

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 476

FINAL READING

Introduced by Stuthman, 22; Sullivan, 41; Mello, 5; Wallman, 30;
Dubas, 34.

Read first time January 20, 2009

Committee: Education

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to education; to adopt the Center for Student
2 Leadership and Extended Learning Act; to repeal the
3 Career Education Partnership Act; to provide an operative
4 date; to outright repeal sections 79-763, 79-764, 79-765,
5 79-766, 79-767, and 79-768, Reissue Revised Statutes of
6 Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.
7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 4 of this act shall be known
2 and may be cited as the Center for Student Leadership and Extended
3 Learning Act.

4 Sec. 2. (1) The Legislature finds that:

5 (a) Since 1928, Nebraska students have benefited from
6 participation in career education student organizations such as
7 Nebraska FFA, Family Career and Community Leaders of America
8 (FCCLA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Skills USA,
9 Nebraska DECA, and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA);

10 (b) Research conducted in 2007 by the National Research
11 Center for Career and Technical Education has documented a
12 positive association between career education student organizations
13 participation and academic motivation, academic engagement, grades,
14 career self-efficacy, college aspirations, and employability
15 skills;

16 (c) Long-term sustainability of the state associations
17 of career education student organizations has a positive impact on
18 Nebraska students and is in the best interests of the economic
19 well-being of the State of Nebraska;

20 (d) Students in Nebraska schools should have
21 opportunities to acquire academic, technical, and employability
22 knowledge and skills needed to meet the demands of a global
23 economy;

24 (e) Students benefit from the opportunities provided by
25 career education student organizations to develop and demonstrate

1 leadership skills that prepare them for civic, economic, and
2 entrepreneurial leadership roles;

3 (f) Students benefit from engaging in extended-learning
4 experiences outside their normal classrooms that allow them to
5 apply their knowledge and skill in real-world situations;

6 (g) There is a need to establish and expand strategies
7 and programs that enable young people to be college-ready and
8 career-ready, build assets, and remain as productive citizens in
9 their communities; and

10 (h) There is a need to establish a statewide structure
11 that supports existing and emerging curriculum and program
12 offerings with student leadership development opportunities and
13 experiences.

14 (2) The Legislature recognizes that Nebraska must
15 provide opportunities to educate young people with leadership
16 and employability skills to (a) meet the needs of business and
17 industry and remain economically viable, (b) educate and nurture
18 future entrepreneurs for successful business ventures to diversify
19 and strengthen our economic base, (c) foster rewarding personal
20 development experiences that involve students in their communities
21 and encourage them to return to their communities after completing
22 postsecondary education, and (d) invest in and support the
23 leadership development of our future state and community civic
24 leaders.

25 Sec. 3. For purposes of the Center for Student Leadership

1 and Extended Learning Act:

2 (1) Career and technical education means educational
3 programs that support the development of knowledge and skill in
4 the following areas: Agriculture, food, and natural resources;
5 architecture and construction; arts, audiovisual, technology, and
6 communication; business management and administration; education
7 and training; finance; government and public administration; health
8 science; hospitality and tourism; human services; information
9 technology; law, public safety, and security; marketing;
10 manufacturing; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
11 and transportation, distribution, and logistics;

12 (2) Career education student organization means an
13 organization for individuals enrolled in a career and technical
14 education program that engages career and technical education
15 activities as an integral part of the instructional program; and

16 (3) Extended learning means activities and programs that
17 expand opportunities for students to participate in educational
18 activities outside the normal classroom.

19 Sec. 4. The purpose of the Center for Student Leadership
20 and Extended Learning Act is to provide state support for
21 establishing and maintaining within the State Department of
22 Education the Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning.
23 The center shall provide ongoing financial and administrative
24 support for state leadership and administration of Nebraska
25 career education student organizations, create and coordinate

1 opportunities for students to participate in educational activities
2 outside the normal classroom, and partner with state and local
3 organizations to share research and identify best practices that
4 can be disseminated to schools and community organizations.

5 Sec. 5. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2009.

6 Sec. 6. The following sections are outright repealed:
7 Sections 79-763, 79-764, 79-765, 79-766, 79-767, and 79-768,
8 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

9 Sec. 7. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
10 when passed and approved according to law.