



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2002  
Committee Statement  
LB 987

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**Hearing Date:** January 22, 2002  
**Committee On:** Education

**Introducer(s):** (Kristensen)

**Title:** Establish the Warner School of Excellence at the University of Nebraska at Kearney

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**Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

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**Vote Results:**

7	Yes	Senators Maxwell, Price, Stuhr, Raikes, Wickersham, Suttle, Coordsen
1	No	Senator Brashear
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

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**Proponents:**

Senator Doug Kristensen  
Christopher L. Exstrom  
Lucas Swartzendruber  
John Falconer  
Peter Longo

**Representing:**

Introducer  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
University of Nebraska at Kearney

**Opponents:**

D'Anne Welch

**Representing:**

Self

**Neutral:**

Joel Scherling

**Representing:**

Excellence in Education Council

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

Legislative Bill 987 would create the Warner School of Excellence. The purpose of the school would be to provide extracurricular programming for high school juniors and seniors. The school would be hosted by the University of Nebraska at Kearney (U.N.K.).

A committee would oversee implementation of the school. The committee would consist of the following members:

1. The chancellor of U.N.K.;
  2. The senior vice-chancellor for academic affairs at U.N.K.;
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3. The Commissioner of Education;
4. The Honors Program Director of U.N.K.;
5. 1 member of the Legislature, appointed by the Executive Board;
6. 1 high school teacher, appointed by the Executive Board; and
7. 2 members at large, each of whom has at least one child in high school, appointed by the Legislature.

Members appointed by the Legislature would serve 2 year terms. All members would be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses.

The committee would meet at the call of the chairperson, who is designated as the chancellor of U.N.K. The committee would set the curriculum and requirements for acceptance. The school would be required to hold at least one program annually.

Funding would be a combination of funds allocated from the lottery, private donations, and funds provided by U.N.K. The program would be free to participating students, except that the school would be allowed to charge reasonable fees and to charge for meals.

Section 9-812 would be amended by transferring 1% of the Education Innovation Fund that is currently allocated by the Governor to the Warner School of Excellence beginning with 2003-04.

The act would become operative on July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

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**Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson**