

## LB 245 FISCAL NOTE

Revised on 2/12/92 based on amendments adopted through 1/30/92.

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February 12, 1992

FUND	EXPENDITURE	REVENUE
General	\$410,650	
Cash		
Federal		
Revolving		
TOTAL 1992-93	\$410,650	
TOTAL 1993-94	\$508,100	

LB 245, as amended, creates the Nebraska Schools Accountability Commission consisting of eleven members. The Commission is required to identify standards for learner outcomes and develop a method of assessing student progress towards achieving the standards. The Commission terminates on July 1, 1996. Section 6 of the bill creates a Nebraska Schools Accountability Commission Cash Fund to receive funds pursuant to the bill. Sections 7-104 of the bill are a reenactment of LB 511 (1991). These sections have no additional fiscal impact.

It is estimated that increased General Fund expenditures for the Nebraska Schools Accountability Commission will be \$10,650 in 1992-93 and \$8,100 in 1993-94. Members of the Commission are eligible for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses. It is assumed that six meetings of the Commission will be held in 1992-93 and four meetings will be held in 1993-94 to implement Phase I of the bill.

Section 3 of LB 245 requires the Commission to recommend state standards for learner outcomes by September 1, 1994. The State Department of Education estimates that it will take approximately \$100,000 to develop standards or frameworks for each of the five subject areas outlined in LB 245. Assuming that standards are developed for two subject areas in 1992-93 and three subject areas in 1993-94, then \$200,000 of General Funds will be expended in 1992-93 and \$300,000 in 1993-94.

Section 4 requires the Commission to develop assessments which measure student progress towards achieving standards. The bill allows the Commission to work with the State Department of Education, teachers, school officials, a consortium of other states and assessment experts to develop assessments in math, science, reading, social studies, and language arts. It is estimated by the State Department of Education that \$200,000 General

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Concur with Department of Education estimate.

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Funds will be needed in 1992-93 and 1993-94 to begin developing assessments. It is assumed that additional state funds will be required after 1993-94 to continue the development of assessments.

Any cash funds received to implement the bill can be used to offset General Fund expenditures. The amount of cash which may be available is not able to be estimated.

This fiscal note assumes that existing staff of the Legislative Council and the State Department of Education will assist the Commission in its responsibilities and no additional staff will be required.

In summary, the estimated increase in General Funds required to implement LB 245 is as follows:

	1992-93	1993-94
Expenses of Schools Accountability Commission	\$10,650	\$8,100
Development of Standards/Frameworks	200,000	300,000
Development of Assessments	200,000	200,000
	\$410,650	\$508,100