

LEGISLATIVE BILL 781

Approved by the Governor April 10, 2014

Introduced by Harms, 48.

FOR AN ACT relating to community colleges; to amend section 85-1511, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012; to change a date relating to a comprehensive audit; and to repeal the original section.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 85-1511, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012, is amended to read:

85-1511 In addition to any other powers and duties imposed upon the community college system or its areas, campuses, or boards by the Community College Aid Act, sections 85-917 to 85-966 and 85-1501 to 85-1540, and any other provision of law, each board shall:

(1) Have general supervision, control, and operation of each community college within its jurisdiction;

(2) Subject to coordination by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education as prescribed in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, develop and offer programs of applied technology education, academic transfer programs, academic support courses, and such other programs and courses as the needs of the community college area served may require. The board shall avoid unnecessary duplication of existing programs and courses in meeting the needs of the students and the community college area;

(3) Employ, for a period to be fixed by the board, executive officers, members of the faculty, and such other administrative officers and employees as may be necessary or appropriate and fix their salaries and duties;

(4) Subject to coordination by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education as prescribed in the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, construct, lease, purchase, purchase on contract, operate, equip, and maintain facilities;

(5) Contract for services connected with the operation of the community college area as needs and interest demand;

(6) (a) Cause a comprehensive audit of the books, accounts, records, and affairs to be made annually covering the most recently completed fiscal year. The audit of each area shall include all sources of revenue used to finance operating expenditures and capital improvements and the county-certified property valuation for the community college for the fiscal year for which such audit is being performed. Such audit of the books, accounts, records, and affairs shall be completed and filed with the Auditor of Public Accounts, the commission, and the Department of Administrative Services on or before ~~October~~ November 15 of each year; and

(b) Cause a comprehensive audit of the full-time equivalent student enrollment totals and reimbursable educational unit totals to be made annually covering the most recently completed fiscal year. The audit of each area shall include a report of full-time equivalent student enrollment totals and reimbursable educational unit totals verified by such audits for the three most recently completed fiscal years which shall be used for calculation of aid to the community college areas for fiscal year 2013-14 and each fiscal year thereafter pursuant to subdivisions (3)(b) and (c) of section 85-2234. The audit of the full-time equivalent student enrollment totals and reimbursable educational unit totals shall be completed and filed with the Auditor of Public Accounts, the commission, and the Department of Administrative Services on or before August 15 of each year;

(7) Establish fees and charges for the facilities authorized by sections 85-1501 to 85-1540. Such fees and charges shall be identified as facility fees at the time they are assessed. The revenue from such fees and charges, other than revenue pledged to retire bonds issued pursuant to sections 85-1515 and 85-1520 to 85-1527 and deposited in a separate bond sinking fund, shall be deposited in the capital improvement and bond sinking fund provided for in section 85-1515. Each board may enter into agreements with owners of facilities to be used for housing regarding the management, operation, and government of such facilities and may employ necessary employees to govern, manage, and operate such facilities;

(8) Receive such gifts, grants, conveyances, and bequests of real and personal property from public or private sources as may be made from time to time, in trust or otherwise, whenever the terms and conditions thereof will aid in carrying out the community college programs as specified by

law. Each board may sell, lease, exchange, invest, or expend such gifts, grants, conveyances, and bequests or the proceeds, rents, profits, and income therefrom according to the terms and conditions thereof and adopt and promulgate rules and regulations governing the receipt and expenditure of such proceeds, rents, profits, and income, except that acceptance of such gifts, grants, or conveyances shall not be conditioned on matching state or local funds;

(9) Prescribe the courses of study for any community college under its control and publish such catalogs and bulletins as may be necessary;

(10) Grant to every student upon graduation or completion of a course of study a suitable diploma, associate degree, or certificate;

(11) Adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations and perform all other acts as the board may deem necessary or appropriate to the administration of the community college area. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, rules and regulations relating to facilities, housing, scholarships, discipline, and pedestrian and vehicular traffic on property owned, operated, or maintained by the community college area;

(12) Employ, for a period to be fixed by the board, an executive officer for the community college area and, by written order filed in its office, delegate to such executive officer any of the powers and duties vested in or imposed upon it by sections 85-1501 to 85-1540. Such delegated powers and duties may be exercised in the name of the board;

(13) Acquire real property by eminent domain pursuant to sections 76-701 to 76-724;

(14) Acquire real and personal property and sell, convey, or lease such property whenever the community college area will be benefited thereby. The sale, conveyance, or lease of any real estate owned by a community college area shall be effective only when authorized by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all the members of the board;

(15) Enter into agreements for services, facilities, or equipment and for the presentation of courses for students when such agreements are deemed to be in the best interests of the education of the students involved;

(16) Transfer tribally controlled community college state aid amounts to a tribally controlled community college located within its community college area;

(17) Invest, after proper consideration of the requirements for the availability of money, funds of the community college in securities the nature of which individuals of prudence, discretion, and intelligence acquire or retain in dealing with the property of another;

(18) Establish tuition rates for courses of instruction offered by each community college within its community college area. Separate tuition rates shall be established for students who are nonresidents of the State of Nebraska. Each board may also establish fees to support the operating expenditures of the community college area if such fees are accounted for separately from the fees and charges established for facilities pursuant to subdivision (7) of this section and are identified as operating fees at the time they are assessed;

(19) Establish a fiscal year for the community college area which conforms to the fiscal year of the state;

(20) Enter into a memorandum of understanding with the State Board of Education to adopt a policy to share student data. At a minimum, the policy shall ensure that the exchange of information is conducted in conformance with the requirements of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, and all federal regulations and applicable guidelines adopted in accordance with such act, as such act, regulations, and guidelines existed on January 1, 2010; and

(21) Exercise any other powers, duties, and responsibilities necessary to carry out sections 85-1501 to 85-1540.

Sec. 2. Original section 85-1511, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2012, is repealed.