

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION -  
2008**

**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**

**LB879**

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**Hearing Date:** February 11, 2008

**Committee On:** Education

**Introducer(s):** (Kopplin)

**Title:** Provide for a construction, expansion, and alteration adjustment in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act

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

Indefinitely Postponed

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**Vote Results:**

7 Yes	Senators Adams, Avery, Burling, Howard, Johnson, Kopplin, Raikes
0 No	
1 Absent	Senator Ashford
0 Present, not voting	

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**Proponents:**

Senator Gail Kopplin  
Kevin Riley  
Jay Sears

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Gretna Public Schools  
Nebraska State Education Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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

Legislative Bill 879 would modify the state aid formula for schools by providing for a construction, expansion, or alteration adjustment beginning with aid for 2009-10.

School districts could apply for a construction, expansion, or alteration adjustment to the Department of Education on or before October 15th of the school fiscal year immediately preceding the year for which aid is being calculated. If the square footage utilized for instructional purposes either will increase during the year for which aid is being calculated or has increased during the prior year, the application would be approved and the department would notify the district of the approval or denial on or before the following November 15th. The adjustment would equal the statewide average general fund operating expenditures per formula student multiplied by either:

1. For the first school fiscal year the space will be used for instructional purposes, 20% of the architectural capacity of the construction, expansion, or alteration based on 25 students per classroom; or
2. For the second school fiscal year the space will be used for instructional purposes, 10% of the architectural capacity of the construction, expansion, or alteration based on 25 students per classroom.

Section 79-1007.02 would be amended by including the construction, expansion, or alteration adjustment in the calculation of formula needs beginning with the 2009-10 school fiscal year.

Section 79-1001 would be amended by including the new provisions in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act.

**Explanation of amendments, if any:**

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Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson