

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 641

FINAL READING

Introduced by McDonnell, 5; Vargas, 7; Brewer, 43; Quick, 35; Friesen,
34.

Read first time January 23, 2019

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to health and human services; to amend section
- 2 71-7611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to define 211
- 3 Information and Referral Network; to provide for grants; to create a
- 4 fund; to change provisions relating to transfers to and from the
- 5 Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund; to state intent; and to repeal the
- 6 original section.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section, 211 Information and
2 Referral Network means a statewide information and referral network
3 providing information to the public regarding disaster and emergency
4 response and health and human services provided by public and private
5 entities throughout the state.

6 (2) The Public Service Commission shall award a grant annually to a
7 211 Information and Referral Network which submits an application and
8 meets the requirements of this section. The amount of each grant shall be
9 three hundred thousand dollars.

10 (3) To be eligible for a grant, the 211 Information and Referral
11 Network shall update the information and referral services on the network
12 at least annually, shall geographically index the services to provide
13 information on a county-by-county basis, and shall be accredited as
14 meeting the standards for service delivery and quality by the Alliance of
15 Information and Referral Systems or a similar organization approved by
16 the commission.

17 (4) The grant may be used to establish a web site which includes
18 links to providers of health and human services, the name, address, and
19 telephone number of any organization listed on the web site, a
20 description of the type of services provided by the organization, and
21 other information to educate the public about the health and human
22 services available on a geographic basis. The grant may also be used to
23 provide access to the network twenty-four hours per day, seven days per
24 week, through telephone access and web site access.

25 (5) There is hereby created the 211 Cash Fund. The fund shall be
26 used solely for the purpose of providing grants pursuant to this section
27 and associated administrative costs. All money received by the Public
28 Service Commission for such grants shall be remitted to the State
29 Treasurer for credit to such fund. Any money in the fund available for
30 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to
31 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds

1 Investment Act.

2 Sec. 2. Section 71-7611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
3 amended to read:

4 71-7611 (1) The Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund is created. The State
5 Treasurer shall transfer (a) sixty million three hundred thousand dollars
6 on or before July 15, 2014, (b) sixty million three hundred fifty
7 thousand dollars on or before July 15, 2015, (c) sixty million three
8 hundred fifty thousand dollars on or before July 15, 2016, (d) sixty
9 million seven hundred thousand dollars on or before July 15, 2017, (e)
10 five hundred thousand dollars on or before May 15, 2018, (f) sixty-one
11 million six hundred thousand dollars on or before July 15, 2018, (g)
12 sixty-one million six ~~three~~ hundred fifty thousand dollars on or before
13 July 15, 2019, ~~and~~ (h) sixty million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars
14 on or before July 15, 2020, and (i) sixty million four hundred fifty
15 thousand dollars on or before every July 15 thereafter from the Nebraska
16 Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund and the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement
17 Trust Fund to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, except that such amount
18 shall be reduced by the amount of the unobligated balance in the Nebraska
19 Health Care Cash Fund at the time the transfer is made. The state
20 investment officer shall advise the State Treasurer on the amounts to be
21 transferred first from the Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund
22 until the fund balance is depleted and from the Nebraska Tobacco
23 Settlement Trust Fund thereafter in order to sustain such transfers in
24 perpetuity. The state investment officer shall report electronically to
25 the Legislature on or before October 1 of every even-numbered year on the
26 sustainability of such transfers. The Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund
27 shall also include money received pursuant to section 77-2602. Except as
28 otherwise provided by law, no more than the amounts specified in this
29 subsection may be appropriated or transferred from the Nebraska Health
30 Care Cash Fund in any fiscal year.

31 The State Treasurer shall transfer ten million dollars from the

1 Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund to the General Fund on
2 June 28, 2018, and June 28, 2019.

3 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (6) of this section, it
4 ~~It~~ is the intent of the Legislature that no additional programs are
5 funded through the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund until funding for all
6 programs with an appropriation from the fund during FY2012-13 are
7 restored to their FY2012-13 levels.

8 (2) Any money in the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund available for
9 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to
10 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
11 Investment Act.

12 (3) The University of Nebraska and postsecondary educational
13 institutions having colleges of medicine in Nebraska and their affiliated
14 research hospitals in Nebraska, as a condition of receiving any funds
15 appropriated or transferred from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund,
16 shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sexual
17 orientation.

18 (4) The State Treasurer shall transfer fifty thousand dollars on or
19 before July 15, 2016, from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the
20 Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the University of
21 Nebraska Medical Center. It is the intent of the Legislature that these
22 funds be used by the College of Public Health for workforce training.

23 (5) It is the intent of the Legislature that the cost of the staff
24 and operating costs necessary to carry out the changes made by Laws 2018,
25 LB439, and not covered by fees or federal funds shall be funded from the
26 Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund for fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-20.

27 (6) It is the intent of the Legislature to fund the grants to be
28 awarded pursuant to section 1 of this act with the Nebraska Health Care
29 Cash Fund for FY2019-20 and FY2020-21.

30 Sec. 3. Original section 71-7611, Reissue Revised Statutes of
31 Nebraska, is repealed.