

April 9, 1990

LB 1141  
LR 239

coordinating body, the Board of Regents for Nebraska Higher Education. This constitutional amendment would provide much of the same authorities for a different coordinating body, the Coordinating Commission. Primary exceptions include; administrative services, which are not nearly as crucial in this proposal as they are in LR 239, tuition policies, admissions standards, and policies on transfers of credit. However, these items could still be included in the comprehensive plan and, of course, the commission constitutionally would be free to submit recommendations to the Legislature and the governing boards on these items. If the governing board ignored the suggestions of the Coordinating Commission on, for example, the transfer of credit, the Coordinating Commission could present to the Legislature its recommendations to enact legislation which would direct the institutions to take appropriate actions. The hammer is the threat that the Legislature would respond affirmatively to the suggestions of a statewide body which represents all of public higher education. It is expected that the governing boards will continue to coordinate among their respective institutions those administrative services which may be unnecessarily duplicative or where uniformity is needed to avoid undue or costly duplication. There is included a savings clause which would allow the tech colleges to be coordinated by a statewide board without jeopardizing their status as property tax-levying agencies, six, the make-up of the commission would be 11 members, appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Legislature, appointed for 6-year terms. Six members shall be appointed from 6 districts...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...and 5 shall be appointed statewide. There are no provisions regarding partisan membership restrictions or requiring members to be selected from lists submitted by nominating panels. This is essentially the same as LR 239 except (1) there are only two governing boards for the seven senior institutions instead of one for each institution and (2) the coordinating body would not have certain authorities which would have been provided in LB 1141, as it was introduced, namely, over transfers of credit, tuition policies, admissions standards, and certain administrative services. The debate on LR 239 as it pertains to the need for a strong coordinating body would be equally as relevant to this constitutional amendment as the other.