AMENDMENTS TO LB227
(Amendments to E & R amendments, ER26)

Introduced by Riepe, 12.

1. Insert the following new sections:

Sec. 65. Section 71-1797, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1797 The Legislature finds that it is imperative that the State of Nebraska protect its investment and the progress made in its efforts to alleviate the nursing shortage which exists. The Legislature also finds that the Nebraska Center for Nursing will provide the appropriate means to do so. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate funds necessary for the center to carry out the Nebraska Center for Nursing Act, including, but not limited to, (1) administrative costs incurred by the Department of Health and Human Services to expand clinical training sites as provided in subsection (3) of section 71-1798 and (2) funds for such expansion of clinical training sites in the amount of three million dollars from the General Fund for fiscal year 2023-24 and three million dollars from the General Fund for fiscal year 2024-25.

Sec. 66. Section 71-1798, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1798 (1) The Nebraska Center for Nursing is established. The center shall address issues of supply and demand for nurses, including issues of recruitment, retention, and utilization of nurses. The Legislature finds that the center will repay the state's investment by providing an ongoing strategy for the allocation of the state's resources directed towards nursing.

(2) The primary goals for the center are:

(a) (1) To develop a strategic statewide plan to alleviate the nursing shortage in Nebraska by:
(i) (a) Establishing and maintaining a database on nursing supply
and demand in Nebraska, including current supply and demand and future
projections; and

(ii) (b) Selecting priorities from the plan to be addressed;

(b) (2) To convene various groups representative of nurses, other
health care providers, business and industry, consumers, legislators, and
educators to:

(i) (a) Review and comment on data analysis prepared for the center;

(ii) (b) Recommend systemic changes, including strategies for
implementation of recommended changes; and

(iii) (c) Evaluate and report the results of these efforts to the
Legislature and the public; and

(c) (3) To enhance and promote recognition, reward, and renewal
activities for nurses by:

(i) (a) Proposing and creating recognition, reward, and renewal
activities; and

(ii) (b) Promoting media and positive image-building efforts for
nursing.

(3) After consultation with a statewide association representing
hospitals and health systems that provide clinical nursing opportunities,
the Nebraska Center for Nursing Board shall provide for the expansion of
clinical training sites for nurses throughout the state, giving
preference to areas that have lower numbers of registered nurses per
capita compared to the state average, and shall provide for the
development of programs that:

(a) Incentivize clinical nurses to become clinical nurse faculty;

(b) Incentivize nurse faculty to partner with staff nurses in the
development of clinical nurse faculty;

(c) Expand simulation training for nurse clinical education; and

(d) Incentivize hospital facilities to support the center in
carrying out this subsection.
2. Correct the operative date and repealer sections so that the sections added by this amendment become operative three calendar months after the adjournment of this legislative session.

3. Renumber the remaining sections accordingly.