

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023
COMMITTEE STATEMENT (CORRECTED)
LB516

Hearing Date: Monday March 13, 2023
Committee On: Education
Introducer: Walz
One Liner: Provide and change powers and duties for the State Department of Education, Commissioner of Education, State Board of Education, and the state school security director, provide grants to school districts for security-related infrastructure projects, and provide grants to educational service units and local public health departments to hire school psychologists and licensed mental health practitioners as prescribed

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

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Albrecht, Briese, Conrad, Linehan, Murman, Sanders, Walz
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Wayne

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Lynne Walz
Diana Schmidt
Jason Wiese
Erik Wilson
Jeremy Ekeler
John Skretta

Brian Halstead

Opponents:

Scott Thomas

Neutral:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Representing:

Introducer
Boys Town
NebraskaState Education Association
Norfolk Public Schools
Nebraska Catholic Conference
Educational Service Unit #6, Educational Service Unit
Coordinating Council (ESUCC), Nebraska Rural
Community Schools (NRCSA), Schools Taking
Action for Nebraska (STANCE), Greater Nebraska
Schools Association (GNSA0, Nebraska Council of
School Administrators (NCSA), Nebraska Association
of School Boards (NASB)
Nebraska Department of Education

Representing:

Village in Progress Nebraska

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 516 would create regionally focused security specialists operating under the state school security director; allocate general funds of 15 million dollars to the Commissioner of Education to create a grant program that funds school security projects; would allocate general funds of 5 million dollars to the DOE to create a grant program in order to hire mental health practitioners and school psychologists.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 1107 of LB 516 would appropriate \$870,000 annually to fund the Safe2HelpNE Hotline from the General Fund.

Dave Murman, Chairperson