

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 558

Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

Read first time January 19, 2011

Committee: Education

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to amend section 79-769, Reissue
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
3 relating to focus schools and focus programs; to
4 harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original section.
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 79-769, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 79-769 (1) Any one or more member school districts of a
4 learning community may establish one or more focus programs, focus
5 schools, or magnet schools, ~~pursuant to the diversity plan developed~~
6 ~~by the learning community coordinating council.~~

7 (2) Focus schools, focus programs, and magnet schools may
8 be included in pathways across member school districts pursuant to
9 the diversity plan developed by the learning community coordinating
10 council pursuant to section 79-2104. If included as part of the
11 diversity plan of a learning community, the focus school or focus
12 program shall be eligible for a focus school and program allowance
13 pursuant to section 79-1007.05.

14 ~~(3) If multiple member school districts collaborate on a~~
15 ~~focus program, focus school, or magnet school, one member school~~
16 ~~district shall be designated as the primary school district. The~~
17 ~~primary school district shall maintain legal, financial, and academic~~
18 ~~responsibility for such focus program, focus school, or magnet~~
19 ~~school.~~

20 ~~(4)~~(3) For purposes of this section:

21 (a) Focus program means a program that does not have an
22 attendance area, whose enrollment is designed so that the
23 socioeconomic diversity of the students attending the focus program
24 reflects as nearly as possible the socioeconomic diversity of the
25 student body of the learning community, which has a unique curriculum

1 with specific learning goals or teaching techniques different from
2 the standard curriculum, which may be housed in a building with other
3 public school programs, and which may consist of either the complete
4 education program for participating students or part of the education
5 program for participating students;

6 (b) Focus school means a school that does not have an
7 attendance area, whose enrollment is designed so that the
8 socioeconomic diversity of the students attending the focus school
9 reflects as nearly as possible the socioeconomic diversity of the
10 student body of the learning community, which has a unique curriculum
11 with specific learning goals or teaching techniques different from
12 the standard curriculum, and which is housed in a building that does
13 not contain another public school program;

14 (c) Magnet school means a school having a home attendance
15 area but which reserves a portion of its capacity specifically for
16 students from outside the attendance area who will contribute to the
17 socioeconomic diversity of the student body of such school and which
18 has a unique curriculum with specific learning goals or teaching
19 techniques different from the standard curriculum; and

20 (d) Pathway means elementary, middle, and high school
21 focus programs, focus schools, and magnet schools with coordinated
22 curricula based on specific learning goals or teaching techniques.

23 Sec. 2. Original section 79-769, Reissue Revised Statutes
24 of Nebraska, is repealed.