

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 5

FINAL READING

Introduced by Blood, 3; Walz, 15; Gragert, 40; Brandt, 32; Lindstrom, 18;
Day, 49; Murman, 38; Sanders, 45.

Read first time January 07, 2021

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to adopt the Purple Star Schools
- 2 Act; and to provide a duty for the Revisor of Statutes.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 4 of this act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the Purple Star Schools Act.

3 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Purple Star Schools Act:

4 (1) Military-connected student means a student who:

5 (a) Is a dependent of a current or former member or reserve member
6 serving in the Nebraska National Guard or the United States Army, Navy,
7 Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Space Force; or

8 (b) Was a dependent of a member or reserve member who served in the
9 Nebraska National Guard or the United States Army, Navy, Air Force,
10 Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Space Force who was killed in the line of
11 duty during such service; and

12 (2) School means any public, private, denominational, or parochial
13 school in this state.

14 Sec. 3. (1) The State Board of Education may annually designate any
15 school as a purple star school if such school applies for such
16 designation in the manner prescribed by the board and meets the
17 qualifications in subsection (2) of this section.

18 (2) To qualify as a purple star school, a school shall:

19 (a) Designate a staff member as a military liaison, whose duties
20 shall include, but not be limited to:

21 (i) Identifying military-connected students enrolled in the school;

22 (ii) Serving as a point of contact in the school for military-
23 connected students and their families;

24 (iii) Determining the appropriate school services available to
25 military-connected students; and

26 (iv) Assisting in the coordination of school programs relevant to
27 military-connected students;

28 (b) Maintain an easily accessible web page on the school's web site
29 that includes resources for military-connected students and their
30 families, including information regarding:

31 (i) Relocation to, enrollment at, registration at, and transferring

1 records to the school;

2 (ii) Academic planning, course sequences, and advanced classes
3 available at the school;

4 (iii) Counseling and other support services available for military-
5 connected students enrolled at the school; and

6 (iv) Contact information for the military liaison designated under
7 subdivision (2)(a) of this section and the duties of the military liaison
8 under such subdivision;

9 (c) Maintain a transition program led by students, where
10 appropriate, that assists military-connected students in transitioning
11 into the school;

12 (d) Offer professional development for staff members on issues
13 related to military-connected students; and

14 (e) Do at least one of the following:

15 (i) Post a resolution showing support for military-connected
16 students and their families on the school's web site;

17 (ii) Recognize April as the Military Child Month or November as
18 Military Family Month with relevant events hosted by the school; or

19 (iii) Partner with a local military installation that provides
20 opportunities for active duty military members to volunteer at the
21 school, speak at an assembly, or host field trips for students.

22 (3) A public school may partner with its school district to comply
23 with requirements under subdivision (2)(b), (d), or (e) of this section.

24 Sec. 4. The State Board of Education may adopt and promulgate rules
25 and regulations to carry out the Purple Star Schools Act.

26 Sec. 5. The Revisor of Statutes shall assign sections 1 to 4 of
27 this act to Chapter 79.