LEGISLATIVE BILL 722

Approved by the Governor March 3, 2010

Introduced by Avery, 28.

FOR AN ACT relating to state government: to amend sections 11-201, 72-815, and 81-1017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change a bonding requirement; to change a provision relating to sale of state real property; to eliminate an exception relating to state-owned motor vehicles; and to repeal the original sections.

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

Section 1. Section 11-201, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

11-201. It shall be the duty of the Risk Manager:

(1) To prescribe the amount, terms, and conditions of any bond or equivalent commercial insurance when the amount or terms are not fixed by any specific statute. The Risk Manager, in prescribing the amount, deductibles, conditions, and terms, shall consider the type of risks, the relationship of the premium to risks involved, the past and projected trends for premiums, the ability of the Tort Claims Fund, the State Self-Insured Property Fund, and state agencies to pay the deductibles, and any other factors the manager may, in his or her discretion, deem necessary in order to accomplish the provisions of sections 2-1201, 3-103, 8-104, 8-105, 9-807, 11-119, 11-121, 11-201, 11-202, 37-110, 48-158, 48-609, 48-618, 48-721, 48-804.03, 53-109, 54-191, 55-123, 55-126, 55-127, 55-150, 57-917, 60-1303, 60-1502, 71-222.01, 72-1241, 77-366, 80-401.02, 81-111, 81-151, 81-8,128, 81-8,141, 81-1108.14, 81-2002, 83-128, 84-106, 84-206, and 84-801;

(2) To pass upon the sufficiency of and approve the surety on the bonds or equivalent commercial insurance of all officers and employees of the state, when approval is not otherwise prescribed by any specific statute;

(3) To arrange for the writing of corporate surety bonds or equivalent commercial insurance for all the officers and employees of the state who are required by statute to furnish bonds;

(4) To arrange for the writing of the blanket corporate surety bond or equivalent commercial insurance required by this section; and

(5) To order the payment of corporate surety bond or equivalent commercial insurance premiums out of the State Insurance Fund created by section 81-8,239.02.

All state employees not specifically required to give bond by section 11-119 shall be bonded under a blanket corporate surety bond or insured under equivalent commercial insurance for faithful performance and honesty in an amount not to exceed one million dollars, determined by the Risk Manager.

The Risk Manager may separately bond any officer, employee, or group thereof under a separate corporate surety bond or equivalent commercial insurance policy for performance and honesty pursuant to the standards set forth in subdivision (1) of this section if the corporate surety or commercial insurer will not bond or insure or excludes from coverage any officer, employee, or group thereof under the blanket bond or commercial insurance required by this section, or if the Risk Manager finds that the reasonable availability or cost of the blanket bond or commercial insurance required under this section is adversely affected by any of the following factors: The loss experience, types of risks to be bonded or insured, relationship of premium to risks involved, past and projected trends for premiums, or any other factors.

Surety bonds of collection agencies, as required by section 45-608, and detective agencies, as required by section 71-3207, shall be approved by the Secretary of State. The Attorney General shall approve all bond forms distributed by the Secretary of State.

Sec. 2. Section 72-815, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

72-815. (1) The state building division of the Department of Administrative Services shall be responsible for the sale, lease, or other disposal of a building or land, whichever action is ordered by the committee.

(2) If a building is to be demolished, section 72-810 shall not apply, but the state building division shall notify the State Historic Preservation Officer of such demolition at least thirty days prior to the beginning of the demolition or disassembly so that the officer may collect any photographic or other evidence he or she may find of historic value.

(3)(a) If a building or land is to be sold or leased, the state
building division shall cause an appraisal to be made of the building or land. The sale, lease, or other disposal of the building or land shall comply with all relevant statutes pertaining to the sale or lease of surplus state property, except that if the state building division fails to receive an offer from a state agency in which the agency certifies that it (i) intends to use the building for the purposes for which it was designed, intended, or remodelled or to remodel the building for uses which will serve the agency's purposes or (ii) intends to use the land for the purposes for which it was acquired or received, the state building division shall then notify the Department of Economic Development that the building or land is available for sale or lease so that the department may refer to the state building division any potential buyers or lessees of which the department may be aware. The state building division may then sell or lease the building or land by such method as is to the best advantage of the State of Nebraska, including auction, sealed bid, or public sale and, if necessary, by private sale, but in all situations only after notice of the property sale is publicly advertised on at least two separate occasions in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county where the surplus property is located and not less than thirty days prior to the sale of the property. The state building division may use the services of a real estate broker licensed under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act. Priority shall be given to other political subdivisions of state government, then to persons contracting with the state or political subdivisions of the state who will use the building or land for middle-income or low-income rental housing for at least fifteen years, and finally to referrals from the Department of Economic Development.

(b) When a building or land designated for sale is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the state building division, in its discretion and based on the best interests of the state, may follow the procedure outlined in subdivision (3)(a) of this section or may sell the building or land by any method deemed in the best interests of the state to a not-for-profit community organization that intends to maintain the historic and cultural integrity of the building or land.

41-722 (c) All sales and leases shall be in the name of the State of Nebraska. The state building division may provide that a deed of sale include restrictions on the building or land to ensure that the use and appearance of the building or land remain compatible with any adjacent state-owned property.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this section, the proceeds of the sale or lease shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Vacant Building and Excess Land Cash Fund unless the state agency formerly responsible for the building or land certifies to the state building division that the building or land was purchased in part or in total from cash, federal, or revolving funds, in which event, after the costs of selling or leasing the building or land are deducted from the proceeds of the sale or lease and such amount is credited to the fund, the remaining proceeds of the sale or lease shall be credited to the cash, federal, or revolving fund in the percentage used in originally purchasing the building or land.

(4) Any state-owned military property, including any armories considered surplus property, shall be sold by such method as is to the best advantage of the State of Nebraska, including auction, sealed bid, or public sale, and if necessary, by private sale, but in all situations only after notice of the property sale is publicly advertised on at least two separate occasions in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county where the surplus property is located and not less than thirty days prior to the sale of the property, and pursuant to section 72-816, all proceeds from the sale of the property, less maintenance expenses pending the sale and selling expenses, but including investment income on the sale proceeds of the property, shall be promptly transferred from the Vacant Building and Excess Land Cash Fund to the General Fund by the State Building Administrator.

(5) The state building division shall be responsible for the maintenance of the building or land if maintenance is ordered by the committee and shall be responsible for maintenance of the building or land pending sale or lease of the building or land.

Sec. 3. Section 81-1017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1017 The provisions of sections 81-1008 to 81-1017 shall not apply to any court or the motor vehicles thereof, nor to vehicles acquired through the federal surplus property program, but such vehicles shall be titled as provided in section 81-1013.

Sec. 4. Original sections 11-201, 72-815, and 81-1017, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.