

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1238

Chairperson: Senator Dave Murman

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 05, 2024

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB1238 establishes the Special Educators of Tomorrow Act which provides scholarships and loans to individuals who work with disabilities as a direct support professional to become a special education teacher. The bill provides a scholarship on the front end for individuals to help pay for their first few years of college and provides a loan on the back end to become a special education teacher as that's when students declare their major.

The loan is set up the same way as the Attracting Excellence in Teaching Program but would receive \$4,000 a school year. After the first two years of teaching full-time in Nebraska as a special education teacher, the loan will be forgiven in an amount equal to \$4,000 a school year.

LB1238 sets up the Special Educators of Tomorrow Cash Fund and provides a one-time \$1.5 million transfer from the General Fund and \$250,000 each year thereafter.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Lynne Walz