

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2023**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB644**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday January 30, 2023  
**Committee On:** Banking, Commerce and Insurance  
**Introducer:** McDonnell  
**One Liner:** Change provisions relating to the use of the Site and Building Development Fund

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

**Aye:** 8 Senators Aguilar, Ballard, Bostar, Dungan, Jacobson, Kauth, Slama, von Gillern  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:**

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**Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Mike McDonnell  
Lucas Froeschl  
Mary Berke  
John Mueller  
Jim O'Brien  
Jason Ball

**Representing:**

Nebraska Legislature  
Falls City EDGE  
Grand Island Economic Development  
Cass County Nebraska Economic Development  
OPPD / Nebraska Economic Developers Association  
Lincoln Chamber / Omaha Chamber / Nebraska State Chamber

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

\* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 644 would amend sections 81-12,146, 81-12,147, 81-12,148, 81-12,150, and 84-612 by providing grants to be used to support identifying, evaluating, and developing large commercial and industrial sites and building infrastructure to attract major investment and employment opportunities for advanced manufacturing, processing, trade, technology, aerospace, automotive, clean energy, life science industries, and other transformational industries in Nebraska . The bill would provide, section by section, as follows:

Section 1 amends section 81-12,146 to state that it is the intent of the Legislature to transfer eighty million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund for fiscal year 2023-24 and eighty million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund for fiscal year 2024-25 to be used to support identifying,

evaluating, and developing large commercial and industrial sites and building infrastructure to attract major investment and employment opportunities for advanced manufacturing, processing, trade, technology, aerospace, automotive, clean energy, life science industries, and other transformational industries in Nebraska.

Section 2 amends section 81-12,147 by stating how the Department of Economic Development (DED) shall use the subaccount created in Section 1, and provides restrictions and requirements for project funding. It also allocates the subaccount funds between funding projects under Section 1 and funding the DED to further the intent of Section 1.

Section 3 amends section 81-12,148 by stating that the existing requirement for the DED to allocate forty percent of grant funds sought by applications under the Site and Building Development Fund to nonmetropolitan areas, shall not apply to any mega site developed under Section 2.

Section 4 amends section 81-12,150 by stating that the DED's ability to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Site and Building Development Act extends to reviewing proposals for mega sites and providing financial assistance to any approved mega site application under Section 2.

Section 5 amends section 84-612 to require the State Treasurer to transfer one hundred sixty million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund on July 15, 2023, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

Section 6 repeals the original section being amended.

Section 7 is an emergency provision.

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Julie Slama, Chairperson