NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Gary M. Sherman/Teresa Coonts, Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into contracts to continue the four Regional Programs for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into contracts to continue the four Regional Programs for Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Background Information:

At its June 6, 1997 meeting, the State Board of Education approved the plan for Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and revisions to the plan were approved at the December, 2004 meeting. The statewide plan directed the Department to establish regional programs for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Since June 1998, the State Board of Education has granted the Commissioner authority to enter into contacts to operate regional programs to provide supportive services to school districts serving children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Two year contracts, a deviation from NDE contract guidance/procedures, have been previously approved so as to assist the Regions with planning and budgeting.

Through contracts with the four regional programs, the Department will continue to implement the plan for Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Estimated Cost:

	FY2013-2014	FY2014-2015	2 Year Total
Omaha Metro. Region (ESU #3)	$636,281	$636,281	$1,272,562*
Northeast Region (Norfolk P.S.)	$257,373	$257,373	$514,746*
Southeast Region (Lincoln P.S.)	$307,961	$307,961	$615,922*
Central/Western Region (ESU #9)	$435,799	$435,799	$871,598*
Totals	$1,637,414	$1,637,414	$3,274,828

*Amounts may vary since funding of contracts is contingent upon Department of Education receiving ear-marked appropriation (Program 401). Contract amounts are based upon anticipated State General Funds which equal previous contract amounts (with no increase for each year). Contracts could be amended depending on appropriation received by NDE for this purpose.

Supporting Documentation Included:

NA

For Additional Information on this item:

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