

**ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2014**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB872**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday January 27, 2014  
**Committee On:** Education  
**Introducer:** Kolowski  
**One Liner:** Create the position of state school security director and provide duties

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Avery, Cook, Davis, Kolowski, Scheer, Seiler, Sullivan  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:** 1 Senator Haar  
**Present Not Voting:**

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<b>Proponents:</b> Senator Rick Kolowski Brian Halstead  John Bonaiuto  Larry Scherer	<b>Representing:</b> Introducer Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska State Board of Education Nebraska Association of School Boards and the Nebraska Council of School Administrators Nebraska State Education Association
<b>Opponents:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>
<b>Neutral:</b> Rick Shaw	<b>Representing:</b> Awareity

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 872 is a bill that would create the position of state school security director under the Nebraska Department of Education. The Commissioner of Education would be required to "appoint" a qualified individual, based on knowledge and skill in the area of school security, to this position.

The security director identified under this section shall be responsible for establishing a standard of safety and security for public schools. The duties assigned to the director of security includes but is not limited to:

Collecting safety and security plans as required by the Department of Education from each school system in Nebraska;  
Recommending minimum school security standards before January 1, 2015;  
Assessing the security of each public school building before January 1, 2016;  
Identifying deficiencies in school security based on minimum standards adopted by the State board of Education and making recommendations to school boards for correcting deficiencies;  
Establishing security and awareness preparedness training program for public school staff; and  
Create research-based models instructional programs for students and parents to identify the underlying causes of violent attacks on schools.

LB 872 provides that the State Board of Education may adopt rules and regulations, (based on the school security

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officers recommendation) establishing minimum school security standards before July 1, 2015.

LB872, allows the school security director to provide security services to private schools for a fee.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

Amendment 1714 to LB 872 would make the following changes:

On page 2, line 6-7, changed "responsible for assuring" to "providing leadership and support for" to clarify that the Director of Security is not the only person solely responsible for the security of schools.

On page 2, line 7, it is clarified that the Director of Security is able to work with private schools without making them pay a fee as we are asking the State Board of Education to create minimum standards that apply to all schools including private schools.

On page 2, line 13, it is clarified that the collection of school security plans will be part of the accreditation process for schools.

On page 2, line 14-17, the definition for school system is stricken.

In place of the stricken definition of school systems in lines 14-17, it was clarified that school districts must provide their security plans to the security director and that the Department has the authority to keep those plans confidential under 84-712.05.

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Kate Sullivan, Chairperson