

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 944**

Introduced by Bolz, 29.

Read first time January 16, 2014

Committee: Appropriations

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to state intent relating to
- 2 funding for an early childhood program and consultation
- 3 services as prescribed; and to harmonize provisions.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to  
2 appropriate four hundred thousand dollars in each of fiscal years  
3 FY2014-15 and FY2015-16 from the General Fund to the State Department  
4 of Education to (a) expand the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors program  
5 and (b) contract with partner organizations for early childhood  
6 consultation services. Such services shall include, but not be  
7 limited to, mental health screening, assessment, individualized  
8 program plans, staff training, curriculum development, and program  
9 evaluation. Such services shall be available to child care centers,  
10 preschool programs, and elementary schools to serve children from  
11 birth through eight years of age.

12           (2) Priority in distributing funds appropriated pursuant  
13 to this section shall be given to expanding early childhood programs  
14 in areas of the state underserved by mental health providers and in  
15 areas of the state with high numbers of at-risk children.