

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

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB990

Hearing Date: February 19, 2008

Committee On: Education

Introducer(s): (Christensen)

Title: Provide for a certificate of attendance for certain students as prescribed

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7 Yes Senators Adams, Avery, Burling, Howard, Johnson,
Kopplin, Raikes

0 No

1 Absent Senator Ashford

0 Present, not voting

Proponents:

Senator Mark Christensen

Mary Ann Filipi

Jay Sears

Cynthia Collins

Larry Lee Randolph

Lynne Kinne

Representing:

Introducer

Self

Nebraska State Education Association

Self

Self

Self; McCook Public Schools; Educational
Service Unit #15

Kelly Buck
Rita Skiles

Jamie L. Garner
Sheila Benson
Sheldon Skelcher

Opponents:

Neutral:

Holdrege Public Schools
Educational Service Unit #11 Region III
Developmental Disabilities Council
Educational Service Unit #15
Self
Legal Aid of Nebraska

Representing:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or change:

Legislative Bill 990 would allow a parent or guardian to request that a school district issue a certificate of attendance to a special education student who is at least 17 and who has not completed his or her individualized education plan (IEP). The district would allow the student receiving the certificate to participate in the high school graduation ceremony with students receiving high school diplomas. A student would only be allowed to receive one certificate and participate in one ceremony. The receipt of a certificate of attendance would not affect a school district's obligation to continue providing special education services to the student.

The student would not be precluded from receiving a high school diploma by meeting the graduation requirements in § 79-729 or in his or her IEP or receiving a diploma of high school equivalency. Section 79-729 provides that graduating students must have a minimum of 200 credit hours with 80% in core curriculum areas, unless otherwise indicated in an IEP. The district could also allow a student who has previously participated in a graduation ceremony based on a certificate of attendance to participate in an additional ceremony when the student receives a high school diploma.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson