

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT (CORRECTED)
LB634

Hearing Date: Monday March 06, 2017
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Wayne
One Liner: Include virtual school students in the state aid to schools formula

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	7	Senators Erdman, Ebke, Groene, Kolowski, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Walz
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Linehan

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Justin Wayne
Mark Evans
Jesa Keslar

Representing:

Introducer
Omaha Public Schools
Omaha Virtual School

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 634 is a bill that would place in statute a definition of Virtual Schools and implement a procedure for reporting the attendance of virtual school students based on the number of classes attended under the calculation procedure for state aid under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA).

Section-by-section:

Section 1. Amends 79-528 (Reports; filing requirements; contents.) subsections (2) (a), (4) (a) and (4) (c) to provide that the reports required under each subsection, shall now require school districts to provide:

- The number of classes required for a student to be enrolled full-time in the district at each grade level;
- Provide a definition of a class used by the district for purposes of determining full-time and part-time enrollment at each grade level for the school year; and
- The number of classes completed by each virtual school student as defined in section 79-1003 for the school year.

Section 2. Amends 79-1003 (Terms, defined. TEEOSA), subsection (15), to include in the definition of "fall membership" which provides that "the total membership in kindergarten through grade twelve attributable to the local system, including the proportionate share of students enrolled in a public school instructional program on less than a full-time basis."

- Section 79-1003 is amended to add a new subsection (33) to provide a definition for "proportionate share of students

enrolled in a public school instructional program on less than a full-time basis" means, for both virtual school students and students who are not virtual school students who are enrolled in a public school instructional program on less than a full-time basis, (a) for the purposes of "fall membership", the number of classes for which such students are enrolled in a public school instructional program in the school district on the last Friday in September divided by the number of classes such students would be required to enroll in for full-time enrollment in the district and (b) for the purposes of average daily membership, the number of classes in a public school instructional program in the school district completed by such students during the school year divided by the number of classes such students would have been required to enroll in for full-time enrollment in the district.

- Finally, section 79-1003 is amended to provide that a "virtual school" would be a school or educational program operated by a school district that:

- o Offers courses for credit;
- o Uses predominately internet-based methods to deliver instruction;
- o Involves instruction occurring asynchronously with the teacher and the student in separate locations;
- o Requires the student to make academic progress toward the next grade level or high school graduation;
- o Requires the student to demonstrate subject matter competence for each course or subject a student is enrolled as part of the virtual school;
- o Requires age appropriate students to complete state assessments.

- Virtual students would be students who are residents of Nebraska, enrolled in and attending a virtual school on at least a part-time basis.

Mike Groene, Chairperson