

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	See below		See below	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below		See below	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB779 would amend provisions of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act. Specifically, the bill would require the Coordinating Commission to work with an advisory committee consisting of at least one representative of every Nebraska public postsecondary education institution and from other interested postsecondary educational institutions to develop transfer-of-credit policies to be reviewed annually. Further, the bill requires the Coordinating Commission to develop and maintain a web site, with data supplied by the postsecondary institutions, to serve as a student guide and resource for transfer-of-credit policies.

In its fiscal note, dated 1/15/2014, the Coordinating Commission estimates relatively modest non-personnel expenses (\$2,000 for 2014-15 and \$1,000 for 2015-16) would be incurred as an impact of LB779 if it were to be enacted. This estimate assumes the agency would comply with provisions of LB779 by creating and maintaining a website portal page directing users to individual postsecondary institution's online information relating to the transfer of credit. If the agency's interpretation of the intent of LB779 is correct and the foregoing means of compliance satisfies requirements of the bill, the agency's estimate of the related fiscal impact appears reasonable.

If, however, the intent of LB779 is that the Coordinating Commission develop statewide transfer of credit policies in cooperation with postsecondary institutions, the level of Coordinating Commission and postsecondary institution staff time necessary for such an effort and the related fiscal impact would be substantially dependent upon the nature of policies that may be proposed to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, the boards of governors of the six community college areas and the various institutions governed by the respective boards.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES-STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSES			
LB: 779	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	
REVIEWED BY: Cindy Miserez		DATE: 01/16/2014	PHONE: 402-471-4174
COMMENTS: The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education's analysis of LB779 appears to be reasonable.			

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2014

LB⁽¹⁾ 779

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Gary Timm

Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 1/15/14

Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 471-0020

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2014-15</u>		<u>FY 2015-16</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	2,000		1,000	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	2,000		1,000	

Explanation of Estimate:

This bill proposes creating and then reviewing on an annual basis a transfer-of-credit policy in conjunction with both public and private secondary education institutions as opposed to current statutory language that creates only guidelines. Our estimate is for travel costs associated with attending meetings with postsecondary institutions.

This bill also requires the Commission to create and maintain a website with transfer-of-credit information. The Commission believes the intent of LB779 requires the Commission to create and maintain a portal directing users to postsecondary institution's on-line transfer-of-credit policies.

In reviewing the public postsecondary institution's websites, this course/program transfer data is available in varying degrees in either a searchable database or a pdf document. The Commission believes the most efficient and cost effective method of providing transfer-of-credit information would have these institutions maintain a searchable database on their web site. This method would insure the most up-to-date information is available. The Commission would create and maintain a web site directing users to the transfer-of-credit information for each public postsecondary education institution in Nebraska and any other interested postsecondary educational institutions. If this method is used, the time to develop a portal page is minimal and can be accomplished with current Commission resources.

If the intent of LB779 is to have the Commission create and maintain a database requiring the collection of the course transfer data, program transfer data, and the transfer-of-credit policies of each institution, this data would need to be periodically submitted to the Commission in an electronic and uniform format and require a much larger level of effort and cost.

While the Commission has observed not all public secondary institutions have this data available on their website in a searchable database, the format for submission to the Commission would potentially be similar to the database requirements the institution would use if it were to create a searchable database for its website.

If the Commission has misunderstood the intent of LB779 and the intent is to have the Commission create and maintain a searchable database, the Commission request's the ability to amend this fiscal note to include the costs for development and maintenance of a searchable transfer-of-credit database.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2014-15	2015-16
	<u>14-15</u>	<u>15-16</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....			2,000	1,000
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			2,000	1,000