

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 436

Introduced by Cook, 13.

Read first time January 20, 2015

Committee: Appropriations

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to state intent to
- 2 appropriate funds for pediatric oral health services.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate
2 additional funds from the General Fund to the University of Nebraska
3 Medical Center to establish a pilot program to expand pediatric dental
4 residents from the current enrollment of eight to ten residents.

5 The Legislature finds with an increasing demand for pediatric oral
6 health services in underserved urban areas there is a need to establish a
7 three-year pilot program to analyze the benefits and costs of increasing
8 state-supported pediatric dentistry residency positions at the University
9 of Nebraska Medical Center. The lack of access to specialty dental care
10 is a key cause of poor health outcomes for children of all ages in cities
11 of the metropolitan class. This pilot program will add two pediatric
12 dental residents at a rate of one new resident per year starting in year
13 two of the pilot program.

14 The state-supported pediatric dental residents would be based at the
15 University of Nebraska Medical Center Pediatric Dental Clinic at
16 Children's Hospital in Omaha in order to maintain accreditation
17 standards. The pediatric dental residency program shall work closely with
18 Omaha Public Schools, Charles Drew Health Center, and OneWorld Health
19 Centers in order to ensure that children from underserved areas of Omaha
20 are able to access and establish a dental home. Increasing the number of
21 current residents from eight to ten will allow the program to partner
22 with such entities to provide the needed care. In order to fulfill this
23 mission, the University of Nebraska Medical Center will seek a
24 collaborator to provide care coordination such as translation and
25 transportation services, and add a pediatric dental faculty position and
26 stipends to dental residents to provide services at federally qualified
27 health centers in an effort to address the most common barriers to
28 accessing dental care in the community.

29 After thirty-six months, the University of Nebraska Medical Center
30 College of Dentistry shall submit a progress report to the Legislature
31 and the Governor. The report shall include:

1 (1) Tabulation of the number of children served and number of dental
2 homes established in an effort to document the improvement of oral health
3 outcomes for children in underserved communities;

4 (2) Evidence of the impact on the pediatric dentistry workforce
5 providing care to underserved areas in Nebraska; and

6 (3) Estimated cost savings to the State of Nebraska. Baseline data
7 shall be collected during year one of the pilot program and compared
8 against the post-pilot data of the third year to provide an accurate
9 measure of the effectiveness of the residency positions. The report to
10 the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.