

provided, and to determine institutional eligibility for such loans, grants, and programs when such determination is to be made by the administering state agency, which loans and grants shall not be expended unless approved and appropriated by the Legislature;

(6) To establish close liaison with the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education:

(a) In recognition of the need for close coordination of activities between elementary-secondary education and postsecondary education; and

(b) In connection with the board's responsibilities for granting permits for the operation of correspondence schools, privately owned business or trade schools, or other educational institutions under Chapter 79, article 28, whenever any correspondence school, business school, or vocational school offers any course which is intended to lead to the granting of an associate degree, or courses which qualify for college credit, and to make such recommendations with reference to the granting of permits to such institutions as may be appropriate in the individual circumstances; and

(7) To advise, consult, and cooperate with other agencies of this state, the federal government, other states, affected institutions or groups, and political subdivisions to further the purposes of this section.

Sec. 2. That section 85-937, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-937. The University of Nebraska shall have sole responsibility for doctoral degree programs, first professional degree programs, cooperative agricultural extension programs, and other degree programs and services specifically provided for by law. The first professional degrees, as defined in the Higher Education General Information Survey by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, offered by the University of Nebraska shall be medicine, law, dentistry, and pharmacy.

Sec. 3. That section 85-974, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-974. The commission shall:

(1) Review and verify all information submitted by public postsecondary systems and institutions as part of the Higher Education General Information Survey Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and make such corrections in the submitted

information as are necessary;

(2) Prepare and disseminate an annual report of the information submitted by each public postsecondary system and institution and those private institutions willing to cooperate as part of the Higher Education General Information Survey Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; and

(3) Assist the Legislature in developing and maintaining its postsecondary education information system, specifically to provide information on facilities utilization and an inventory of facilities.

Sec. 4. That section 85-9,105, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-9,105. The Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations governing the process by which information shall be received from each postsecondary institution and transmitted to the Legislature. To the maximum extent possible, the commission shall make use of information made available by the state's postsecondary institutions through the Higher Education General Information Survey Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and the Nebraska educational data system established by the Legislature. The coordinating commission shall establish an ongoing system of program review. The goal of such system shall be to provide for the review of all instructional programs every five years on a rotating basis. The commission shall take into account existing accreditation cycles and internal review time frames when establishing such program review system.

Sec. 5. That original sections 85-910, 85-937, 85-974, and 85-9,105, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, are repealed.