LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1086

Introduced by Walz, 15.

Read first time January 09, 2024

Committee: Health and Human Services

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Department of Health and Human 2 Services; to amend sections 38-1,101, 43-2202, 44-7006, 68-1015, 3 68-1207.01, 71-504, 71-3601, 71-6042, 71-6732, and 71-9103, Reissue 4 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 43-4203, 43-4216, 43-4401, 68-1207, 71-702, 71-8803, 81-101, 81-102, 81-132, 81-1113, 81-1316, 5 6 and 81-3133, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, 7 section 71-7305, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; to eliminate the Department of Health and Human Services; to create the Department of 8 Children and Family Services, the Department of Public Health, and 9 the Department of Healthcare; to transfer programs, services, and 10 duties; to provide for the appointment of directors; to provide for 11 12 administration responsibilities; to provide for appointment of a 13 chief medical officer; to create the Health and Human Services Cash 14 Fund; to provide for the creation and use of petty cash funds by the 15 Department of Children and Family Services; to provide a duty for the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature; to 16 eliminate obsolete provisions and provisions regarding divisions of 17 18 Department of Health and Human Services; to harmonize 19 provisions; to provide an operative date; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 81-3110, 81-3111, 81-3112, 20 21 81-3114, 81-3115, 81-3117, 81-3118, 81-3120, 81-3121, 81-3122, 22 81-3123, and 81-3124, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and 23 sections 81-3113, 81-3116, 81-3119, 81-3133.01, 81-3133.02,

- 1 81-3133.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022.
- 2 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- 1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 11 of this act shall be known and may be
- 2 <u>cited as the Health and Human Services Act.</u>
- 3 Sec. 2. The purpose of the Health and Human Services Act is to
- 4 create three departments under the executive branch of state government
- 5 to provide effective services and improved health outcomes for the people
- 6 of Nebraska.
- 7 Sec. 3. The Department of Children and Family Services is created.
- 8 The Governor shall appoint one director for the department who shall
- 9 serve at the pleasure of the Governor and be subject to confirmation by a
- 10 majority of the Legislature.
- 11 Sec. 4. <u>The Department of Public Health is created. The Governor</u>
- 12 shall appoint one director for the department who shall serve at the
- 13 pleasure of the Governor and be subject to confirmation by a majority of
- 14 the Legislature.
- 15 Sec. 5. The Department of Healthcare is created. The Governor shall
- 16 <u>appoint one director for the department who shall serve at the pleasure</u>
- 17 <u>of the Governor and be subject to confirmation by a majority of the</u>
- 18 Legislature.
- 19 Sec. 6. (1) Effective July 1, 2025, all programs, services, and
- 20 <u>duties of the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department</u>
- 21 of Health and Human Services shall be transferred to the Department of
- 22 Children and Family Services.
- 23 (2) Effective July 1, 2025, all programs, services, and duties of
- 24 the Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and Human
- 25 Services shall be transferred to the Department of Public Health.
- 26 (3) Effective July 1, 2025, all programs, services, and duties of
- 27 the Division of Behavioral Health, the Division of Developmental
- 28 Disabilities, and Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the
- 29 Department of Health and Human Services shall be transferred to the
- 30 Department of Healthcare.
- 31 Sec. 7. (1) If the Director of Public Health is licensed to

- 1 practice medicine and surgery in the State of Nebraska, the director
- 2 <u>shall also be the chief medical officer. If the Director of Public Health</u>
- 3 is not licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the State of
- 4 Nebraska, the Governor shall appoint a chief medical officer in addition
- 5 to the Director of Public Health. The chief medical officer shall be
- 6 licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the State of Nebraska, shall
- 7 serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and shall be subject to
- 8 confirmation by a majority of the members of the Legislature.
- 9 (2) The chief medical officer shall perform duties under the Uniform
- 10 Credentialing Act as provided in section 38-1,101, shall be the final
- 11 <u>decisionmaker in contested cases of health care facilities defined in the</u>
- 12 <u>Health Care Facility Licensure Act arising under the act and sections</u>
- 13 <u>71-6042, 71-6732, and 81-604.03, and shall perform such other duties as</u>
- 14 provided by law.
- 15 Sec. 8. The responsibilities of the departments created in sections
- 16 3 to 5 of this act include, but are not limited to:
- 17 (1) The Department of Children and Family Services shall administer
- 18 (a) protection and safety programs and services, including child welfare
- 19 programs and services and the Office of Juvenile Services, (b) economic
- 20 and family support programs and services, and (c) service areas as may be
- 21 <u>designated</u> by the <u>Director</u> of the <u>Department</u> of <u>Children</u> and <u>Family</u>
- 22 Services;
- 23 (2) The Department of Public Health shall administer (a) preventive
- 24 and community health programs and services, (b) the regulation and
- 25 licensure of health-related professions and occupations, and (c) the
- 26 <u>regulation and licensure of health care facilities and health care</u>
- 27 services; and
- 28 (3) The Department of Healthcare shall administer (a) the state
- 29 hospitals for the mentally ill designated in section 83-305, (b) publicly
- 30 funded community-based behavioral health services, (c) the Beatrice State
- 31 Developmental Center, (d) publicly funded community-based developmental

- 1 disabilities services, (e) the medical assistance program also known as
- 2 medicaid, (f) aging services, and (g) other related programs and
- 3 services.
- 4 Sec. 9. The Health and Human Services Cash Fund is created and
- 5 shall consist of funds from contracts, grants, gifts, or fees. Transfers
- 6 may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the
- 7 Legislature. Any money in the Health and Human Services Cash Fund
- 8 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
- 9 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
- 10 State Funds Investment Act.
- 11 Sec. 10. <u>The Director of the Department of Children and Family</u>
- 12 Services may request that petty cash funds be created at specific
- 13 <u>locations which may be used for fees and costs related to the prosecution</u>
- of support establishment, modification, and enforcement cases, including,
- 15 but not limited to, court costs, filing fees, service of process fees,
- 16 sheriff's costs, garnishment and execution fees, court reporter and
- 17 transcription costs, costs related to appeals, witness and expert witness
- 18 fees, and fees or costs for obtaining necessary documents. The petty cash
- 19 funds shall be created and administered as provided in section 81-104.01,
- 20 except that the amount in each petty cash fund shall not be less than
- 21 <u>twenty-five dollars nor more than two thousand dollars.</u>
- 22 Sec. 11. The legal counsel of the Health and Human Services
- 23 Committee of the Legislature shall prepare a committee amendment to this
- 24 legislative bill to amend the necessary statutes to comply with the
- 25 provisions of the Health and Human Services Act.
- Sec. 12. Section 38-1,101, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 27 amended to read:
- 28 38-1,101 If a chief medical officer is appointed pursuant to section
- 29 7 of this act 81-3115, the chief medical officer he or she shall perform
- 30 the duties of the director for decisions in contested cases under the
- 31 Uniform Credentialing Act other than contested cases under sections

- 1 38-1,119 to 38-1,123.
- 2 Sec. 13. Section 43-2202, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 3 amended to read:
- 4 43-2202 For purposes of sections 43-2201 to 43-2209:
- 5 (1) Department means the Department of <u>Children</u> Health and <u>Family</u>
- 6 Human Services;
- 7 (2) Family finding means the process described in section 43-2203;
- 8 (3) Family member means:
- 9 (a) A person related to a child by blood, adoption, or affinity
- 10 within the fifth degree of kinship;
- 11 (b) A stepparent;
- 12 (c) A stepsibling;
- 13 (d) The spouse, widow, widower, or former spouse of any of the
- 14 persons described in subdivisions (a) through (c) of this subdivision;
- 15 and
- 16 (e) Any individual who is a primary caretaker or trusted adult in a
- 17 kinship home and who, as a primary caretaker, has lived with the child
- 18 or, as a trusted adult, has a preexisting, significant relationship with
- 19 the child;
- 20 (4) Kinship home means a home in which a child receives foster care
- 21 and at least one of the primary caretakers has previously lived with or
- 22 is a trusted adult that has a preexisting, significant relationship with
- 23 the child;
- 24 (5) Provider means an organization providing services as a child-
- 25 placing agency; and
- 26 (6) Service area means a geographic area administered by the
- 27 department and designated pursuant to section 8 of this act 81-3116.
- Sec. 14. Section 43-4203, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 29 2022, is amended to read:
- 30 43-4203 (1) The Nebraska Children's Commission shall create a
- 31 committee to examine the Office of Juvenile Services and the Juvenile

- Services Division of the Office of Probation Administration. Such 1 2 committee shall review the role and effectiveness of out-of-home placements utilized in the juvenile justice system, including the youth 3 4 rehabilitation and treatment centers, and make recommendations to the 5 commission on the juvenile justice continuum of care, including what populations should be served in out-of-home placements and what treatment 6 services should be provided at the centers in order to appropriately 7 serve those populations. Such committee shall also review how mental and 8 9 behavioral health services are provided to juveniles in residential placements and the need for such services throughout Nebraska and make 10 recommendations to the commission relating to those systems of care in 11 the juvenile justice system. The committee shall collaborate with the 12 13 Juvenile Justice Institute at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the 14 Center for Health Policy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the behavioral health regions as established in section 71-807, and state 15 16 and national juvenile justice experts to develop recommendations. The 17 recommendations shall include a plan to implement a continuum of care in the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of Nebraska families, 18 including specific recommendations for the rehabilitation and treatment 19 model. The recommendations shall be delivered to the commission and 20 electronically to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature annually by 21 22 September 1. (2) The commission shall collaborate with juvenile
- 23 justice 24 specialists of the Office of Probation Administration and county 25 officials with respect to any county-operated practice model participating in the Crossover Youth Program of the Center for Juvenile 26 Justice Reform at Georgetown University. 27
- 28 (3) The commission shall analyze case management workforce issues 29 and make recommendations to the Health and Human Services Committee of 30 the Legislature regarding:
- 31 (a) Salary comparisons with other states and the current pay

- 1 structure based on job descriptions;
- 2 (b) Utilization of incentives for persons who work in the area of 3 child welfare;
- 4 (c) Evidence-based training requirements for persons who work in the 5 area of child welfare and their supervisors; and
- 6 (d) Collaboration with the University of Nebraska to increase and 7 sustain such workforce.
- 8 (4) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee created pursuant to 9 section 43-4216, the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Committee 10 created pursuant to section 43-4716, and the Bridge to Independence 11 Advisory Committee created pursuant to section 43-4513 shall be under the 12 jurisdiction of the commission.
- 13 (5) The commission shall work with the office of the State Court
 14 Administrator, as appropriate, and entities which coordinate facilitated
 15 conferencing as described in section 43-247.03.
- (6) The commission shall work with administrators from each of the 16 17 service areas designated pursuant to section 8 of this act 81-3116, the teams created pursuant to section 28-728, local foster care review 18 boards, child advocacy centers, the teams created pursuant to the Supreme 19 Court's Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative, community stakeholders, 20 and advocates for child welfare programs and services to establish 21 22 networks in each of such service areas. Such networks shall permit collaboration to strengthen the continuum of services available to child 23 24 welfare agencies and to provide resources for children and juveniles 25 outside the child protection system.
- (7) The commission may organize subcommittees as it deems necessary.

 Members of the subcommittees may be members of the commission or may be individuals who have knowledge of the subcommittee's subject matter, professional expertise to assist the subcommittee in completing its assigned responsibilities, or the ability to collaborate within the subcommittee and with the commission to carry out the powers and duties

- 1 of the commission. A subcommittee shall meet as necessary to complete the
- 2 work delegated by the commission and shall report its findings to the
- 3 relevant committee within the commission.
- 4 (8) No member of any committee or subcommittee created pursuant to
- 5 this section shall have any private financial interest, profit, or
- 6 benefit from any work of such committee or subcommittee.
- 7 Sec. 15. Section 43-4216, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 8 2022, is amended to read:
- 9 43-4216 (1) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee is created.
- 10 The committee shall be convened at least once every four years.
- 11 (2) The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee shall consist of no
- 12 fewer than nine members, including:
- 13 (a) The following voting members: (i) Representatives from a child
- 14 welfare agency that contracts directly with foster parents, from each of
- 15 the service areas designated pursuant to section <u>8 of this act</u> 81-3116;
- 16 (ii) a representative from an advocacy organization which deals with
- 17 legal and policy issues that include child welfare; (iii) a
- 18 representative from an advocacy organization, the singular focus of which
- 19 is issues impacting children; (iv) a representative from a foster and
- 20 adoptive parent association; (v) a representative from a lead agency;
- 21 (vi) a representative from a child advocacy organization that supports
- 22 young adults who were in foster care as children; (vii) a foster parent
- 23 who contracts directly with the Department of Health and Human Services;
- 24 and (viii) a foster parent who contracts with a child welfare agency; and
- 25 (b) The following nonvoting, ex officio members: (i) The <u>Director of</u>
- 26 <u>the Department of Children and Family Services</u> chief executive officer of
- 27 the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee and
- 28 (ii) representatives from the <u>Department</u> Division of Children and Family
- 29 Services of the department from each service area designated pursuant to
- 30 section <u>8 of this act</u> 81-3116, including at least one <u>department</u> division
- 31 employee with a thorough understanding of the current foster care payment

- 1 system and at least one <u>department</u> <u>division</u> employee with a thorough
- 2 understanding of the N-FOCUS electronic data collection system. The
- 3 nonvoting, ex officio members of the committee may attend committee
- 4 meetings and participate in discussions of the committee and shall gather
- 5 and provide information to the committee on the policies, programs, and
- 6 processes of each of their respective bodies. The nonvoting, ex officio
- 7 members shall not vote on decisions or recommendations by the committee.
- 8 (3) Members of the committee shall serve for terms of four years and
- 9 until their successors are appointed and qualified. The Nebraska
- 10 Children's Commission shall appoint the members of the committee and the
- 11 chairperson of the committee and may fill vacancies on the committee as
- 12 they occur.
- 13 Sec. 16. Section 43-4401, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 14 2022, is amended to read:
- 15 43-4401 For purposes of sections 43-4401 to 43-4407:
- 16 (1) Department means the Department of Children Health and Family
- 17 Human Services; and
- 18 (2) Service area means a geographic area administered by the
- 19 department and designated pursuant to section 8 of this act 81-3116.
- Sec. 17. Section 44-7006, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 21 amended to read:
- 22 44-7006 (1) A health carrier shall:
- 23 (a) Establish written policies and procedures for credentialing
- 24 verification of all health care professionals with whom the health
- 25 carrier contracts and apply these standards consistently;
- 26 (b) Verify the credentials of a health care professional before
- 27 entering into a contract with that health care professional. The medical
- 28 director of the health carrier or other designated health care
- 29 professional shall have responsibility for, and shall participate in,
- 30 credentialing verification;
- 31 (c) Establish a credentialing verification committee consisting of

- 1 licensed physicians and other health care professionals to review
- 2 credentialing verification information and supporting documents and make
- 3 decisions regarding credentialing verification;
- 4 (d) Make available for review by the applying health care
- 5 professional upon written request all application and credentialing
- 6 verification policies and procedures;
- 7 (e) Retain all records and documents relating to a health care
- 8 professional's credentialing verification process for at least five
- 9 years; and
- 10 (f) Keep confidential all information obtained in the credentialing
- 11 verification process except as otherwise provided by law.
- 12 (2) Nothing in the Health Care Professional Credentialing
- 13 Verification Act shall be construed to require a health carrier to select
- 14 a provider as a participating provider solely because the provider meets
- the health carrier's credentialing verification standards or to prevent a
- 16 health carrier from utilizing separate or additional criteria in
- 17 selecting the health care professionals with whom it contracts.
- 18 (3) The policies and procedures for credentialing verification shall
- 19 be available for review by the director, and, in the case of a health
- 20 maintenance organization, shall also be available for review by the chief
- 21 medical officer, if one is appointed pursuant to section 7 of this act
- 22 81-3115, and if not, then the Director of the Department of Public
- 23 Health.
- Sec. 18. Section 68-1015, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 25 amended to read:
- 26 68-1015 For the purpose of any investigation or hearing, the chief
- 27 executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services and the
- 28 <u>department division</u> directors appointed pursuant to <u>sections 3, 4, and 5</u>
- 29 of this act section 81-3115, through authorized agents, shall have the
- 30 power to compel, by subpoena, the attendance and testimony of witnesses
- 31 and the production of books and papers. Witnesses may be examined on oath

- 1 or affirmation.
- Sec. 19. Section 68-1207, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 3 2022, is amended to read:
- 68-1207 (1) The Department of Children Health and Family Human 4 Services shall supervise all public child welfare services as described 5 by law. The department shall maintain caseloads to carry out child 6 welfare services which provide for adequate, timely, and indepth 7 investigations and services to children and families. Caseloads shall 8 9 range between twelve and seventeen cases as determined pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. In establishing the specific caseloads 10 within such range, the department shall (a) include the workload factors 11 that may differ due to geographic responsibilities, office location, and 12 the travel required to provide a timely response in the investigation of 13 abuse and neglect, the protection of children, and the provision of 14 services to children and families in a uniform and consistent statewide 15 manner and (b) utilize the workload criteria of the standards established 16 as of January 1, 2012, by the Child Welfare League of America. The 17 average caseload shall be reduced by the department in all service areas 18 as designated pursuant to section 8 of this act 81-3116 to comply with 19 the caseload range described in this subsection by September 1, 2012. 20 Beginning September 15, 2012, the department shall include in its annual 21 report required pursuant to section 68-1207.01 a report on the attainment 22 23 of the decrease according to such caseload standards. The department's 24 annual report shall also include changes in the standards of the Child 25 Welfare League of America or its successor.
- (2) Caseload size shall be determined in the following manner: (a)

 If children are placed in the home, the family shall count as one case

 regardless of how many children are placed in the home; (b) if a child is

 placed out of the home, the child shall count as one case; (c) if, within

 one family, one or more children are placed in the home and one or more

 children are placed out of the home, the children placed in the home

- 1 shall count as one case and each child placed out of the home shall count
- 2 as one case; and (d) any child receiving services from the department or
- 3 a private entity under contract with the department shall be counted as
- 4 provided in subdivisions (a) through (c) of this subsection whether or
- 5 not such child is a ward of the state. For purposes of this subsection, a
- 6 child is considered to be placed in the home if the child is placed with
- 7 his or her biological or adoptive parent or a legal guardian and a child
- 8 is considered to be placed out of the home if the child is placed in a
- 9 foster family home as defined in section 71-1901, a residential child-
- 10 caring agency as defined in section 71-1926, or any other setting which
- is not the child's planned permanent home.
- 12 (3) To insure appropriate oversight of noncourt and voluntary cases
- 13 when any child welfare services are provided by the department as a
- 14 result of a child safety assessment, the department shall develop a case
- 15 plan that specifies the services to be provided and the actions to be
- 16 taken by the department and the family in each such case. Such case plan
- 17 shall clearly indicate, when appropriate, that children are receiving
- 18 services to prevent out-of-home placement and that, absent preventive
- 19 services, foster care is the planned arrangement for the child.
- 20 (4) To carry out the provisions of this section, the Legislature
- 21 shall provide funds for additional staff.
- 22 Sec. 20. Section 68-1207.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
- 23 is amended to read:
- 24 68-1207.01 The Department of <u>Children</u> Health and <u>Family</u> Human
- 25 Services shall annually provide a report to the Legislature and Governor
- 26 outlining the caseloads of child protective services, the factors
- 27 considered in their establishment, and the fiscal resources necessary for
- 28 their maintenance. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be
- 29 submitted electronically. For 2012, 2013, and 2014, the department shall
- 30 also provide electronically the report to the Health and Human Services
- 31 Committee of the Legislature on or before September 15. Such report shall

- 1 include:
- 2 (1) A comparison of caseloads established by the department with the
- 3 workload standards recommended by national child welfare organizations
- 4 along with the amount of fiscal resources necessary to maintain such
- 5 caseloads in Nebraska;
- 6 (2)(a) The number of child welfare case managers employed by the
- 7 State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers, providing services
- 8 directly to children and families, who are under contract with the State
- 9 of Nebraska or employed by a private entity under contract with the State
- 10 of Nebraska and (b) statistics on the average length of employment in
- 11 such positions, statewide and by service area designated pursuant to
- 12 section 81-3116;
- 13 (3)(a) The average caseload of child welfare case managers employed
- 14 by the State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers, providing
- 15 services directly to children and families, who are under contract with
- 16 the State of Nebraska or employed by a private entity under contract with
- 17 the State of Nebraska and (b) the outcomes of such cases, including the
- 18 number of children reunited with their families, children adopted,
- 19 children in guardianships, placement of children with relatives, and
- 20 other permanent resolutions established, statewide and by service area
- 21 designated pursuant to section 81-3116; and
- 22 (4) The average cost of training child welfare case managers
- 23 employed by the State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers,
- 24 providing child welfare services directly to children and families, who
- 25 are under contract with the State of Nebraska or employed by a private
- 26 entity under contract with the State of Nebraska, statewide and by
- 27 service area as designated pursuant to section 81-3116.
- 28 Sec. 21. Section 71-504, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 29 amended to read:
- 30 71-504 The chief medical officer as designated in section 7 of this
- 31 act 81-3115, or local director of health, if a physician, or his or her

- agent, or any physician, upon consultation by any person as a patient, 1 2 shall, with the consent of such person who is hereby granted the right of giving such consent, make or cause to be made a diagnostic examination 3 4 for sexually transmitted diseases and prescribe for and treat such person for sexually transmitted diseases including prophylactic treatment for 5 exposure to sexually transmitted diseases whenever such person is 6 7 suspected of having a sexually transmitted disease or contact with anyone having a sexually transmitted disease. All such examinations and 8 9 treatment may be performed without the consent of or notification to the parent, parents, guardian, or any other person having custody of such 10 person. In any such case, the chief medical officer, or local director of 11 health, if a physician, or his or her agent, or the physician shall incur 12 13 no civil or criminal liability by reason of having made such diagnostic 14 examination or rendered such treatment, but such immunity shall not apply to any negligent acts or omissions. The chief medical officer or local 15 16 director of health, if a physician, or his or her agent, or the physician shall incur no civil or criminal liability by reason of any adverse 17 reaction to medication administered if reasonable care is taken to elicit 18 19 from any such person who is under twenty years of age any history of sensitivity or previous adverse reaction to medication. Parents shall be 20 liable for expenses of such treatment to minors under their custody. In 21 the event such person is affected with a sexually transmitted disease, 22 the chief medical officer or local director of health may cause an 23 24 interview of the person by a sexually transmitted disease investigator to 25 secure the names of sexual contacts so that appropriate investigation can be made in an effort to locate and eliminate sources of infection. 26
- Sec. 22. Section 71-702, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 28 2022, is amended to read:
- 71-702 (1) The Women's Health Initiative Advisory Council is created and shall consist of not more than thirty members, at least three-fourths of whom are women. At least one member shall be appointed from the

- 1 following disciplines: (a) An obstetrician/gynecologist; (b) a nurse 2 practitioner or physician's assistant from a rural community; (c) a 3 geriatrics physician or nurse; (d) a pediatrician; (e) a community public 4 health representative from each congressional district; (f) a health 5 educator; (g) an insurance industry representative; (h) a mental health professional; (i) a representative from a statewide health volunteer 6 7 agency; (j) a private health care industry representative; (k) an epidemiologist or a health statistician; (1) a foundation representative; 8 9 and (m) a woman who is a health care consumer from each of the following age categories: Eighteen to thirty; thirty-one to forty; forty-one to 10 sixty-five; and sixty-six and older. The membership shall also include a 11 representative of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, 12 13 representative from Creighton University Medical Center, the chief medical officer if one is appointed under section 7 of this act 81-3115, 14 and the Title V Administrator of the <u>Director of the</u> Department of 15 16 Children and Family Services Health and Human Services.
- (2) The Governor shall appoint advisory council members and shall consider and attempt to balance representation based on political party affiliation, race, and different geographical areas of Nebraska when making appointments. The Governor shall appoint the first chairperson and vice-chairperson of the advisory council. There shall be two ex officio, nonvoting members from the Legislature, one of which shall be the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee.
- 24 (3) The terms of the initial members shall be as follows: One-third shall serve for one-year terms, one-third shall serve for two-year terms, and one-third shall serve for three-year terms including the members designated chairperson and vice-chairperson. Thereafter members shall serve for three-year terms. Members may not serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.
- 30 (4) The Governor shall make the appointments within three months 31 after July 13, 2000.

- 1 (5) The advisory council shall meet quarterly the first two years.
- 2 After this time the advisory council shall meet at least every six months
- 3 or upon the call of the chairperson or a majority of the voting members.
- 4 A quorum shall be one-half of the voting members.
- 5 (6) The members of the advisory council shall be reimbursed for
- 6 expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177 and pursuant to
- 7 policies of the advisory council. Funds for reimbursement for expenses
- 8 shall be from the Women's Health Initiative Fund.
- 9 (7) The advisory council shall advise the Women's Health Initiative
- 10 of Nebraska in carrying out its duties under section 71-701 and may
- 11 solicit private funds to support the initiative.
- 12 Sec. 23. Section 71-3601, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 13 amended to read:
- 14 71-3601 For purposes of the Tuberculosis Detection and Prevention
- 15 Act:
- 16 (1) Communicable tuberculosis means tuberculosis manifested by a
- 17 laboratory report of sputum or other body fluid or excretion found to
- 18 contain tubercle bacilli or by chest X-ray findings interpreted as active
- 19 tuberculosis by competent medical authority;
- 20 (2) Department means the Department of Public Health and Human
- 21 Services;
- 22 (3) Directed health measure means any measure, whether prophylactic
- 23 or remedial, intended and directed to prevent, treat, or limit the spread
- 24 of tuberculosis;
- 25 (4) Facility means a structure in which suitable isolation for
- 26 tuberculosis can be given and which is approved by the department for the
- 27 detention of recalcitrant tuberculous persons;
- 28 (5) Local health officer means (a) the health director of a local
- 29 public health department as defined in section 71-1626 or (b) the medical
- 30 advisor to the board of health of a county, city, or village;
- 31 (6) Recalcitrant tuberculous person means a person affected with

- 1 tuberculosis in an active stage who by his or her conduct or mode of
- 2 living endangers the health and well-being of other persons, by exposing
- 3 them to tuberculosis, and who refuses to accept adequate treatment; and
- 4 (7) State health officer means the chief medical officer as
- 5 described in section 7 of this act 81-3115.
- 6 Sec. 24. Section 71-6042, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 7 amended to read:
- 8 71-6042 The chief medical officer as designated in section 7 of this
- 9 act 81-3115 shall have the authority to enforce sections 71-6038 to
- 10 71-6042 and rules and regulations adopted under section 71-6041 by any of
- 11 the following means: Denial, suspension, restriction, or revocation of a
- 12 nursing home's license, refusal of the renewal of a nursing home's
- 13 license, restriction of a nursing home's admissions, or any other
- 14 enforcement provision granted to the department.
- 15 Sec. 25. Section 71-6732, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 16 amended to read:
- 17 71-6732 Except as provided by section 71-6731, an applicant or
- 18 registrant who desires to contest an action or to further contest an
- 19 affirmed or modified action shall do so in the manner provided in the
- 20 Administrative Procedure Act for contested cases. The chief medical
- 21 officer as designated in section $\frac{7}{1}$ of this act $\frac{81-3115}{1}$ shall be the
- 22 decisionmaker in a contested case under this section. The hearings on a
- 23 petition for judicial review of any final decision regarding an action
- 24 for an alleged violation shall be set for hearing at the earliest
- 25 possible date. The times for pleadings and hearings in such action shall
- 26 be set by the judge of the court with the object of securing a decision
- 27 at the earliest possible time.
- 28 Sec. 26. Section 71-7305, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
- 29 amended to read:
- 71-7305 (1) The chief medical officer as designated in section 7 of
- 31 this act 81-3115 shall adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as

- 1 are necessary to provide for nonsurgical gender-altering procedures for
- 2 individuals younger than nineteen years of age, such as puberty-blocking
- 3 drugs, cross-sex hormones, or both. Such rules and regulations shall be
- 4 consistent with the Let Them Grow Act and, at a minimum, include the
- 5 following:
- 6 (a) Specify that a health care practitioner may prescribe approved
- 7 puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones, or both to an individual
- 8 younger than nineteen years of age if such individual has a long-lasting
- 9 and intense pattern of gender nonconformity or gender dysphoria which
- 10 began or worsened at the start of puberty;
- 11 (b) Specific criteria, obligations, or conditions regulating the
- 12 administration, prescribing, delivery, sale, or use of puberty-blocking
- 13 drugs, cross-sex hormones, or both involving an individual younger than
- 14 nineteen years of age in accordance with subdivision (1)(a) of this
- 15 section, which shall, at a minimum, set forth the following:
- 16 (i) The minimum number of gender-identity-focused therapeutic hours
- 17 required prior to an individual receiving puberty-blocking drugs, cross-
- 18 sex hormones, or both;
- 19 (ii) Patient advisory requirements necessary for a health care
- 20 practitioner to obtain informed patient consent;
- 21 (iii) Patient medical record documentation requirements to ensure
- 22 compliance with the act; and
- 23 (iv) A minimum waiting period between the time the health care
- 24 practitioner obtains informed patient consent and the administration,
- 25 prescribing, or delivery of puberty-blocking drugs, cross-sex hormones,
- 26 or both to such patient; and
- 27 (c) Specify that section 71-7304 does not apply to nonsurgical
- 28 gender-altering procedures when such procedures are provided in
- 29 compliance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated
- 30 pursuant to this section.
- 31 (2) The Department of <u>Public</u> Health and Human Services may adopt and

- 1 promulgate rules and regulations not inconsistent with the rules and
- 2 regulations adopted and promulgated by the chief medical officer that are
- 3 necessary to carry out the Let Them Grow Act.
- 4 Sec. 27. Section 71-8803, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 5 2022, is amended to read:
- 6 71-8803 (1) The Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee is created.
- 7 The committee shall consist of the dean of every medical school in
- 8 Nebraska that is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education
- 9 or his or her designee and additional members appointed as follows: (a)
- 10 The dean of every medical school in Nebraska shall nominate three
- 11 scientists from outside Nebraska conducting human stem cell research with
- 12 funding from the National Institutes of Health of the United States
- 13 Department of Health and Human Services; and (b) the chief medical
- 14 officer as designated in section $\frac{7}{1}$ of this act $\frac{81-3115}{1}$ shall select two
- 15 of such scientists from each set of nominations to serve on the
- 16 committee. Appointments by the chief medical officer pursuant to this
- 17 subsection shall be approved by the Legislature. Members appointed by the
- 18 chief medical officer shall serve for staggered terms of three years each
- 19 and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Such members may
- 20 be reappointed for additional three-year terms.
- 21 (2) The committee shall meet not less than twice each year.
- 22 (3) Members of the committee not employed by medical schools in
- 23 Nebraska shall receive a stipend per meeting to be determined by the
- 24 <u>Department</u> Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and
- 25 Human Services based on standard consultation fees, and all members of
- 26 the committee shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in service on the
- committee pursuant to sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
- 28 Sec. 28. Section 71-9103, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 29 amended to read:
- 30 71-9103 For purposes of the Concussion Awareness Act:
- 31 (1) Chief medical officer means the chief medical officer as

- 1 designated in section 7 of this act 81-3115; and
- 2 (2) Licensed health care professional means a physician or licensed
- 3 practitioner under the direct supervision of a physician, a certified
- 4 athletic trainer, a neuropsychologist, or some other qualified individual
- 5 who (a) is registered, licensed, certified, or otherwise statutorily
- 6 recognized by the State of Nebraska to provide health care services and
- 7 (b) is trained in the evaluation and management of traumatic brain
- 8 injuries among a pediatric population.
- 9 Sec. 29. Section 81-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 10 2022, is amended to read:
- 11 81-101 The civil administration of the laws of the state is vested
- 12 in the Governor. For the purpose of aiding the Governor in the execution
- 13 and administration of the laws, the executive and administrative work
- 14 shall be divided into the following agencies: (1) Department of
- 15 Agriculture; (2) Department of Labor; (3) Department of Transportation;
- 16 (4) Department of Natural Resources; (5) Department of Banking and
- 17 Finance; (6) Department of Insurance; (7) Department of Motor Vehicles;
- 18 (8) Department of Administrative Services; (9) Department of Economic
- 19 Development; (10) Department of Correctional Services; (11) Nebraska
- 20 State Patrol; and (12) Department of Children and Family Services; (13)
- 21 Department of Public Health; and (14) Department of Healthcare Health and
- 22 Human Services.
- 23 Sec. 30. Section 81-102, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 24 2022, is amended to read:
- 25 81-102 The Governor shall appoint heads for the various agencies
- 26 listed in section 81-101, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of
- 27 the members elected to the Legislature. Such appointments shall be
- 28 submitted to the Legislature within sixty calendar days following the
- 29 first Thursday after the first Tuesday in each odd-numbered year. The
- 30 officers shall be designated as follows: (1) The Director of Agriculture
- 31 for the Department of Agriculture; (2) the Commissioner of Labor for the

1 Department of Labor; (3) the Director-State Engineer for the Department of Transportation; (4) the Director of Natural Resources for the 2 Department of Natural Resources; (5) the Director of Banking and Finance 3 4 for the Department of Banking and Finance; (6) the Director of Insurance 5 for the Department of Insurance; (7) the Director of Motor Vehicles for the Department of Motor Vehicles; (8) the Director of Administrative 6 Services for the Department of Administrative Services; (9) the Director 7 of Correctional Services for the Department of Correctional Services; 8 9 (10) the Director of Economic Development for the Department of Economic Development; (11) the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety 10 for the Nebraska State Patrol; (12) the Property Tax Administrator as the 11 chief administrative officer of the property assessment division of the 12 13 Department of Revenue; and (13) the Director of the Department of 14 Children and Family Services; (14) the Director of the Department of Public Health; and (15) the Director of the Department of Healthcare the 15 16 chief executive officer for the Department of Health and Human Services. 17 Whoever shall be so nominated by the Governor and shall fail to receive the number of votes requisite for confirmation, shall not be subject to 18 19 nomination or appointment for this or any other appointive state office requiring confirmation by the Legislature during the period for which his 20 or her appointment was sought. In case of a vacancy in any of such 21 22 offices during the recess of the Legislature, the Governor shall make a 23 temporary appointment until the next meeting of the Legislature, when he 24 or she shall nominate some person to fill such office. Any person so nominated who is confirmed by the Legislature, shall hold his or her 25 office during the remainder of the term if a specific term has been 26 provided by law, otherwise during the pleasure of the Governor subject to 27 28 the provisions of this section; except any such officers may be removed by the Governor pursuant to Article IV of the Constitution of Nebraska. 29 Sec. 31. Section 81-132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 30 2022, is amended to read: 31

- 1 81-132 (1) All departments, offices, institutions, and expending 2 agencies of the state government requesting appropriations for the next biennium shall file in the office of the Director of Administrative 3 4 Services the budget forms furnished them by the director under the provisions of sections 81-1113 and 81-1113.01. Such budget forms shall be 5 filed on or before September 15 of each even-numbered year. The forms 6 7 shall show their total estimated requirements for the next biennium for each unit of their organization and activity classified as to object of 8 expenditure. With such forms, each department, office, institution, and 9 expending agency shall file a report showing all money received by such 10 department, office, institution, or expending agency together with the 11 estimated receipts for the next biennium. Such estimates shall be 12 13 accompanied by a statement in writing giving facts and explanations of 14 reasons for each item of increased appropriation requested. The report submitted by the Department of Children and Family Services, the 15 16 Department of Public Health, and the Department of Healthcare Health and Human Services shall include, but not be limited to, the key goals, 17 benchmarks, and progress reports required pursuant to sections 81-3133 to 18 19 81-3133.03.
- (2) Any department, office, institution, or expending agency proposing changes to its appropriation for the biennium in progress shall file in the office of the Director of Administrative Services the budget forms for requesting such changes furnished by the director under the provisions of sections 81-1113 and 81-1113.01. Such forms shall be filed on or before October 24 of each odd-numbered year.
- Sec. 32. Section 81-1113, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 27 2022, is amended to read:
- 28 81-1113 The budget division shall prepare the executive budget in 29 accordance with the wishes and policies of the Governor. The budget 30 division shall have the following duties, powers, and responsibilities:
- 31 (1) Shall prescribe the forms and procedures to be employed by all

1 departments and agencies of the state in compiling and submitting their 2 individual budget requests and shall set up a budget calendar which shall provide for (a) the date, not later than July 15 of each even-numbered 3 4 year, for distribution of instructions, (b) the date by which time 5 requests for appropriations by each agency shall be submitted, and (c) the period during which such public hearings as the Governor may elect 6 7 shall be held for each department and agency. The budget request shall be submitted each even-numbered year no later than the date provided in 8 9 subsection (1) of section 81-132, shall include the intended receipts and expenditures by programs, subprograms, and activities and such additional 10 information as the administrator may deem appropriate for each fiscal 11 year, including the certification described in subdivision (4) of this 12 section, shall be made upon a biennial basis, and shall include actual 13 receipts and actual expenditures for each fiscal year of the most 14 recently completed biennium and the first year of the current biennium 15 16 and estimates for the second year of the current biennium and each year 17 of the next ensuing biennium;

- (2) Shall prescribe the forms and procedures to be employed by all departments and agencies of the state in compiling and submitting their proposed changes to existing appropriations for the biennium in progress. The budget division shall distribute instructions and forms to all departments and agencies no later than September 15 of each odd-numbered year. Departments and agencies shall submit their proposed changes no later than the date provided in subsection (2) of section 81-132;
- (3) Shall work with each governmental department and agency in developing performance standards for each program, subprogram, and activity to measure and evaluate present as well as projected levels of expenditures. The budget division shall also work with the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Healthcare Health and Human Services to develop key goals, benchmarks, and methods of quantification of progress required pursuant

- 1 to sections 81-3133 to 81-3133.03;
- 2 (4)(a) Shall develop a certification form and procedure to be
- 3 included in each budget request under subdivision (1) of this section
- 4 through which each department and agency shall certify, for each program
- 5 or practice it administers, whether such program or practice is an
- 6 evidence-based program or practice, or, if not, whether such program or
- 7 practice is reasonably capable of becoming an evidence-based program or
- 8 practice;
- 9 (b) For purposes of this subdivision (4):
- 10 (i) Evidence-based means that a program or practice (A) offers a
- 11 high level of research on effectiveness, determined as a result of
- 12 multiple rigorous evaluations, such as randomized controlled trials and
- 13 evaluations that incorporate strong comparison group designs or a single
- 14 large multisite randomized study and (B) to the extent practicable, has
- 15 specified procedures that allow for successful replication;
- 16 (ii) Program or practice means a function or activity that is
- 17 sufficiently identifiable as a discrete unit of service; and
- 18 (iii) Reasonably capable of becoming an evidence-based program or
- 19 practice means the program or practice is susceptible to quantifiable
- 20 benchmarks that measure service delivery, client or customer
- 21 satisfaction, or efficiency;
- 22 (5) Shall, following passage of legislative appropriations, be
- 23 responsible for the administration of the approved budget through
- 24 budgetary allotments;
- 25 (6) Shall be responsible for a monthly budgetary report for each
- 26 department and agency showing comparisons between actual expenditures and
- 27 allotments, which report shall be subject to review by the director and
- 28 budget administrator; and
- 29 (7) Shall be responsible for the authorization of employee
- 30 positions. Such authorizations shall be based on the following:
- 31 (a) A requirement that a sufficient budget program appropriation and

- 1 salary limitation exist to fully fund all authorized positions;
- 2 (b) A requirement that permanent full-time positions which have been
- 3 vacant for ninety days or more be reviewed and reauthorized prior to
- 4 being filled. If requested by the budget division, the personnel division
- 5 of the Department of Administrative Services shall review such vacant
- 6 position to determine the proper classification for the position;
- 7 (c) A requirement that authorized positions accurately reflect
- 8 legislative intent contained in legislative appropriation and intent
- 9 bills; and
- 10 (d) Other relevant criteria as determined by the budget
- 11 administrator.
- 12 Sec. 33. Section 81-1316, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 13 2022, is amended to read:
- 14 81-1316 (1) All agencies and personnel of state government shall be
- 15 covered by sections 81-1301 to 81-1319 and shall be considered subject to
- 16 the State Personnel System, except the following:
- 17 (a) All personnel of the office of the Governor;
- 18 (b) All personnel of the office of the Lieutenant Governor;
- (c) All personnel of the office of the Secretary of State;
- 20 (d) All personnel of the office of the State Treasurer;
- 21 (e) All personnel of the office of the Attorney General;
- 22 (f) All personnel of the office of the Auditor of Public Accounts;
- 23 (g) All personnel of the Legislature;
- 24 (h) All personnel of the court systems;
- (i) All personnel of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds;
- 26 (j) All personnel of the Public Service Commission;
- 27 (k) All personnel of the Nebraska Brand Committee;
- 28 (1) All personnel of the Commission of Industrial Relations;
- (m) All personnel of the State Department of Education;
- 30 (n) All personnel of the Nebraska state colleges and the Board of
- 31 Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges;

- 1 (o) All personnel of the University of Nebraska;
- 2 (p) All personnel of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary
- 3 Education;
- 4 (q) All personnel of the Governor's Policy Research Office;
- 5 (r) All personnel of the Commission on Public Advocacy;
- 6 (s) All agency heads;
- 7 (t) The directors of the Department of Children and Family Services,
- 8 the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Healthcare;
- 9 (t)(i) The Director of Behavioral Health of the Division of
- 10 Behavioral Health; (ii) the Director of Children and Family Services of
- 11 the Division of Children and Family Services; (iii) the Director of
- 12 Developmental Disabilities of the Division of Developmental Disabilities;
- 13 (iv) the Director of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Division of
- 14 Medicaid and Long-Term Care; and (v) the Director of Public Health of the
- 15 Division of Public Health;
- 16 (u) The chief medical officer established under section <u>7 of this</u>
- 17 <u>act</u> 81-3115, the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Services, and
- 18 the chief executive officers of the Beatrice State Developmental Center,
- 19 Lincoln Regional Center, Norfolk Regional Center, Hastings Regional
- 20 Center, Grand Island Veterans' Home, Norfolk Veterans' Home, Eastern
- 21 Nebraska Veterans' Home, Western Nebraska Veterans' Home, and each youth
- 22 rehabilitation and treatment center;
- 23 (v) The chief executive officers of all facilities operated by the
- 24 Department of Correctional Services and the medical director for the
- department appointed pursuant to section 83-4,156;
- 26 (w) All personnel employed as pharmacists, physicians,
- 27 psychiatrists, or psychologists by the Department of Correctional
- 28 Services;
- 29 (x) All personnel employed as pharmacists, physicians,
- 30 psychiatrists, psychologists, service area administrators, or facility
- 31 operating officers of the Department of Public Health Health and Human

- 1 Services or the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 2 (y) Deputies and examiners of the Department of Banking and Finance
- 3 and the Department of Insurance as set forth in sections 8-105 and
- 4 44-119, except for those deputies and examiners who remain in the State
- 5 Personnel System;
- 6 (z) All personnel of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission; and
- 7 (aa) The associate director of the Conservation Division of the
- 8 Nebraska State Historical Society and all personnel employed as a
- 9 Conservator I or Conservator II of the Conservation Division of the
- 10 Nebraska State Historical Society.
- 11 (2) At each agency head's discretion, up to the following number of
- 12 additional positions may be exempted from the State Personnel System,
- 13 based on the following agency size categories:

14	Number of Agency	Number of Noncovered
15	Employees	Positions
16	less than 25	0
17	25 to 100	1
18	101 to 250	2
19	251 to 500	3
20	501 to 1000	4
21	1001 to 2000	5
22	2001 to 3000	8
23	3001 to 4000	11
24	4001 to 5000	40
25	over 5000	50

The purpose of having such noncovered positions shall be to allow agency heads the opportunity to recruit, hire, and supervise critical, confidential, or policymaking personnel without restrictions from selection procedures, compensation rules, career protections, and grievance privileges. Persons holding the noncovered positions shall serve at the pleasure of the agency head and shall be paid salaries set

- 1 by the agency head. An agency with over five thousand employees shall
- 2 provide notice in writing to the Health and Human Services Committee of
- 3 the Legislature when forty noncovered positions have been filled by the
- 4 agency head pursuant to this subsection.
- 5 (3) No changes to this section or to the number of noncovered
- 6 positions within an agency shall affect the status of personnel employed
- 7 on the date the changes become operative without their prior written
- 8 agreement. A state employee's career protections or coverage by personnel
- 9 rules and regulations shall not be revoked by redesignation of the
- 10 employee's position as a noncovered position without the prior written
- 11 agreement of such employee.
- 12 Sec. 34. Section 81-3133, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 13 2022, is amended to read:
- 14 81-3133 (1)(a) On or before July 30, 2012, the <u>Department</u> Division
- 15 of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human
- 16 Services shall report in writing its expenditures between January 1,
- 17 2012, and June 30, 2012, and the outcomes relating to such expenditures
- 18 to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Health and
- 19 Human Services Committee of the Legislature. Such report shall identify
- 20 any changes or movement of funds in excess of two hundred fifty thousand
- 21 dollars relating to child welfare between subprograms within Budget
- 22 Program 347 and Budget Program 354.
- 23 (b) Beginning with the third calendar quarter of 2012, the
- 24 <u>department</u> division shall report electronically its expenditures for each
- 25 quarter and the outcomes relating to such expenditures within thirty days
- 26 after the end of the quarter to the Appropriations Committee of the
- 27 Legislature and the Health and Human Services Committee of the
- 28 Legislature. Such report shall identify any changes or movement of funds
- 29 in excess of two hundred fifty thousand dollars relating to child welfare
- 30 between subprograms within Budget Program 347 and Budget Program 354.
- 31 (2) (2)(a) For the biennium ending June 30, 2025 2015, the biennium

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of section 81-1113.

- 1 ending June 30, 2027 2017, and the biennium ending June 30, 2029 2019, 2 the Department Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services shall, as part of the appropriations request 3 4 process pursuant to subsection (1) of section 81-132, include a strategic 5 plan that identifies the main purpose or purposes of each program, verifiable and auditable key goals that the <u>department</u> division believes 6 7 are fair measures of its progress in meeting each program's main purpose or purposes, and benchmarks for improving performance on the key goals 8 9 for the state as a whole and for each Department of Children and Family Health and Human Services service area designated pursuant to section 10 81-3116. The department division shall also report whether the benchmarks 11 are being met and, if not, the expected timeframes for meeting them. Such 12 13 key goals and benchmarks shall be developed by the <u>Department Division</u> of Children and Family Services with the assistance of the budget division 14
- 17 (b) Not later than September 15, 2013, not later than September 15, 18 2015, and not later than September 15, 2017, the Division of Children and 19 Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services shall report electronically to the Health and Human Services Committee of the 20 21 Legislature and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on the 22 progress towards the key goals identified pursuant to this subsection that occurred in the previous twelve months. The division shall annually 23 24 appear at a joint hearing of the two legislative committees and present 25 the report.

of the Department of Administrative Services pursuant to subdivision (3)

(3) On or before December 1, 2016, and each year thereafter, the <u>Department Division</u> of Children and Family Services of the <u>Department of Health and Human Services</u> shall report electronically to the Governor and the Legislature the number of families in all transitional child care assistance programs and the number of families no longer eligible for all transitional child care assistance programs due to failure to meet income

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- 1 guidelines.
- 2 Sec. 35. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2025.
- 3 Sec. 36. Original sections 38-1,101, 43-2202, 44-7006, 68-1015,
- 4 68-1207.01, 71-504, 71-3601, 71-6042, 71-6732, and 71-9103, Reissue
- 5 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 43-4203, 43-4216, 43-4401,
- 6 68-1207, 71-702, 71-8803, 81-101, 81-102, 81-132, 81-1113, 81-1316, and
- 7 81-3133, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, and section
- 8 71-7305, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, are repealed.
- 9 Sec. 37. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections
- 10 81-3110, 81-3111, 81-3112, 81-3114, 81-3115, 81-3117, 81-3118, 81-3120,
- 11 81-3121, 81-3122, 81-3123, and 81-3124, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 12 Nebraska, and sections 81-3113, 81-3116, 81-3119, 81-3133.01, 81-3133.02,
- 13 and 81-3133.03, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022.