

AMENDMENTS TO LB 495

1 1. Insert the following new sections:

2 "Section 13. Sections 13 to 20 of this act shall be
3 known and may be cited as the Nebraska Youth Mentoring Act.

4 Sec. 14. The Legislature finds:

5 (1) The Nebraska Youth Mentoring Act is a comprehensive
6 program to increase Nebraska's collective capacity for youth
7 mentoring in Nebraska;

8 (2) The act will expand and promote successful youth
9 mentoring and skill-building programs which provide effective
10 mentoring services to young people in the state who are at risk for
11 alcohol and other drug use, teen pregnancy, school failure or
12 dropping out of school, and juvenile delinquency;

13 (3) The act will provide the necessary resources to
14 expand these and similar recognized programs and to create new
15 youth mentoring programs; and

16 (4) The goal of the act is to establish at least ten
17 thousand new, sustained mentoring relationships by December 31,
18 2003.

19 Sec. 15. For purposes of the Nebraska Youth Mentoring
20 Act, mentoring means a structured relationship pursuant to an
21 approved mentoring program (1) between a youth and an adult who
22 offers support, guidance, and education and (2) which shall not
23 replace or substitute for parental authority and support but shall
24 augment existing parental and community supports available to the

1 youth.

2 Sec. 16. The State Board of Education shall implement
3 the Nebraska Youth Mentoring Act. The board shall:

4 (1) Assist with the creation and ongoing support of
5 recognized youth mentoring programs and networks;

6 (2) Annually distribute funds appropriated to the board
7 by the Legislature to carry out the act as grants to youth
8 mentoring programs and community or multi-community youth mentoring
9 networks according to the following guidelines:

10 (a) Receipt of grants is contingent upon program
11 implementation of recognized quality standards that promote youth
12 skill-building and safety, mentor training and competence, and
13 overall program success; and

14 (b) Recipients shall track, monitor, and evaluate the
15 youth mentoring programs according to standards approved by the
16 board and shall submit results to the board annually;

17 (3) Provide funding and support for a youth mentoring web
18 page, a youth mentoring program directory, a youth mentoring
19 database and library, and youth mentor training;

20 (4) Annually report to the Governor and the Legislature
21 on programs pursuant to the act;

22 (5) Assign responsibility to educational service units to
23 develop a mentor training program for approval by the board; and

24 (6) Promote support among state agency directors for
25 state employees to become involved as volunteer mentors.

26 Sec. 17. The Nebraska State Patrol shall provide state
27 screening and state criminal history record information checks on

1 volunteer mentors at no cost to the youth mentoring program or
2 regional or community youth mentoring network.

3 Sec. 18. The Legislature finds that outstanding
4 volunteer and mentor service should be encouraged and recognized.
5 For that purpose, the Governor is authorized to provide an award,
6 to be known as the Governor's Award for Excellence in Volunteer and
7 Mentor Service, to recognize outstanding volunteer or mentor
8 service for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1999-2000.
9 The State Board of Education shall transmit a final list of
10 nominees to the Governor for his or her consideration.

11 Sec. 19. The State Board of Education shall adopt and
12 promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Nebraska Youth
13 Mentoring Act.

14 Sec. 20. It is the intent of the Legislature to annually
15 appropriate \$2,200,000 to the State Board of Education to carry out
16 the Nebraska Youth Mentoring Act. These funds shall be distributed
17 to applicants and educational service units by the State Board of
18 Education."

19 2. In the Stuhr amendment, AM0875, on page 7, line 18,
20 strike beginning with "up" through "fund", show the old matter as
21 stricken, and insert "of the remaining five percent, two million
22 two hundred thousand dollars annually shall be allocated to carry
23 out section 20 of this act and the rest".

24 3. Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.