

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB 245

HEARING DATE: February 11, 1991 COMMITTEE ON: EDUCATION

TITLE: LB 245 (Withem) Create the Nebraska Schools Accountability Commission

ROLL CALL VOTE, FINAL COMMITTEE ACTION

Advanced to General File

Y Advanced to General File with amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote results:

8 Yes

Senators Warner, Dierks, Chizek, Schrock, Withem, Beutler, Nelson, Lamb

0 No

0 Present, not voting

0 Absent

PROPOSERS

Senator Ron Withem

Milan Wall

Jim Rea

Dr. Doug Christensen

June Remington

Deanna Frisk

Larry Haman

Ron Oswald

Dale Siefkes

Ron Witt

Larry Ruth

Representing

Introducer

NCEE

NSEA

Dept. of Ed

NCSA

League of Women Voters

Omaha Chamber of Commerce

NASA

NASB

Millard Public Schools

NRCSA

OPPOSERS

Representing

NEUTRAL

Representing

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Synopsis: Legislative Bill 245 would create the Nebraska Schools Accountability Commission. The Commission, In Phase I of Its work (1991) will Identify and establish learner outcomes which will be expected of students as they progress through public schools. The Commission, Phase II of its work (1992) will establish an assessment system to measure the progress of students in achieving state learner goals. During Phase III (1993-94), the Commission shall work to implement its plan into appropriate practice, rule and law changes.

As Nebraska seeks to compete in an increasingly international economy, It is necessary to assure that students graduating from the public schools of the state have the requisite knowledge and skills to enter postsecondary education or the workforce. The school system needs to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of the parents, taxpayers, business and students so that all can be assured that common expectations for learner outcomes are being achieved.

Legislative Bill 245 seeks to develop a thoughtful rational process for establishing broad expectations for schools and students.

Explanation of Amendments, if any:

The Commission shall be an advisory and policy development body on behalf of the Legislature and have no administrative or executive functions. The Legislative Research Division will administer the appropriation for the Commission. The Executive Board will make appointments rather than the Governor. only members other than Legislature will receive reimbursement for expenses from the funds appropriated for the Commission.

Chairperson