A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to state intent relating to appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services for tobacco use prevention control.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
Section 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

(1) Evidence-based, statewide tobacco prevention and cessation programs that are comprehensive, sustained, and accountable have been shown to reduce smoking rates, as well as tobacco-related diseases and deaths;

(2) A comprehensive statewide tobacco control program is a coordinated effort to establish, promote, and assist tobacco users to quit, reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, prevent initiation of tobacco use and identify and eliminate tobacco-related racial, ethnic, and socio-economic disparities;

(3) The guidelines for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United State Public Health Service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services recommend a significant amount of money be appropriated annually to a comprehensive statewide tobacco-related public health program in Nebraska; and

(4) Investing in the Nebraska tobacco use prevention control program at the level at which it was originally funded in 2000 will save lives, reducing the toll that tobacco takes on Nebraska.

Sec. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to include in the appropriation to Agency No. 25, Program No. 30, for FY2015-16 $7,000,000 Cash Funds and for FY2016-17 $7,000,000 Cash Funds to use for tobacco use prevention control from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.