

LEGISLATIVE BILL 693

Passed over the Governor's veto April 21, 1978

Introduced by Cope, 36

AN ACT to establish the Nebraska Safety Center; to declare intent; to provide for administration of the center; to create the Nebraska Safety Center Advisory Council; to prescribe functions and goals of the center; and to authorize the utilization of funds.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. The Legislature finds and declares that there is a vital need for increased training and research activity in the fields of traffic safety, domestic safety, industrial safety, fire safety, and recreational safety, and that this activity can best be achieved by utilizing the facilities of an institution of higher education.

The Legislature further declares and assents to the establishment and administration of the Nebraska Safety Center at Kearney State College.

Sec. 2. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) Center shall mean the Nebraska Safety Center created under section 3 of this act; and

(2) Council shall mean the Nebraska Safety Center Advisory Council created under section 8 of this act.

Sec. 3. (1) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges may establish the Nebraska Safety Center at Kearney State College.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that existing available land and facilities be utilized in the establishment and administration of the center.

Sec. 4. The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the president of Kearney State College (1) may employ a director of the center who shall be responsible to the president of Kearney State College and whose qualifications and salary shall be established by the board and the president, and (2) may employ or assign to the center such other professors, instructors, tutors, demonstrators, and other personnel as from time to time

may be considered necessary for the administration of the center.

Sec. 5. (1) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the president of Kearney State College may accept and administer, in accordance with proper financial procedures at Kearney State College, gifts, grants, tuition, and private funds to assist in the operation of the center.

(2) The Legislature shall appropriate such money from the General Fund and authorize the acceptance and use of such federal funds as may be necessary to permit the center to operate efficiently and to promote the purposes of this act.

Sec. 6. The purposes and functions of the center shall include (1) instruction, to provide educational courses and coordinated activities relating to all safety and safety education, (2) research, to provide leadership in identifying priorities of safety education and to provide expertise in safety research projects, (3) service, to provide information and workshop opportunities to all interested individuals, and (4) coordination, to provide articulation for development of a statewide system of teacher preparation in safety education programs.

Sec. 7. Whenever requested or deemed appropriate by the Nebraska Safety Center, the University of Nebraska, the technical community colleges, the State Department of Education, the Safety Council of Nebraska, Inc., the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, any agency providing services through city or local governments, and any other agency involved in activities related to safety shall cooperate with and offer expertise to the center to assist it in carrying out its purposes and functions under section 6 of this act. It is not the intent of the Legislature to duplicate existing programs but to provide extensions of those programs when deemed necessary by the center and the organizations currently conducting the activity.

Sec. 8. (1) To assist the center in carrying out its purposes and functions, there is hereby created the Nebraska Safety Center Advisory Council composed of the following members appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Legislature:

(a) One representative from the Department of Roads;

(b) One representative from the Department of Motor Vehicles;

(c) One representative from the State Department of Education;

(d) One representative from the Game and Parks Commission;

(e) One representative from the Department of Labor;

(f) One person representing the technical community college areas;

(g) One person representing private business and industry;

(h) One person representing the University of Nebraska;

(i) One person representing the medical profession;

(j) One person representing the area of law enforcement in this state;

(k) One person representing the Safety Council of Nebraska, Inc.;

(l) One person representing the area of transportation;

(m) One person representative of emergency medical services;

(n) One person representing the judiciary in the State of Nebraska;

(o) One person representing city government;

(p) One person representing county government;

(q) One person representing the area of agriculture;

(r) One person representing the local public school system;

(s) A representative of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education;

(t) One person representing the Red Cross; and

(u) One person representing the state colleges.

(2) Representatives selected to serve on the council shall have appropriate education, training, and experience in the field of industrial safety, recreational safety, domestic safety, or traffic safety.

Sec. 9. Members of the council shall serve for terms of three years, except that of the members first appointed, seven shall be appointed for a term of one year, seven shall be appointed for a term of two years, and seven shall be appointed for a term of three years. As the terms of the initial appointees to the council expire, succeeding appointees shall have the same qualifications as their predecessors, and such successors shall be appointed to three-year terms, except appointees to vacancies occurring from unexpired terms, in which case the successor shall serve out the term of his predecessor. Members whose terms have expired shall continue to serve until their successors have been appointed.

Sec. 10. The council shall meet at least once annually to review the operation and administration of the center and to make any recommendations to the director of the center for improvements considered to be reasonable or necessary.

Sec. 11. The members of the council shall receive no compensation for their services on such council but shall be reimbursed for any expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 12. The council shall review the operation and administration of the center. The council shall meet at least once annually to make recommendations to the director of the Nebraska Safety Center concerning: (1) Budget; (2) staff; (3) facilities and equipment; and (4) programs.

Sec. 13. Each council member shall be available to advise the center relative to programs in their area of expertise. The center shall provide monthly summary reports to the council members and advise the council of new programs at least thirty days prior to their implementation. A program may be discontinued by a two-thirds vote of the council. A written annual report shall be made available at least ten days prior to the annual meeting.