

AMENDMENTS TO LB332

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM729)

Introduced by Hardin, 48.

1 1. Insert the following new section:

2 **Sec. 39.** (1) For purposes of this section, program means the Rural
3 Health Opportunity Program that encourages students from rural
4 communities to pursue health care professions and return to practice in
5 those rural communities.

6 (2)(a) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the
7 Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska shall enter into a
8 memorandum of understanding to administer the program, including a joint
9 application and interview process to select students to participate in
10 the program and be provisionally admitted into one of the eligible health
11 care programs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

12 (b) To be eligible, students shall:

13 (i) Attend, or be a graduate of, an approved or accredited high
14 school in Nebraska or receive an equivalent of a diploma of high school
15 equivalency in Nebraska; and

16 (ii) Have lived in, or been a resident of, a rural area of Nebraska
17 as determined by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and
18 the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.

19 (3) A student who participates in the program is entitled to a
20 waiver of one hundred percent of the cost of tuition and fees per
21 academic year for up to four years at a state college for the purpose of
22 completing the established health care program coursework at such state
23 college that is required for early admission and transfer to an eligible
24 health care program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

25 (4) It is the intent of the Legislature to consider continued
26 funding for the program in an appropriate amount equal to or more than

1 one-half of the cost of the tuition waivers or fees granted pursuant to
2 this section as part of the biennial budget process.

3 2. Correct the operative date section so the section added by this
4 amendment becomes operative three calendar months after the adjournment
5 of this legislative session.

6 3. Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.