

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1417

Introduced by Brewer, 43; at the request of the Governor.

Read first time January 18, 2024

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend sections 2-509, 2-517,
2 2-518, 2-519, 2-1803, 2-4901, 2-5003, 20-506, 38-204, 38-308,
3 38-1503, 43-2405, 48-622.03, 66-1618, 71-814, 71-815, 71-1134,
4 71-2454.01, 71-5311, 71-7101, 71-7102, 71-7106, 71-7107, 71-7108,
5 71-7109, 72-724, 72-812, 72-2101, 76-537, 76-540, 76-2207.18,
6 79-860, 79-866, 79-867, 79-868, 79-1810, 80-401.09, 81-502.01,
7 85-1404, 85-1607, 86-444, 86-516, 86-521, and 90-306, Reissue
8 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 28-712, 39-2106, 39-2301.01,
9 39-2304, 43-1302, 43-1903, 43-3401, 43-4001, 43-4203, 43-4216,
10 43-4406, 43-4513, 66-2001, 71-3703, 71-7012, 71-7804, 72-224.03,
11 76-2222, 79-810, 79-870, 79-1245, 79-2204, 80-318, 81-8,110.01,
12 81-1108.32, 81-1348, 81-1503, 81-1504, 81-15,159.01, 81-15,245,
13 81-3428, 82-703, 82-706, 82-803, 83-1212.01, 85-1008, 86-461,
14 86-1101, and 86-1102, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022,
15 and sections 38-167, 71-7104, 79-808, and 86-1103, Revised Statutes
16 Supplement, 2023; to create, eliminate, terminate, and provide,
17 change, eliminate, and transfer powers, duties, and membership of
18 boards, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, panels,
19 authorities, and departments; to change and eliminate funds; to
20 harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to
21 outright repeal sections 43-4003, 50-603, 71-7105, 71-7110, 71-7113,
22 79-862, 79-864, 79-865, 79-869, and 79-871, Reissue Revised Statutes
23 of Nebraska, and sections 43-1306, 79-861, and 79-863, Revised

- 1 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022.
- 2 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) Effective July 1, 2025, the Board of Abstracters and
2 Appraisers is created. The board shall consist of nine members. One
3 member who is a certified real property appraiser shall be selected from
4 each of the three congressional districts, and six members shall be
5 selected at large. The six members selected at large shall include three
6 members who shall at all times be active registered abstracters who have
7 engaged in the business of abstracting for at least five years, one
8 member who shall be a lawyer experienced in the area of real estate law,
9 one member who shall be a superintendent of a school district offering
10 instruction in grades kindergarten through twelve, and one member who
11 shall be a certified public accountant. The Governor shall appoint the
12 members of the board.

13 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Board of Abstracters and Appraisers
14 shall assume the duties of:

15 (a) The Abstracters Board of Examiners;

16 (b) The Real Property Appraiser Board; and

17 (c) The board of appraisers in sections 72-224.03, 72-225,
18 72-240.14, and 72-240.19.

19 Sec. 2. (1) Effective July 1, 2025, the Capitol and Hall of Fame
20 Commission is created. The commission shall consist of (a) the Governor,
21 (b) the Speaker of the Legislature, (c) the Chief Justice of the Supreme
22 Court, (d) the dean of the College of Architecture at the University of
23 Nebraska-Lincoln, (e) the Director of the Nebraska State Historical
24 Society, (f) the Governor's spouse, (g) the Director of Administrative
25 Services, (h) the administrator of the Task Force for Building Renewal,
26 (i) a current professional member of the American Society of Interior
27 Designers, and (j) four members appointed by the Governor.

28 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Capitol and Hall of Fame Commission
29 shall assume the duties of:

30 (a) The Nebraska Capitol Commission;

31 (b) The Nebraska State Capitol Environs Commission;

1 (c) The Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission; and

2 (d) The Governor's Residence Advisory Commission.

3 Sec. 3. (1) The Commission for K-12 Education is created. The
4 commission shall consist of the following sixteen members:

5 (a) A representative from a public educational institution appointed
6 by the Governor;

7 (b) A military family education liaison appointed by the Governor;

8 (c) A superintendent of a school district that has a high
9 concentration of children of military families appointed by the Governor;

10 (d) Two representatives from educational service units appointed by
11 the Governor;

12 (e) Two residents of the state who are not members of the same
13 political party appointed by the Governor;

14 (f) Two individuals with education and experience relating to
15 diagnosing issues that negatively affect student achievement who are not
16 members of the same political party appointed by the Governor;

17 (g) A school administrator appointed by the Governor;

18 (h) A representative of postsecondary education appointed by the
19 Governor;

20 (i) The Commissioner of Education; and

21 (j) Three individuals holding a certificate to teach appointed by
22 the Governor.

23 (2) Each member of the Commission for K-12 Education shall serve for
24 a term of six years and until such member's successor is appointed and
25 qualified.

26 (3) Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Commission for K-12 Education
27 shall:

28 (a) Assist the State Board of Education in teacher education and
29 certification matters as provided in section 79-808;

30 (b) Take over the duties of the Nebraska Elementary and Secondary
31 School Finance Authority as provided in the Nebraska Elementary and

1 Secondary School Finance Authority Act;

2 (c) Take over the duties of the Educational Service Unit
3 Coordinating Council as provided in sections 79-1245 to 79-1249; and

4 (d) Take over the duties of the State Council on Educational
5 Opportunity for Military Children as provided in section 79-2204 and the
6 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

7 Sec. 4. Section 2-509, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
8 amended to read:

9 2-509 The Nebraska Hemp Program Fund is established. The fund shall
10 be administered by the department for the purpose of covering the costs
11 of the department in administering sections 2-504 to 2-516 and 2-5701.
12 The fund may receive appropriations by the Legislature, gifts, grants,
13 federal funds, and any other funds both public and private. All fees
14 collected by the department under sections 2-508 and 2-5701 shall be
15 remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund. Transfers from
16 the Nebraska Hemp Program Fund to the Noxious Weed Cash Fund may be made
17 as provided in section 2-958. Transfers from the Nebraska Hemp Program
18 Fund to the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners Administrative Fund may be
19 made as provided in section 81-2,162.27. Any money in the fund available
20 for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant
21 to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
22 Investment Act. The Nebraska Hemp Program Fund terminates on July 1,
23 2025. The State Treasurer shall transfer any funds in the Nebraska Hemp
24 Program Fund on July 1, 2025, to the Noxious Weed Cash Fund.

25 Sec. 5. Section 2-517, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
26 amended to read:

27 2-517 (1) The Nebraska Hemp Commission is created. The commission
28 shall consist of the following members:

29 (a) The dean of the University of Nebraska College of Agricultural
30 Sciences and Natural Resources or his or her designee;

31 (b) One member representing postsecondary institutions other than

1 the University of Nebraska; and

2 (c) Three members appointed by the Governor representing the
3 following interests:

4 (i) Two Nebraska farmers with an interest in cultivating hemp; and

5 (ii) A manufacturer of hemp products.

6 (2) Members appointed pursuant to subdivisions (1)(b) and (c) of
7 this section shall serve a term of four years and may be reappointed. A
8 majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The
9 commission shall annually elect one member from among the remaining
10 members to serve as chairperson. The commission shall meet quarterly and
11 may meet more often upon the call of the chairperson or by request of a
12 majority of the members. The commission shall be appointed no later than
13 sixty days after July 1, 2021, and conduct its first meeting no later
14 than thirty days after appointment of the commission. The members of the
15 commission shall serve without pay but shall receive expenses incurred
16 while on official business as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

17 (3) The commission shall have primary responsibility for promoting
18 the Nebraska hemp industry and shall have the following powers and
19 duties:

20 (a) To appoint and fix the salary of such support staff and
21 employees, who shall serve at the pleasure of the commission, as may be
22 required for the proper discharge of the functions of the commission;

23 (b) To prepare and approve a budget;

24 (c) To adopt and promulgate reasonable rules and regulations
25 necessary to carry out this section and section 2-519;

26 (d) To contract for services and authorize the expenditure of funds
27 which are necessary for the proper operation of this section and section
28 2-519;

29 (e) To keep minutes of its meetings and other books and records
30 which will clearly reflect all of the acts and transactions of the
31 commission and to keep such records open to public examination by any

1 person during normal business hours;

2 (f) To prohibit using any funds collected by the commission to
3 directly or indirectly support or oppose any candidate for public office
4 or to influence state legislation; and

5 (g) To establish an administrative office at such place in the state
6 as may be suitable for the proper discharge of commission functions.

7 (4) The commission shall periodically report to the Governor and to
8 the Legislature on hemp policies and practices that will result in the
9 proper and legal growth, management, marketing, and use of the state's
10 hemp industry. Any report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted
11 electronically. Such policies and practices shall, at a minimum, address
12 the following:

13 (a) Federal laws and regulatory constraints;

14 (b) The economic and financial feasibility of a hemp market in
15 Nebraska;

16 (c) Nebraska businesses that may potentially utilize hemp;

17 (d) Examination of research on hemp production and utilization;

18 (e) The potential for globally marketing Nebraska hemp;

19 (f) The feasibility of private funding for a Nebraska hemp research
20 program;

21 (g) Law enforcement concerns;

22 (h) Statutory and regulatory schemes for the cultivation of hemp by
23 private producers; and

24 (i) Technical support and education about hemp.

25 (5) The commission is authorized to develop and coordinate programs
26 to research and promote hemp, including, but not limited to, cultivating,
27 handling, processing, transporting, marketing, and selling hemp and
28 preserving and developing Nebraska heirloom hemp varieties that possess
29 characteristics of a unique and specialized cannabis sativa L. seed
30 variety that exist as uncultivated, naturalized plants in the environment
31 or historically have been commercially cultivated in Nebraska.

1 (6) The commission shall establish such programs with the goal of
2 securing at least twenty percent participation by small and emerging
3 businesses in the Nebraska hemp industry, including, but not limited to,
4 cultivating, handling, processing, transporting, marketing, and selling
5 hemp.

6 (7) The Nebraska Hemp Commission terminates on July 1, 2025.

7 Sec. 6. Section 2-518, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
8 amended to read:

9 2-518 The Hemp Promotion Fund is established. ~~The fund shall be~~
10 ~~administered by the commission for the purposes set forth in section~~
11 ~~2-517.~~ The fund may receive money transferred appropriations by the
12 Legislature and gifts, grants, federal funds, and any other funds both
13 public and private. All fees collected as set forth in section 2-519
14 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund. Any
15 money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state
16 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the
17 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

18 Sec. 7. Section 2-519, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
19 amended to read:

20 2-519 (1) For purposes of this section:

21 (a) Commercial channels means the sale or delivery of hemp for any
22 use to any commercial buyer, dealer, processor, or cooperative or to any
23 person, public or private, who resells any hemp or hemp product;

24 (b) Delivered or delivery means receiving hemp for utilization or as
25 a result of its sale in the State of Nebraska but excludes receiving hemp
26 for storage; and

27 (c) First purchaser means any person, public or private corporation,
28 association, partnership, limited liability company, or other entity
29 buying, accepting for shipment, or otherwise acquiring hemp from a
30 cultivator.

31 (2) A fee of one cent per pound is levied upon all hemp seed and a

1 fee of one dollar per ton is levied upon all hemp fiber sold through
2 commercial channels in Nebraska or delivered in Nebraska. Two-thirds of
3 the fee levied under this section shall be paid by the cultivator at the
4 time of sale or delivery and shall be collected by the first purchaser.
5 The first purchaser shall pay the remaining one-third of the fee. Hemp
6 seed and hemp fiber shall not be subject to the fees imposed by this
7 section more than once.

8 (3) The first purchaser, at the time of settlement with the
9 cultivator, shall deduct the fees imposed by this section. The fees shall
10 be deducted whether the hemp is stored in this state or any other state.
11 The first purchaser shall maintain the necessary records of the fees for
12 each purchase or delivery of hemp on the settlement form or check stub
13 showing payment to the cultivator for each purchase or delivery. Such
14 records maintained by the first purchaser shall be open for inspection
15 during normal business hours and provide the following information:

- 16 (a) The name and address of the cultivator and first purchaser;
- 17 (b) The date of the purchase or delivery;
- 18 (c) The number of pounds of hemp seed or pounds or tons of hemp
19 fiber purchased; and
- 20 (d) The amount of fees collected on each purchase or delivery.

21 (4) The first purchaser shall render and have on file with the
22 department by the last day of January and July of each year, ~~on forms~~
23 ~~prescribed by the commission,~~ a statement of the number of pounds of hemp
24 seed or pounds or tons of hemp fiber purchased in Nebraska. At the time
25 the statement is filed, such first purchaser shall pay and remit to the
26 State Treasurer ~~commission~~ the fees imposed by this section.

27 (5) All fees collected ~~by the commission~~ pursuant to this section
28 shall be credited ~~remitted to the State Treasurer for credit~~ to the Hemp
29 Promotion Fund. ~~The commission shall remit the fees collected to the~~
30 ~~State Treasurer within ten days after receipt.~~

31 (6) Any person intentionally violating this section shall be guilty

1 of a Class III misdemeanor.

2 Sec. 8. Section 2-1803, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
3 amended to read:

4 2-1803 (1) With the exception of the ex officio member, the
5 Governor shall appoint an advisory committee to be known as the Nebraska
6 Potato Development Committee. The committee shall be composed of three
7 shippers and four growers from the industry and the vice chancellor of
8 the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
9 who shall be an ex officio member. The Director of Agriculture shall be
10 the chairperson. The committee shall adopt and provide rules and
11 regulations for the conduct of the affairs of the Division of Potato
12 Development and advise the director regarding the appointment of the
13 division head and any assistants as may be appointed. The members of the
14 committee shall serve without pay but shall receive expenses incurred
15 while on official business as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. As
16 the terms of office of such appointees expire, successors shall be
17 appointed by the Governor for a period of two years and until their
18 successors are appointed and qualified.

19 (2) The Nebraska Potato Development Committee terminates on July 1,
20 2025.

21 Sec. 9. Section 2-4901, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
22 amended to read:

23 2-4901 (1) The Climate Assessment Response Committee is hereby
24 created. The office of the Governor shall be the lead agency and shall
25 oversee the committee and its activities. The committee shall be composed
26 of representatives appointed by the Governor with the approval of a
27 majority of the Legislature from livestock producers, crop producers, the
28 Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, and the Conservation and Survey
29 Division and Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Nebraska.
30 The Director of Agriculture or his or her designee, the chief executive
31 officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her

1 designee, and the Director of Natural Resources or his or her designee
2 shall be ex officio members of the committee. Representatives from the
3 federal Consolidated Farm Service Agency and Federal Crop Insurance
4 Corporation may also serve on the committee at the invitation of the
5 Governor. The chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture of the
6 Legislature and the chairperson of the Committee on Natural Resources of
7 the Legislature shall be nonvoting, ex officio members of the committee.
8 The Governor may appoint a member of the Governor's Policy Research
9 Office and any other state agency representatives or invite any other
10 federal agencies to name representatives as he or she deems necessary.
11 The Governor shall appoint one of the Climate Assessment Response
12 Committee members to serve as the chairperson of the committee. Committee
13 members shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174
14 to 81-1177.

15 (2) The committee shall meet at least twice each year and shall meet
16 more frequently (a) at the call of the chairperson, (b) upon request of a
17 majority of the committee members, and (c) during periods of drought or
18 other severe climate situations.

19 (3) The chairperson may establish subcommittees and may invite
20 representatives of agencies other than those with members on the
21 committee to serve on such subcommittees.

22 (4) Any funds for the activities of the committee and for other
23 climate-related expenditures may be appropriated directly to the office
24 of the Governor for contracting with other agencies or persons for tasks
25 approved by the committee.

26 (5) The Climate Assessment Response Committee terminates on July 1,
27 2025.

28 Sec. 10. Section 2-5003, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
29 amended to read:

30 2-5003 (1) There is hereby created the Nebraska Aquaculture Board.
31 The board shall consist of (a) ~~(1)~~ one employee of the commission who is

1 familiar with aquatic disease, appointed by the secretary of the
2 commission, ~~(b) (2)~~ one employee of the department appointed by the
3 director, ~~(c) (3)~~ three aquaculturists, appointed by the Governor, and
4 ~~(d) (4)~~ a representative of an industry or product which is related to or
5 used in aquaculture, appointed by the Governor. The board shall elect
6 from its members a chairperson. The terms of the members of the board
7 shall be three years, except that the terms of the initial aquaculturist
8 members of the board appointed by the Governor shall be staggered so that
9 one member is appointed for a term of one year, one for a term of two
10 years, and one for a term of three years, as determined by the Governor.
11 Members appointed under subdivisions ~~(c) (3)~~ and ~~(d) (4)~~ of this
12 subsection ~~section~~ shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in
13 sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

14 (2) The Nebraska Aquaculture Board terminates on July 1, 2025.

15 Sec. 11. Section 20-506, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
16 amended to read:

17 20-506 (1) The Racial Profiling Advisory Committee is created. The
18 committee shall terminate on July 1, 2025.

19 (2)(a) The committee shall consist of:

20 (i) The executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Law
21 Enforcement and Criminal Justice, who also shall be the chairperson of
22 the committee;

23 (ii) The Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety or his
24 or her designee;

25 (iii) The director of the Commission on Latino-Americans or his or
26 her designee; and

27 (iv) The executive director of the Commission on Indian Affairs or
28 his or her designee.

29 (b) The committee shall also consist of the following persons, each
30 appointed by the Governor from a list of five names submitted to the
31 Governor for each position:

- 1 (i) A representative of the Fraternal Order of Police;
- 2 (ii) A representative of the Nebraska County Sheriffs Association;
- 3 (iii) A representative of the Police Officers Association of
4 Nebraska;
- 5 (iv) A representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of
6 Nebraska;
- 7 (v) A representative of the AFL-CIO;
- 8 (vi) A representative of the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska;
- 9 (vii) A representative of the Nebraska branches of the National
10 Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and
- 11 (viii) A representative of the Nebraska State Bar Association
12 appointed by the Governor from a list of attorneys submitted by the
13 executive council of the Nebraska State Bar Association.

14 (3) The committee shall meet and organize within thirty days after
15 the appointment of the members. The committee shall meet semiannually at
16 a time and place to be fixed by the committee. Special meetings may be
17 called by the chairperson or at the request of two or more members of the
18 committee.

19 (4) Until July 1, 2025, ~~the~~ The committee shall advise the
20 commission and its executive director in the conduct of their duties
21 regarding (a) the completeness and acceptability of written racial
22 profiling prevention policies submitted by individual law enforcement
23 agencies as required by subsection (1) of section 20-504, (b) the
24 collection of data by law enforcement agencies, any needed additional
25 data, and any needed additional analysis, investigation, or inquiry as to
26 the data provided pursuant to subsection (3) of section 20-504, (c) the
27 review, analysis, inquiry, study, and recommendations required pursuant
28 to subsection (7) of section 20-504, including an analysis of the review,
29 analysis, inquiry, study, and recommendations, and (d) policy
30 recommendations with respect to the prevention of racial profiling and
31 the need, if any, for enforcement by the Department of Justice of the

1 prohibitions found in section 20-502.

2 (5) Beginning July 1, 2025, the commission shall carry out the
3 duties of the advisory committee.

4 Sec. 12. Section 28-712, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
5 2022, is amended to read:

6 28-712 (1) Upon receipt of a report pursuant to section 28-711, the
7 department shall determine whether to (a) accept the report for
8 traditional response and an investigation pursuant to section 28-713, (b)
9 accept the report for alternative response pursuant to section 28-712.01,
10 (c) accept the report for screening by the Review, Evaluate, and Decide
11 Team to determine eligibility for alternative response, or (d) classify
12 the report as requiring no further action by the department.

13 (2)(a) Until July 1, 2025, the ~~The~~ Nebraska Children's Commission
14 shall appoint an advisory committee to examine the department's
15 alternative response to reports of child abuse or neglect and to make
16 recommendations to the Legislature, the department, and the commission
17 regarding (i) the receipt and screening of reports of child abuse or
18 neglect by the department, (ii) the ongoing use of alternative response,
19 (iii) the ongoing use of traditional response, and (iv) the provision of
20 services within alternative response and non-court-involved cases to
21 ensure child safety, to reduce the risk of child abuse or neglect, and to
22 engage families. The advisory committee may request, receive, and review
23 data from the department regarding such processes.

24 (b) The members of the advisory committee shall include, but not be
25 limited to, a representative of (i) the department, (ii) law enforcement
26 agencies, (iii) county attorneys or other prosecutors, (iv) the state
27 chapter of child advocacy centers as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20302, (v)
28 attorneys for parents, (vi) guardians ad litem, (vii) a child welfare
29 advocacy organization, (viii) families with experience in the child
30 welfare system, (ix) family caregivers, (x) the Foster Care Review
31 Office, and (xi) the office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child

1 Welfare. Members of the advisory committee shall be appointed for terms
2 of two years. The Nebraska Children's Commission shall appoint the
3 chairperson of the advisory committee and may fill vacancies on the
4 advisory committee as they occur.

5 (3) The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations
6 to carry out this section and sections 28-710.01, 28-712.01, and 28-713.
7 Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to,
8 provisions on (a) the transfer of cases from alternative response to
9 traditional response, (b) notice to families subject to a comprehensive
10 assessment and served through alternative response of the alternative
11 response process and their rights, including the opportunity to challenge
12 agency determinations, (c) the provision of services through alternative
13 response, and (d) the collection, sharing, and reporting of data.

14 Sec. 13. Section 38-167, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
15 amended to read:

16 38-167 (1) Boards shall be designated as follows:

17 (a) Until July 1, 2025, Board of Advanced Practice Registered
18 Nurses;

19 (b) Until July 1, 2025, Board of Alcohol and Drug Counseling;

20 (c) Board of Athletic Training;

21 (d) Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology;

22 (e) Board of Behavior Analysts;

23 (f) Board of Chiropractic;

24 (g) Board of Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology,
25 and Body Art;

26 (h) Board of Dentistry;

27 (i) Board of Emergency Medical Services;

28 (j) Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists;

29 (k) Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming;

30 (l) Until July 1, 2025, Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists;

31 (m) Board of Massage Therapy;

- 1 (n) Board of Medical Nutrition Therapy;
- 2 (o) Board of Medical Radiography;
- 3 (p) Board of Medicine and Surgery;
- 4 (q) Board of Mental Health Practice;
- 5 (r) Board of Nursing;
- 6 (s) Board of Nursing Home Administration;
- 7 (t) Board of Occupational Therapy Practice;
- 8 (u) Board of Optometry;
- 9 (v) Board of Pharmacy;
- 10 (w) Board of Physical Therapy;
- 11 (x) Board of Podiatry;
- 12 (y) Board of Psychology;
- 13 (z) Board of Respiratory Care Practice; and
- 14 (aa) Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.

15 (2) Any change made by the Legislature of the names of boards listed
16 in this section shall not change the membership of such boards or affect
17 the validity of any action taken by or the status of any action pending
18 before any of such boards. Any such board newly named by the Legislature
19 shall be the direct and only successor to the board as previously named.

20 Sec. 14. Section 38-204, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
21 amended to read:

22 38-204 Until July 1, 2025, board ~~Board~~ means the Board of Advanced
23 Practice Registered Nurses. On and after July 1, 2025, board means the
24 Board of Nursing.

25 Sec. 15. Section 38-308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
26 amended to read:

27 38-308 Until July 1, 2025, board ~~Board~~ means the Board of Alcohol
28 and Drug Counseling. On and after July 1, 2025, board means the Board of
29 Mental Health Practice.

30 Sec. 16. Section 38-1503, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
31 amended to read:

1 38-1503 Until July 1, 2025, board Board means the Board of Hearing
2 Instrument Specialists. On and after July 1, 2025, board means the Board
3 of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

4 Sec. 17. Section 39-2106, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
5 2022, is amended to read:

6 39-2106 (1) ~~There To assist in developing the functional~~
7 ~~classification system,~~ there is hereby established the Board of Public
8 Roads Classifications and Standards which shall consist of eleven members
9 to be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Legislature. The
10 board shall assist in developing the functional classification system.
11 Beginning on July 1, 2025, the board shall be responsible for overseeing
12 the County Highway and City Street Superintendents Act.

13 (2) Of the members of such board:

14 (a) Two shall be representatives of the Department of
15 Transportation;

16 (b) Three shall be representatives of the counties. One of such
17 members shall be a county highway superintendent licensed pursuant to the
18 County Highway and City Street Superintendents Act and two of such
19 members shall be county board members;

20 (c) Three shall be representatives of the municipalities. Until July
21 1, 2025, each Each of such members shall be a city engineer, village
22 engineer, public works director, city manager, city administrator, street
23 commissioner, or city street superintendent licensed pursuant to the
24 County Highway and City Street Superintendents Act. Beginning July 1,
25 2025, one of such members shall be a city street superintendent licensed
26 pursuant to the County Highway and City Street Superintendents Act, and
27 the remaining representatives of municipalities shall be a city engineer,
28 village engineer, public works director, city manager, city
29 administrator, street commissioner, or city street superintendent
30 licensed pursuant to the County Highway and City Street Superintendents
31 Act; and

1 (d) Three shall be lay citizens, with one representing each of the
2 three congressional districts of the state.

3 (3) The county members on the board shall represent the various
4 classes of counties, as defined in section 23-1114.01, in the following
5 manner:

6 (a) One shall be a representative from either a Class 1 or Class 2
7 county;

8 (b) One shall be a representative from either a Class 3 or Class 4
9 county; and

10 (c) One shall be a representative from either a Class 5, Class 6, or
11 Class 7 county.

12 (4) The municipal members of the board shall represent
13 municipalities of the following sizes by population, as determined by the
14 most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified
15 count by the United States Bureau of the Census:

16 (a) One shall be a representative from a municipality of less than
17 two thousand five hundred inhabitants;

18 (b) One shall be a representative from a municipality of two
19 thousand five hundred to fifty thousand inhabitants; and

20 (c) One shall be a representative from a municipality of over fifty
21 thousand inhabitants.

22 (5) In making such appointments, the Governor shall consult with the
23 Director-State Engineer and with the appropriate county and municipal
24 officials and may consult with organizations representing such officials
25 or representing counties or municipalities as may be appropriate.

26 (6) At the expiration of the existing term, one member from the
27 county representatives, the municipal representatives, and the lay
28 citizens shall be appointed for a term of two years; and two members from
29 the county representatives, the municipal representatives, and the lay
30 citizens shall be appointed for terms of four years. One representative
31 from the department shall be appointed for a two-year term and the other

1 representative shall be appointed for a four-year term. Thereafter, all
2 such appointments shall be for terms of four years each.

3 (7) Members of such board shall receive no compensation for their
4 services as such, except that the lay members shall receive the same
5 compensation as members of the State Highway Commission, and all members
6 shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their
7 official duties as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. All expenses
8 of such board shall be paid by the department.

9 Sec. 18. Section 39-2301.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 39-2301.01 For purposes of the County Highway and City Street
12 Superintendents Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

13 (1) Board of examiners means:

14 (a) Prior to July 1, 2025, the Board of Examiners for County Highway
15 and City Street Superintendents; and

16 (b) Beginning July 1, 2025, the Board of Public Roads
17 Classifications and Standards;

18 (2) City street superintendent means a person who engages in the
19 practice of street superintending for an incorporated municipality;

20 (3) County highway superintendent means a person who engages in the
21 practice of highway superintending for a county; and

22 (4) Street or highway superintending means assisting an incorporated
23 municipality or a county in the following:

24 (a) Developing and annually updating long-range plans or programs
25 based on needs and coordinated with adjacent local governmental units;

26 (b) Developing annual programs for design, construction, and
27 maintenance;

28 (c) Developing annual budgets based on programmed projects and
29 activities;

30 (d) Implementing the capital improvements and maintenance activities
31 provided in the approved plans, programs, and budgets; and

1 (e) Managing personnel, contractors, and equipment in support of
2 such planning, programming, budgeting, and implementation operations.

3 Sec. 19. Section 39-2304, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
4 2022, is amended to read:

5 39-2304 (1) The Board of Examiners for County Highway and City
6 Street Superintendents is created. The board shall consist of seven
7 members to be appointed by the Governor. Four of such members shall be
8 county representatives and three of such members shall be municipal
9 representatives.

10 (2)(a) Immediately preceding appointment to the board, each county
11 and municipal representative shall hold a county highway and city street
12 superintendent license pursuant to the County Highway and City Street
13 Superintendents Act.

14 (b) Of the county representatives, no more than one member shall be
15 appointed from each class of county as defined in section 23-1114.01.

16 (c) Of the municipal representatives:

17 (i) No more than one shall be appointed from each congressional
18 district;

19 (ii) One shall be a representative of a city of the metropolitan
20 class, primary class, or first class;

21 (iii) One shall be a representative of a city of the second class;
22 and

23 (iv) One shall be a representative of a village.

24 (3) In making such appointments, the Governor may give consideration
25 to the following lists of persons licensed pursuant to the County Highway
26 and City Street Superintendents Act:

27 (a) A list of county engineers, county highway superintendents, and
28 county surveyors submitted by the Nebraska Association of County
29 Officials; and

30 (b) A list of city street superintendents, city managers, city
31 administrators, street commissioners, city engineers, village engineers,

1 and public works directors submitted by the League of Nebraska
2 Municipalities.

3 (4) Two county representatives shall initially be appointed for
4 terms of two years each, and two county representatives shall initially
5 be appointed for terms of four years each. One municipal representative
6 shall initially be appointed for a term of two years, and two municipal
7 representatives shall initially be appointed for terms of four years
8 each. Thereafter, all such appointments shall be for terms of four years
9 each.

10 (5) In the event a county or municipal representative loses his or
11 her county highway and city street superintendent license, such person
12 shall no longer be qualified to serve on the board and such seat shall be
13 vacant. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the board for any reason,
14 such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the
15 remainder of the unexpired term. Such appointed person shall meet the
16 same requirements and qualifications as the member whose vacancy he or
17 she is filling.

18 (6) Members of the board shall receive no compensation for their
19 services as members of the board but shall be reimbursed for expenses
20 incurred while engaged in the performance of their official duties as
21 provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

22 (7) The Board of Examiners for County Highway and City Street
23 Superintendents terminates on July 1, 2025.

24 Sec. 20. Section 43-1302, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
25 2022, is amended to read:

26 43-1302 (1) The Foster Care Review Office is hereby established. The
27 purpose of the office is to provide information and direct reporting to
28 the courts, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of
29 Probation Administration, and the Legislature regarding the foster care
30 system in Nebraska; to provide oversight of the foster care system; and
31 to make recommendations regarding foster care policy to the Legislature.

1 The executive director of the Foster Care Review Office shall provide
2 information and reporting services, provide analysis of information
3 obtained, and oversee foster care file audit case reviews and tracking of
4 cases of children in the foster care system. The executive director of
5 the office shall, through information analysis and with the assistance of
6 the Foster Care Advisory Committee, (a) determine key issues of the
7 foster care system and ways to resolve the issues and to otherwise
8 improve the system and (b) make policy recommendations.

9 (2)(a) The Foster Care Advisory Committee is created. Until July 1,
10 2025, the ~~The~~ committee shall have five members appointed by the
11 Governor. Three members shall be local board members, one member shall
12 have data analysis experience, and one member shall be a resident of the
13 state who is representative of the public at large. The members shall
14 have no pecuniary interest in the foster care system and shall not be
15 employed by the office, the Department of Health and Human Services, a
16 county, a residential child-caring agency, a child-placing agency, or a
17 court.

18 (b) The Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall
19 hold a confirmation hearing for the appointees, and the appointments
20 shall be subject to confirmation by the Legislature, except that the
21 members appointed while the Legislature is not in session shall serve
22 until the next session of the Legislature, at which time a majority of
23 the members of the Legislature shall approve or disapprove of the
24 appointments.

25 (c) The terms of the members shall be for three years, except that
26 the Governor shall designate two of the initial appointees to serve
27 initial terms ending on March 1, 2014, and three of the initial
28 appointees to serve initial terms ending on March 1, 2015. The Governor
29 shall make the initial appointments within thirty days after July 1,
30 2012. Members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms, except
31 that members shall serve until their successors have been appointed and

1 qualified. The Governor shall appoint members to fill vacancies from the
2 same category as the vacated position to serve for the remainder of the
3 unexpired term.

4 (d) The Foster Care Advisory Committee shall meet at least four
5 times each calendar year. Each member shall attend at least two meetings
6 each calendar year and shall be subject to removal for failure to attend
7 at least two meetings unless excused by a majority of the members of the
8 committee. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in
9 sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

10 (e) The duties of the Foster Care Advisory Committee are to:

11 (i) Until July 1, 2025, hire ~~Hire~~ and fire an executive director for
12 the office who has training and experience in foster care; and

13 (ii) Support and facilitate the work of the office, including the
14 tracking of children in foster care and reviewing foster care file audit
15 case reviews.

16 (3) The executive director of the office shall hire, fire, and
17 supervise office staff and shall be responsible for the duties of the
18 office as provided by law, including the annual report and other
19 reporting, review, tracking, data collection and analysis, and oversight
20 and training of local boards.

21 Sec. 21. Section 43-1903, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
22 2022, is amended to read:

23 43-1903 (1) Until July 1, 2025, There is hereby created within the
24 ~~department~~ the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund Board is created
25 within the department which shall be composed of nine members as follows:

26 Two representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services
27 appointed by the chief executive officer and seven members to be
28 appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Legislature. The
29 Governor shall appoint two members from each of the three congressional
30 districts and one member from the state at large. As a group, the
31 appointed board members (a) shall demonstrate knowledge in the area of

1 child abuse and neglect prevention, (b) shall be representative of the
2 demographic composition of this state, and (c) to the extent practicable,
3 shall be representative of all of the following categories (i) the
4 business community, (ii) the religious community, (iii) the legal
5 community, (iv) professional providers of child abuse and neglect
6 prevention services, and (v) volunteers in child abuse and neglect
7 prevention services.

8 (2) The term of each appointed board member shall be three years,
9 except that of the board members first appointed, two, including the at-
10 large member, shall serve for three years, three shall serve for two
11 years, and two shall serve for one year. The Governor shall designate the
12 term which each of the members first appointed shall serve when he or she
13 makes the appointments. An appointed board member shall not serve more
14 than two consecutive terms whether partial or full. A vacancy shall be
15 filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as the
16 original appointment.

17 (3) The board shall elect a chairperson from among the appointed
18 board members who shall serve for a term of two years. The board may
19 elect the other officers and establish committees as it deems
20 appropriate.

21 (4) The members of the board shall not receive any compensation for
22 their services but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the
23 performance of their duties as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
24 The reimbursement shall be paid from the fund. In any one fiscal year, no
25 more than five percent of the annually available funds as provided in
26 section 43-1906 shall be used for the purpose of reimbursement of board
27 members.

28 (5) Any board member may be removed by the Governor for misconduct,
29 incompetency, or neglect of duty after first being given the opportunity
30 to be heard in his or her own behalf.

31 (6) Beginning July 1, 2025, the board is terminated and the

1 department shall take over the duties of the board regarding awarding
2 grants.

3 Sec. 22. Section 43-2405, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 43-2405 (1) An eligible applicant may apply to the Nebraska
6 Children's Commission ~~coalition~~ for a grant under the Commission Grant
7 Program in a manner and form prescribed by the commission for funds made
8 available from the Commission Grant Program or the federal act. The
9 application shall include a comprehensive juvenile services plan. Grants
10 shall be awarded to eligible applicants at least annually within the
11 limits of available funds until programs are available statewide.

12 (2) Eligible applicants may give consideration to contracting with
13 private nonprofit agencies for the provision of programs.

14 Sec. 23. Section 43-3401, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
15 2022, is amended to read:

16 43-3401 (1) The Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council is
17 created. The council shall advise and assist the collaborating agencies
18 in carrying out the provisions of the Early Intervention Act, the Quality
19 Child Care Act, sections 79-1101 to 79-1104, and other early childhood
20 care and education initiatives under state supervision. Membership and
21 activities of the council shall comply with all applicable provisions of
22 federal law. Beginning July 1, 2025, there shall be eleven members of the
23 council. Members of the council shall be appointed by the Governor and
24 shall include, but not be limited to:

25 (a) ~~(1)~~ Parents of children who require early intervention services,
26 early childhood special education, or ~~and~~ other early childhood care and
27 education services; and

28 (b) ~~(2)~~ Representatives of school districts, social services, health
29 and medical services, family child care or ~~and~~ center-based early
30 childhood care and education programs, ~~agencies providing training to~~
31 ~~staff of child care programs, resource and referral agencies, mental~~

1 ~~health services, developmental disabilities services, educational service~~
2 ~~units, Head Start, higher education, physicians, the Legislature,~~
3 ~~business persons, and the collaborating agencies.~~

4 (2) Terms of the members shall be for three years, and a member
5 shall not serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. Members shall
6 be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177,
7 including child care expenses, with funds provided for such purposes
8 through the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and
9 sections 79-1101 to 79-1104.

10 (3) Members of the Nebraska Interagency Coordinating Council serving
11 on July 13, 2000, shall constitute the Early Childhood Interagency
12 Coordinating Council and shall serve for the remainder of their terms.
13 The Governor shall make additional appointments as required by this
14 section and to fill vacancies as needed. The Governor shall set the
15 initial terms of additional appointees to result in staggered terms for
16 members of the council. The Department of Health and Human Services and
17 the State Department of Education shall provide and coordinate staff
18 assistance to the council.

19 Sec. 24. Section 43-4001, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
20 2022, is amended to read:

21 43-4001 (1) The Children's Behavioral Health Task Force is created.
22 The task force shall consist of the following members:

23 (a) The chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of
24 the Legislature or another member of the committee as his or her
25 designee;

26 (b) The chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the
27 Legislature or another member of the committee as his or her designee;

28 (c) Two providers of community-based behavioral health services to
29 children, appointed by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services
30 Committee of the Legislature;

31 (d) One regional administrator appointed under section 71-808,

1 appointed by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee
2 of the Legislature;

3 (e) Two representatives of organizations advocating on behalf of
4 consumers of children's behavioral health services and their families,
5 appointed by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee
6 of the Legislature;

7 (f) One juvenile court judge, appointed by the Chief Justice of the
8 Supreme Court; and

9 (g) The probation administrator or his or her designee.

10 (2) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation but
11 shall be reimbursed from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund for expenses
12 as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

13 (3) The chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of
14 the Legislature or his or her designee shall serve as chairperson of the
15 task force. Administrative and staff support for the task force shall be
16 provided by the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature
17 and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature.

18 (4) Effective July 1, 2025, the Children's Behavioral Health Task
19 Force is terminated.

20 Sec. 25. Section 43-4203, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
21 2022, is amended to read:

22 43-4203 (1) The Nebraska Children's Commission shall create a
23 committee to examine the Office of Juvenile Services and the Juvenile
24 Services Division of the Office of Probation Administration. Such
25 committee shall review the role and effectiveness of out-of-home
26 placements utilized in the juvenile justice system, including the youth
27 rehabilitation and treatment centers, and make recommendations to the
28 commission on the juvenile justice continuum of care, including what
29 populations should be served in out-of-home placements and what treatment
30 services should be provided at the centers in order to appropriately
31 serve those populations. Such committee shall also review how mental and

1 behavioral health services are provided to juveniles in residential
2 placements and the need for such services throughout Nebraska and make
3 recommendations to the commission relating to those systems of care in
4 the juvenile justice system. The committee shall collaborate with the
5 Juvenile Justice Institute at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the
6 Center for Health Policy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center,
7 the behavioral health regions as established in section 71-807, and state
8 and national juvenile justice experts to develop recommendations. The
9 recommendations shall include a plan to implement a continuum of care in
10 the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of Nebraska families,
11 including specific recommendations for the rehabilitation and treatment
12 model. The recommendations shall be delivered to the commission and
13 electronically to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature annually by
14 September 1.

15 (2) The commission shall collaborate with juvenile justice
16 specialists of the Office of Probation Administration and county
17 officials with respect to any county-operated practice model
18 participating in the Crossover Youth Program of the Center for Juvenile
19 Justice Reform at Georgetown University.

20 (3) The commission shall analyze case management workforce issues
21 and make recommendations to the Health and Human Services Committee of
22 the Legislature regarding:

23 (a) Salary comparisons with other states and the current pay
24 structure based on job descriptions;

25 (b) Utilization of incentives for persons who work in the area of
26 child welfare;

27 (c) Evidence-based training requirements for persons who work in the
28 area of child welfare and their supervisors; and

29 (d) Collaboration with the University of Nebraska to increase and
30 sustain such workforce.

31 (4) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee created pursuant to

1 section 43-4216, the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Committee
2 created pursuant to section 43-4716, and the Bridge to Independence
3 Advisory Committee created pursuant to section 43-4513 shall be under the
4 jurisdiction of the commission. The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate
5 Committee and the Bridge to Independence Advisory Committee terminate
6 July 1, 2025, and the commission shall take over their duties.

7 (5) The commission shall work with the office of the State Court
8 Administrator, as appropriate, and entities which coordinate facilitated
9 conferencing as described in section 43-247.03.

10 (6) The commission shall work with administrators from each of the
11 service areas designated pursuant to section 81-3116, the teams created
12 pursuant to section 28-728, local foster care review boards, child
13 advocacy centers, the teams created pursuant to the Supreme Court's
14 Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative, community stakeholders, and
15 advocates for child welfare programs and services to establish networks
16 in each of such service areas. Such networks shall permit collaboration
17 to strengthen the continuum of services available to child welfare
18 agencies and to provide resources for children and juveniles outside the
19 child protection system.

20 (7) Effective July 1, 2025, the commission shall:

21 (a) Apply for and receive funds for the Commission Grant Program and
22 make recommendations to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and
23 Criminal Justice on the award of grants to eligible applicants pursuant
24 to sections 43-2404 to 43-2409;

25 (b) Appoint the executive director of the Foster Care Review Office
26 and members of the Foster Care Advisory Committee as provided in section
27 43-1302; and

28 (c) Examine the Department of Health and Human Services' alternative
29 response to reports of child abuse or neglect pursuant to section 28-712.

30 (8) ~~(7)~~ The commission may organize subcommittees as it deems
31 necessary. Members of the subcommittees may be members of the commission

1 or may be individuals who have knowledge of the subcommittee's subject
2 matter, professional expertise to assist the subcommittee in completing
3 its assigned responsibilities, or the ability to collaborate within the
4 subcommittee and with the commission to carry out the powers and duties
5 of the commission. A subcommittee shall meet as necessary to complete the
6 work delegated by the commission and shall report its findings to the
7 relevant committee within the commission.

8 (9) ~~(8)~~ No member of any committee or subcommittee created pursuant
9 to this section shall have any private financial interest, profit, or
10 benefit from any work of such committee or subcommittee.

11 Sec. 26. Section 43-4216, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
12 2022, is amended to read:

13 43-4216 (1) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee is created.
14 The committee shall be convened at least once every four years. Effective
15 July 1, 2025, the committee is terminated.

16 (2) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee shall consist of no
17 fewer than nine members, including:

18 (a) The following voting members: (i) Representatives from a child
19 welfare agency that contracts directly with foster parents, from each of
20 the service areas designated pursuant to section 81-3116; (ii) a
21 representative from an advocacy organization which deals with legal and
22 policy issues that include child welfare; (iii) a representative from an
23 advocacy organization, the singular focus of which is issues impacting
24 children; (iv) a representative from a foster and adoptive parent
25 association; (v) a representative from a lead agency; (vi) a
26 representative from a child advocacy organization that supports young
27 adults who were in foster care as children; (vii) a foster parent who
28 contracts directly with the Department of Health and Human Services; and
29 (viii) a foster parent who contracts with a child welfare agency; and

30 (b) The following nonvoting, ex officio members: (i) The chief
31 executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his

1 or her designee and (ii) representatives from the Division of Children
2 and Family Services of the department from each service area designated
3 pursuant to section 81-3116, including at least one division employee
4 with a thorough understanding of the current foster care payment system
5 and at least one division employee with a thorough understanding of the
6 N-FOCUS electronic data collection system. The nonvoting, ex officio
7 members of the committee may attend committee meetings and participate in
8 discussions of the committee and shall gather and provide information to
9 the committee on the policies, programs, and processes of each of their
10 respective bodies. The nonvoting, ex officio members shall not vote on
11 decisions or recommendations by the committee.

12 (3) Members of the committee shall serve for terms of four years and
13 until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Nebraska
14 Children's Commission shall appoint the members of the committee and the
15 chairperson of the committee and may fill vacancies on the committee as
16 they occur.

17 Sec. 27. Section 43-4406, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
18 2022, is amended to read:

19 43-4406 On or before each September 15, the department shall report
20 electronically to the Health and Human Services Committee of the
21 Legislature the following information regarding child welfare services,
22 with respect to children served by the department:

23 (1) The percentage of children served and the allocation of the
24 child welfare budget, categorized by service area, including:

25 (a) The percentage of children served, by service area and the
26 corresponding budget allocation; and

27 (b) The percentage of children served who are wards of the state and
28 the corresponding budget allocation;

29 (2) The number of siblings in out-of-home care placed with siblings
30 as of the June 30 immediately preceding the date of the report,
31 categorized by service area;

1 (3) The number of waivers granted under subsection (2) of section
2 71-1904;

3 ~~(4) An update of the information in the report of the Children's~~
4 ~~Behavioral Health Task Force pursuant to sections 43-4001 to 43-4003,~~
5 ~~including;~~

6 ~~(a) The number of children receiving mental health and substance~~
7 ~~abuse services annually by the Division of Behavioral Health of the~~
8 ~~department;~~

9 ~~(b) The number of children receiving behavioral health services~~
10 ~~annually at the Hastings Regional Center;~~

11 ~~(c) The number of state wards receiving behavioral health services~~
12 ~~as of September 1 immediately preceding the date of the report;~~

13 ~~(d) Funding sources for children's behavioral health services for~~
14 ~~the fiscal year ending on the immediately preceding June 30;~~

15 ~~(e) Expenditures in the immediately preceding fiscal year by the~~
16 ~~division, categorized by category of behavioral health service and by~~
17 ~~behavioral health region; and~~

18 ~~(f) Expenditures in the immediately preceding fiscal year from the~~
19 ~~medical assistance program and CHIP as defined in section 68-969 for~~
20 ~~mental health and substance abuse services, for all children and for~~
21 ~~wards of the state;~~

22 ~~(4) (5) The following information as obtained for each service area:~~

23 ~~(a) Case manager education, including college degree, major, and~~
24 ~~level of education beyond a baccalaureate degree;~~

25 ~~(b) Average caseload per case manager;~~

26 ~~(c) Average number of case managers per child during the preceding~~
27 ~~twelve months;~~

28 ~~(d) Average number of case managers per child for children who have~~
29 ~~been in the child welfare system for three months, for six months, for~~
30 ~~twelve months, and for eighteen months and the consecutive yearly average~~
31 ~~for children until the age of majority or permanency is attained;~~

- 1 (e) Monthly case manager turnover;
- 2 (f) Monthly face-to-face contacts between each case manager and the
3 children on his or her caseload;
- 4 (g) Monthly face-to-face contacts between each case manager and the
5 parent or parents of the children on his or her caseload;
- 6 (h) Case documentation of monthly consecutive team meetings per
7 quarter;
- 8 (i) Case documentation of monthly consecutive parent contacts per
9 quarter;
- 10 (j) Case documentation of monthly consecutive child contacts with
11 case manager per quarter;
- 12 (k) Case documentation of monthly consecutive contacts between child
13 welfare service providers and case managers per quarter;
- 14 (l) Timeliness of court reports; and
- 15 (m) Non-court-involved children, including the number of children
16 served, the types of services requested, the specific services provided,
17 the cost of the services provided, and the funding source;
- 18 (5) ~~(6)~~ All placements in residential treatment settings made or
19 paid for by the child welfare system, the Office of Juvenile Services,
20 the State Department of Education or local education agencies, and the
21 medical assistance program, including, but not limited to:
 - 22 (a) Child variables;
 - 23 (b) Reasons for placement;
 - 24 (c) The percentage of children denied medicaid-reimbursed services
25 and denied the level of placement requested;
 - 26 (d) With respect to each child in a residential treatment setting:
 - 27 (i) If there was a denial of initial placement request, the length
28 and level of each placement subsequent to denial of initial placement
29 request and the status of each child before and immediately after, six
30 months after, and twelve months after placement;
 - 31 (ii) Funds expended and length of placements;

1 (iii) Number and level of placements;

2 (iv) Facility variables; and

3 (v) Identification of specific child welfare services unavailable in
4 the child's community that, if available, could have prevented the need
5 for residential treatment; and

6 (e) Identification of child welfare services unavailable in the
7 state that, if available, could prevent out-of-state placements;

8 (6) ~~(7)~~ For any individual involved in the child welfare system
9 receiving a service or a placement through the department or its agent
10 for which referral is necessary, the date when such referral was made by
11 the department or its agent and the date and the method by which the
12 individual receiving the services was notified of such referral. To the
13 extent the department becomes aware of the date when the individual
14 receiving the referral began receiving such services, the department or
15 its agent shall document such date;

16 (7) ~~(8)~~ The number of sexual abuse allegations that occurred for
17 children being served by the Division of Children and Family Services of
18 the Department of Health and Human Services and placed at a residential
19 child-caring agency and the number of corresponding (a) screening
20 decision occurrences by category, (b) open investigations by category,
21 and (c) agency substantiations, court substantiations, and court-pending
22 status cases; and

23 (8) ~~(9)~~ Information on children who are reported or suspected
24 victims of sex trafficking of a minor or labor trafficking of a minor, as
25 defined in section 28-830, including:

26 (a) The number of reports to the statewide toll-free number pursuant
27 to section 28-711 alleging sex trafficking of a minor or labor
28 trafficking of a minor and the number of children alleged to be victims;

29 (b) The number of substantiated victims of sex trafficking of a
30 minor or labor trafficking of a minor, including demographic information
31 and information on whether the children were already served by the

1 department;

2 (c) The number of children determined to be reported or suspected
3 victims of sex trafficking of a minor or labor trafficking of a minor,
4 including demographic information and information on whether the children
5 were previously served by the department;

6 (d) The types and costs of services provided to children who are
7 reported or suspected victims of sex trafficking of a minor or labor
8 trafficking of a minor; and

9 (e) The number of ongoing cases opened due to allegations of sex
10 trafficking of a minor or labor trafficking of a minor and number of
11 children and families served through these cases.

12 Sec. 28. Section 43-4513, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
13 2022, is amended to read:

14 43-4513 (1) The Bridge to Independence Advisory Committee is created
15 within the Nebraska Children's Commission to advise and make
16 recommendations to the Legislature and the Nebraska Children's Commission
17 regarding ongoing implementation of the bridge to independence program,
18 extended guardianship assistance described in section 43-4511, and
19 extended adoption assistance described in section 43-4512. The Bridge to
20 Independence Advisory Committee shall provide a written report regarding
21 ongoing implementation, including participation in the bridge to
22 independence program, extended guardianship assistance described in
23 section 43-4511, and extended adoption assistance described in section
24 43-4512 and early discharge rates and reasons obtained from the
25 department, to the Nebraska Children's Commission, the Health and Human
26 Services Committee of the Legislature, the department, and the Governor
27 by September 1 of each year. The report to the Health and Human Services
28 Committee of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

29 (2) The members of the Bridge to Independence Advisory Committee
30 shall include, but not be limited to, (a) representatives from all three
31 branches of government, and the representatives from the legislative and

1 judicial branches of government shall be nonvoting, ex officio members,
2 (b) no less than three young adults currently or previously in foster
3 care, which may be filled on a rotating basis by members of Project
4 Everlast or a similar youth support or advocacy group, (c) one or more
5 representatives from a child welfare advocacy organization, (d) one or
6 more representatives from a child welfare service agency, and (e) one or
7 more representatives from an agency providing independent living
8 services.

9 (3) Members of the committee shall be appointed for terms of two
10 years. The Nebraska Children's Commission shall appoint the chairperson
11 of the committee and may fill vacancies on the committee as they occur.

12 (4) Effective July 1, 2025, the committee is terminated.

13 Sec. 29. Section 48-622.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
14 amended to read:

15 48-622.03 (1) There is hereby created the Nebraska Worker Training
16 Board. The board shall consist of seven members appointed and serving for
17 terms determined by the Governor as follows:

- 18 (a) A representative of employers in Nebraska;
- 19 (b) A representative of employees in Nebraska;
- 20 (c) A representative of the public;
- 21 (d) The Commissioner of Labor or a designee;
- 22 (e) The Director of Economic Development or a designee;
- 23 (f) The Commissioner of Education or a designee; and
- 24 (g) The chairperson of the governing board of the Nebraska Community
25 College Association or a designee.

26 (2) The chairperson of the Nebraska Worker Training Board shall be
27 the representative of the employers in Nebraska.

28 (3) By July 1 of each year, the board shall prepare an annual
29 program plan for the upcoming fiscal year containing guidelines for the
30 program financed by the Nebraska Training and Support Cash Fund. The
31 guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, guidelines for

1 certifying training providers, criteria for evaluating requests for the
2 use of money under section 48-622.02, and guidelines for requiring
3 employers to provide matching funds. The guidelines shall give priority
4 to training that contributes to the expansion of the Nebraska workforce
5 and increasing the pool of highly skilled workers in Nebraska.

6 (4) By December 31 of each year, the Department of Labor shall
7 provide a report to the Governor covering the activities of the program
8 financed by the Nebraska Training and Support Cash Fund for the previous
9 fiscal year. The report shall contain an assessment of the effectiveness
10 of the program and its administration.

11 (5) The Nebraska Worker Training Board terminates on July 1, 2025.
12 Beginning on such date, the duties of the board shall be carried out by
13 the Department of Labor.

14 Sec. 30. Section 66-1618, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
15 amended to read:

16 66-1618 (1) The council shall be appointed by the Governor within
17 sixty days after the date the vote is certified to the Governor pursuant
18 to section 66-1617. The council shall consist of nine members, including
19 four members representing retail marketers, one member representing
20 wholesalers, suppliers, and importers, one member representing
21 manufacturers and distributors of liquefied petroleum gas equipment, one
22 member representing the academic or propane research community, one
23 propane user or consumer, and the State Fire Marshal or his or her
24 designee. Other than the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee and
25 the representatives of the research community and consumers, members
26 shall be full-time employees or owners of businesses in the industry or
27 representatives of agriculture cooperatives. Only one person from any
28 company or an affiliated company may serve on the council at a time. All
29 members shall be Nebraska residents, except that the members representing
30 wholesalers, suppliers, and importers and manufacturers and distributors
31 of liquefied petroleum gas equipment may be residents of other states.

1 (2) Members of the council shall serve terms of three years, except
2 that, of the initial members, three shall be appointed for terms of one
3 year and three shall be appointed for terms of two years. Members filling
4 unexpired terms shall be appointed in a manner consistent with this
5 section. Members may serve a maximum of two consecutive full terms,
6 except that members filling unexpired terms may serve a maximum of seven
7 consecutive years. Members filling unexpired terms shall be appointed in
8 a manner consistent with this section. Former members may be reappointed
9 if they have not been members for a period of two years.

10 (3) The Propane Education and Research Council terminates on July 1,
11 2025.

12 Sec. 31. Section 66-2001, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
13 2022, is amended to read:

14 66-2001 (1) The Natural Gas Fuel Board is hereby established to
15 advise the Department of Environment and Energy regarding the promotion
16 of natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel in Nebraska. The board shall
17 provide recommendations relating to:

18 (a) Distribution, infrastructure, and workforce development for
19 natural gas to be used as a motor vehicle fuel;

20 (b) Loans, grants, and tax incentives to encourage the use of
21 natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel for individuals and public and
22 private fleets; and

23 (c) Such other matters as it deems appropriate.

24 (2) The board shall consist of eight members appointed by the
25 Governor. The Governor shall make the initial appointments by October 1,
26 2012. The board shall include:

27 (a) One member representing a jurisdictional utility as defined in
28 section 66-1802;

29 (b) One member representing a metropolitan utilities district;

30 (c) One member representing the interests of the transportation
31 industry in the state;

1 (d) One member representing the interests of the business community
2 in the state, specifically fueling station owners or operators;

3 (e) One member representing natural gas marketers or pipelines in
4 the state;

5 (f) One member representing automobile dealerships or repair
6 businesses in the state;

7 (g) One member representing labor interests in the state; and

8 (h) One member representing environmental interests in the state,
9 specifically air quality.

10 (3) All appointments shall be subject to the approval of a majority
11 of the members of the Legislature if the Legislature is in session, and
12 if the Legislature is not in session, any appointment to fill a vacancy
13 shall be temporary until the next session of the Legislature, at which
14 time a majority of the members of the Legislature may approve or
15 disapprove such appointment.

16 (4) Members shall be appointed for terms of four years, except that
17 of the initial appointees the terms of the members representing a
18 jurisdictional utility and a metropolitan utilities district shall expire
19 on September 30, 2015, the terms of the members representing the
20 transportation industry, the business community, natural gas marketers or
21 pipelines, and automobile dealerships or repair businesses shall expire
22 on September 30, 2014, and the terms of the members representing labor
23 and environmental interests shall expire on September 30, 2013. Members
24 may be reappointed. A member shall serve until a successor is appointed
25 and qualified.

26 (5) A vacancy on the board shall exist in the event of death,
27 disability, resignation, or removal for cause of a member. Any vacancy on
28 the board arising other than from the expiration of a term shall be
29 filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term. An
30 appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made by the Governor with the
31 approval of a majority of the Legislature, and any person so appointed

1 shall have the same qualifications as the person whom he or she succeeds.

2 (6) The board shall meet at least once annually.

3 (7) The members shall not be reimbursed for expenses associated with
4 carrying out their duties as members.

5 (8) The department shall provide administrative support to the board
6 as necessary so that the board may carry out its duties.

7 (9) The Natural Gas Fuel Board terminates on July 1, 2025.

8 Sec. 32. Section 71-814, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
9 amended to read:

10 71-814 (1) The State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services is
11 created. Members of the committee shall have a demonstrated interest and
12 commitment and specialized knowledge, experience, or expertise relating
13 to the provision of mental health services in the State of Nebraska. The
14 committee shall consist of twenty-three members appointed by the Governor
15 as follows: (a) One regional governing board member, (b) one regional
16 administrator, (c) twelve consumers of behavioral health services or
17 their family members, (d) two providers of behavioral health services,
18 (e) two representatives from the State Department of Education, including
19 one representative from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the
20 State Department of Education, (f) three representatives from the
21 Department of Health and Human Services representing mental health,
22 social services, and medicaid, (g) one representative from the Nebraska
23 Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, and (h) one
24 representative from the Housing Office of the Community and Rural
25 Development Division of the Department of Economic Development.

26 (2) The committee shall be responsible to the division and shall (a)
27 serve as the state's mental health planning council as required by Public
28 Law 102-321, (b) conduct regular meetings, (c) provide advice and
29 assistance to the division relating to the provision of mental health
30 services and substance use disorder services in the State of Nebraska,
31 including, but not limited to, the development, implementation,

1 provision, and funding of organized peer support services, (d) promote
2 the interests of consumers and their families, including, but not limited
3 to, their inclusion and involvement in all aspects of services design,
4 planning, implementation, provision, education, evaluation, and research,
5 (e) provide reports as requested by the division, and (f) engage in such
6 other activities as directed or authorized by the division.

7 (3) Effective July 1, 2025, the duties of the State Advisory
8 Committee on Substance Abuse Services shall be performed by the
9 committee.

10 Sec. 33. Section 71-815, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
11 amended to read:

12 71-815 (1) The State Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse Services
13 is created. Members of the committee shall have a demonstrated interest
14 and commitment and specialized knowledge, experience, or expertise
15 relating to the provision of substance abuse services in the State of
16 Nebraska. The committee shall consist of twelve members appointed by the
17 Governor and shall include at least three consumers of substance abuse
18 services.

19 (2) The committee shall be responsible to the division and shall (a)
20 conduct regular meetings, (b) provide advice and assistance to the
21 division relating to the provision of substance abuse services in the
22 State of Nebraska, (c) promote the interests of consumers and their
23 families, (d) provide reports as requested by the division, and (e)
24 engage in such other activities as directed or authorized by the
25 division.

26 (3) Effective July 1, 2025, the State Advisory Committee on
27 Substance Abuse Services is terminated.

28 Sec. 34. Section 71-1134, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
29 amended to read:

30 71-1134 (1) The department ~~in collaboration with the Advisory~~
31 ~~Committee on Developmental Disabilities established under section~~

1 ~~83-1212.01~~ shall submit quarterly reports to the court, all parties of
2 record, and the guardian of any subject in court-ordered custody.

3 (2) The department shall submit electronically an annual report to
4 the Legislature regarding the implementation of the Developmental
5 Disabilities Court-Ordered Custody Act. Such reports shall not contain
6 any name, address, or other identifying factors or other confidential
7 information regarding any subject.

8 Sec. 35. Section 71-2454.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
9 is amended to read:

10 71-2454.01 (1) The Veterinary Prescription Monitoring Program Task
11 Force is created. The task force shall conduct a study to develop
12 recommendations of which controlled substances shall be reported by a
13 veterinarian to the prescription drug monitoring program created under
14 section 71-2454 when dispensing drugs from a veterinarian's office or an
15 animal shelter. The study shall include appropriate methods and
16 procedures of reporting by the veterinarians with the necessary database
17 field information. The task force shall utilize nationally available
18 resources afforded by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards
19 and the Department of State Legislative and Regulatory Affairs of the
20 American Veterinary Medical Association in development of the
21 recommendations.

22 (2) The task force shall consist of at least ten members appointed
23 by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of the
24 Legislature as follows: One member of the Health and Human Services
25 Committee; two at-large members of the Legislature; three members
26 selected from a list of six veterinarians provided by the Board of
27 Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, one of whom is employed by or provides
28 services at an animal shelter; one pharmacist nominated by the Nebraska
29 Pharmacists Association or its successor organization; and two members
30 nominated by the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association or its successor
31 organization. The task force shall also include a representative of the

1 prescription drug monitoring program who shall be a nonvoting member and
2 serve in an advisory capacity only.

3 (3) The members of the task force shall be appointed within one
4 hundred twenty days after February 25, 2016. The initial meeting of the
5 task force shall be convened within one hundred eighty days after
6 February 25, 2016. The task force shall elect a chairperson and may elect
7 any additional officers from among its members. All task force members
8 shall serve without compensation.

9 (4) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
10 the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature on or before
11 December 1, 2016.

12 (5) For purposes of this section, animal shelter has the definition
13 found in section 54-626.

14 (6) The Veterinary Prescription Monitoring Program Task Force
15 terminates on July 1, 2025.

16 Sec. 36. Section 71-3703, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
17 2022, is amended to read:

18 71-3703 (1) The Brain Injury Oversight Committee is created. The
19 committee shall consist of nine public members and the following
20 directors, or their designees: The Commissioner of Education; the
21 Director of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human
22 Services; and the Director of Public Health of the Department of Health
23 and Human Services. The Governor shall appoint the nine public members
24 which shall include individuals with a brain injury or family members of
25 individuals with a brain injury, a representative of a public or private
26 health-related organization, a representative of a developmental
27 disability advisory or planning group within Nebraska, a representative
28 of service providers for individuals with a brain injury, and a
29 representative of a nonprofit brain injury advocacy organization.

30 (2) The Governor shall appoint the public members within ninety days
31 after July 15, 2020. The Governor shall designate the initial terms so

1 that three members serve one-year terms, three members serve two-year
2 terms, and three members serve three-year terms. Their successors shall
3 be appointed for four-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled from the
4 same category for the remainder of the unexpired term. Any member of the
5 committee shall be eligible for reappointment. At least one member of the
6 committee shall be appointed from each congressional district.

7 (3) The committee shall select a chairperson and such other officers
8 as it deems necessary to perform its functions and shall establish
9 policies to govern its procedures. The committee shall meet at least four
10 times annually, and at any other time as the business of the committee
11 requires, and shall meet at such place as may be established by the
12 chairperson. The public members of the committee shall be reimbursed for
13 their actual and necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to
14 81-1177.

15 (4) Effective July 1, 2025, the Brain Injury Oversight Committee is
16 terminated.

17 Sec. 37. Section 71-5311, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
18 amended to read:

19 71-5311 (1) There is hereby established the Advisory Council on
20 Public Water Supply which shall advise and assist the department in
21 administering the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act.

22 (2) The council shall be composed of seven members appointed by the
23 Governor, (a) one of whom shall be a professional engineer, (b) one of
24 whom shall be a licensed physician, (c) two of whom shall be consumers of
25 a public water system, (d) two of whom shall be operators of a public
26 water system who possess a license issued by the department to operate a
27 public water system. One such operator shall represent a system serving a
28 population of five thousand or less, and one such operator shall
29 represent a system serving a population of more than five thousand, and
30 (e) one of whom shall be, at the time of appointment, (i) an individual
31 who owns a public water system, (ii) a member of the governing board of a

1 public or private corporation which owns a public water system, or (iii)
2 in the case of a political subdivision which owns a public water system,
3 a member of the subdivision's governing board or board of public works or
4 similar board which oversees the operation of a public water system.

5 (3) All members shall be appointed for three-year terms. No member
6 shall serve more than three consecutive three-year terms. Each member
7 shall hold office until the expiration of his or her term or until a
8 successor has been appointed. Any vacancy occurring in council
9 membership, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled within
10 sixty days by the Governor by appointment from the appropriate category
11 for the unexpired term.

12 (4) The council shall meet not less than once each year. Special
13 meetings of the council may be called by the director or upon the written
14 request of any two members of the council explaining the reason for such
15 meeting. The place of the meeting shall be set by the director. Such
16 officers as the council deems necessary shall be elected every three
17 years beginning with the first meeting in the year 1990. A majority of
18 the members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction
19 of business. Representatives of the department shall attend each meeting.
20 Every act of the majority of the members of the council shall be deemed
21 to be the act of the council.

22 (5) No member of the council shall receive any compensation, but
23 each member shall be entitled, while serving on the business of the
24 council, to receive his or her travel and other necessary expenses while
25 so serving away from his or her place of residence as provided in
26 sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

27 (6) The Advisory Council on Public Water Supply terminates on July
28 1, 2025.

29 Sec. 38. Section 71-7012, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
30 2022, is amended to read:

31 71-7012 (1)(a) The Breast and Cervical Cancer Advisory Committee is

1 established. The committee consists of the members of the Mammography
2 Screening Committee serving immediately prior to September 9, 1995, and
3 eight additional members appointed by the chief executive officer of the
4 department or his or her designee who have expertise or a personal
5 interest in cervical cancer. The committee shall consist of not more than
6 twenty-four volunteer members, at least eight of whom are women,
7 appointed by the chief executive officer or his or her designee. Members
8 of the committee shall be persons interested in health care, the
9 promotion of breast cancer screening, and cervical cancer and shall be
10 drawn from both the private sector and the public sector. At least one
11 member shall be a person who has or who has had breast cancer.

12 (b) Of the initial members of the committee, four shall be appointed
13 for terms of one year and four shall be appointed for terms of two years.
14 Thereafter all appointments shall be for terms of two years. All members
15 shall serve until their successors are appointed. No member shall serve
16 more than two successive two-year terms. Vacancies in the membership of
17 the committee for any cause shall be filled by appointment by the chief
18 executive officer or his or her designee for the unexpired term.

19 (c) Duties of the committee shall include, but not be limited to,
20 encouraging payment of public and private funds to the Breast and
21 Cervical Cancer Cash Fund, researching and recommending to the department
22 reimbursement limits, planning and implementing outreach and educational
23 programs to Nebraska women, advising the department on its operation of
24 the early detection of breast and cervical cancer grant from the United
25 States Department of Health and Human Services, and encouraging payment
26 of public and private funds to the fund. Members of the committee shall
27 be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

28 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Advisory
29 Committee is terminated.

30 Sec. 39. Section 71-7101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
31 amended to read:

1 71-7101 Sections 71-7101 to 71-7112 ~~71-7113~~ shall be known and may
2 be cited as the Critical Incident Stress Management Act.

3 Sec. 40. Section 71-7102, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 71-7102 For purposes of the Critical Incident Stress Management Act:

6 (1) Committee means the Interagency Management Committee;

7 ~~(2) Council means the Critical Incident Stress Management Council;~~

8 (2) ~~(3)~~ Critical incident means a traumatic or crisis situation;

9 (3) ~~(4)~~ Critical incident stress means a strong emotional,
10 cognitive, or physical reaction which has the potential to interfere with
11 normal functioning, including physical and emotional illness, loss of
12 interest in the job, personality changes, marital discord, and loss of
13 ability to function;

14 (4) ~~(5)~~ Emergency service agency means any law enforcement agency,
15 fire department, emergency medical service, dispatcher, ~~rescue service,~~
16 hospital as defined in section 71-419, or other entity which provides
17 emergency response services;

18 (5) ~~(6)~~ Emergency service personnel means ~~includes~~ law enforcement
19 personnel, firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, state
20 correctional employees, ~~and~~ hospital personnel, emergency management
21 personnel, Civil Air Patrol, National Guard, and other personnel deemed
22 appropriate by the committee; and

23 (6) ~~(7)~~ Program means the Critical Incident Stress Management
24 Program.

25 Sec. 41. Section 71-7104, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
26 amended to read:

27 71-7104 There is hereby created the Critical Incident Stress
28 Management Program. The focus of the program shall be to minimize the
29 harmful effects of critical incident stress for emergency service
30 personnel, with a high priority on confidentiality and respect for the
31 individuals involved. The program shall:

1 (1) Provide a stress management session to emergency service
2 personnel who appropriately request such assistance in an effort to
3 address critical incident stress;

4 (2) Assist in providing the emotional and educational support
5 necessary to ensure optimal functioning of emergency service personnel;

6 (3) Conduct preincident educational programs to acquaint emergency
7 service personnel with stress management techniques;

8 ~~(4) Promote interagency cooperation;~~

9 (4) ~~(5)~~ Provide an organized statewide response to the emotional
10 needs of emergency service personnel impacted by critical incidents;

11 (5) ~~(6)~~ Develop guidelines for resilience training for first
12 responders under section 48-101.01;

13 (6) ~~(7)~~ Set reimbursement rates for mental health examinations and
14 resilience training under section 48-101.01; and

15 (7) ~~(8)~~ Set an annual limit on the hours or quantity of resilience
16 training for which reimbursement is required under section 48-101.01.

17 Sec. 42. Section 71-7106, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
18 amended to read:

19 71-7106 (1) There is hereby created the Interagency Management
20 Committee. The committee shall be composed of one member from each of the
21 following: Each member of the council shall designate a representative of
22 his or her agency to be a member of the committee.

23 (a) The Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and
24 Human Services;

25 (b) The Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health
26 and Human Services;

27 (c) The Nebraska State Patrol; and

28 (d) The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.

29 (2) The committee shall be responsible for:

30 (a) ~~(1)~~ Planning and budget development;

31 (b) ~~(2)~~ Program development and evaluation;

- 1 (c) ~~(3)~~ Coordination of program activities and emergency response;
- 2 (d) ~~(4)~~ Providing a mechanism for quality assurance which may
- 3 include certification of critical incident stress management team
- 4 members;
- 5 ~~(5) Identifying critical incident stress management regions;~~
- 6 (e) ~~(6)~~ Developing regulations and standards; and
- 7 (f) ~~(7)~~ Arranging for and supporting training of critical incident
- 8 stress management teams. ~~;~~ and
- 9 ~~(8) Providing backup to regional critical incident stress management~~
- 10 ~~teams.~~

11 Sec. 43. Section 71-7107, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

12 amended to read:

13 71-7107 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall be

14 the lead agency for the program. The department shall:

- 15 (a) ~~(1)~~ Provide office support to program activities;
- 16 (b) ~~(2)~~ Provide necessary equipment for the program and
- 17 participants;
- 18 (c) ~~(3)~~ Provide staff support to the committee council;
- 19 ~~(4) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement the~~
- 20 ~~program;~~
- 21 (d) ~~(5)~~ Recruit hospital personnel and emergency medical personnel
- 22 workers to be trained as critical incident stress management peers;
- 23 (e) ~~(6)~~ Participate in the training and continuing education of such
- 24 peers and mental health professionals; and
- 25 (f) ~~(7)~~ Appoint a director for the program who shall be an employee
- 26 of the department and shall be the chairperson of the committee.
- 27 (2) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to
- 28 implement the program.

29 Sec. 44. Section 71-7108, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

30 amended to read:

31 71-7108 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall

1 participate in the ~~council and~~ committee, recruit mental health workers
2 for ~~each critical incident stress management region~~, and participate in
3 the training and continuing education activities of critical incident
4 stress management peers and mental health professionals.

5 (2) The Nebraska State Patrol shall participate in the ~~council and~~
6 committee, receive all initial requests for stress management sessions,
7 ~~coordinate transportation requirements for critical incident stress~~
8 ~~management team members~~, recruit members of the law enforcement
9 profession ~~in each region~~ to be trained as critical incident stress
10 management peers, and participate in the training and continuing
11 education activities of critical incident stress management peers and
12 mental health professionals, ~~and appoint a member of the patrol to each~~
13 ~~regional management committee~~.

14 (3) ~~The State Fire Marshal shall participate in the council and~~
15 ~~committee, cooperate in providing transportation for critical incident~~
16 ~~stress management teams, recruit firefighters to be trained as critical~~
17 ~~incident stress management peers in each critical incident stress~~
18 ~~management region, participate in the training and continuing education~~
19 ~~activities of critical incident stress management peers and mental health~~
20 ~~professionals, and appoint an individual who is employed by the State~~
21 ~~Fire Marshal to be on each regional management committee~~.

22 (3) (4) The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency shall participate
23 in the ~~council and~~ committee, promote stress management planning as part
24 of emergency management preparedness, promote preincident education
25 programs to acquaint emergency management service personnel with stress
26 management techniques, and participate in the training and continuing
27 education activities of critical incident stress management peers and
28 mental health professionals.

29 Sec. 45. Section 71-7109, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
30 amended to read:

31 71-7109 The committee ~~council~~ shall appoint a statewide clinical

1 director. The statewide clinical director shall be a member of the
2 committee and, ~~working with the committee,~~ shall advise the committee on
3 mental health best practices ~~supervise and evaluate the professional and~~
4 ~~peer support team members, including the regional clinical directors.~~ The
5 statewide clinical director may conduct critical incident stress
6 management training and continuing education activities.

7 Sec. 46. Section 71-7804, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
8 2022, is amended to read:

9 71-7804 (1) The Primary Care Investment Council is created. The
10 council shall consist of fifteen voting members and two ex officio,
11 nonvoting members.

12 (2) The Primary Care Investment Council shall consist of the
13 following voting members:

14 (a) Three representatives of primary care physicians, one
15 representing each congressional district;

16 (b) A representative of behavioral health providers;

17 (c) A representative of hospitals;

18 (d) A representative of academia with experience in health care
19 data;

20 (e) Two other representatives of health providers who are not
21 primary care physicians or hospitals;

22 (f) Three representatives of health insurers, one of which shall be
23 a representative of a managed care organization;

24 (g) One representative of large employers that purchase health
25 insurance for employees, which representative is not an insurer;

26 (h) One representative of small employers that purchase group health
27 insurance for employees, which representative is not an insurer;

28 (i) One health care consumer advocate who is knowledgeable about the
29 private health insurance market; and

30 (j) A representative of organizations that facilitate health
31 information exchange in Nebraska.

1 (3) The following officials or their designees shall serve as ex
2 officio, nonvoting members:

3 (a) The Director of Insurance; and

4 (b) The Director of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Division of
5 Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Department of Health and Human
6 Services.

7 (4) The Governor shall appoint the voting members of the council.
8 The Governor shall appoint the initial members by October 1, 2022. Any
9 member who ceases to meet the requirements for his or her appointment
10 regarding representation or practice shall cease to be a member of the
11 council. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original
12 appointment.

13 (5) The council shall select one of its members to serve as
14 chairperson for a one-year term. The council shall conduct its
15 organizational meeting in October 2022.

16 (6) The council shall terminate on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2029.

17 Sec. 47. Section 72-224.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
18 2022, is amended to read:

19 72-224.03 Except as otherwise provided in section 72-222.02, any
20 public body that has or hereafter shall be granted by the Legislature the
21 authority to acquire educational lands for public use shall be required
22 to condemn the interest of the state, as trustee for the public schools,
23 in educational lands in the following manner:

24 (1) Until July 1, 2025, the ~~The~~ proceedings shall be had before a
25 board consisting of (a) the superintendent of a school district offering
26 instruction in grades kindergarten through twelve, (b) a certified public
27 accountant, and (c) a credentialed real property appraiser, all appointed
28 by the Governor for a term of six years, except that of the initial
29 appointees one shall serve for a term of two years, one for a term of
30 four years, and one for a term of six years as designated by the
31 Governor. The members of the board shall each receive fifty dollars for

1 each day actually engaged in the performance of official duties and shall
2 be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177 to
3 be paid by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. Such board shall be
4 known as the board of appraisers;

5 (2) The condemnation proceedings shall be commenced by the filing of
6 a plat and complete description of the lands to be acquired together with
7 an application for that purpose with the secretary of the Board of
8 Educational Lands and Funds. Notice of the pendency of such application
9 and the date of hearing shall be given by serving a copy of the
10 application, together with notice of the date of hearing, upon the
11 Governor and the Attorney General. The date of hearing shall be not less
12 than ten days from the date of the filing of the application;

13 (3) The condemner and the Board of Educational Lands and Funds may
14 present evidence before the board of appraisers. The board shall have the
15 power to administer oaths and subpoena witnesses at the request of either
16 party or on its own motion;

17 (4) After hearing the evidence, the board of appraisers shall make
18 the award and file same in the office of the Board of Educational Lands
19 and Funds. Such award may be appealed, and the appeal shall be in
20 accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act; and

21 (5) Upon payment of the amount of the award by the condemner, it
22 shall be the duty of the secretary of the Board of Educational Lands and
23 Funds to transmit a certified copy of the award to the condemner for
24 filing in the office of the register of deeds in the county or counties
25 where the land is located. The filing of such certified copy of the award
26 shall have the force and effect of a deed of conveyance of the real
27 estate and shall constitute a transfer of the title thereto.

28 Sec. 48. Section 72-724, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
29 amended to read:

30 72-724 (1) There is hereby created a Nebraska Hall of Fame
31 Commission, which shall consist of seven members, six of whom shall be

1 appointed by the Governor. The Director of the Nebraska State Historical
2 Society shall be the seventh member of the commission and shall serve as
3 secretary of the commission. The Governor shall appoint no more than
4 three members of the commission from the same political party. The
5 Governor shall consider gender and ethnic diversity and the person's
6 appreciation for the history and culture of the state when making the
7 appointments. In making the initial appointments of the commission, the
8 Governor shall appoint two members for a term of two years, two members
9 for a term of four years, and two members for a term of six years. As the
10 terms of the members expire, the Governor shall appoint or reappoint a
11 member of the commission for a term of six years to succeed the member
12 whose term expires. The members shall serve without compensation. The
13 Governor shall be an ex officio member of the commission.

14 (2) The Nebraska State Historical Society shall be responsible for
15 the administration of the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission.

16 (3) Effective July 1, 2025, the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission is
17 terminated.

18 Sec. 49. Section 72-812, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
19 amended to read:

20 72-812 (1) The Vacant Building and Excess Land Committee is hereby
21 created. The committee shall be composed of the Director of
22 Administrative Services, the State Building Administrator, and the
23 administrator of the Task Force for Building Renewal created pursuant to
24 section 81-174. When reviewing and considering action to be taken in
25 regard to a particular building or piece of land, the committee shall
26 also include a representative of the state agency responsible for the
27 building or land as a nonvoting member.

28 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Vacant Building and Excess Land
29 Committee is terminated.

30 Sec. 50. Section 72-2101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
31 amended to read:

1 72-2101 (1) The Governor's Residence Advisory Commission is
2 created. The commission shall conduct an annual inspection of the
3 Governor's residence. A report on the inspection shall be submitted to
4 the Governor within thirty days after the day of the inspection. The
5 report shall include recommendations for major maintenance or repair
6 projects, if needed. Implementation and priority of an approved major
7 maintenance or repair project shall be determined by the Governor in
8 cooperation with the Director of Administrative Services. Additionally,
9 no changes, additions, deletions, or other alterations to the residence,
10 including its exterior, interior, decorative objects, contents, or
11 grounds shall be made without the prior approval of the commission,
12 except for the Governor's private living quarters located on the second
13 floor of the residence.

14 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Governor's Residence Advisory
15 Commission is terminated.

16 Sec. 51. Section 76-537, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
17 amended to read:

18 76-537 As used in the Abstracters Act, unless the context otherwise
19 requires:

20 (1) Abstract of title means a compilation in orderly arrangement of
21 the materials and facts of record affecting the title to real property,
22 issued under a certificate certifying to the matters contained in such
23 compilation;

24 (2) Board means:

25 (a) Prior to July 1, 2025, the Abstracters Board of Examiners; and

26 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Board of Abstracters and
27 Appraisers;

28 (3) Business of abstracting means the making, compiling, and selling
29 of abstracts of title or any part thereof or preparing written reports of
30 title to real property;

31 (4) Business entity means a partnership, limited liability company,

1 corporation, or other organizational form developed to conduct business;

2 (5) Certificate of authority means the authorization to engage in
3 the business of abstracting in a county in the State of Nebraska granted
4 to an individual or business entity;

5 (6) Certificate of registration means the authorization to prepare
6 abstracts of title to real property in any county within the State of
7 Nebraska which is granted to an individual under section 76-543;

8 (7) Duplicate certificate of registration means a second or
9 subsequent certificate of registration issued in this state for an
10 abstracter who (a) holds an operative certificate of registration and (b)
11 is employed by more than one holder of a certificate of authority;

12 (8) Inactive abstracter means an abstracter whose certificate of
13 registration is not affiliated with an individual or business entity
14 engaged in the business of abstracting and holding a certificate of
15 authority;

16 (9) Professional development means a course of educational
17 instruction, including correspondence courses, designed to maintain and
18 improve the ability of registered abstracters to provide services to the
19 public;

20 (10) Registered abstracter means an individual, registered under the
21 Abstracters Act, holding an operative certificate of registration who for
22 a fee or other valuable consideration compiles or certifies abstracts of
23 title or any part thereof to real property in any county within this
24 state or who prepares reports of title; and

25 (11) Report of title means any type of summary of facts of record
26 affecting the title to real property which does not purport to constitute
27 an opinion as to the state of the title and which is prepared by a person
28 other than an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Nebraska.
29 Report of title does not include a title insurance commitment or policy
30 or information or opinions given by a register of deeds in response to
31 inquiries from the public.

1 Sec. 52. Section 76-540, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 76-540 There is hereby created an Abstracters Board of Examiners of
4 five members to be appointed by the Governor to carry out the purposes of
5 and enforce the Abstracters Act. The board shall include three members
6 who shall at all times be active registered abstracters who have engaged
7 in the business of abstracting for at least five years, one member who
8 shall be a lawyer experienced in the area of real estate law, and one
9 member who shall be representative of the public.

10 No more than two members of the board shall be appointed from the
11 same county, at least one member shall be appointed from a county having
12 as its largest city a city of the first class, and at least one member
13 shall be appointed from a county having as its largest city a city of the
14 second class. No member of the board shall be employed by the same
15 employer as any other member of the board.

16 Each member of the board shall serve for a term of five years and
17 until a successor is appointed and qualified, except that members of the
18 board currently serving on March 26, 1985, shall continue to serve the
19 terms for which they were appointed. The first attorney member of the
20 board whose term expires after March 26, 1985, shall be succeeded by the
21 representative of the public.

22 Vacancies created by the death, resignation, or other disability of
23 a board member resulting in the inability to carry out his or her duties
24 shall be filled by appointment by the Governor and such successor shall
25 possess the same qualifications as the member replaced and such member
26 shall, upon qualification, serve the unexpired term of the member whom he
27 or she succeeds. No member of the board shall be appointed to succeed
28 himself or herself.

29 Effective July 1, 2025, the Abstracters Board of Examiners is
30 terminated.

31 Sec. 53. Section 76-2207.18, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,

1 is amended to read:

2 76-2207.18 Board means:

3 (1) Prior to July 1, 2025, the Real Property Appraiser Board; and -

4 (2) Beginning July 1, 2025, the Board of Abstracters and Appraisers.

5 Sec. 54. Section 76-2222, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
6 2022, is amended to read:

7 76-2222 (1) The Real Property Appraiser Board is hereby created. The
8 board shall consist of five members. One member who is a certified real
9 property appraiser shall be selected from each of the three congressional
10 districts, and two members shall be selected at large. The two members
11 selected at large shall include one representative of financial
12 institutions and one licensed real estate broker. The Governor shall
13 appoint the members of the board.

14 (2) The term of each member of the board shall be five years. Upon
15 the expiration of his or her term, a member of the board shall continue
16 to hold office until the appointment and qualification of his or her
17 successor. No person shall serve as a member of the board for consecutive
18 terms. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original
19 appointment. The Governor may remove a member for cause.

20 (3) The members of the board shall elect a chairperson during the
21 first meeting of each year from among the members.

22 (4) Three members of the board, at least two of whom are real
23 property appraisers, shall constitute a quorum.

24 (5) Each member of the board shall receive a per diem of one hundred
25 dollars per day (a) for each scheduled meeting of the board or a
26 committee of the board at which the member is present and (b) actually
27 spent in traveling to and from and attending meetings and conferences of
28 the Association of Appraiser Regulatory Officials and its committees and
29 subcommittees or of The Appraisal Foundation and its committees and
30 subcommittees, board committee meetings, or other business as authorized
31 by the board.

1 (6) Each member of the board shall be reimbursed for expenses
2 incident to the performance of his or her duties under the Real Property
3 Appraiser Act and Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act
4 as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

5 (7) Effective July 1, 2025, the Real Property Appraiser Board is
6 terminated.

7 Sec. 55. Section 79-808, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
8 amended to read:

9 79-808 (1) The board shall establish, adopt, and promulgate
10 appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures governing the issuance,
11 renewal, conversion, suspension, and revocation of certificates and
12 permits to teach, provide special services, and administer based upon (a)
13 earned college credit in humanities, social and natural sciences,
14 mathematics, or career and technical education, (b) earned college
15 credit, or its equivalent in professional education, for particular
16 teaching, special services, or administrative assignments, (c) criminal
17 history record information if the applicant has not been a continuous
18 Nebraska resident for five years immediately preceding application for
19 the first issuance of a certificate, (d) human relations training, (e)
20 successful teaching, administration, or provision of special services,
21 and (f) moral, mental, and physical fitness for teaching, all in
22 accordance with sound educational practices. Such rules, regulations, and
23 procedures shall also provide for endorsement requirements to indicate
24 areas of specialization on such certificates and permits. Such rules and
25 regulations shall not require any test of basic skills.

26 (2) The board may issue a temporary certificate, valid for a period
27 not to exceed two years, to any applicant for certification who has not
28 completed the human relations training requirement.

29 (3) Members of any advisory committee established by the board to
30 assist the board in teacher education and certification matters shall be
31 reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. Each

1 school district which has an employee who serves as a member of such
2 committee and which is required to hire a person to replace such member
3 during the member's attendance at meetings or activities of the committee
4 or any subcommittee thereof shall be reimbursed from the Certification
5 Fund for the expense it incurs from hiring a replacement. School
6 districts may excuse employees who serve on such advisory committees from
7 certain duties which conflict with any advisory committee duties. Any
8 advisory committee established by the board pursuant to this subsection
9 shall terminate on July 1, 2025, and the Commission for K-12 Education
10 shall take over the duties of any advisory committee established pursuant
11 to this subsection.

12 Sec. 56. Section 79-810, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
13 2022, is amended to read:

14 79-810 (1) Certificates and permits shall be issued by the
15 commissioner upon application on forms prescribed and provided by him or
16 her which shall include the applicant's social security number.

17 (2) Each certificate or permit issued by the commissioner shall
18 indicate the area of authorization to teach, provide special services, or
19 administer and any areas of endorsement for which the holder qualifies.
20 During the term of any certificate or permit issued by the commissioner,
21 additional endorsements may be made on the certificate or permit if the
22 holder submits an application, meets the requirements for issuance of the
23 additional endorsements, and pays a nonrefundable fee as set by the
24 commissioner, not to exceed fifty-five dollars.

25 (3) The Certification Fund is created. Any fee received by the
26 department under sections 79-806 to 79-815 shall be remitted to the State
27 Treasurer for credit to the fund. The fund shall be used by the
28 department in paying the costs of certifying educators pursuant to such
29 sections and to carry out subsection (3) of section 79-808. For issuance
30 of a certificate or permit valid in all schools, the nonrefundable fee
31 shall be set by the commissioner, not to exceed ~~sixty-five~~ seventy-five

1 dollars, ~~except that the commissioner shall designate a portion of the~~
2 ~~fee, not to exceed seventeen dollars, that shall be credited to the~~
3 ~~Professional Practices Commission Fund which is created for use by the~~
4 ~~department to pay for the provisions of sections 79-859 to 79-871. For~~
5 ~~issuance of a certificate or permit valid only in nonpublic schools, the~~
6 ~~nonrefundable fee shall be set by the commissioner, not to exceed fifty-~~
7 ~~five dollars. The State Treasurer shall transfer any money remaining in~~
8 ~~the Professional Practices Commission Fund on the effective date of this~~
9 ~~act to the Certification Fund as soon after such date as administratively~~
10 ~~possible. Any money in the Certification Fund or the Professional~~
11 ~~Practices Commission Fund available for investment shall be invested by~~
12 ~~the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion~~
13 ~~Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.~~

14 Sec. 57. Section 79-860, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
15 amended to read:

16 79-860 For purposes of sections 79-859 to ~~79-870~~ 79-871:

17 ~~(1) Commission means the Professional Practices Commission;~~

18 ~~(1)~~ (2) Board means the State Board of Education; and

19 ~~(2)~~ (3) Commissioner means the Commissioner of Education.

20 Sec. 58. Section 79-866, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
21 amended to read:

22 79-866 (1) The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and
23 regulations establishing standards of professional practices for teachers
24 and administrators holding certificates in areas including, but not
25 limited to: (a) Ethical and professional performance; (b) competency; (c)
26 continuance in professional service; and (d) contractual obligations. ~~The~~
27 ~~board shall receive the advice and counsel of the commission in the~~
28 ~~adoption of such standards as the standards apply to the holders of~~
29 ~~public school certificates.~~

30 (2) The board may, for just cause, revoke or suspend any teacher's
31 or administrator's certificate.

1 Violation of the standards established pursuant to this section,
2 commission of an immoral act, or conviction of a felony under the laws of
3 this state shall constitute just cause for the revocation or suspension
4 of a teacher's or administrator's certificate by the board. The
5 revocation or suspension of a certificate shall terminate the employment
6 of such teacher or administrator. The board shall immediately notify the
7 secretary or the school board or board of education of the school
8 district where such teacher or administrator is employed of such
9 revocation or suspension, shall notify the teacher or administrator of
10 such revocation or suspension, and shall record the action in the matter
11 in the books or records of the State Board of Education.

12 Sec. 59. Section 79-867, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
13 amended to read:

14 79-867 The revocation of a person's teacher's or administrator's
15 certificate by the board shall automatically revoke any and all Nebraska
16 ~~teachers'~~ certificates held by the person. A teacher's or administrator's
17 certificate which has been suspended shall be automatically reinstated at
18 the end of the suspension if such certificate did not expire during the
19 period of suspension. If the certificate expired during the period of
20 suspension, the holder of the expired certificate may secure a new
21 certificate by applying for and by meeting the certification requirements
22 at the time of application for the new certificate. A person whose
23 teacher's or administrator's certificate has been revoked may apply for a
24 new certificate at the expiration of any period of ineligibility fixed by
25 the board by applying for and by meeting the certification requirements
26 at the time of application for the new certificate.

27 Sec. 60. Section 79-868, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
28 amended to read:

29 ~~79-868 The board may request the commission to hold hearings and~~
30 ~~make recommendations to the board concerning alleged violations of~~
31 ~~standards of professional ethics and practices by holders of public~~

1 ~~school certificates.~~ The board may employ hearing officers to hold
2 hearings and make recommendations to the board concerning alleged
3 violations of standards of professional ethics and practices by persons
4 holding a teacher's or administrator's certificate. ~~holders of nonpublic~~
5 ~~school certificates.~~ The recommendations of the commission shall be made
6 a part of the record of the board in all cases of public school
7 certificate revocation or suspension and reinstatement of a revoked
8 public school certificate. The commission may privately admonish or warn
9 or publicly reprimand teachers and administrators holding public school
10 certificates for violation of the standards established pursuant to
11 section 79-866. Any public reprimand by the commission shall be reported
12 to the State Department of Education. Any recommendation for the
13 revocation or suspension of a public school certificate by the commission
14 shall be reported to the board.

15 The commissioner may employ persons to investigate and prosecute
16 cases of alleged violations of standards of professional ethics and
17 practices ~~before the commission or~~ before the board and its hearing
18 officers. The commissioner shall cause to be investigated expeditiously
19 any complaint which is filed with him or her or which is otherwise called
20 to his or her attention and which if legally sufficient constitutes
21 grounds for the revocation or suspension of a certificate or any other
22 appropriate penalty set forth in section 79-866 or in the rules and
23 regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such section. If
24 following an investigation the commissioner determines that legally
25 sufficient grounds exist for revocation or suspension of a certificate or
26 for any other appropriate penalty set forth in such section or rules and
27 regulations, the commissioner may, in his or her discretion, file a
28 petition with the board ~~commission~~ for adjudication of the matter or may
29 reach an agreement for the appropriate sanction as allowed by the rules
30 and regulations.

31 Sec. 61. Section 79-870, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

1 2022, is amended to read:

2 79-870 In the performance of its ~~their~~ functions under sections
3 79-859 to 79-870, ~~79-871~~, ~~the commission~~ and the board may subpoena
4 witnesses and place them under oath. The commissioner may issue writs of
5 subpoena, including subpoena duces tecum, requiring the attendance of
6 witnesses and the production of books, records, and documents, and place
7 witnesses under oath to take sworn testimony as part of any
8 investigation. The board may modify or quash any subpoena issued by the
9 commissioner.

10 Sec. 62. Section 79-1245, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
11 2022, is amended to read:

12 79-1245 (1) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council is
13 created. The council shall be composed of one administrator from each
14 educational service unit and beginning July 1, 2017, one nonvoting
15 administrator from each learning community. The council shall be funded
16 from two percent of the core services and technology infrastructure
17 funding appropriated pursuant to section 79-1241.03, appropriations by
18 the Legislature for distance education, and fees established for services
19 provided to educational entities.

20 (2) The council is a political subdivision and a public body
21 corporate and politic of this state, exercising public powers separate
22 from the participating educational service units. The council shall have
23 the duties, privileges, immunities, rights, liabilities, and disabilities
24 of a political subdivision and a public body corporate and politic but
25 shall not have taxing power.

26 (3) The council shall have power (a) to sue and be sued, (b) to have
27 a seal and alter the same at will or to dispense with the necessity
28 thereof, (c) to make and execute contracts and other instruments, (d) to
29 receive, hold, and use money and real and personal property, (e) to hire
30 and compensate employees, including certificated employees, (f) to act as
31 a fiscal agent for statewide initiatives being implemented by employees

1 of one or more educational service units, and (g) from time to time, to
2 make, amend, and repeal bylaws, rules, and regulations not inconsistent
3 with sections 79-1245 to 79-1249. Such power shall only be used as
4 necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the powers and
5 purposes of the council.

6 (4) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council terminates on
7 July 1, 2025, and the Commission for K-12 Education shall take over its
8 duties.

9 Sec. 63. Section 79-1810, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
10 amended to read:

11 79-1810 (1) There is hereby created a body politic and corporate to
12 be known as the Nebraska Elementary and Secondary School Finance
13 Authority. The authority is constituted a public instrumentality, and the
14 exercise by the authority of the powers conferred by the Nebraska
15 Elementary and Secondary School Finance Authority Act shall be deemed and
16 held to be the performance of an essential public function of the state.

17 (2) The Nebraska Elementary and Secondary School Finance Authority
18 terminates on July 1, 2025, and the Commission for K-12 Education shall
19 take over its duties.

20 Sec. 64. Section 79-2204, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
21 2022, is amended to read:

22 79-2204 (1) The State Council on Educational Opportunity for
23 Military Children is created within the department. The council shall
24 consist of:

25 (a) The following ex officio members:

26 (i) The Commissioner of Education;

27 (ii) The chairperson of the Education Committee of the Legislature,
28 who shall serve as a nonvoting member of the council;

29 (iii) The compact commissioner appointed pursuant to section
30 79-2205; and

31 (iv) The military family education liaison, who shall serve as a

1 member of the council after his or her appointment pursuant to subsection
2 (3) of this section; and

3 (b) The following members appointed by the State Board of Education:

4 (i) The superintendent of a school district that has a high
5 concentration of children of military families; and

6 (ii) A representative of a military installation located in this
7 state.

8 (2) The members of the council appointed by the State Board of
9 Education shall serve three-year terms. Vacancies in the council shall be
10 filled in the same manner as the initial appointments. The members of the
11 council shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174
12 to 81-1177.

13 (3) The council shall have the following duties:

14 (a) To advise the department with regard to the state's
15 participation in and compliance with the Interstate Compact on
16 Educational Opportunity for Military Children; and

17 (b) To appoint a military family education liaison to assist
18 families and the state in implementing the compact.

19 (4) When the council holds a single meeting in a calendar year, that
20 meeting may be held by virtual conferencing as defined in section
21 84-1409.

22 (5) The State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military
23 Children terminates on July 1, 2025, and the Commission for K-12
24 Education shall take over its duties.

25 Sec. 65. Section 80-318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
26 2022, is amended to read:

27 80-318 (1) For the purpose of determining continued eligibility of
28 members to remain in one of the Nebraska veterans homes and for the
29 purpose of recommending matters of policy, rules and regulations,
30 administration, and maintenance pertaining to each of the Nebraska
31 veterans homes, the Veterans' Homes Board is established. The board shall

1 be composed of two members selected by each of the recognized veterans
2 organizations in Nebraska identified in subdivision (1) of section
3 80-401.01, and the Director of Veterans' Affairs who shall serve as the
4 permanent board secretary. Such members shall be selected in the manner
5 and serve for such term as the veterans organization may prescribe. If a
6 member selected by any such veterans organization is unavailable to
7 attend a meeting of the board or unable to serve for any reason, the
8 incumbent department commander of such organization may appoint some
9 other member of his or her organization to serve on the board. The
10 chairperson shall be selected from among the members of the board. No
11 salary shall be paid to any member of the board, but expenses of the
12 members of the board when attending regularly called meetings of that
13 board shall be paid as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177 from the
14 administrative funds of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

15 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Veterans' Homes Board is terminated.

16 Sec. 66. Section 80-401.09, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
17 amended to read:

18 80-401.09 (1) The Veterans' Advisory Commission shall be empowered
19 to investigate the handling of veterans affairs under the jurisdiction of
20 the Director of Veterans' Affairs, and to make recommendations and report
21 to the Governor or the director on such matters. The commission shall
22 also act as an appeal board, to whom recourse can be had by any
23 individual or post of a recognized veterans organization from any
24 decision made by the Director of Veterans' Affairs or any of his agents
25 or deputies, on a claim for aid from the Nebraska Veterans' Aid Fund. The
26 majority decision of the appeal board shall be final and shall govern in
27 all matters presented to it upon which a hearing is had. The Veterans'
28 Advisory Commission shall meet at least twice each year, or on call of
29 the chairman or three members of the commission.

30 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Veterans' Advisory Commission shall
31 assume the duties of the Veterans' Homes Board.

1 Sec. 67. Section 81-502.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 81-502.01 For the purposes of assisting the State Fire Marshal in
4 matters pertaining to the performance of his or her duties, there is
5 hereby established the Nebraska Fire Safety Appeals Board. Such board
6 terminates on July 1, 2025. Such board shall consist of the following
7 members: (1) A representative of the fire insurance industry with
8 experience in fire prevention inspections, (2) an architect licensed in
9 this state, (3) a member of a board of education of a public school
10 district, (4) a fire protection engineer, (5) a member of the inspection
11 division of a paid fire department in this state, (6) an active member of
12 a volunteer fire department in this state, (7) two representatives of the
13 Department of Health and Human Services, and (8) a representative of the
14 Nebraska Association of Hospitals and Health Systems. The members shall
15 be appointed by the Governor and shall serve for a term of four years.

16 Sec. 68. Section 81-8,110.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative
17 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

18 81-8,110.01 (1) The examining board shall consist of four members
19 appointed by the Governor who are duly registered under the Land
20 Surveyors Regulation Act to practice land surveying and one lay member
21 appointed by the Governor who is of the age of legal majority and has
22 been a resident of Nebraska for at least one year immediately prior to
23 appointment to the examining board. Such lay member shall be a
24 representative of consumer viewpoints.

25 (2) The members of the examining board shall be appointed to five-
26 year terms. Each member shall serve until the appointment and
27 qualification of his or her successor. Each member appointed to the
28 examining board shall receive a certificate of appointment from the
29 Governor. Each member so appointed, prior to beginning his or her term,
30 shall file with the Secretary of State the constitutional oath of office.
31 The Governor may remove any member of the examining board for misconduct,

1 incompetency, incapacity, or neglect of duty or upon conviction of a
2 crime involving moral turpitude. Vacancies on the examining board,
3 however created, shall be filled for the unexpired term of the member by
4 appointment by the Governor.

5 (3) The State Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors terminates on
6 July 1, 2025.

7 Sec. 69. Effective July 1, 2025, the Department of Administrative
8 Services shall assume the duties of:

9 (1) The Suggestion Award Board; and

10 (2) The Vacant Building and Excess Land Committee.

11 Sec. 70. Section 81-1108.32, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
12 2022, is amended to read:

13 81-1108.32 The Nebraska Capitol Commission is hereby created. The
14 commission shall consist of the Governor, the Speaker of the Legislature,
15 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the dean of the College of
16 Architecture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Director of the
17 Nebraska State Historical Society, and three other residents of Nebraska
18 appointed by the Governor. One appointive member shall be appointed from
19 each congressional district. The terms of the appointive members shall be
20 staggered so that one term expires on March 1, 1994, one term expires on
21 March 1, 1995, and one term expires on March 1, 1996. As the terms of the
22 appointive members expire, the Governor shall, on or before March 1 of
23 each year, appoint or reappoint a member of the commission for a term of
24 three years to succeed the member whose term expires. Any member
25 appointed after March 1 shall serve for the remaining portion of the
26 three-year term.

27 The Governor shall serve as the chairperson of the Nebraska Capitol
28 Commission, the Speaker of the Legislature shall serve as the vice-
29 chairperson of the commission, and the State Capitol Administrator or his
30 or her representative shall serve as the nonvoting secretary of the
31 commission.

1 In the absence of the Governor, he or she may designate the
2 Lieutenant Governor as his or her representative. In the absence of the
3 Speaker of the Legislature, he or she may designate the chairperson of
4 the Executive Board of the Legislative Council or the Clerk of the
5 Legislature as his or her representative. In the absence of the Chief
6 Justice of the Supreme Court, he or she may designate the State Court
7 Administrator as his or her representative. Representatives of the
8 Governor, the Speaker of the Legislature, and the Chief Justice shall
9 have full voting privileges for the meeting in attendance.

10 The members of such commission shall be reimbursed for expenses
11 while away from home engaged in the performance of their duties as
12 members of the commission as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

13 Effective July 1, 2025, the Nebraska Capitol Commission is
14 terminated.

15 Sec. 71. Section 81-1348, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
16 2022, is amended to read:

17 81-1348 There is hereby created the Suggestion Award Board. The
18 membership of such board shall consist of the Director of Personnel, the
19 Director of Administrative Services, the Auditor of Public Accounts or
20 his or her designee, and three persons, each to serve a term of three
21 years, selected and appointed by the Governor from the bargaining units
22 listed in section 81-1373, except that the first three appointments made
23 after February 23, 2000, shall be for terms of one year, two years, and
24 three years, as designated by the Governor. Of the persons selected from
25 such bargaining units, one person shall be selected from each of such
26 bargaining units as follows:

27 (1) The first term from the bargaining units listed in subdivisions
28 (1)(a), (b), and (1) of such section;

29 (2) The second term from the bargaining units listed in subdivisions
30 (1)(c), (d), and (g) of such section;

31 (3) The third term from the bargaining units listed in subdivisions

1 (1)(e), (f), and (h) of such section; and

2 (4) The fourth term from the bargaining units listed in subdivisions
3 (1)(i), (j), and (k) of such section.

4 After the fourth term, the appointments shall be made starting from
5 subdivision (1) of this section and following the same sequence.

6 Whenever a vacancy occurs on the board for any reason, the Governor
7 shall appoint an individual to fill such vacancy from the same bargaining
8 unit in which the vacancy exists.

9 The members shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections
10 81-1174 to 81-1177.

11 The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to aid in
12 carrying out sections 81-1350 and 81-1351.

13 Effective July 1, 2025, the Suggestion Award Board is terminated.

14 Sec. 72. Section 81-1503, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
15 2022, is amended to read:

16 81-1503 (1) The Environmental Quality Council is hereby created. The
17 council shall consist of seventeen members to be appointed by the
18 Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislature as follows:

19 (a) One representative of the food products manufacturing industry;

20 (b) One representative of conservation;

21 (c) One representative of the agricultural processing industry;

22 (d) One representative of the automotive or petroleum industry;

23 (e) One representative of the chemical industry;

24 (f) One representative of heavy industry;

25 (g) One representative of the power generating industry;

26 (h) One representative of agriculture actively engaged in crop
27 production;

28 (i) One representative of labor;

29 (j) One professional engineer experienced in control of air and
30 water pollution and solid wastes;

31 (k) One physician knowledgeable in the health aspects of air, water,

1 and land pollution;

2 (l) One representative from county government;

3 (m) Two representatives from municipal government, one of whom shall
4 represent cities other than those of the primary or metropolitan class;

5 (n) One representative of the livestock industry;

6 (o) One representative of minority populations; and

7 (p) One biologist.

8 (2) Members shall serve for terms of four years. All appointments
9 shall be subject to confirmation by the Legislature when initially made.
10 As the term of an appointee to the council expires, the succeeding
11 appointee shall be a representative of the same segment of the public as
12 the previous appointee. In the case of appointees to vacancies occurring
13 from unexpired terms, each successor shall serve out the term of his or
14 her predecessor. Members whose terms have expired shall continue to serve
15 until their successors have been appointed. All members shall be citizens
16 and residents of the State of Nebraska.

17 (3) Members may be removed by the Governor for inefficiency, neglect
18 of duty, or misconduct in office but only after delivering to the member
19 a copy of the charges and affording him or her an opportunity to be
20 publicly heard in person or by counsel, in his or her own defense, upon
21 not less than ten days' notice. Such hearing shall be held before the
22 Governor. When a member is removed, the Governor shall file, in the
23 office of the Secretary of State, a complete statement of all charges
24 made against such member and the findings thereon, together with a
25 complete record of the proceedings.

26 (4) The council shall elect from its members a chairperson and a
27 vice-chairperson, who shall hold office at the pleasure of the council.
28 The vice-chairperson shall serve as chairperson in case of the absence or
29 disability of the chairperson. The director shall serve as secretary of
30 the council and shall keep all records of meetings of and actions taken
31 by the council. He or she shall be promptly advised as to such actions by

1 the chairperson.

2 (5) The members of the council, while engaged in the performance of
3 their official duties, shall receive a per diem of forty dollars while so
4 serving, including travel time. In addition, members of the council shall
5 receive reimbursement for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to
6 81-1177.

7 (6) The council shall hold at least two regular meetings each year,
8 at a time and place fixed by the council and shall keep a record of its
9 proceedings which shall be open to the public for inspection. Special
10 meetings may be called by the chairperson. Such special meetings must be
11 called by him or her upon receipt of a written request signed by two or
12 more members of the council. Written notice of the time and place of all
13 meetings shall be mailed in advance to the office of each member of the
14 council by the secretary. A majority of the members of the council shall
15 constitute a quorum.

16 (7) The council shall submit to the Governor a list of names from
17 which he or she shall appoint the Director of Environment and Energy who
18 shall be experienced in air, water, and land pollution control and who
19 may be otherwise an employee of state government. The director shall be
20 responsible for administration of the department and all standards,
21 rules, and regulations adopted pursuant to Chapter 81, article 15, the
22 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management
23 Act. All such standards, rules, and regulations shall be adopted by the
24 council after consideration of the recommendations of the director. All
25 grants to political subdivisions under the control of the department
26 shall be made by the director in accordance with priorities established
27 by the council, unless otherwise directed by statute. A majority of the
28 members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of
29 business. The affirmative vote of a majority of all members of the
30 council shall be necessary for the adoption of standards, rules, and
31 regulations.

1 (8) Before the director enters upon the duties of his or her office,
2 he or she shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office
3 and shall, in addition thereto, swear and affirm that he or she holds no
4 other public office nor any position under any political committee or
5 party, that he or she has not during the two years immediately prior to
6 his or her appointment received a significant portion of his or her
7 income directly or indirectly from permitholders or applicants for a
8 permit under the Environmental Protection Act, and that he or she will
9 not receive such income during his or her term as director, except that
10 such requirements regarding income prior to the term of office shall not
11 apply to employees of any agency of the State of Nebraska or any
12 political subdivision which may be a permitholder under the Environmental
13 Protection Act. Such oath and affirmation shall be filed with the
14 Secretary of State.

15 (9) Effective July 1, 2025, the Environmental Quality Council shall
16 assume the duties of:

17 (a) The Advisory Council on Public Water Supply; and

18 (b) The Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Advisory
19 Committee.

20 Sec. 73. Section 81-1504, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
21 2022, is amended to read:

22 81-1504 The department shall have and may exercise the following
23 powers and duties:

24 (1) To exercise exclusive general supervision of the administration
25 and enforcement of the Environmental Protection Act, the Integrated Solid
26 Waste Management Act, the Livestock Waste Management Act, and all rules
27 and regulations and orders adopted and promulgated under such acts;

28 (2) To develop comprehensive programs for the prevention, control,
29 and abatement of new or existing pollution of the air, waters, and land
30 of the state;

31 (3) To advise and consult, cooperate, and contract with other

1 agencies of the state, the federal government, and other states, with
2 interstate agencies, and with affected groups, political subdivisions,
3 and industries in furtherance of the purposes of the acts;

4 (4) To act as the state water pollution, air pollution, and solid
5 waste pollution control agency for all purposes of the Clean Water Act,
6 as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42
7 U.S.C. 7401 et seq., the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as
8 amended, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq., and any other federal legislation
9 pertaining to loans or grants for environmental protection and from other
10 sources, public or private, for carrying out any of its functions, which
11 loans and grants shall not be expended for other than the purposes for
12 which provided;

13 (5) To encourage, participate in, or conduct studies,
14 investigations, research, and demonstrations relating to air, land, and
15 water pollution and causes and effects, prevention, control, and
16 abatement of such pollution as it may deem advisable and necessary for
17 the discharge of its duties under the Environmental Protection Act, the
18 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management
19 Act, using its own staff or private research organizations under
20 contract;

21 (6) To collect and disseminate information and conduct educational
22 and training programs relating to air, water, and land pollution and the
23 prevention, control, and abatement of such pollution;

24 (7) To issue, modify, or revoke orders: (a) Prohibiting or abating
25 discharges of wastes into the air, waters, or land of the state; (b)
26 requiring the construction of new disposal systems or any parts thereof
27 or the modification, extension, or adoption of other remedial measures to
28 prevent, control, or abate pollution; and (c) prohibiting or abating the
29 discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States;

30 (8) To administer state grants to political subdivisions for solid
31 waste disposal facilities and for the construction of sewage treatment

1 works and facilities to dispose of water treatment plant wastes;

2 (9) To (a) hold such hearings and give notice thereof, (b) issue
3 such subpoenas requiring the attendance of such witnesses and the
4 production of such evidence, (c) administer such oaths, and (d) take such
5 testimony as the director deems necessary, and any of these powers may be
6 exercised on behalf of the director by a hearing officer designated by
7 the director;

8 (10) To require submission of plans, specifications, and other data
9 relative to, and to inspect construction of, disposal systems or any part
10 thereof prior to issuance of such permits or approvals as are required by
11 the Environmental Protection Act, the Integrated Solid Waste Management
12 Act, and the Livestock Waste Management Act;

13 (11) To issue, continue in effect, revoke, modify, or deny permits,
14 under such conditions as the director may prescribe and consistent with
15 the standards, rules, and regulations adopted by the council, (a) to
16 prevent, control, or abate pollution, (b) for the discharge of wastes
17 into the air, land, or waters of the state, (c) for the installation,
18 modification, or operation of disposal systems or any parts thereof, and
19 (d) for the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the
20 United States;

21 (12) To require proper maintenance and operation of disposal
22 systems;

23 (13) To exercise all incidental powers necessary to carry out the
24 purposes of the Environmental Protection Act, the Integrated Solid Waste
25 Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management Act;

26 (14) To establish bureaus, divisions, or sections for the control of
27 air pollution, water pollution, mining and land quality, and solid wastes
28 which shall be administered by full-time salaried bureau, division, or
29 section chiefs and to delegate and assign to each such bureau, division,
30 or section and its officers and employees the duties and powers granted
31 to the department for the enforcement of Chapter 81, article 15, the

1 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, the Livestock Waste Management
2 Act, and the standards, rules, and regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

3 (15)(a) To require access to existing and available records relating
4 to (i) emissions or discharges which cause or contribute to air, land, or
5 water pollution or (ii) the monitoring of such emissions or discharges;
6 and

7 (b) To require, for purposes of developing or assisting the
8 development of any regulation or enforcing any of the provisions of the
9 Environmental Protection Act which pertain to hazardous waste, any person
10 who generates, stores, treats, transports, disposes of, or otherwise
11 handles or has handled hazardous waste, upon request of any officer,
12 employee, or representative of the department, to furnish information
13 relating to such waste and any permit involved. Such person shall have
14 access at all reasonable times to a copy of all results relating to such
15 waste;

16 (16) To obtain such scientific, technical, administrative, and
17 operational services including laboratory facilities, by contract or
18 otherwise, as the director deems necessary;

19 (17) To encourage voluntary cooperation by persons and affected
20 groups to achieve the purposes of the Environmental Protection Act, the
21 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management
22 Act;

23 (18) To encourage local units of government to handle air, land, and
24 water pollution problems within their respective jurisdictions and on a
25 cooperative basis and to provide technical and consultative assistance
26 therefor;

27 (19) To consult with any person proposing to construct, install, or
28 otherwise acquire an air, land, or water contaminant source or a device
29 or system for control of such source, upon request of such person,
30 concerning the efficacy of such device or system or concerning the air,
31 land, or water pollution problem which may be related to the source,

1 device, or system. Nothing in any such consultation shall be construed to
2 relieve any person from compliance with the Environmental Protection Act,
3 the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, the Livestock Waste Management
4 Act, rules and regulations in force pursuant to the acts, or any other
5 provision of law;

6 (20) To require all persons engaged or desiring to engage in
7 operations which result or which may result in air, water, or land
8 pollution to secure a permit prior to installation or operation or
9 continued operation;

10 (21) To enter and inspect, during reasonable hours, any building or
11 place, except a building designed for and used exclusively for a private
12 residence;

13 (22)(a) To receive or initiate complaints of air, water, or land
14 pollution, hold hearings in connection with air, water, or land
15 pollution, and institute legal proceedings in the name of the state for
16 the control or prevention of air, water, or land pollution, and for the
17 recovery of penalties, in accordance with the Environmental Protection
18 Act, the Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste
19 Management Act; and

20 (b) To receive and initiate complaints of, hold hearings in
21 connection with, and institute legal proceedings in the name of the state
22 for the control, prevention, or abatement of the discharge of dredged and
23 fill material into waters of the United States and for the recovery of
24 penalties, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act;

25 (23) To delegate, by contract with governmental subdivisions which
26 have adopted local air, water, or land pollution control programs
27 approved by the council, the enforcement of state-adopted air, water, or
28 land pollution control regulations within a specified region surrounding
29 the jurisdictional area of the governmental subdivisions. Prosecutions
30 commenced under such contracts shall be conducted by the Attorney General
31 or county attorneys as provided in the Environmental Protection Act, the

1 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management
2 Act;

3 (24) To conduct tests and take samples of air, water, or land
4 contaminants, fuel, process materials, or any other substance which
5 affects or may affect discharges or emissions of air, water, or land
6 contaminants from any source, giving the owner or operator a receipt for
7 the sample obtained;

8 (25) To develop and enforce compliance schedules, under such
9 conditions as the director may prescribe and consistent with the
10 standards, rules, and regulations adopted by the council, to prevent,
11 control, or abate pollution;

12 (26) To employ the Governor's Keep Nebraska Beautiful Committee for
13 such special occasions and projects as the department may decide.
14 Reimbursement of the committee shall be made from state and appropriate
15 federal matching funds for each assignment of work by the department as
16 provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. The committee terminates on July
17 1, 2025;

18 (27) To provide, to the extent determined by the council to be
19 necessary and practicable, for areawide, selective, and periodic
20 inspection and testing of motor vehicles to secure compliance with
21 applicable exhaust emission standards for a fee not to exceed five
22 dollars to offset the cost of inspection;

23 (28) To enforce, when it is not feasible to prescribe or enforce any
24 emission standard for control of air pollutants, the use of a design,
25 equipment, a work practice, an operational standard, or a combination
26 thereof, adequate to protect the public health from such pollutant or
27 pollutants with an ample margin of safety;

28 (29) To establish the position of public advocate to be located
29 within the department to assist and educate the public on departmental
30 programs and to carry out all duties of the ombudsman as provided in the
31 Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7661f;

1 (30) Under such conditions as it may prescribe for the review,
2 recommendations, and written approval of the director, to require the
3 submission of such plans, specifications, and other information as it
4 deems necessary to carry out the Environmental Protection Act, the
5 Integrated Solid Waste Management Act, and the Livestock Waste Management
6 Act or to carry out the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the
7 acts. When deemed necessary by the director, the plans and specifications
8 shall be prepared and submitted by a professional engineer licensed to
9 practice in Nebraska;

10 (31) To carry out the provisions of the Petroleum Products and
11 Hazardous Substances Storage and Handling Act;

12 (32) To consider the risk to human health and safety and to the
13 environment in evaluating and approving plans for remedial action;

14 (33) To evaluate permits proposed to be issued to any political
15 subdivision under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
16 created by the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., as
17 provided in section 81-1517;

18 (34) To exercise such powers and duties as may be delegated by the
19 federal government to administer an individual and general permit program
20 for the discharge of dredged or fill material consistent with section 404
21 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1344;

22 (35) To serve as or assist in developing and coordinating a central
23 repository within state government for the collection of data on energy;

24 (36) To undertake a continuing assessment of the trends in the
25 availability, consumption, and development of all forms of energy;

26 (37) To collect and analyze data relating to present and future
27 demands and resources for all sources of energy and to specify energy
28 needs for the state;

29 (38) To recommend to the Governor and the Legislature energy
30 policies and conservation measures for the state and to carry out such
31 measures as are adopted;

1 (39) To provide for public dissemination of appropriate information
2 on energy, energy sources, and energy conservation;

3 (40) To accept, expend, or disburse funds, public or private, made
4 available to it for research studies, demonstration projects, or other
5 activities which are related either to energy conservation and efficiency
6 or development;

7 (41) To study the impact and relationship of state energy policies
8 to national and regional energy policies and engage in such activities as
9 will reasonably insure that the State of Nebraska and its residents
10 receive an equitable share of energy supplies, including the
11 administration of any federally mandated or state-mandated energy
12 allocation programs;

13 (42) To actively seek the advice of the residents of Nebraska
14 regarding energy policies and programs;

15 (43) To prepare emergency allocation plans suggesting to the
16 Governor actions to be taken in the event of serious shortages of energy;

17 (44) To design and maintain a state program for conservation of
18 energy and energy efficiency;

19 (45) To provide technical assistance regarding energy to local
20 subdivisions of government;

21 (46) To provide technical assistance to private persons desiring
22 information on energy conservation and efficiency techniques and the use
23 of renewable energy technologies;

24 (47) To develop a strategic state energy plan pursuant to section
25 81-1604;

26 (48) To develop and disseminate transparent and objective energy
27 information and analysis while utilizing existing energy planning
28 resources of relevant stakeholder entities;

29 (49) To actively seek to maximize federal and other nonstate funding
30 and support to the state for energy planning;

31 (50) To monitor energy transmission capacity planning and policy

1 affecting the state and the regulatory approval process for the
2 development of energy infrastructure and make recommendations to the
3 Governor and electronically to the Legislature as necessary to facilitate
4 energy infrastructure planning and development;

5 (51) To implement rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by
6 the director pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act to carry out
7 subdivisions (35) through (58) of this section;

8 (52) To make all contracts pursuant to subdivisions (35) through
9 (58) of this section and do all things to cooperate with the federal
10 government, and to qualify for, accept, expend, and dispense public or
11 private funds intended for the implementation of subdivisions (35)
12 through (58) of this section;

13 (53) To contract for services, if such work or services cannot be
14 satisfactorily performed by employees of the department or by any other
15 part of state government;

16 (54) To enter into such agreements as are necessary to carry out
17 energy research and development with other states;

18 (55) To carry out the duties and responsibilities relating to energy
19 as may be requested or required of the state by the federal government;

20 (56) To cooperate and participate with the approval of the Governor
21 in the activities of organizations of states relating to the
22 availability, conservation, development, and distribution of energy;

23 (57) To engage in such activities as will seek to insure that the
24 State of Nebraska and its residents receive an equitable share of energy
25 supplies at a fair price; and

26 (58) To form advisory committees of residents of Nebraska to advise
27 the director on programs and policies relating to energy and to assist in
28 implementing such programs. Such committees shall be of a temporary
29 nature, and no member shall receive any compensation for serving on any
30 such committee but, with the approval of the Governor, members shall
31 receive reimbursement for expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to

1 81-1177. The minutes of meetings of and actions taken by each committee
2 shall be kept and a record shall be maintained of the name, address, and
3 occupation or vocation of every individual serving on any committee. The
4 department shall maintain such minutes and records and shall make them
5 available for public inspection during regular office hours.

6 Sec. 74. Section 81-15,159.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative
7 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

8 81-15,159.01 (1) The Department of Environment and Energy shall
9 conduct a study to examine the status of solid waste management programs
10 operated by the department and make recommendations to modernize and
11 revise such programs. The study shall include, but not be limited to: (a)
12 Whether existing state programs regarding litter and waste reduction and
13 recycling should be amended or merged; (b) a needs assessment of the
14 recycling and composting programs in the state, including the need for
15 infrastructure development operating standards, market development,
16 coordinated public education resulting in behavior change, and incentives
17 to increase recycling and composting; (c) methods to partner with
18 political subdivisions, private industry, and private, nonprofit
19 organizations to most successfully address waste management issues in the
20 state; (d) recommendations regarding existing funding sources and
21 possible new revenue sources at the state and local level to address
22 existing and emerging solid waste management issues; and (e) revisions to
23 existing grant programs to address solid waste management issues in a
24 proactive manner.

25 (2) The Director of Environment and Energy shall establish an
26 advisory committee to advise the department regarding the study described
27 in this section. The members of the advisory committee shall be appointed
28 by the director and shall include no more than nine members. The director
29 shall designate a chairperson of the advisory committee. The members
30 shall receive no compensation for their services. The advisory committee
31 terminates on July 1, 2025.

1 (3) In addition to the advisory committee, the department may hire
2 consultants and special experts to assist in the study described in this
3 section. After completion of the study, the department shall submit a
4 report, including recommendations, to the Executive Board of the
5 Legislative Council and the chairpersons of the Natural Resources
6 Committee, the Urban Affairs Committee, and the Appropriations Committee
7 of the Legislature no later than December 15, 2017. The report shall be
8 submitted electronically.

9 Sec. 75. Section 81-15,245, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 81-15,245 The Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Advisory
12 Committee is created. The advisory committee shall be composed of the
13 following eleven members:

14 (1) Seven members appointed by the director as follows:

15 (a) Five private onsite wastewater treatment system professionals;
16 and

17 (b) Two registered environmental health specialists or officials
18 representing local public health departments which have established
19 programs for regulating private onsite wastewater treatment systems;

20 (2) The chief executive officer of the Department of Health and
21 Human Services or his or her designee;

22 (3) The Director of Environment and Energy or his or her designated
23 representative; and

24 (4) One representative with experience in soils and geology and one
25 representative with experience in biological engineering, both of whom
26 shall be designated by the vice chancellor of the University of Nebraska
27 Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

28 Members shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided in sections
29 81-1174 to 81-1177. The department shall provide administrative support
30 for the advisory committee.

31 The Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Advisory Committee

1 terminates on July 1, 2025.

2 Sec. 76. Section 81-3428, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
3 2022, is amended to read:

4 81-3428 (1) The Board of Engineers and Architects is created to
5 administer the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act. The board shall
6 consist of eight members appointed by the Governor for terms of five
7 years terminating on the last day of February. The board shall consist
8 of:

9 (a) Three architect members, two of whom shall be appointed after
10 consulting with the appropriate architectural professional organizations,
11 and one education member who is a faculty member of the University of
12 Nebraska appointed upon the recommendation of the Dean of Architecture of
13 the University of Nebraska;

14 (b) Four professional engineer members, three of whom shall be
15 appointed after consulting with the appropriate engineering professional
16 organizations, and one education member who is a faculty member of the
17 University of Nebraska appointed upon the recommendation of the Dean of
18 Engineering of the University of Nebraska; and

19 (c) One public member.

20 (2) Each member shall hold office after the expiration of his or her
21 term until his or her successor is duly appointed and qualified.
22 Vacancies in the membership of the board, however created, shall be
23 filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the Governor. The
24 Governor shall reappoint or replace existing members as their terms
25 expire, and the public member shall be reappointed or replaced in the
26 fifth year of his or her term. The Governor may remove any member of the
27 board for misconduct, incompetency, or neglect of duty.

28 (3) Each member of the board shall be a citizen of the United States
29 and a resident of the State of Nebraska for at least one year immediately
30 preceding appointment. Each architect or professional engineer member
31 shall have been engaged in the active practice of the design profession

1 for at least ten years and shall have been licensed in the relevant
2 profession for at least five years at the time of his or her appointment.

3 (4) The board may designate a former member of the board as an
4 emeritus member, but for no more than ten years after his or her original
5 board membership expires. Emeritus member status, when conferred, must be
6 renewed annually.

7 (5) The board offices shall be located in Lincoln, Nebraska.

8 (6) Effective July 1, 2025, the Board of Engineers and Architects
9 shall assume the duties of the State Board of Examiners for Land
10 Surveyors.

11 Sec. 77. Section 82-703, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
12 2022, is amended to read:

13 82-703 (1) The Willa Cather National Statuary Hall Selection
14 Committee is created. The committee shall consist of members of the
15 Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission created pursuant to section 72-724.

16 (2) Upon approval by the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress
17 and pursuant to the agreement described in section 82-702, the Willa
18 Cather National Statuary Hall Selection Committee shall:

19 (a) Select a sculptor to create a statue of Willa Cather to be
20 placed in the National Statuary Hall and review and approve the plans for
21 the statue; and

22 (b) Identify a method to obtain necessary funding to pay for all of
23 the following. All funds shall be privately donated and separately
24 managed. No state funds shall be expended for such purposes:

25 (i) The sculptor for designing and carving or casting the statue;

26 (ii) The design and fabrication of the pedestal;

27 (iii) The transportation of the statue and pedestal to the United
28 States Capitol;

29 (iv) The removal and transportation of the replaced statue;

30 (v) The temporary placement of the new statue in the Rotunda of the
31 United States Capitol for the unveiling ceremony;

1 (vi) The unveiling ceremony; and
2 (vii) Any other expenses that the committee determines are necessary
3 to incur.

4 (3) The committee has the authority to receive and disburse gifts.

5 (4) The committee shall execute the requirements of this section no
6 later than June 30, 2023.

7 (5) The committee terminates on July 1, 2025.

8 Sec. 78. Section 82-706, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
9 2022, is amended to read:

10 82-706 (1) The Chief Standing Bear National Statuary Hall Selection
11 Committee is created. The committee shall consist of (a) a representative
12 of the Commission on Indian Affairs, selected by the chairperson of the
13 commission, (b) a member of the State-Tribal Relations Committee of the
14 Legislature, selected by the chairperson of the committee, (c) the
15 chairperson of the Lincoln Partners for Public Art Development or its
16 successor, and (d) the Historic Preservation Planner of the City of
17 Lincoln.

18 (2) Upon approval by the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress
19 and pursuant to the agreement described in section 82-705, the Chief
20 Standing Bear National Statuary Hall Selection Committee may:

21 (a) Select a sculptor to create a statue of Chief Standing Bear to
22 be placed in the National Statuary Hall and review and approve the plans
23 for the statue; and

24 (b) Identify a method to obtain necessary funding to pay for all of
25 the following. All funds shall be privately donated and separately
26 managed. No state funds shall be expended for such purposes:

27 (i) The sculptor for designing and carving or casting the statue;

28 (ii) The design and fabrication of the pedestal;

29 (iii) The transportation of the statue and pedestal to the United
30 States Capitol;

31 (iv) The removal and transportation of the replaced statue;

1 (v) The temporary placement of the new statue in the Rotunda of the
2 United States Capitol for the unveiling ceremony;

3 (vi) The unveiling ceremony; and

4 (vii) Any other expenses that the committee determines are necessary
5 to incur.

6 (3) The committee has the authority to receive and disburse gifts.

7 (4) The committee shall execute the requirements of this section no
8 later than June 30, 2023.

9 (5) The committee terminates on July 1, 2025.

10 Sec. 79. Section 82-803, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
11 2022, is amended to read:

12 82-803 (1) The First Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Infantry at Fort
13 Donelson Committee is created. The purpose of the committee is to provide
14 for the creation, production, transportation, installation, and unveiling
15 of the monument. The committee shall consist of: An employee of the
16 Nebraska State Historical Society appointed by the Secretary of State;
17 two members of the public who are members of a local Civil War round
18 table organization appointed by the Secretary of State; a professor of
19 history from the University of Nebraska appointed by the Secretary of
20 State; and, as a nonvoting, ex officio member, the Chairperson of the
21 Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature or
22 his or her designee.

23 (2) The members of the committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-
24 chairperson from among its appointed members during the first meeting. A
25 member may be reelected to serve as chairperson or vice-chairperson. The
26 committee shall meet at least twice each calendar year. A majority of the
27 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

28 (3) The committee may conduct its meetings by virtual conferencing
29 as defined in section 84-1409, if practicable.

30 (4) The First Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Infantry at Fort Donelson
31 Committee shall, in conformance with regulations of the Fort Donelson

1 National Battlefield:

2 (a) Select a designer, sculptor, and mason, as appropriate, to
3 create a monument and approve the design of the monument;

4 (b) Approve the production of the monument;

5 (c) Approve the method of transportation of the monument to the
6 battlefield and its installation;

7 (d) Approve the unveiling ceremony for the monument; and

8 (e) Approve any other action the committee determines is necessary
9 to achieve its purpose.

10 (5) If there is a vacancy on the committee, the Secretary of State
11 shall fill such vacancy by appointing a member to serve during the
12 unexpired term of the member whose office has become vacant.

13 (6) Members of the committee shall not be paid.

14 (7) The committee shall issue electronically a report to the
15 Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature on
16 the progress of the creation, production, and installation of the
17 monument and any other information the committee deems necessary before
18 December 31 of each year.

19 (8) The committee shall terminate on July 1, 2025 ~~upon the~~
20 ~~completion of its purpose.~~

21 Sec. 80. Section 83-1212.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
22 2022, is amended to read:

23 83-1212.01 (1) There is hereby created the Advisory Committee on
24 Developmental Disabilities. The advisory committee shall consist of a
25 representative of a statewide advocacy organization for persons with
26 developmental disabilities and their families, a representative of
27 Nebraska's designated protection and advocacy organization, a
28 representative of the Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental
29 Disabilities, a representative of the University Center for Excellence in
30 Developmental Disability Education, Research and Service as defined in
31 section 68-1114, and not more than fifteen additional members. At least

1 fifty-one percent of the members shall be persons with developmental
2 disabilities and family members of persons with developmental
3 disabilities.

4 (2) The members shall be appointed by the Governor for staggered
5 terms of three years. Any vacancy shall be filled by the Governor for the
6 remainder of the term. One of the members shall be designated as
7 chairperson by the Governor. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses as
8 provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

9 (3) The advisory committee shall advise the department regarding all
10 aspects of the funding and delivery of services to persons with
11 developmental disabilities.

12 (4) The advisory committee shall (a) provide sufficient oversight to
13 ensure that persons placed in the custody of the department under the
14 Developmental Disabilities Court-Ordered Custody Act are receiving the
15 least restrictive treatment and services necessary, (b) oversee the
16 design and implementation of the quality management and improvement plan
17 described in section 83-1216.01, and (c) assist, provide feedback, and
18 guide the implementation of the family support program under section
19 68-1530.

20 (5) The department shall inform the advisory committee of proposed
21 systemic changes to services for persons with developmental disabilities
22 at least thirty days prior to implementation of the changes so that the
23 advisory committee may provide for a response to the proposed changes. If
24 the director determines that circumstances require implementation of the
25 changes prior to such notice, the department shall inform the advisory
26 committee as soon as possible. The advisory committee, in partnership
27 with the director, shall establish criteria for the process of providing
28 the information and receiving the response.

29 (6) Effective July 1, 2025, the Advisory Committee on Developmental
30 Disabilities is terminated.

31 Sec. 81. Section 85-1008, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

1 2022, is amended to read:

2 85-1008 (1) To assist the center in carrying out its purposes and
3 functions, the Board of Regents may establish a Nebraska Safety Center
4 Advisory Council composed of the following members:

5 (a) One representative from the Department of Transportation;

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

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

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

9 (e) One representative from the Department of Labor;

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

11 (g) One person representing private business and industry;

12 (h) One person representing the University of Nebraska;

13 (i) One person representing the medical profession;

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

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

17 (l) One person representing the area of transportation;

18 (m) One person representative of emergency medical services;

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

20 (o) One person representing city government;

21 (p) One person representing county government;

22 (q) One person representing the area of agriculture;

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

24 (s) One person representing fire safety;

25 (t) One representative of the Coordinating Commission for
26 Postsecondary Education;

27 (u) One person representing the Red Cross; and

28 (v) One person representing the state colleges.

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

1 traffic safety.

2 (3) The Nebraska Safety Center Advisory Council terminates on July
3 1, 2025, and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education
4 shall take over its duties.

5 Sec. 82. Section 85-1404, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
6 amended to read:

7 85-1404 (1) The purposes of the Coordinating Commission for
8 Postsecondary Education established by Article VII, section 14, of the
9 Constitution of Nebraska and section 85-1403 shall be to (a) ~~(1)~~ develop
10 an ongoing comprehensive statewide plan for the operation of an
11 educationally and economically sound, vigorous, progressive, and
12 coordinated system of postsecondary education, (b) ~~(2)~~ identify and enact
13 policies to meet the educational, research, and public service needs of
14 the state, and (c) ~~(3)~~ effect the best use of available resources through
15 the elimination of unnecessary duplication of programs and facilities
16 among Nebraska's public institutions.

17 (2) In carrying out its powers and duties, the commission shall
18 consider the need for diversity of public institutions and the need for
19 addressing regional needs but shall above all reflect a commitment to a
20 perspective in decisionmaking and planning for postsecondary education
21 which will best serve the state as a whole consistent with the role and
22 mission assignment of each public institution.

23 (3) The commission shall work with the public institutions to
24 encourage and sustain their aspirations consistent with the comprehensive
25 statewide plan and in a manner designed to achieve a vision of statewide
26 postsecondary education. The commission shall not be an advocate for any
27 one public institution but shall strive for a balance and responsiveness
28 among all public institutions.

29 (4) Beginning on July, 1, 2025, the commission shall take over the
30 duties of the Nebraska Safety Center Advisory Council as provided in
31 section 85-1008 and the advisory council appointed pursuant to the

1 Private Postsecondary Career School Act as provided in section 85-1607.

2 Sec. 83. Section 85-1607, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
3 amended to read:

4 85-1607 (1) The board shall appoint an advisory council of six
5 representatives of private postsecondary career schools. Members of the
6 council shall include representatives from a business school, a trade or
7 technical school, a better business bureau, and three other distinct
8 areas of education. Members of the council shall serve staggered terms of
9 three years each as established by the board at the time of initial
10 appointment. If a vacancy occurs on the council, the board shall appoint
11 a successor in the same category as the predecessor. The advisory council
12 shall have the following responsibilities:

13 (a) (1) To advise the department in its administration of the
14 Private Postsecondary Career School Act; and

15 (b) (2) To review the rules and regulations adopted or proposed for
16 adoption by the department and make recommendations with respect thereto.

17 (2) The advisory council created pursuant to this section terminates
18 on July 1, 2025, and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary
19 Education shall take over its duties.

20 Sec. 84. Section 86-444, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
21 amended to read:

22 86-444 Advisory board means:

23 (1) Prior to July 1, 2025, the Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board;
24 and -

25 (2) Beginning July 1, 2025, the 911 Service System Advisory
26 Committee.

27 Sec. 85. Section 86-461, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
28 2022, is amended to read:

29 86-461 (1) The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board is created to
30 advise the commission concerning the implementation, development,
31 administration, coordination, evaluation, and maintenance of enhanced

1 wireless 911 service. The advisory board shall be composed of nine
2 individuals appointed by the Governor, including:

3 (a) One sheriff;

4 (b) Two county officials or employees;

5 (c) Two municipal officials or employees;

6 (d) One representative from the state's wireless telecommunications
7 industry;

8 (e) One manager of a public safety answering point not employed by a
9 sheriff;

10 (f) One representative of the state's local exchange
11 telecommunications service industry; and

12 (g) One member of the public.

13 (2) The advisory board shall also include two ex officio members:

14 (a) One commissioner from the Public Service Commission or his or
15 her designee; and

16 (b) The Chief Information Officer or his or her designee.

17 (3) Members of the board as described in subdivisions (1)(a) through
18 (1)(g) of this section shall be appointed for a term of three years. Each
19 succeeding member of the board shall be appointed for a term of three
20 years. The board shall meet as often as necessary to carry out its
21 duties. Members of the board shall be reimbursed for expenses as provided
22 in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

23 (4) The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board terminates on July 1,
24 2025.

25 Sec. 86. Section 86-516, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
26 amended to read:

27 86-516 The commission shall:

28 (1) Annually by July 1, adopt policies and procedures used to
29 develop, review, and annually update a statewide technology plan;

30 (2) Create an information technology clearinghouse to identify and
31 share best practices and new developments, as well as identify existing

1 problems and deficiencies;

2 (3) Review and adopt policies to provide incentives for investments
3 in information technology infrastructure services;

4 (4) Determine a broad strategy and objectives for developing and
5 sustaining information technology development in Nebraska, including
6 long-range funding strategies, research and development investment,
7 support and maintenance requirements, and system usage and assessment
8 guidelines;

9 (5) Adopt guidelines regarding project planning and management and
10 administrative and technical review procedures involving state-owned or
11 state-supported technology and infrastructure. Governmental entities,
12 state agencies, and noneducation political subdivisions shall submit all
13 projects which use any combination of general funds, federal funds, or
14 cash funds for information technology purposes to the process established
15 by sections 86-512 to 86-524. The commission may adopt policies that
16 establish the format and minimum requirements for project submissions.
17 The commission may monitor the progress of any such project and may
18 require progress reports;

19 (6) Adopt minimum technical standards, guidelines, and architectures
20 upon recommendation by the technical panel. Such standards and guidelines
21 shall not unnecessarily restrict the use of new technologies or prevent
22 commercial competition, including competition with Network Nebraska;

23 (7) Establish ad hoc technical advisory groups to study and make
24 recommendations on specific topics, including workgroups to establish,
25 coordinate, and prioritize needs for education, local communities,
26 intergovernmental data communications, and state agencies;

27 (8) By November 15 of each even-numbered year, make recommendations
28 on technology investments to the Governor and the Legislature, including
29 a prioritized list of projects, reviewed by the technical panel pursuant
30 to section 86-521. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall
31 be submitted electronically;

1 (9) Approve grants from the Community Technology Fund and Government
2 Technology Collaboration Fund;

3 (10) Adopt schedules and procedures for reporting needs, priorities,
4 and recommended projects;

5 (11) Assist the Chief Information Officer in developing and
6 maintaining Network Nebraska pursuant to section 86-5,100;~~and~~

7 (12) Determine the format that state agencies, boards, and
8 commissions shall use to report their information technology plans under
9 section 86-524.01. The commission shall include an analysis of such plans
10 in the statewide technology plan; and -

11 (13) Effective July 1, 2025, assume the duties of the technical
12 panel.

13 Sec. 87. Section 86-521, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
14 amended to read:

15 86-521 (1) A technical panel is created. The technical panel shall
16 be comprised of one representative from the Nebraska Educational
17 Telecommunications Commission, one representative from the office of
18 Chief Information Officer, one representative from the University of
19 Nebraska Computing Services Network, and such other members as specified
20 by the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.

21 (2) The technical panel shall review any technology project
22 presented to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission including any
23 recommendations by working groups established under sections 86-512 to
24 86-524. Upon the conclusion of the review of a technology project or
25 request for additional funding, the technical panel shall provide its
26 analysis to the commission. The technical panel may recommend technical
27 standards and guidelines to be considered for adoption by the commission.

28 (3) Effective July 1, 2025, the technical panel is terminated.

29 Sec. 88. Section 86-1101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
30 2022, is amended to read:

31 86-1101 (1) The Legislature finds and declares that:

1 (a) ~~(1)~~ The availability, quality, and affordability of broadband
2 telecommunications service is important to the residents of Nebraska; and

3 (b) ~~(2)~~ Because availability, quality, and affordability of
4 broadband telecommunications service is lacking in certain rural areas in
5 Nebraska, combined with greater investment in urban areas, the state may
6 be facing a digital divide.

7 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that broadband
8 telecommunications service in rural areas of the state should be
9 comparable in download and upload speed and price to urban areas in the
10 state where possible and that state resources should be utilized to
11 ensure that the rural residents of the state should not be penalized
12 simply because of their rural residence. It is further the intent of the
13 Legislature that the residents of this state should have access to
14 broadband telecommunications service at a minimum download speed of
15 twenty-five megabits per second and a minimum upload speed of three
16 megabits per second.

17 (3) This section terminates on July 1, 2025.

18 Sec. 89. Section 86-1102, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
19 2022, is amended to read:

20 86-1102 (1) The Rural Broadband Task Force is hereby created. Task
21 force members shall include the chairperson of the Transportation and
22 Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature and a member of the
23 Legislature selected by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council
24 who shall both serve as nonvoting, ex officio members, a member of the
25 Public Service Commission who shall be selected by the chairperson of
26 such commission, the chairperson of the Nebraska Information Technology
27 Commission or his or her designee who shall act as chairperson of the
28 task force, the Director of Economic Development or his or her designee,
29 the Director of Agriculture or his or her designee, and the following
30 members to be appointed by the Governor: A representative of the
31 agribusiness community, a representative of the Nebraska business

1 community, a representative of the regulated wireline telecommunications
2 industry, a representative of the wireless telecommunications industry, a
3 representative of the public power industry, a representative of health
4 care providers, a representative of Nebraska postsecondary educational
5 institutions, and a representative of rural schools offering kindergarten
6 through grade twelve. The members appointed by the Governor shall serve
7 for a term of two years and may be reappointed.

8 (2) The task force may appoint advisory groups to assist the task
9 force in providing technical expertise and advice on any issue. The
10 advisory groups may be composed of representatives of stakeholder groups
11 which may include, but not necessarily be limited to, representatives
12 from small and large wireline companies, wireless companies, public power
13 districts, electric cooperative corporations, cable television companies,
14 Internet service providers, low-income telecommunications and electric
15 utility customers, health care providers, and representatives of
16 educational sectors. No compensation or expense reimbursement shall be
17 provided to any member of any advisory group appointed by the task force.

18 (3) The Nebraska Information Technology Commission shall provide
19 staff assistance to the task force in consultation with staff from the
20 Public Service Commission and other interested parties. The task force
21 may hire consultants to assist in carrying out its duties. The task force
22 shall review issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability
23 of broadband services in rural areas of Nebraska. In particular, the task
24 force shall:

25 (a) Determine how Nebraska rural areas compare to neighboring states
26 and the rest of the nation in average download and upload speeds and in
27 subscription rates to higher speed tiers, when available;

28 (b) Examine the role of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal
29 Service Fund in bringing comparable and affordable broadband services to
30 rural residents and any effect of the fund in deterring or delaying
31 capital formation, broadband competition, and broadband deployment;

1 (c) Review the feasibility of alternative technologies and providers
2 in accelerating access to faster and more reliable broadband service for
3 rural residents;

4 (d) Examine alternatives for deployment of broadband services to
5 areas that remain unserved or underserved, such as funding redirection
6 programs described in section 86-330, public-private partnerships,
7 funding for competitive deployment, and other measures, and make
8 recommendations to the Public Service Commission to encourage deployment
9 in such areas;

10 (e) Recommend state policies to effectively utilize state universal
11 service fund dollars to leverage federal universal service fund support
12 and other federal funding;

13 (f) Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature as to the
14 most effective and efficient ways that federal broadband rural
15 infrastructure funds received after July 1, 2018, should be expended if
16 such funds become available; and

17 (g) Determine other issues that may be pertinent to the purpose of
18 the task force.

19 (4) Task force members shall serve on the task force without
20 compensation but shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for expenses
21 incurred for such service as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

22 (5) The task force shall meet at the call of the chairperson and
23 shall present its findings in a report to the Executive Board of the
24 Legislative Council no later than November 1, 2019, and by November 1
25 every odd-numbered year thereafter. The report shall be submitted
26 electronically.

27 (6) For purposes of this section, broadband services means high-
28 speed telecommunications capability at a minimum download speed of
29 twenty-five megabits per second and a minimum upload speed of three
30 megabits per second, and that enables users to originate and receive
31 high-quality voice, data, and video telecommunications using any

1 technology.

2 (7) The Rural Broadband Task Force terminates on July 1, 2025.

3 Sec. 90. Section 86-1103, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
4 amended to read:

5 86-1103 (1) The Rural Broadband Task Force Fund is created. The
6 fund shall be used to carry out the purposes of the Rural Broadband Task
7 Force as described in section 86-1102. For administrative purposes, the
8 fund shall be located in the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.
9 The fund shall consist of money appropriated or transferred by the
10 Legislature and gifts, grants, or bequests from any source, including
11 federal, state, public, and private sources. Any money in the fund
12 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
13 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
14 State Funds Investment Act.

15 (2) The Rural Broadband Task Force Fund terminates on July 1, 2025.
16 The State Treasurer shall transfer any money remaining in the fund on
17 such date to the General Fund.

18 Sec. 91. Section 90-306, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
19 amended to read:

20 90-306 (1) The Governor may appoint members to a board or
21 commission which is formed by the city of Lincoln or the county of
22 Lancaster or both governmental bodies to protect and improve the Nebraska
23 State Capitol environs. Such commission shall be known as the Nebraska
24 State Capitol Environs Commission.

25 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, the Nebraska State Capitol Environs
26 Commission is terminated.

27 Sec. 92. Original sections 2-509, 2-517, 2-518, 2-519, 2-1803,
28 2-4901, 2-5003, 20-506, 38-204, 38-308, 38-1503, 43-2405, 48-622.03,
29 66-1618, 71-814, 71-815, 71-1134, 71-2454.01, 71-5311, 71-7101, 71-7102,
30 71-7106, 71-7107, 71-7108, 71-7109, 72-724, 72-812, 72-2101, 76-537,
31 76-540, 76-2207.18, 79-860, 79-866, 79-867, 79-868, 79-1810, 80-401.09,

1 81-502.01, 85-1404, 85-1607, 86-444, 86-516, 86-521, and 90-306, Reissue
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 28-712, 39-2106, 39-2301.01,
3 39-2304, 43-1302, 43-1903, 43-3401, 43-4001, 43-4203, 43-4216, 43-4406,
4 43-4513, 66-2001, 71-3703, 71-7012, 71-7804, 72-224.03, 76-2222, 79-810,
5 79-870, 79-1245, 79-2204, 80-318, 81-8,110.01, 81-1108.32, 81-1348,
6 81-1503, 81-1504, 81-15,159.01, 81-15,245, 81-3428, 82-703, 82-706,
7 82-803, 83-1212.01, 85-1008, 86-461, 86-1101, and 86-1102, Revised
8 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, and sections 38-167, 71-7104,
9 79-808, and 86-1103, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, are repealed.

10 Sec. 93. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections
11 43-4003, 50-603, 71-7105, 71-7110, 71-7113, 79-862, 79-864, 79-865,
12 79-869, and 79-871, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections
13 43-1306, 79-861, and 79-863, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
14 2022.