



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 440

Chairperson: Greg Adams
Committee: Education
Date of Hearing: Monday, March 2, 2009

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

LB 440 seeks to harmonize provisions of the Student Diversity Scholarship Act with Section 30, Article 1, of the Nebraska Constitution which was enacted by the citizens in the 2008 election as Initiative 424.

The current Nebraska Constitution prohibits discrimination against, or preferences for individuals based on race or ethnicity. Because of that provision, there is a concern that the current language of the Student Diversity Scholarship Act might not be consistent with the Constitution.

LB 440 strikes references to racial, ethnic and cultural diversity. It maintains a commitment to diversity, but provides that related efforts are to be undertaken "in accordance with state and federal law."

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Brenda Council