



**Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Committee Statement
LB 419**

Hearing Date: January 27, 2005
Committee On: Judiciary

Introducer(s): (Connealy, Flood)
Title: Create the Legal Education for Public Service Loan Repayment Act

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- X Advanced to General File
 - Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes No Present, not voting	Senator Aguilar, Bourne, Chambers, Combs, Flood, Foley, Friend
1	Absent	Senator Pedersen

Proponents:

Senator Matt Connealy
Doug German
Annette Farnan
Carla DeVelder

Milo Mumgaard

Representing:

Introducer
Legal Aid of Nebraska
Legal Aid of Nebraska
University of Nebraska College of Law
Creighton University Law School
Nebraska Appleseed Center

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Legislative Bill 419 creates a program for the repayment of education debt of attorneys who perform public legal services. Specifically, the bill creates the Legal Education for Public Service Loan Repayment Board (Board). The Board is charged with developing the rules to govern the loan repayment program. The Board is to recommend such rules to the Commission on Public Advocacy (Commission) which shall administer the program.

The Board shall be comprised of the director of Nebraska Legal Services, the deans of Creighton and University of Nebraska Lincoln law schools, a student from each school, a member of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association, a member of the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, a member of the Nebraska Bar Association and the chief counsel of the Commission.

The Commission may solicit and receive donations from various sources to secure funding for the loan forgiveness program.

The Commission rules established shall include that recipients shall be full-time, salaried attorneys who work for a governmental unit or tax-exempt charitable organization. Under the program proposed by the bill, eligible participants would initially receive up to six thousand dollars annually in repayment of their loans.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Patrick J. Bourne, Chairperson