

One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 103

Chairperson:	Greg Adams
Committee:	Education
Date of Hearing:	January 27, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 103 would raise thresholds at which expenditures by postsecondary institutions on capital construction projects are subject to review and approval.

The bill would amend section 85-408 to increase the amount that could be expended from a surplus or replacement fund by the Board of Regents or the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges without a review by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and approval by the Legislature. This section currently requires Coordinating Commission review and legislative approval of any expenditure from such funds exceeding \$500,000 for the purchase of facilities for student housing, athletics, student and faculty unions, student medical and activity centers, and parking. The bill would raise the threshold to \$1 million.

The bill would also amend section 85-1402 to change expenditure thresholds for capital construction projects of postsecondary educational institutions subject to review, monitoring, and approval by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. This section currently requires Coordinating Commission review and approval of any capital construction project that is either 1) funded in whole or in part by at least \$500,000 in tax funds designated by the Legislature or 2) expected to incur an annual increase in expenditure of tax funds of at least \$75,000 for operations and maintenance. The bill would increase these thresholds to \$2 million and \$85,000, respectively. Section 2 also limits adjustment of these thresholds due to inflationary or market factors to only the threshold for operations and maintenance costs. Both thresholds are currently adjusted by the Coordinating Commission on a biennial basis.

**Principal Introducer:** 

**Senator Greg Adams**