## **One Hundred Seventh Legislature - Second Session - 2022**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

## LB1217

**Chairperson: Senator John Stinner** 

**Committee: Appropriations** 

Date of Hearing: February 28, 2022

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB1217 is intended to provide incentive payments to public and private K-12 school personnel, along with their affiliated early childhood education personnel. Schools are in the midst of a workforce crisis and continue to provide invaluable services to youth and families across the state during the pandemic and face ongoing challenges with students' learning loss.

LB1217 would allocate \$1,000 from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to each eligible school employee including teachers, para-educators, bus drivers, food service handlers, librarians and other support positions. Administrators are exempt from receiving incentive payments. Approved and accredited public and private schools may apply to the Department of Administrative Services to receive funds.

LB1217 is eligible for the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 as educators and school staff are essential to Nebraska's success.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Lynne Walz