

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 368**

Introduced by Crawford, 45; Mello, 5.

Read first time January 18, 2013

Committee: Health and Human Services

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to employment; to state findings; to create and  
2 provide for a subsidized employment pilot program; to  
3 provide duties for the Department of Health and Human  
4 Services and the Department of Labor; to provide for  
5 termination of the program; to state intent relating to  
6 appropriations; and to provide an operative date.

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

1           Section 1. The Legislature finds that:

2           (1) Work experience is necessary to obtain employment in  
3 a competitive job market;

4           (2) Businesses find creating capacity to add employees  
5 during a time of economic recovery challenging;

6           (3) Subsidized employment can benefit employers and  
7 workers in need of experience;

8           (4) Increasing opportunities for public assistance  
9 recipients to engage in meaningful workplace experience can  
10 significantly contribute to their long-term employability;

11           (5) Providing subsidized employment can also help  
12 businesses to grow; and

13           (6) States nationwide provide subsidized employment to  
14 public assistance recipients in order to aid employers in developing  
15 work placements for public assistance recipients.

16           Sec. 2. For purposes of sections 1 to 7 of this act:

17           (1) Aid to dependent children program means the program  
18 described in section 43-512; and

19           (2) Participant means an individual who qualifies for the  
20 aid to dependent children program services with a family income equal  
21 to or less than two hundred percent of the Office of Management and  
22 Budget income poverty guideline.

23           Sec. 3. (1) The Subsidized Employment Pilot Program is  
24 created within the Department of Health and Human Services to provide  
25 opportunities for employers and participants in the aid to dependent

1 children program to achieve subsidized employment.

2 (2) The department shall establish a partnership between  
3 an entity which contracts with the department pursuant to section  
4 68-1722 to provide case management services in the aid to dependent  
5 children program and a nonprofit organization or the Department of  
6 Labor.

7 (3) The nonprofit organization or the Department of Labor  
8 shall establish an application process for employers to participate  
9 in the pilot program. Such application process shall include, but not  
10 be limited to, a requirement that employer applicants submit a plan  
11 including, but not limited to, the following criteria:

12 (a) Initial client assessment, job development, job  
13 placement, and employment retention services; and

14 (b) A strategy to place participants in in-demand jobs.

15 (4) The Department of Labor may develop guidelines for  
16 participants in the pilot program.

17 Sec. 4. Subsidies under the Subsidized Employment Pilot  
18 Program created under section 3 of this act shall be capped at the  
19 prevailing wage and shall be provided for no more than forty hours  
20 per week for not more than six months, on the following scale:

21 (1) One hundred percent in months one and two;

22 (2) Seventy-five percent in month three;

23 (3) Fifty percent in months four and five; and

24 (4) Twenty-five percent in month six.

25 Sec. 5. The Subsidized Employment Pilot Program created

1 under section 3 of this act shall terminate on July 1, 2018, at which  
2 time the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a final  
3 report to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature,  
4 reporting the number of participants and their employment status and  
5 the number of employers participating in the program.

6           Sec. 6. The Department of Health and Human Services may  
7 adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out sections 1 to  
8 5 of this act.

9           Sec. 7. It is the intent of the Legislature to  
10 appropriate one million dollars per fiscal year for fiscal years  
11 FY2014-15 to FY2017-18 from funds available to the Temporary  
12 Assistance for Needy Families program to carry out the provisions of  
13 sections 1 to 6 of this act. Any of such funds which are unexpended  
14 on June 30, 2018, shall lapse to the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
15 Families program on such date.

16           Sec. 8. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2014.