## LEGISLATIVE BILL 463

Approved by the Governor May 11, 2011

Introduced by Ashford, 20; at the request of the Governor; Howard, 9.

FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend sections 43-286, 43-412, 43-416, and 43-3701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections  $28-416, \quad 29-2258, \quad 29-2262.08, \quad 29-3921, \quad 43-2,108.01, \quad 43-2,108.02, \\ 43-2,108.03, \quad 43-2,108.04, \quad 43-2,108.05, \quad 43-2,129, \quad 79-209, \quad 79-2104, \\$ and 79-2104.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010; to change and transfer provisions relating to certain violations of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act by minors, powers and duties of probation officers relating to juveniles, revocation of probation of a juvenile, sealed juvenile records, and policies regarding excessive absenteeism; to provide for and eliminate transfers from the Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund; to eliminate provisions relating to a study and assessment; to provide duties for the Office of Juvenile Services; to state intent and provide for grants for court appointed special advocate programs; to create a fund; to require reports; to provide for funding for and a plan regarding excessive absenteeism; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 28-416, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

28-416 (1) Except as authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, it shall be unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally: (a) To manufacture, distribute, deliver, dispense, or possess with intent to manufacture, distribute, deliver, or dispense a controlled substance; or (b) to create, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute a counterfeit controlled substance.

- (2) Except as provided in subsections (4), (5), (7), (8), (9), and (10) of this section, any person who violates subsection (1) of this section with respect to: (a) A controlled substance classified in Schedule I, II, or III of section 28-405 which is an exceptionally hazardous drug shall be guilty of a Class II felony; (b) any other controlled substance classified in Schedule I, II, or III of section 28-405 shall be guilty of a Class III felony; or (c) a controlled substance classified in Schedule IV or V of section 28-405 shall be guilty of a Class IIIA felony.
- (3) A person knowingly or intentionally possessing a controlled substance, except marijuana, unless such substance was obtained directly or pursuant to a medical order issued by a practitioner authorized to prescribe while acting in the course of his or her professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by the act, shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.
- (4) (a) Except as authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, any person eighteen years of age or older who knowingly or intentionally manufactures, distributes, delivers, dispenses, or possesses with intent to manufacture, distribute, deliver, or dispense a controlled substance or a counterfeit controlled substance (i) to a person under the age of eighteen years, (ii) in, on, or within one thousand feet of the real property comprising a public or private elementary, vocational, or secondary school, a community college, a public or private college, junior college, or university, or a playground, or (iii) within one hundred feet of a public or private youth center, public swimming pool, or video arcade facility shall be punished by the next higher penalty classification than the penalty prescribed in subsection (2), (7), (8), (9), or (10) of this section, depending upon the controlled substance involved, for the first violation and for a second or subsequent violation shall be punished by the next higher penalty classification than that prescribed for a first violation of this subsection, but in no event shall such person be punished by a penalty greater than a Class IB felony.
  - (b) For purposes of this subsection:
- (i) Playground shall mean any outdoor facility, including any parking lot appurtenant to the facility, intended for recreation, open to the public, and with any portion containing three or more apparatus intended for the recreation of children, including sliding boards, swingsets, and teeterboards:
- (ii) Video arcade facility shall mean any facility legally accessible to persons under eighteen years of age, intended primarily for the

use of pinball and video machines for amusement, and containing a minimum of ten pinball or video machines; and

- (iii) Youth center shall mean any recreational facility or gymnasium, including any parking lot appurtenant to the facility or gymnasium, intended primarily for use by persons under eighteen years of age which regularly provides athletic, civic, or cultural activities.
- (5)(a) Except as authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, it shall be unlawful for any person eighteen years of age or older to knowingly and intentionally employ, hire, use, cause, persuade, coax, induce, entice, seduce, or coerce any person under the age of eighteen years to manufacture, transport, distribute, carry, deliver, dispense, prepare for delivery, offer for delivery, or possess with intent to do the same a controlled substance or a counterfeit controlled substance.
- (b) Except as authorized by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, it shall be unlawful for any person eighteen years of age or older to knowingly and intentionally employ, hire, use, cause, persuade, coax, induce, entice, seduce, or coerce any person under the age of eighteen years to aid and abet any person in the manufacture, transportation, distribution, carrying, delivery, dispensing, preparation for delivery, offering for delivery, or possession with intent to do the same of a controlled substance or a counterfeit controlled substance.
- (c) Any person who violates subdivision (a) or (b) of this subsection shall be punished by the next higher penalty classification than the penalty prescribed in subsection (2), (7), (8), (9), or (10) of this section, depending upon the controlled substance involved, for the first violation and for a second or subsequent violation shall be punished by the next higher penalty classification than that prescribed for a first violation of this subsection, but in no event shall such person be punished by a penalty greater than a Class IB felony.
- (6) It shall not be a defense to prosecution for violation of subsection (4) or (5) of this section that the defendant did not know the age of the person through whom the defendant violated such subsection.
- (7) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section with respect to cocaine or any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine in a quantity of:
- (a) One hundred forty grams or more shall be guilty of a Class IB felony;
- (b) At least twenty-eight grams but less than one hundred forty grams shall be guilty of a Class IC felony; or
- (c) At least ten grams but less than twenty-eight grams shall be guilty of a Class ID felony.
- (8) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section with respect to base cocaine (crack) or any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of base cocaine in a quantity of:
- (a) One hundred forty grams or more shall be guilty of a Class IB felony;
- (b) At least twenty-eight grams but less than one hundred forty grams shall be guilty of a Class IC felony; or
- (c) At least ten grams but less than twenty-eight grams shall be guilty of a Class ID felony.
- (9) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section with respect to heroin or any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of heroin in a quantity of:
- (a) One hundred forty grams or more shall be guilty of a Class IB felony;
- (b) At least twenty-eight grams but less than one hundred forty grams shall be guilty of a Class IC felony; or
- (c) At least ten grams but less than twenty-eight grams shall be guilty of a Class ID felony.
- (10) Any person who violates subsection (1) of this section with respect to amphetamine, its salts, optical isomers, and salts of its isomers, or with respect to methamphetamine, its salts, optical isomers, and salts of its isomers, in a quantity of:
- (a) One hundred forty grams or more shall be guilty of a Class IB felony;
- (b) At least twenty-eight grams but less than one hundred forty grams shall be guilty of a Class IC felony; or
- (c) At least ten grams but less than twenty-eight grams shall be guilty of a Class ID felony.
- (11) Any person knowingly or intentionally possessing marijuana weighing more than one ounce but not more than one pound shall be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

(12) Any person knowingly or intentionally possessing marijuana weighing more than one pound shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

- (13) Any person knowingly or intentionally possessing marijuana weighing one ounce or less shall:
- (a) For the first offense, be guilty of an infraction, receive a citation, be fined three hundred dollars, and be assigned to attend a course as prescribed in section 29-433 if the judge determines that attending such course is in the best interest of the individual defendant;
- (b) For the second offense, be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor, receive a citation, and be fined four hundred dollars and may be imprisoned not to exceed five days; and
- (c) For the third and all subsequent offenses, be guilty of a Class IIIA misdemeanor, receive a citation, be fined five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not to exceed seven days.
- (14) Any person convicted of violating this section, if placed on probation, shall, as a condition of probation, satisfactorily attend and complete appropriate treatment and counseling on drug abuse provided by a program authorized under the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act or other licensed drug treatment facility.
- (15) Any person convicted of violating this section, if sentenced to the Department of Correctional Services, shall attend appropriate treatment and counseling on drug abuse.
- (16) Any person knowingly or intentionally possessing a firearm while in violation of subsection (1) of this section shall be punished by the next higher penalty classification than the penalty prescribed in subsection (2), (7), (8), (9), or (10) of this section, but in no event shall such person be punished by a penalty greater than a Class IB felony.
- (17) A person knowingly or intentionally in possession of money used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.
  - (18) In addition to the penalties provided in this section:
- (a) If the person convicted or adjudicated of violating this section is eighteen years of age or younger and has one or more licenses or permits issued under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act:
- (i) For the first offense, the court may, as a part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) impound any such licenses or permits for thirty days and (B) require such person to attend a drug education class;
- (ii) For a second offense, the court may, as a part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) impound any such licenses or permits for ninety days and (B) require such person to complete no fewer than twenty and no more than forty hours of community service and to attend a drug education class; and
- (iii) For a third or subsequent offense, the court may, as a part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) impound any such licenses or permits for twelve months and (B) require such person to complete no fewer than sixty hours of community service, to attend a drug education class, and to submit to a drug assessment by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor; and
- (b) If the person convicted or adjudicated of violating this section is eighteen years of age or younger and does not have a permit or license issued under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act:
- (i) For the first offense, the court may, as part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) prohibit such person from obtaining any permit or any license pursuant to the act for which such person would otherwise be eligible until thirty days after the date of such order and (B) require such person to attend a drug education class;
- (ii) For a second offense, the court may, as part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) prohibit such person from obtaining any permit or any license pursuant to the act for which such person would otherwise be eligible until ninety days after the date of such order and (B) require such person to complete no fewer than twenty hours and no more than forty hours of community service and to attend a drug education class; and
- (iii) For a third or subsequent offense, the court may, as part of the judgment of conviction or adjudication, (A) prohibit such person from obtaining any permit or any license pursuant to the act for which such person would otherwise be eligible until twelve months after the date of such order and (B) require such person to complete no fewer than sixty hours of community service, to attend a drug education class, and to submit to a drug assessment by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor.
- A copy of an abstract of the court's conviction or adjudication shall be transmitted to the Director of Motor Vehicles pursuant to sections 60-497.01 to 60-497.04 if a license or permit is impounded or a juvenile is prohibited from obtaining a license or permit under this subsection.

Sec. 2. Section 29-2258, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

29-2258 A district probation officer shall:

- (1) Conduct juvenile intake interviews and investigations in accordance with section 43-253 utilizing a standardized juvenile detention screening instrument described in section sections 43-253 and 43-260.01;
- (2) Make presentence and other investigations, as may be required by law or directed by a court in which he or she is serving;
- (3) Supervise probationers in accordance with the rules and regulations of the office and the directions of the sentencing court;
- (4) Advise the sentencing court, in accordance with the Nebraska Probation Administration Act and such rules and regulations of the office, of violations of the conditions of probation by individual probationers;
- (5) Advise the sentencing court, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the office and the direction of the court, when the situation of a probationer may require a modification of the conditions of probation or when a probationer's adjustment is such as to warrant termination of probation;
- (6) Provide each probationer with a statement of the period and conditions of his or her probation;
- (7) Whenever necessary, exercise the power of arrest or temporary custody as provided in section 29-2262.08 or 29-2266 or section 5 of this act;
- (8) Establish procedures for the direction and guidance of deputy probation officers under his or her jurisdiction and advise such officers in regard to the most effective performance of their duties;
- (9) Supervise and evaluate deputy probation officers under his or her jurisdiction;
- (10) Delegate such duties and responsibilities to a deputy probation officer as he or she deems appropriate;
- (11) Make such reports as required by the administrator, the judges of the probation district in which he or she serves, or the Supreme Court;
- (12) Keep accurate and complete accounts of all money or property collected or received from probationers and give receipts therefor;
- (13) Cooperate fully with and render all reasonable assistance to other probation officers;
- (14) In counties with a population of less than twenty-five thousand people, participate in pretrial diversion programs established pursuant to sections 29-3601 to 29-3604 and juvenile pretrial diversion programs established pursuant to sections 43-260.02 to 43-260.07 as requested by judges of the probation district in which he or she serves, except that participation in such programs shall not require appointment of additional personnel and shall be consistent with the probation officer's current caseload;
- (15) Participate, at the direction of the probation administrator pursuant to an interlocal agreement which meets the requirements of section 29-2255, in non-probation-based programs and services;
- (16) Perform such other duties not inconsistent with the Nebraska Probation Administration Act or the rules and regulations of the office as a court may from time to time direct; and
- (17) Exercise all powers and perform all duties necessary and proper to carry out his or her responsibilities.
- Sec. 3. Section 29-3921, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:
- 29-3921 (1) The Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund is created. The fund shall be used for the operations of the commission, except that transfers may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature through June 30, 2011. The Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund shall consist of money remitted pursuant to section 33-156. It is the intent of the Legislature that the commission shall be funded solely from the fund. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.
- (2) On July 1, 2011, or as soon thereafter as administratively possible, the State Treasurer shall transfer one hundred thousand dollars from the Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund to the Supreme Court Education Fund. The State Court Administrator shall use these funds to assist the juvenile justice system in providing prefiling and diversion programming designed to reduce excessive absenteeism and unnecessary involvement with the juvenile justice system.
- (3) The State Treasurer shall transfer the following amounts from the Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund to the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund:
  - (a) On July 1, 2011, or as soon thereafter as administratively

possible, one hundred thousand dollars; and

(b) On July 1, 2012, or as soon thereafter as administratively possible, two hundred thousand dollars.

The State Treasurer shall transfer two hundred fifty thousand dollars from the Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund to the University Cash Fund within fifteen days after May 1, 2008. Such funds shall be used for a study of the juvenile legal defense and guardian ad litem systems utilizing the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center to create, administer, and review a Request for Proposals to select from a national search a research consultant that is qualified to provide a methodologically sound and objective assessment of Nebraska's juvenile justice system. The assessment shall include: (1) Gathering of general data and information about the structure and funding mechanisms for juvenile legal defense and guardian ad litem representation; (2) a review of caseloads; (3) examining issues related to the timing of appointment of counsel and guardians ad litem; (4) supervision of attorneys; (5) charging and trying juveniles as adults; (6) frequency with which juveniles waive their right to counsel and under what conditions they do so; (7) allocation of resources; (8) adequacy of juvenile court facilities; (9) compensation of attorneys; (10) supervising and training of attorneys; (11) access to investigators, experts, social workers, and support staff; (12) access to educational officers, teachers, educational staff, and truancy officers; (13) the relationship between a guardian ad litem, a juvenile's legal counsel, and the judicial system with identified educational staff regarding a juvenile's educational status; (14) examining issues related to truancy and the relationship between the school districts and the juvenile court system; (15) recidivism; (16) time to permanency and time in court, especially when a guardian ad litem is appointed; and (17) coordination of representation for those juveniles that may have been appointed an attorney in a juvenile delinquency matter and a guardian ad litem because of abuse or neglect. The assessment shall also highlight promising approaches and innovative practices within the state and offer recommendations to improve weak areas.

Sec. 4. Section 43-286, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-286 (1) When any juvenile is adjudicated to be a juvenile described in subdivision (1), (2), or (4) of section 43-247:

- (a) The court may continue the dispositional portion of the hearing, from time to time upon such terms and conditions as the court may prescribe, including an order of restitution of any property stolen or damaged or an order requiring the juvenile to participate in community service programs, if such order is in the interest of the juvenile's reformation or rehabilitation, and, subject to the further order of the court, may:
- (i) Place the juvenile on probation subject to the supervision of a probation officer;
- (ii) Permit the juvenile to remain in his or her own home or be placed in a suitable family home, subject to the supervision of the probation officer; or
- (iii) Cause the juvenile to be placed in a suitable family home or institution, subject to the supervision of the probation officer. If the court has committed the juvenile to the care and custody of the Department of Health and Human Services, the department shall pay the costs of the suitable family home or institution which are not otherwise paid by the juvenile's parents.

Under subdivision (1)(a) of this section, upon a determination by the court that there are no parental, private, or other public funds available for the care, custody, and maintenance of a juvenile, the court may order a reasonable sum for the care, custody, and maintenance of the juvenile to be paid out of a fund which shall be appropriated annually by the county where the petition is filed until a suitable provision may be made for the juvenile without such payment; or

- (b) The court may commit such juvenile to the Office of Juvenile Services, but a juvenile under the age of twelve years shall not be placed at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Geneva or the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney unless he or she has violated the terms of probation or has committed an additional offense and the court finds that the interests of the juvenile and the welfare of the community demand his or her commitment. This minimum age provision shall not apply if the act in question is murder or manslaughter.
- (2) When any juvenile is found by the court to be a juvenile described in subdivision (3)(b) of section 43-247, the court may enter such order as it is empowered to enter under subdivision (1)(a) of this section or enter an order committing or placing the juvenile to the care and custody of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(3) Beginning July 15, 1998, when When any juvenile is adjudicated to be a juvenile described in subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247 because of a nonviolent act or acts and the juvenile has not previously been adjudicated to be such a juvenile because of a violent act or acts, the court may, with the agreement of the victim, order the juvenile to attend juvenile offender and victim mediation with a mediator or at an approved center selected from the roster made available pursuant to section 25-2908.

- (4) When a juvenile is placed on probation and a probation officer has reasonable cause to believe that such juvenile has committed or is about to commit a substance abuse violation, a noncriminal violation, or a violation of a condition of his or her probation, the probation officer shall take appropriate measures as provided in section 5 of this act.
- (4)(a) (5)(a) When a juvenile is placed on probation or under the supervision of the court and it is alleged that the juvenile is again a juvenile described in subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247, a petition may be filed and the same procedure followed and rights given at a hearing on the original petition. If an adjudication is made that the allegations of the petition are true, the court may make any disposition authorized by this section for such adjudications.
- (b) When a juvenile is placed on probation or under the supervision of the court for conduct under subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247 and it is alleged that the juvenile has violated a term of probation or supervision or that the juvenile has violated an order of the court, a motion to revoke probation or supervision or to change the disposition may be filed and proceedings held as follows:
- (i) The motion shall set forth specific factual allegations of the alleged violations and a copy of such motion shall be served on all persons required to be served by sections 43-262 to 43-267;
- (ii) The juvenile shall be entitled to a hearing before the court to determine the validity of the allegations. At such hearing the juvenile shall be entitled to those rights relating to counsel provided by section 43-272 and those rights relating to detention provided by sections 43-254 to 43-256. The juvenile shall also be entitled to speak and present documents, witnesses, or other evidence on his or her own behalf. He or she may confront persons who have given adverse information concerning the alleged violations, may cross-examine such persons, and may show that he or she did not violate the conditions of his or her probation or supervision or an order of the court or, if he or she did, that mitigating circumstances suggest that the violation does not warrant revocation of probation or supervision or a change of disposition. The revocation hearing shall be held within a reasonable time after the juvenile is taken into custody;
- (iii) The hearing shall be conducted in an informal manner and shall be flexible enough to consider evidence, including letters, affidavits, and other material, that would not be admissible in an adversarial criminal trial;
- (iv) The juvenile shall be given a preliminary hearing in all cases when the juvenile is confined, detained, or otherwise significantly deprived of his or her liberty as a result of his or her alleged violation of probation, supervision, or court order. Such preliminary hearing shall be held before an impartial person other than his or her probation officer or any person directly involved with the case. If, as a result of such preliminary hearing, probable cause is found to exist, the juvenile shall be entitled to a hearing before the court in accordance with this subsection;
- (v) If the juvenile is found by the court to have violated the terms of his or her probation or supervision or an order of the court, the court may modify the terms and conditions of the probation, supervision, or other court order, extend the period of probation, supervision, or other court order, or enter any order of disposition that could have been made at the time the original order of probation was entered; and
- (vi) In cases when the court revokes probation, supervision, or  $\underline{\text{other court order}}$ , it shall enter a written statement as to the evidence relied on and the reasons for revocation.
- Sec. 5. Section 29-2262.08, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

29-2262.08 (1) For purposes of this section:

- (a) Administrative sanction means additional probation requirements imposed upon a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer by his or her probation officer, with the full knowledge and consent of such juvenile and such juvenile's parents or guardian, designed to hold such juvenile accountable for substance abuse or noncriminal violations of conditions of probation, including, but not limited to:
  - (i) Counseling or reprimand by his or her probation officer;
  - (ii) Increased supervision contact requirements;

- (iii) Increased substance abuse testing;
- (iv) Referral for substance abuse or mental health evaluation or other specialized assessment, counseling, or treatment;
- (v) Modification of a designated curfew for a period not to exceed thirty days;
- (vi) Community service for a specified number of hours pursuant to sections 29-2277 to 29-2279;
- (vii) Travel restrictions to stay within his or her residence or county of residence or employment unless otherwise permitted by the supervising probation officer;
- (viii) Restructuring court-imposed financial obligations to mitigate their effect on the juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer; and
- (ix) Implementation of educational or cognitive behavioral programming;
- (b) Noncriminal violation means activities or behaviors of a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer which create the opportunity for re-offending or which diminish the effectiveness of probation supervision resulting in a violation of an original condition of probation, including, but not limited to:
  - (i) Moving traffic violations;
  - (ii) Failure to report to his or her probation officer;
- (iii) Leaving the juvenile's residence, jurisdiction of the court, or the state without the permission of the court or his or her probation officer:
- (iv) Failure to regularly attend school, vocational training, other training, counseling, treatment, programming, or employment;
  - (v) Noncompliance with school rules;
  - (vi) Continued violations of home rules;
- (vii) Failure to notify his or her probation officer of change of address, school, or employment; (viii) Frequenting places where controlled substances are illegally
- (viii) Frequenting places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered and association with persons engaged in illegal activity;
  - (ix) Failure to perform community service as directed; and
  - (x) Curfew or electronic monitoring violations; and
- (c) Substance abuse violation means activities or behaviors of a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer associated with the use of chemical substances or related treatment services resulting in a violation of an original condition of probation, including, but not limited to:
  - (i) Positive breath test for the consumption of alcohol;
  - (ii) Positive urinalysis for the illegal use of drugs;
  - (iii) Failure to report for alcohol testing or drug testing;
- (iv) Failure to appear for or complete substance abuse or mental health treatment evaluations or inpatient or outpatient treatment; and
  - (v) Tampering with alcohol or drug testing.
- (2) Whenever a probation officer has reasonable cause to believe that a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer has committed or is about to commit a substance abuse violation or noncriminal violation while on probation, but that such juvenile will not attempt to leave the jurisdiction and will not place lives or property in danger, the probation officer shall either:
- (a) Impose one or more administrative sanctions with the approval of his or her chief probation officer or such chief's designee. The decision to impose administrative sanctions in lieu of formal revocation proceedings rests with the probation officer and his or her chief probation officer or such chief's designee and shall be based upon such juvenile's risk level, the severity of the violation, and the juvenile's response to the violation. If administrative sanctions are to be imposed, such juvenile shall acknowledge in writing the nature of the violation and agree upon the administrative sanction with approval of such juvenile's parents or guardian. Such juvenile has the right to decline to acknowledge the violation, and if he or she declines to acknowledge the violation, the probation officer shall submit a written report pursuant to subdivision (2) (b) of this section. A copy of the report shall be submitted to the county attorney of the county where probation was imposed; or
- (b) Submit a written report to the adjudicating court with a copy to the county attorney of the county where probation was imposed, outlining the nature of the probation violation and request that formal revocation proceedings be instituted against the juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer.
  - (3) Whenever a probation officer has reasonable cause to believe

that a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer has violated or is about to violate a condition of probation other than a substance abuse violation or noncriminal violation and that such juvenile will not attempt to leave the jurisdiction and will not place lives or property in danger, the probation officer shall submit a written report to the adjudicating court, with a copy to the county attorney of the county where probation was imposed, outlining the nature of the probation violation.

- (4) Whenever a probation officer has reasonable cause to believe that a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer has violated or is about to violate a condition of his or her probation and that such juvenile will attempt to leave the jurisdiction or will place lives or property in danger, the probation officer shall take such juvenile into temporary custody without a warrant and may call on any peace officer for assistance as provided in section 43-248.
- (5) Immediately after detention pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, the probation officer shall notify the county attorney of the county where probation was imposed and submit a written report of the reason for such detention and of any violation of probation. After prompt consideration of the written report, the county attorney shall:
- (a) Order the release of the juvenile from confinement subject to the supervision of a probation officer; or
- (b) File with the adjudicating court a motion or information to revoke the probation.
- (6) Whenever a county attorney receives a report from a probation officer that a juvenile subject to the supervision of a probation officer has violated a condition of probation, the county attorney may file a motion or information to revoke probation.
- (7) The probation administrator shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.
- Sec. 6. Section 43-2,108.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

43-2,108.01 Sections 43-2,108.01 to 43-2,108.05 apply only to persons who were under the age of eighteen years when the offense took place and, after being taken into custody, arrested, cited in lieu of arrest, or referred for prosecution without citation, the county attorney or city attorney (1) released the juvenile without filing a juvenile petition or criminal complaint, (2) offered juvenile pretrial diversion or mediation to the juvenile under the Nebraska Juvenile Code, (3) er filed a juvenile court petition describing the juvenile as a juvenile described in subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247, (4) filed a criminal complaint in county court against the juvenile under state statute or city or village ordinance for misdemeanor or infraction possession of marijuana or misdemeanor or infraction possession of drug paraphernalia, or (5) or the county attorney er city attorney filed a criminal complaint in county court against such the juvenile for a any other misdemeanor or infraction under state statute or city or village ordinance, other than for a traffic offense that may be waived. 7 under the laws of this state or a city or village ordinance.

Sec. 7. Section 43-2,108.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

43-2,108.02 For a juvenile described in section 43-2,108.01, the county attorney or city attorney shall<sub>7</sub> in addition to the filings or actions described in such section<sub>7</sub> provide the juvenile with written notice that:

- (1) States in plain language that the juvenile or the juvenile's parent or quardian may petition file a motion to seal the record with the court to seal the record when the juvenile has satisfactorily completed the diversion, mediation, probation, supervision, or other treatment or rehabilitation program provided to the juvenile under the Nebraska Juvenile Code or has satisfactorily completed the diversion or sentence ordered by a county court; and
  - (2) Explains in plain language what sealing the record means.
- Sec. 8. Section 43-2,108.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

43-2,108.03 (1) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, if the If a juvenile described in section 43-2,108.01 was taken into custody, or arrested, cited in lieu of arrest, or referred for prosecution without citation but no juvenile petition or criminal complaint was filed against the juvenile with respect to the arrest or custody, the county attorney or city attorney shall notify the appropriate public office or government agency responsible for the arrest, or custody, citation in lieu of arrest, or referral for prosecution without citation that no criminal charge or juvenile court petition was filed.

(2) If the county attorney or city attorney  $\frac{1}{2}$  offered and  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

juvenile <u>described in section 43-2,108.01</u> has agreed to pretrial diversion or mediation, the county attorney or city attorney shall notify the <del>appropriate public office or government</del> agency responsible for the arrest or custody <del>that when</del> the juvenile has satisfactorily completed the resulting diversion or mediation.

- (3) If the juvenile was taken into custody, arrested, cited in lieu of arrest, or referred for prosecution without citation and charges were filed but later dismissed and any required pretrial diversion or mediation for any related charges have been completed and no related charges remain under the jurisdiction of the court, the county attorney or city attorney shall notify the government agency responsible for the arrest, custody, citation in lieu of arrest, or referral for prosecution without citation and the court where the charge or petition was filed that the charge or juvenile court petition was dismissed.
- (3) (4) Upon receiving notice under subsection (1), (2), or (2) (3) of this section, the public office or government agency or court shall immediately seal all original records housed at that public office or government agency or court pertaining to the citation, arrest, record of custody, complaint, disposition, diversion, or mediation.
- $$\frac{4}{5}$$  If a juvenile described in section 43-2,108.01 has satisfactorily completed such juvenile's probation, supervision, or other treatment or rehabilitation program provided under the Nebraska Juvenile Code or has satisfactorily completed such juvenile's diversion or sentence in county court: and
- (a) The court may initiate proceedings pursuant to section 43-2,108.04 to seal the record pertaining to such disposition or adjudication under the juvenile code or sentence of the county court; and
- (b) If the juvenile has attained at least the age of seventeen years, the court shall initiate proceedings pursuant to section 43-2,108.04 to seal the record pertaining to such disposition or adjudication of the juvenile code or diversion or sentence of the county court, except that the court is not required to initiate proceedings to seal a record pertaining to a misdemeanor or infraction not described in subdivision (4) of section 43-2,108.01 under a city or village ordinance that has no possible jail sentence. Such a record may be sealed under subsection (6) of this section.
- (6) If a juvenile described in section 43-2,108.01 has satisfactorily completed diversion, mediation, probation, supervision, or other treatment or rehabilitation program provided under the Nebraska Juvenile Code or has satisfactorily completed the diversion or sentence ordered by a county court, the juvenile or the juvenile's parent or guardian may file a motion in the court of record asking the court to seal the record pertaining to the offense which resulted in such disposition, adjudication, or diversion of the juvenile court or diversion or sentence of the county court.
- (5) At any time after a juvenile described in section 43-2,108.01 has satisfactorily completed probation, supervision, or other treatment or rehabilitation program under the code or has satisfactorily completed diversion or sentence of the county court, the court may, upon the motion of the juvenile or the court's own motion, initiate proceedings to seal the record pertaining to such disposition, dismissal following pretrial diversion under section 43-260.04, or disposition under section 43-286 or any county court records pertaining to such county court diversion or sentence.
- Sec. 9. Section 43-2,108.04, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:
- 43-2,108.04 (1) The When a proceeding to seal the record is initiated, the court shall promptly notify the county attorney or city attorney involved in the case that is the subject of the proceeding to seal the record shall be promptly notified of the proceedings, and shall promptly notify the Department of Health and Human Services shall also be promptly notified of the proceedings if the juvenile whose record is the subject of the proceeding to seal the record is a ward of the state at the time the proceeding is initiated or if the department was a party in the case. proceeding.
- (2) A party notified under subsection (1) of this section may file a response with the court within thirty days after receiving such notice.
- (3) If a party notified under subsection (1) of this section does not file a response with the court or files a response that indicates there is no objection to the sealing of the record, the court may: (a) Order order the record of the juvenile under consideration be sealed without conducting a hearing on the motion; or (b) decide in its discretion to conduct a hearing on the motion. If the court decides in its discretion to conduct a hearing on the motion, the court shall conduct the hearing within thirty sixty days after making that decision and shall give notice, by regular mail, of the

date, time, and location of the hearing to the parties receiving notice under subsection (1) of this section and to the juvenile who is the subject of the record under consideration.

- (4) If a party receiving notice under subsection (1) of this section files a response with the court objecting to the sealing of the record, the court shall conduct a hearing on the motion within thirty sixty days after the court receives the response. The court shall give notice, by regular mail, of the date, time, and location of the hearing to the parties receiving notice under subsection (1) of this section and to the juvenile who is the subject of the record under consideration.
- (5) After conducting a hearing in accordance with this section, the court may order the record of the juvenile that is the subject of the motion to be sealed if it finds that the juvenile has been rehabilitated to a satisfactory degree. In determining whether the juvenile has been rehabilitated to a satisfactory degree, the court may consider all of the following:
  - (a) The age of the juvenile;
- (b) The nature of the offense and the role of the juvenile in the offense;
- (c) The behavior of the juvenile after the <u>disposition</u>, adjudication, <u>diversion</u>, or <u>sentence</u> and the juvenile's response to <u>diversion</u>, <u>mediation</u>, <u>probation</u>, <u>supervision</u>, <u>other</u> treatment <u>and</u> <u>or</u> rehabilitation <u>programs</u>; program, or <u>sentence</u>;
  - (d) The education and employment history of the juvenile; and
- (e) Any other circumstances that may relate to the rehabilitation of the juvenile. who is the subject of the record under consideration.
- (6) If, after conducting the hearing in accordance with this section, the juvenile is not found to be satisfactorily rehabilitated such that the record is not ordered to be sealed, a juvenile who is a person described in section 43-2,108.01 or such juvenile's parent or guardian may not move the court to seal the record for a period of one year after the court's decision not to seal the record is made, unless such time restriction is waived by the court.
- (7) The juvenile court or county court shall provide verbal notice to a juvenile whose record is sealed, if that juvenile is present in the court at the time the court issues a sealing order, and explain what sealing a record means.
- (8) The juvenile court or county court shall provide written notice to a juvenile whose record is sealed under this section by regular mail to the juvenile's last-known address, if that juvenile is not present in the court at the time the court issues a sealing order, that explains what sealing a record means.
- Sec. 10. Section 43-2,108.05, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:
- 43-2,108.05 (1) If the court orders the <u>records</u> of a juvenile sealed pursuant to section 43-2,108.04, the <u>juvenile</u> who is the <u>subject</u> of the order properly may, and the court, county attorneys, city attorneys, and institutions, persons, or agencies shall, reply that no record exists with respect to the <u>juvenile</u> upon any public inquiry in the matter, and the court shall: do all of the following:
- (a) Order that <u>all records, including</u> any information or other data concerning any proceedings relating to the <u>offense, including the</u> arrest, taking into custody, petition, complaint, indictment, information, trial, hearing, adjudication, correctional supervision, dismissal, or <u>other</u> disposition <u>or sentence</u>, be deemed never to have occurred; and
- (b) Send notice of the order to seal the record (i) to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, (ii) and, if the record includes impoundment or prohibition to obtain a license or permit pursuant to section 43-287, to the Department of Motor Vehicles, (iii) if the juvenile whose record has been ordered sealed was a ward of the state at the time the proceeding was initiated or if the Department of Health and Human Services was a party in the proceeding, to such department, and (iv) and to any law enforcement agencies, and county attorneys, and or city attorneys and institutions, persons, or agencies, including treatment providers, therapists, or other service providers, referenced in the court record;
- (c) Order all notified under subdivision (1)(b) of this section to seal and order that all original records of the case be sealed. pertaining to the offense;
- (d) If the case was transferred from district court to juvenile court or was transferred under section 43-282, send notice of the order to seal the record to the transferring court; and
  - (e) Explain to the juvenile what sealing the record means verbally

if the juvenile is present in the court at the time the court issues the sealing order or by written notice sent by regular mail to the juvenile's last-known address if the juvenile is not present in the court at the time the court issues the sealing order.

- is that thereafter no person is allowed to release any information concerning such record, except as provided by this section. After a record is sealed, the person whose record was sealed can respond to any public inquiry as if the offense resulting in such record never occurred. A government agency and any other public office or agency shall reply to any public inquiry that no information exists regarding a sealed record. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, an order to seal the record applies to every government agency and any other public office or agency that has a record relating to the case, regardless of whether it receives notice of the hearing on the sealing of the record or a copy of the order. Upon the written request of a person whose record has been sealed and the presentation of a copy of such order, a government agency or any other public office or agency shall seal all original records relating to the case, pertaining to the offense.
- (3) A sealed record is still accessible to law enforcement officers, county attorneys, and city attorneys, and the sentencing judge in the investigation, prosecution, and sentencing of crimes, to the sentencing judge in the and in the prosecution and sentencing of criminal defendants, and to any attorney representing the subject of the sealed record. Inspection of records that have been ordered sealed under section 43-2,108.04 may be made only by the following persons or for the following purposes:
- (a) By the court or by any person allowed to inspect such records by an order of the court for good cause shown;
- (b) By the court, city attorney, or county attorney for purposes of collection of any remaining parental support or obligation balances under section 43-290;
- (b) (c) By the Nebraska Probation System for purposes of juvenile intake services, for presentence and other probation investigations, and for the direct supervision of persons placed on probation and by the Department of Correctional Services, the Office of Juvenile Services, a juvenile assessment center, a criminal detention facility, or a juvenile detention facility, for an individual committed to it, placed with it, or under its care;
- (c) (d) By the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of juvenile intake services, the preparation of case plans and reports, the preparation of evaluations, compliance with federal reporting requirements, or the supervision and protection of persons placed with the department or for licensing or certification purposes under sections 71-1901 to 71-1906.01 or the Child Care Licensing Act;
- (d) (e) Upon application, by the <u>juvenile person</u> who is the subject of the sealed record and by the <u>person</u> that is <u>persons</u> authorized by the <u>person</u> who is the <u>subject</u> of the <u>sealed record</u> who <u>are</u> named in that application;
- (e) (f) At the request of a party in a civil action that is based on a case the that has a sealed record, for which is the subject of a sealing order issued under section 43-2,108.04, as needed for the civil action. The party also may copy the <u>sealed</u> record as needed for the civil action. The sealed record shall be used solely in the civil action and is otherwise confidential and subject to this section; or
- (f) (q) By persons engaged in bona fide research, with the permission of the court, only if the research results in no disclosure of a juvenile's the person's identity and protects the confidentiality of the sealed record; or-
- (h) By a law enforcement agency if a person whose record has been sealed applies for employment with the law enforcement agency.
- (4) No person shall knowingly release, disseminate, or make available, for any purpose involving employment, bonding, licensing, or education, to any person or to any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the state or of any of its political subdivisions, any information or other data concerning any arrest, taking into custody, petition, complaint, indictment, information, trial, hearing, adjudication, correctional supervision, dismissal, or disposition, the record of which has been sealed pursuant to section 43-2,108.04 and the release, dissemination, or making available of which is not expressly permitted by this section or court order. Nothing in this section shall prohibit prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from releasing, disseminating, or making available information from sealed records in the performance of its duties with respect to the supervision and protection of persons served by the department. Any person who violates this section may be held in contempt of court.

(5) In any application for employment, bonding, license, education, or other right or privilege, any appearance as a witness, or any other public inquiry, a person cannot be questioned with respect to any arrest or taking into custody offense for which the record is sealed. If an inquiry is made in violation of this subsection, the person may respond as if the sealed arrest or taking into custody did not occur, and the person is not subject to any adverse action because of the arrest or taking into custody or the response. offense never occurred. Applications for employment shall contain specific language that states that the applicant is not obligated to disclose a sealed juvenile record sealed. The Department of Labor shall develop a link on the department's web site to inform employers that employers cannot ask if an applicant had a juvenile record sealed and that an application for employment shall contain specific language that states that the applicant is not obligated to disclose a sealed juvenile record of arrest, custody, complaint, disposition, diversion, adjudication, or sentence.

- (6) Any person who violates this section may be held in contempt of court.
- Sec. 11. Section 43-2,129, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:
- 43-2,129 Sections 43-245 to 43-2,129 and section 5 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Juvenile Code.
- Sec. 12. Section 43-412, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 43-412 (1) Every juvenile committed to the Office of Juvenile Services pursuant to the Nebraska Juvenile Code or pursuant to subsection (3) of section 29-2204 shall remain committed until he or she attains the age of nineteen or is legally discharged.
- (2) The discharge of any juvenile pursuant to the rules and regulations or upon his or her attainment of the age of nineteen shall be a complete release from all penalties incurred by conviction or adjudication of the offense for which he or she was committed.
- (3) The Office of Juvenile Services shall provide the committing court with written notification of the juvenile's discharge within thirty days of a juvenile being discharged from the care and custody of the office.
- Sec. 13. Section 43-416, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 43-416 The Office of Juvenile Services shall have administrative authority over the parole function for juveniles committed to a youth rehabilitation and treatment center and may (1) determine the time of release on parole of committed juveniles eligible for such release, (2) fix the conditions of parole, revoke parole, issue or authorize the issuance of detainers for the apprehension and detention of parole violators, and impose other sanctions short of revocation for violation of conditions of parole, and (3) determine the time of discharge from parole. The office shall provide the committing court with written notification of the juvenile's discharge from parole within thirty days of a juvenile being discharged from the supervision of the office.
  - Sec. 14. The Legislature finds and declares that:
- (1) The safety and well-being of abused and neglected children throughout the State of Nebraska should be of paramount concern to the state and its residents;
- (2) Court appointed special advocate volunteers provide a unique and vital service to the children they represent and work to ensure the safety and well-being of abused and neglected children;
- (3) Court appointed special advocate volunteers have provided, in many cases, the judges who adjudicate cases with essential information that has not only ensured the safety and well-being of abused and neglected children throughout Nebraska, but has also saved the state thousands of dollars; and
- (4) Providing resources through a grant program will increase the savings to the state through court appointed special advocate programs.
- Sec. 15. The Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund is created. The fund shall be under the control of the Supreme Court and administered by the State Court Administrator. The fund shall be used for grants as provided in section 16 of this act. The fund shall consist of transfers authorized under section 29-3921. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Interest earned shall be credited back to the fund.
- Sec. 16. (1) The Supreme Court shall award grants from the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund as provided in subsection (2) of this section

to any court appointed special advocate program that applies for the grant and:

- (a) Is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
  - (b) Has the ability to operate statewide; and
- (c) Has an affiliation agreement with local programs that meet the requirements of section 43-3706.
- (2) The Supreme Court shall award grants up to the amount credited to the fund as follows:
- (a) Up to ten thousand dollars may be used by the court to administer this section;
- (b) Of the remaining amount, eighty percent, but no more than three hundred thousand dollars, shall be awarded as grants used to recruit new court appointed special advocate volunteers and to defray the cost of training court appointed special advocate volunteers;
- (c) Of the remaining amount, ten percent, but no more than fifty thousand dollars, shall be awarded as grants used to create innovative programming to implement the Court Appointed Special Advocate Act; and
- (d) Of the remaining amount, ten percent, but no more than fifty thousand dollars, shall be awarded as grants used to expand court appointed special advocate programs into counties that have no programs or limited programs.
- Sec. 17. Each applicant who is awarded a grant under section 16 of this act shall provide the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Legislature, and Governor prior to December 31 of each year a report regarding the grant detailing:
- (1) The number of court appointed special advocate volunteers trained during the previous fiscal year;
- (2) The cost of training the court appointed special advocate volunteers trained during the previous fiscal year;
- (3) The number of court appointed special advocate volunteers recruited during the previous fiscal year;
- (4) A description of any programs described in subdivision (2)(d) of section 16 of this act;
- (5) The total number of courts being served by court appointed special advocate programs during the previous fiscal year; and
- (6) The total number of children being served by court appointed special advocate volunteers during the previous fiscal year.
- Sec. 18. Section 43-3701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 43-3701 Sections 43-3701 to 43-3716 and sections 14, 15, 16, and 17 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Court Appointed Special Advocate Act.
- Sec. 19. Section 79-209, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

79-209 In all school districts in this state, any superintendent, principal, teacher, or member of the school board who knows of any violation of section 79-201 on the part of any child of school age, his or her parent, the person in actual or legal control of such child, or any other person shall within three days report such violation to the attendance officer of the school, who shall investigate the case. When of his or her personal knowledge, by report or complaint from any resident of the district, or by report or complaint as provided in this section, the attendance officer believes that any child is unlawfully absent from school, the attendance officer shall immediately investigate.

All school districts shall have a written policy on excessive absenteeism developed in collaboration with the county attorney of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located. The policy shall include a provision indicating how the school district and the county attorney will handle cases in which excessive absences are due to documented illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable, and the policy shall state the number of absences or the hourly equivalent upon the occurrence of which the school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism. The number of absences in the policy shall not exceed five days per quarter or the hourly equivalent. School districts may use excused and unexcused absences for purposes of the policy. Such services shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) One or more meetings between a school attendance officer, school social worker or the school principal or a member of the school administrative

staff designated by the school administration if such school does not have a school social worker, the child's parent or guardian, and the child, if necessary, to report and to attempt to solve the problem of excessive absenteeism:

- (2) Educational counseling to determine whether curriculum changes, including, but not limited to, enrolling the child in an alternative education program that meets the specific educational and behavioral needs of the child, would help solve the problem of excessive absenteeism;
- (3) Educational evaluation, which may include a psychological evaluation, to assist in determining the specific condition, if any, contributing to the problem of excessive absenteeism, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed; and
- (4) Investigation of the problem of excessive absenteeism by the school social worker, or if such school does not have a school social worker, by the school principal or a member of the school administrative staff designated by the school administration, to identify conditions which may be contributing to the problem. If services for the child and his or her family are determined to be needed, the school social worker or the school principal or a member of the school administrative staff performing the investigation shall meet with the parent or guardian and the child to discuss any referral to appropriate community agencies for economic services, family or individual counseling, or other services required to remedy the conditions that are contributing to the problem of excessive absenteeism.

If the child is absent more than twenty days per year or the hourly equivalent, the attendance officer shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which such person resides. The county attorney may file a complaint against a person violating section 79-201 before the judge of the county court of the county in which such person resides charging such person with violation of section 79-201 or may file a petition under the Nebraska Juvenile Code alleging the person violating section 79-201 is a juvenile described in subdivision (3)(a) or (3)(b) of section 43-247. Nothing in this section shall preclude a county attorney from being involved at any stage in the process to address excessive absenteeism.

Sec. 20. Section 79-2104, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

 $79\mbox{-}2104$  A learning community coordinating council shall have the authority to:

- (1) Levy a common levy for the general funds of member school districts pursuant to sections 77-3442 and 79-1073;
- (2) Levy a common levy for the special building funds of member school districts pursuant to sections 77-3442 and 79-1073.01;
- (3) Levy for elementary learning center facility leases, for remodeling of leased elementary learning center facilities, and for up to fifty percent of the estimated cost for focus school or program capital projects approved by the learning community coordinating council pursuant to subdivision (2)(h) of section 77-3442 and section 79-2111;
- (4) Levy for elementary learning center employees, for contracts with other entities or individuals who are not employees of the learning community for elementary learning center programs and services, and for pilot projects pursuant to subdivision (2)(i) of section 77-3442, except that not more than ten percent of such levy may be used for elementary learning center employees;
- (5) Collect, analyze, and report data and information, including, but not limited to, information provided by a school district pursuant to subsection (5) of section 79-201;
- (6) Approve focus schools and focus programs to be operated by member school districts;
- (7) Adopt, approve, and implement a diversity plan which shall include open enrollment and may include focus schools, focus programs, magnet schools, and pathways pursuant to section 79-2110;
- (8) Administer the open enrollment provisions in section 79-2110 for the learning community as part of a diversity plan developed by the council to provide educational opportunities which will result in increased diversity in schools across the learning community;
- (9) Annually conduct school fairs to provide students and parents the opportunity to explore the educational opportunities available at each school in the learning community and develop other methods for encouraging access to such information and promotional materials;
- (10) Develop and approve reorganization plans for submission pursuant to the Learning Community Reorganization Act;
- (11) Establish and administer elementary learning centers through achievement subcouncils pursuant to sections 79-2112 to 79-2114;

(12) Administer the learning community funds distributed to the learning community pursuant to section 79-2111;

- (13) Approve or disapprove poverty plans and limited English proficiency plans for member school districts through achievement subcouncils established under section 79-2117;
- (14) Establish a procedure for receiving community input and complaints regarding the learning community;
- (15) Establish a procedure to assist parents, citizens, and member school districts in accessing an approved center pursuant to the Dispute Resolution Act to resolve disputes involving member school districts or the learning community. Such procedure may include payment by the learning community for some mediation services; and
- (16) Establish and administer pilot projects related to enhancing the academic achievement of elementary students, particularly students who face challenges in the educational environment due to factors such as poverty, limited English skills, and mobility; and-
- (17) Provide funding to public or private entities engaged in the juvenile justice system providing prefiling and diversion programming designed to reduce excessive absenteeism and unnecessary involvement with the juvenile justice system.

Sec. 21. Section 79-2104.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

79-2104.02 Each learning community coordinating council shall use any funds received after January 15, 2011, pursuant to section 79-1241.03 for evaluation and research pursuant to plans developed by the learning community coordinating council with assistance from the educational service unit coordinating council and the student achievement coordinator and adjusted on an ongoing basis. The evaluation shall be conducted by one or more other entities or individuals who are not employees of the learning community and shall measure progress toward the goals and objectives of the learning community, which goals and objectives shall include reduction of excessive absenteeism of students in the member school districts of the learning community and closing academic achievement gaps based on socioeconomic status, and the effectiveness of the approaches used by the learning community or pilot project to reach such goals and objectives. Any research conducted pursuant to this section shall also be related to such goals and objectives. After the first full year of operation, each learning community shall report evaluation and research results to the Education Committee of the Legislature on or before December 1 of each year.

Sec. 22. The superintendents of any school districts that are members of a learning community shall develop and participate in a plan by August 1, 2011, to reduce excessive absenteeism including a process to share information regarding at-risk youth with the goal of improving educational outcomes, providing effective interventions that impact risk factors, and reducing unnecessary penetration deeper into the juvenile justice system. For purposes of this section, at-risk youth means children who are under the supervision of the Office of Probation Administration, are committed to the care, custody, or supervision of the Department of Health and Human Services, are otherwise involved in the juvenile justice system, or have been absent from school for more than five days per quarter or the hourly equivalent except when excused by school authorities or when a documented illness makes attendance impossible or impracticable.

Sec. 23. Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 25 of this act become operative three calendar months after the adjournment of this legislative session. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective date.

Sec. 24. Original sections 43-286 and 43-3701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-416, 29-2258, 29-2262.08, 29-3921, 43-2,129, 79-209, 79-2104, and 79-2104.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, are repealed.

Sec. 25. Original sections 43-412 and 43-416, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 43-2,108.01, 43-2,108.02, 43-2,108.03, 43-2,108.04, and 43-2,108.05, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, are repealed.

Sec. 26. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.