LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 3**

Introduced by Clements, 2; at the request of the Governor. Read first time July 25, 2024 Committee: Appropriations

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to funds; to amend sections 2-1091.02, 2-1807, 2 2-2634, 2-2635, 2-2638, 2-2656, 2-2705.01, 2-3408, 2-3633, 2-3971, 3 2-4323, 3-126, 23-2310.04, 23-2319.01, 28-1246, 28-1251, 37-323, 4 37-327.01, 37-431, 43-3718, 44-116, 54-627, 54-856, 54-1165, 54-1704, 54-1904, 54-2306, 68-1804, 72-1248, 77-4211, 79-968, 5 6 81-2,174, 81-5,152, 81-1117, 81-15,174.01, 81-1835, 84-1314, 7 84-1506.01, and 85-1654, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; 8 sections 37-811, 61-222, 79-9,115.02, 81-2,147.10, 81-2,162.06, 9 81-2,162.23, 81-503.01, 81-505.01, 81-5,170, 81-5,199, 81-5,201, 81-5,214, 81-1230, 81-15,151, 84-1321.01, and 89-187, 10 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022; sections 46-1,164, 81-1213.05, 11 12 85-1920, and 85-3211, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; section 13 8-1120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended by Laws 14 2024, LB1074, section 48; section 81-550, Reissue Revised Statutes 15 of Nebraska, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1069, section 6; section 81-5,159, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended by Laws 16 section 7; section 66-1519, Revised 17 2024, LB1069, Statutes 18 Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB867, section 19 7; section 71-5318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB880, section 1; section 80-322.01, Revised 20 21 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, 22 LB252, section 2; section 81-2,270, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB262, section 39; 23

-1-

1 section 37-1804, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by 2 Laws 2024, LB1413, section 34; section 61-218, Revised Statutes 3 Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1368, section 9; section 77-4025, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by 4 5 Laws 2024, LB1204, section 36; section 79-1021, Revised Statutes 6 Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1284, section 12; 7 section 81-1239, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by 8 Laws 2024, LB164, section 17; section 84-612, Revised Statutes 9 Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB600, section 9, and Laws 2024, LB1413, section 58; section 85-3112, Revised Statutes 10 Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1284, section 20; 11 section 86-324, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by 12 13 Laws 2024, LB1413, section 59; Laws 2024, LB164, section 10; Laws 2024, LB600, section 7; and Laws 2024, LB1284, section 16; to 14 provide for, change, and eliminate fund transfers; to create a fund; 15 16 to provide, change, and eliminate fees; to provide powers and duties; to change the use of certain funds and the investment 17 earnings of certain funds; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to 18 19 harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. 20

21 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

-2-

1	Section 1. The State Treasurer shall transfer \$6,500,000 from the
2	Health and Human Services Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June
3	30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget
4	administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative
5	<u>Services.</u>
6	Sec. 2. <u>The State Treasurer shall transfer \$15,000,000 from the</u>
7	Water Recreation Enhancement Fund to the State Park Cash Revolving Fund
8	on or before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed
9	by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of
10	Administrative Services.
11	Sec. 3. The Agrability Cash Fund is created. The Department of
12	Agriculture shall administer the fund. The fund shall be used to support
13	programs that help individuals with disabilities overcome barriers to
14	continue in their chosen agricultural profession. The fund shall not be
15	used to pay for salaries. Any money in the fund available for investment
16	shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the
17	Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment
18	<u>Act.</u>
19	Sec. 4. Section 2-1091.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
20	amended to read:
21	2-1091.02 (1) License fees for the Plant Protection and Plant Pest
22	Act <u>are due <del>on</del> January 1 of each year. Except as otherwise provided in</u>
23	subsection (2) of this section, the fees under the act shall be as
24	follows: , 2014, shall be the amount in column A of subsection (3) of
25	this section.
26	<u>(a) The nursery stock distributor license fee as set forth in</u>
27	section 2-1091.01 is one hundred eight dollars for the first acre and
28	four dollars and seventy cents per acre for each additional acre;
29	(b) The fee for distributing without obtaining a nursery stock
30	distributor license is twenty-five percent of the fee in subdivision (a)
31	of this subsection per month, up to a maximum of one hundred percent of

1	such fee;
2	<u>(c) The certification fee for nursery stock growing acres as set</u>
3	forth in section 2-1095 is included in the license fee;
4	<u>(d) The fee for a late application for certification of nursery</u>
5	stock growing acres is twenty-four dollars per hour and forty-two cents
6	per mile;
7	<u>(e) The fee for a reinspection or a requested inspection for nursery</u>
8	stock is twenty-four dollars per hour and forty-two cents per mile;
9	<u>(f) The fee for a phytosanitary or export certificate set forth in</u>
10	section 2-1091 is thirty dollars per certificate and seven dollars for
11	taking an application by telephone;
12	(g) The fee for a phytosanitary or export certificate inspection and
13	reinspection is twenty-four dollars per hour and forty-two cents per
14	<u>mile;</u>
15	(h) The fee for a European corn borer quarantine certification
16	license set forth in section 2-1091 is fifty dollars per license
17	annually;
18	(i) The fee for a European corn borer certificate is six dollars and
19	twenty-five cents for a packet of twenty-five;
20	<u>(j) The fee for a quarantine compliance agreement as set forth in</u>
21	section 2-1091 is fifty dollars per agreement annually; and
22	(k) The fee for a quarantine compliance agreement inspection and
23	reinspection is twenty-four dollars per hour and forty-two cents per
24	<u>mile.</u>
25	(2) The director may increase or decrease fees each year. The fees
26	shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the
27	percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most
28	recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer
29	Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct
30	and indirect costs of administering the Plant Protection and Plant Pest
31	Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change

1 <u>in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by</u>

2 <u>the United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month</u>

3 period ending on August 31 of each year.

4 (2) The license fees due January 1, 2015, and each January 1 5 thereafter shall be set by the director on or before July 1 of each year. 6 The director may raise or lower such fees each year to meet the criteria 7 in this subsection, but the fee shall not be greater than the amount in column B of subsection (3) of this section. The same percentage shall be 8 9 applied to each category for all fee increases or decreases. The director 10 shall use the fees in column A of subsection (3) of this section as a base for future fee increases or decreases. The director shall determine 11 12 the fees based on estimated annual revenue and fiscal year-end cash fund 13 balances as follows:

(a) The estimated annual revenue shall not be greater than one
 hundred seven percent of program cash fund appropriations allocated for
 the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act; and

17 (b) The estimated fiscal year-end cash fund balance shall not be 18 greater than seventeen percent of program cash fund appropriations 19 allocated for the act.

20

<del>(3) License Fees.</del>

21	License Fees	A	В
22	Nursery stock	_	_
23	<del>distributor license</del>	_	_
24	<del>as set forth in</del>	_	-
25	section 2-1091.01	_	-
26	for the first acre	<del>\$115</del>	<del>\$140</del>
27	Fee for additional acres	\$5.00 per acre	\$6.00 per acre
28	Distributing without	<del>25% of the fee</del>	_
29	obtaining a nursery	<del>per month up to</del>	-
30	stock distributor	<del>100% of the</del>	_
31	<del>license fee</del>	license fee	_

1	(4) Other fees for the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act under
2	subsection (5) of this section in effect on January 1, 2014, shall be the
3	amount in column A of such subsection. The department may increase or
4	decrease such fees by rules or regulations adopted and promulgated by the
5	department. Such increases shall not result in fees greater than the
6	amount in column B of subsection (5) of this section.

- 7
  - <del>(5) Other Fees.</del>

8	Other Fees	A	В
9	Certification fee for	_	_
10	nursery stock growing	_	_
11	acres as set forth in	Included in	_
12	section 2-1095	license fee	_
13	Late applications for	_	_
14	certification of nursery	<del>\$24 per hour</del>	<del>\$27 per hour</del>
15	stock growing acres	\$0.42 per mile	\$0.50 per mile
16	Reinspections or	_	_
17	requested inspections	<del>\$24 per hour</del>	<del>\$27 per hour</del>
18	<del>for nursery stock</del>	\$0.42 per mile	<del>\$0.50 per mile</del>
19	<del>Phytosanitary or</del>	\$30 per certificate	<del>\$40 per</del>
20	export certificates	and \$7 for taking	certificate and
21	<del>set forth in</del>	an application	<del>\$10 for taking</del>
22	section 2-1091	<del>by telephone</del>	an application
23	-	-	<del>by telephone</del>
24	Phytosanitary or	_	_
25	export certificate	_	_
26	inspections and	<del>\$24 per hour</del>	<del>\$27 per hour</del>
27	reinspections	\$0.42 per mile	\$0.50 per mile
28	European corn borer	_	_
29	quarantine certification	_	_
30	license set forth in	\$50 per license,	\$65 per license,

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20	924	4

1	section 2-1091	annually	annually
2	European corn borer	<del>\$6.25 for</del>	<del>\$10.00 for</del>
3	<del>certificate</del>	<del>packet of 25</del>	<del>packet of 25</del>
4	Quarantine compliance	_	_
5	<del>agreements as set</del>	<del>\$50 per agreement</del>	<del>\$65 per agreement</del>
6	forth in section 2-1091	annually	annually
7	Quarantine compliance	_	-
8	agreement inspections	<del>\$24 per hour</del>	<del>\$27 per hour</del>
9	and reinspections	\$0.42 per mile	\$0.50 per mile

10 (3) (6) Any fee remaining unpaid for more than one month shall be considered delinquent and the person owing the fee shall pay an 11 additional administrative fee of twenty-five percent of the delinguent 12 amount for each month it remains unpaid, not to exceed one hundred 13 percent of the original amount due. The department may waive the 14 additional administrative fee based upon the existence and extent of any 15 mitigating circumstances that have resulted in the late payment of such 16 17 fee. The purpose of the additional administrative fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with collecting fees, and all money 18 19 collected as an additional administrative fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Cash 20 21 Fund.

22 Sec. 5. Section 2-1807, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 23 amended to read:

24 2-1807 (1) Beginning July 1, 1997, every potato shipper shall render 25 and have on file with the Department of Agriculture by the last day of July an annual statement under oath, on forms prescribed by the 26 department, which shall set forth the number of pounds of potatoes grown 27 in Nebraska which were sold or shipped by him or her during the preceding 28 fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30. For every potato 29 shipper who was required to file an annual statement for calendar year 30 1996, a short period statement covering January 1, 1997, through June 30, 31

-7-

1997, shall be filed and the excise taxes paid by July 31, 1997, as 1 2 required by this section. For every potato shipper who was required to file a quarterly statement for the period of January 1, 1997, through 3 4 March 31, 1997, a final quarterly statement covering April 1, 1997, through June 30, 1997, shall be filed and the excise taxes paid by July 5 31, 1997, as required by this section. At the time the sworn statement is 6 7 filed and in connection therewith, each such potato shipper shall pay and remit to the department an excise tax of not to exceed two cents per one 8 9 hundred pounds upon the potatoes shown in such statement to have been 10 sold, which tax is hereby levied and imposed. The tax shall be set in the manner prescribed in subsection (3) of this section. The department shall 11 transmit to the State Treasurer all money, checks, drafts, or other 12 13 mediums of exchange thus received. The department shall have authority to 14 adjust all errors in making payment. Any such potato shipper who shall neglect or refuse to file such statement, or to pay the tax herein 15 imposed, within the time prescribed, shall be guilty of a Class IV 16 17 misdemeanor. No potatoes shall be subject to tax more than once under the Nebraska Potato Development Act. 18

(2) All excise taxes imposed by this section are delinquent on 19 August 1 of the year due. The department shall impose an additional 20 administrative fee of five percent per month of the excise taxes for each 21 month or portion thereof such taxes are delinquent not to exceed one 22 23 percent of such taxes. The purpose of hundred the additional 24 administrative fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with collecting the excise taxes. All money collected as an additional 25 administrative fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to 26 the Nebraska Potato Development Fund. 27

(3) The department shall, upon the recommendation of the committee,
have the power to set the excise tax prescribed in subsection (1) of this
section. The tax shall be one cent per one hundred pounds from July 19,
1980, until adjusted by the department. Adjusted rates shall be effective

-8-

for periods of not less than one year. The applicable rate of the excise 1 2 tax shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 3 4 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 5 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Potato Development Act. 6 7 For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the 8 9 United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period 10 ending on August 31 of each year prescribed in rules and regulations adopted by the department in the manner prescribed by law. 11

12 Sec. 6. Section 2-2634, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 13 amended to read:

2-2634 (1) As a condition to registration or renewal of registration 14 as required by sections 2-2628 to 2-2633, an applicant shall pay to the 15 department a fee of one hundred sixty dollars for each pesticide to be 16 17 registered, except that the fee may be increased or decreased by the director <u>each year. The fees shall be determined by increasing or</u> 18 19 decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such 20 year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay 21 22 all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Pesticide Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change 23 24 in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by 25 the United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year by rules and regulations adopted 26 27 and promulgated pursuant to the Pesticide Act. In no event shall such fee 28 exceed two hundred ten dollars for each pesticide to be registered.

(2) All fees collected under subsection (1) of this section shall beremitted to the State Treasurer for credit as follows:

31 (a) Thirty dollars of such fee to the Noxious Weed Cash Fund as

-9-

1 provided in section 2-958;

2 (b) Fifty dollars of such fee to the Buffer Strip Incentive Fund as
3 provided in section 2-5106;

4 (c) Fifty-five dollars of such fee to the Natural Resources Water5 Quality Fund; and

6 (d) The remainder of such fee to the Pesticide Administrative Cash7 Fund.

(3) If a person fails to apply for renewal of registration before 8 January 1 of any year, such person, as a condition to renewal, shall pay 9 10 a late registration fee equal to twenty-five percent of the fee due and owing per month, not to exceed one hundred percent, for each product to 11 be renewed in addition to the renewal fee. The purpose of the late 12 registration fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with 13 collecting fees, and all money collected as a late registration fee shall 14 be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Pesticide 15 Administrative Cash Fund. 16

17 Sec. 7. Section 2-2635, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 18 amended to read:

2-2635 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a 19 person shall not distribute at wholesale or retail or possess pesticides 20 with an intent to distribute them without a pesticide dealer license for 21 22 each distribution location. Any manufacturer, registrant, or distributor who has no pesticide dealer outlet licensed within this state and who 23 24 distributes such pesticides directly into this state shall obtain a pesticide dealer license for his, her, or its principal out-of-state 25 location or outlet. 26

27 (2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not28 apply to:

(a) A commercial applicator or noncommercial applicator licensed
 under sections 2-2636 to 2-2642 who uses restricted-use pesticides only
 as an integral part of a pesticide application service and does not

-10-

1 distribute any unapplied pesticide;

(b) A federal, state, county, or municipal agency using restricteduse pesticides only for its own program; or

4 (c) Persons who sell only pesticide products in containers holding
5 fifty pounds or less by weight or one gallon or less by volume and do not
6 sell any restricted-use pesticides or bulk pesticides.

7 (3) A pesticide dealer may distribute restricted-use pesticides only8 to:

9

(a) A licensed pesticide dealer;

(b) A licensed certified applicator issued a license with the
appropriate category for using the restricted-use pesticide being
distributed;

13 (c) An applicator issued a license by another state with the 14 appropriate category for using the restricted-use pesticide being 15 distributed;

(d) A noncertified applicator authorized by the Pesticide Act to apply restricted-use pesticides if the licensed certified applicator supervising the noncertified applicator is issued a license with the appropriate category for using the restricted-use pesticide being distributed; or

(e) Any other person if the pesticide dealer maintains records set
out in rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to the act
requiring the person to verify in writing that:

(i) The restricted-use pesticide will be delivered to an applicator
described in subdivision (3)(b), (c), or (d) of this section; and

(ii) The applicator receiving the restricted-use pesticideacknowledges and agrees to the distribution.

(4) A pesticide dealer license shall expire on December 31 of each
year, unless it is suspended or revoked before that date. Such license
shall not be transferable to another person or location and shall be
prominently displayed to the public in the pesticide dealer's place of

-11-

1 business.

2 (5) If the pesticide dealer has had a license suspended or revoked, 3 or has otherwise had a history of violations of the Pesticide Act, the 4 department may require an additional demonstration of dealer 5 qualifications prior to issuance or renewal of a license to such person.

(6) Application for an initial pesticide dealer license shall be 6 7 submitted to the department prior to commencing business as a pesticide 8 dealer. Application for renewal of a pesticide dealer license shall be 9 submitted to the department by January 1 of each year. All applications shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of twenty-five dollars. The 10 fee may be increased or decreased by the director each year. The fees 11 shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the 12 percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 13 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 14 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct 15 and indirect costs of administering the Pesticide Act. For purposes of 16 this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods 17 and services for all urban consumers published by the United States 18 Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on 19 August 31 of each year by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated 20 pursuant to the act. The fee shall not exceed one hundred dollars per 21 22 license. Application shall be on a form prescribed by the department and 23 shall include the full name of the person applying for such license. If such applicant is a partnership, limited liability company, association, 24 corporation, or organized group of persons, the full name of each member 25 of the firm, partnership, or limited liability company or of the 26 principal officers of the association or corporation shall be given on 27 the application. Such application shall further state the address of each 28 outlet to be licensed, the principal business address of the applicant, 29 the name of the person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and 30 31 accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the

-12-

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applicant, and any other necessary information prescribed by the department.

An applicant located outside this state shall file with the department either a written designation of a resident agent for service of process or a written consent to the jurisdiction of this state for actions taken in the administration and enforcement of the act.

7 If an application for renewal of a pesticide dealer license is not 8 filed before January 1 of the year for which the license is to be issued, 9 an additional fee equal to twenty-five percent of the fee due and owing 10 per month, not to exceed one hundred percent, shall be paid by the 11 applicant before the license may be issued. The purpose of the additional 12 fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with collecting fees.

All fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to
 the State Treasurer for credit to the Pesticide Administrative Cash Fund.

15 (7) Each licensed pesticide dealer shall be responsible for the acts 16 of each person employed by him or her in the solicitation and 17 distribution of pesticides and all claims and recommendations for use of 18 pesticides. The dealer's license shall be subject to denial, suspension, 19 modification, or revocation after a hearing for any violation of the act, 20 whether committed by the dealer or by the dealer's officer, agent, or 21 employee.

(8) The department shall require each pesticide dealer to maintain records of the dealer's purchases and distribution of all restricted-use pesticides and may require such records to be kept separate from other business records. The department may prescribe by rules and regulations the information to be included in the records. The dealer shall keep such records for a period of three years and shall provide the department access to examine such records and a copy of any record on request.

29 Sec. 8. Section 2-2638, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 2-2638 (1) An individual who uses restricted-use pesticides on the

-13-

property of another person in the State of Nebraska for hire or compensation shall meet all certification requirements of the Pesticide Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act and shall be a commercial applicator license holder of a license issued for the categories in which the pesticide use is to be made.

6 (2) Any person who uses lawn care or structural pest control 7 general-use pesticides on the property of another person in the State of 8 Nebraska for hire or compensation shall be a commercial applicator 9 license holder, except as provided in subsection (3) of section 2-2636, 10 regardless of whether such person uses any restricted-use pesticide.

(3) Application for an original or renewal commercial applicator 11 license shall be made to the department on forms prescribed by the 12 department. The application shall include information as required by the 13 director and be accompanied by a license fee of ninety dollars. The 14 application shall include the applicant's date of birth. The fee may be 15 16 increased or decreased by the director each year. The fees shall be 17 determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year 18 ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer Price Index for 19 the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect 20 costs of administering the Pesticide Act. For purposes of this section, 21 22 Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services 23 for all urban consumers published by the United States Department of 24 Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each 25 year by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to the act. The fee shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars per license. All 26 fees collected shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the 27 28 Natural Resources Water Quality Fund.

(4) The department may deny a commercial applicator license if ithas determined that:

31 (a) The applicant has had a license as a licensed certified

-14-

applicator issued by this state or another state revoked within the last
 two years;

3 (b) The applicant has been unable to satisfactorily fulfill4 certification or licensing requirements;

5 (c) The applicant for any other reason cannot be expected to be able 6 to fulfill the provisions of the Pesticide Act applicable to the category 7 for which application is made; or

8 (d) An applicant for an original commercial applicator license has
9 not passed an examination under sections 2-2637 and 2-2640.

(5) An individual to whom a commercial applicator license is issued
 shall be a licensed certified applicator authorized to use restricted-use
 pesticides in the categories in which the individual is licensed.

(6) As a condition to issuance of a commercial applicator license, an applicant located outside this state shall file with the department either a written designation of a resident agent for service of process or a written consent to the jurisdiction of this state for actions taken in the administration and enforcement of the act.

Sec. 9. Section 2-2656, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-2656 (1) An application for an initial or renewal Nebraska aerial 20 pesticide business license shall be submitted to the department prior to 21 the commencement of aerial spraying operations, and an application for 22 renewal of a Nebraska aerial pesticide business license shall be 23 24 submitted to the department before commencement of application of 25 pesticides. The application shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of one hundred dollars. The license fee may be increased or decreased by 26 the director each year. The fees shall be determined by increasing or 27 28 decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such 29 30 year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Pesticide 31

-15-

Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change 1 in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by 2 the United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month 3 4 period ending on August 31 of each year after a public hearing is held 5 outlining the reason for any proposed change in the fee, except that the fee shall not exceed one hundred fifty dollars. All fees collected 6 pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for 7 credit to the Pesticide Administrative Cash Fund. The application shall 8 9 be on a form prescribed by the department and shall include the following: 10

(a) The full name and permanent mailing address of the person applying for such license. If such applicant is an individual, the application shall include the applicant's personal mailing address. If such applicant is not an individual, the full name of each partner or member or the full name of the principal officers shall be given on the application;

(b) The location of the applicant's principal departure location and any additional departure locations utilized for aerial spraying operations to be conducted within Nebraska identified by one of the following: Global Positioning System coordinates, legal description, local address of the site, or airport identifier;

(c) A copy of the applicant's agricultural aircraft operator certificate issued pursuant to 14 C.F.R. part 137 or evidence the applicant holds such a certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration;

(d) The aircraft registration number issued by the Federal Aviation
Administration pursuant to 14 C.F.R. part 47 of all aircraft owned,
rented, or leased by the applicant to be utilized for aerial pesticide
applications and all other aircraft utilized in aerial spraying
operations conducted by the applicant;

31 (e) The Nebraska commercial applicator certificate number and

-16-

1 current Federal Aviation Administration commercial pilot certificate 2 number of all persons operating aircraft for the aerial application of 3 pesticides during any aerial spraying operations conducted by the 4 applicant; and

5 (f) Such other information as deemed necessary by the director to 6 determine the suitability of the applicant for licensure as an aerial 7 pesticide business.

8 (2) An applicant located outside this state shall file with the 9 department either a written designation of a resident agent for service 10 of process or a written consent to the jurisdiction of this state for 11 actions taken in the administration and enforcement of the Pesticide Act. 12 Sec. 10. Section 2-2705.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

13 amended to read:

2-2705.01 There is hereby imposed a fee of fifty dollars for each 14 application for any permit made to the board pursuant to sections 2-2701 15 to 2-2711, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each 16 year. The fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by 17 the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 18 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 19 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct 20 and indirect costs of administering sections 2-2701 to 2-2711. For 21 purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the 22 price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the 23 24 United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year. Such fee shall be in addition to the 25 fees provided for in section 2-2705 and shall be paid to the department. 26 All fees collected by the department pursuant to this section shall be 27 remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Tractor Permit Cash 28 Fund, which fund is hereby created. The fund shall be used by the 29 department to defray the expenses of administering sections 2-2701 to 30 2-2711. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested 31

-17-

by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital
 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

3 Sec. 11. Section 2-3408, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 2-3408 (1) There shall be paid to the director a fee of not to exceed five cents per case upon all commercial eggs sold through 6 7 commercial channels to carry out the intent and purposes of the Nebraska Poultry and Egg Resources Act, except that the director may increase or 8 9 decrease the fee each year. The fee shall be determined by increasing or 10 decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such 11 12 year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska 13 Poultry and Egg Resources Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer 14 15 Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor at the 16 17 close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year sections 2-3401 to 2-3416. The fee for commercial eggs produced in this 18 19 state shall be paid by the egg producer who owns the eggs and shall be collected and remitted to the director by the first purchaser. The fee 20 for commercial eggs produced outside of this state and sold in this state 21 22 to retailers, wholesalers, distributors, or food purveyors shall be paid to the director by the person importing such eggs into the state. Under 23 24 the Nebraska Poultry and Egg Resources Act provisions of sections 2-3401 25 to 2-3416, no eggs shall be subject to the fee more than once.

(2) There shall be paid to the director a fee of not to exceed three cents per turkey grown in the State of Nebraska and sold through commercial channels. The fee shall be paid by the turkey producer and shall be collected by the first purchaser. Under the <u>Nebraska Poultry and</u> <u>Egg Resources Act</u> provisions of sections 2-3401 to 2-3416, no turkeys shall be subject to the fee more than once.

-18-

1 (3) The director may, subject to the approval of a majority of the 2 members of the advisory committee, whenever he or she determines that the fees provided by this section are yielding more than is required to carry 3 4 out the intent and purposes of the act sections 2-3401 to 2-3416, reduce 5 such fees for such period as the director shall deem justified. In the event that the director, after reducing such fees, finds that sufficient 6 revenue is not being produced by such reduced fees, he or she may restore 7 in full or in part such fees to such rates as will in his or her judgment 8 9 produce sufficient revenue to carry out the intent and purposes of the 10 act sections 2-3401 to 2-3416.

Sec. 12. Section 2-3633, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

13 2-3633 The Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund is created. All fees collected pursuant to the Nebraska Corn 14 Resources Act and any repayments relating to the fund, including license 15 fees or royalties, shall be credited to the fund for the uses and 16 purposes of the act and its enforcement. Such fund shall be expended 17 solely for the administration of the act, except that the State Treasurer 18 shall transfer three hundred thousand dollars from the fund to the 19 Agrability Cash Fund on September 1 of each year, or as soon thereafter 20 as administratively possible, beginning in 2024. Any money in the 21 Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund fund available 22 for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant 23 24 to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 25 Investment Act.

26 Sec. 13. Section 2-3971, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 27 amended to read:

28 2-3971 (1)(a) As a condition precedent to the issuance of a permit 29 pursuant to the Nebraska Milk Act, the annual permit fees shall be paid 30 to the department on or before August 1 of each year<u>. Except as otherwise</u> 31 <u>provided in subsection (3) of this section, the fees are</u> as follows:

-19-

<pre>1 (i) Milk plant processing 100,000 or less pounds per mon 2 \$100.00; 3 (ii) Milk plant processing 100,001 to 2,000,000 pounds per mon 4 \$500.00; 5 (iii) Milk plant processing more than 2,000,000 pounds per mon 6 \$1,000.00;</pre>	LB3 2024
<ul> <li>3 (ii) Milk plant processing 100,001 to 2,000,000 pounds per mon</li> <li>4 \$500.00;</li> <li>5 (iii) Milk plant processing more than 2,000,000 pounds per mon</li> </ul>	th
4 \$500.00; 5 (iii) Milk plant processing more than 2,000,000 pounds per mon	
5 (iii) Milk plant processing more than 2,000,000 pounds per mon	th
6 \$1,000.00;	th
7 (iv) Receiving station\$200.00;	
<pre>8 (v) Plant fabricating single-service articles\$300.00;</pre>	
9 (vi) Milk distributor\$150.00;	
10 (vii) Transfer station\$100.00;	
11 (viii) Milk tank truck cleaning facility\$100.00;	
12 (ix) Bulk milk hauler/sampler\$25.00;	
13 (x) Field representative\$25.00;	
14 (xi) Grade A Milk producerNo Fee;	and
15 (xii) Manufacturing milk producerNo Fee	
16 (b) On or before each August 1 a Milk Transportation Company	shall
17 pay twenty-five dollars for each milk tank truck in service on July	1 of
18 the current year, but in no case shall the fee be less than one hu	ndred
19 dollars.	
20 (2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of	this

21 <u>section, all</u> All milk or components of milk produced or processed in 22 Nebraska and milk or components of milk shipped in for processing shall 23 be subject to the payment of inspection fees as provided in this 24 subsection.

25 (b) There shall be three categories of inspection fees as follows:

(i) The inspection fee for raw milk purchased directly off the farm
 by first purchasers shall <u>be one and ninety-two hundredths</u> have a maximum
 inspection fee of two and five-tenths cents per hundredweight for raw
 milk and shall be paid by first purchasers;

30 (ii) The inspection fee for milk processed by a milk plant shall be31 seventy-five percent of the fee paid by first purchasers and shall be

-20-

1 paid by the milk plant; and

2 (iii) The inspection fee for components of milk processed shall be
3 fifty percent of the fee paid by first purchasers and shall be paid by
4 the milk plant.

(c) All fees shall be paid on or before the last day of the month 5 for milk or components of milk produced or processed during the preceding 6 month. Any unpaid fee shall be increased one and one-half percent each 7 month beginning with the day following the date the fee was due. Any 8 9 remaining amount due, including any unpaid charges previously made pursuant to this section, shall be increased at the same rate on the 10 corresponding day of each succeeding month until paid. The purpose of 11 increasing the fees is to cover the administrative costs associated with 12 13 collecting fees, and all money collected as increased fees shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Pure Milk Cash Fund. 14

15 (3) The director may increase or decrease fees each year. The fees shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the 16 percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 17 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 18 19 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Milk Act. For purposes 20 of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of 21 goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States 22 23 Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on 24 August 31 of each year.

25 (d) The director may raise or lower the inspection fees each year,
26 but the fees shall not exceed the maximum fees set out in subdivision (b)
27 of this subsection. The director shall determine the fees based on the
28 estimated annual revenue and fiscal year-end fund balance determined as
29 follows:

30 (i) The estimated annual revenue shall not be greater than one
 31 hundred seven percent of the program cash fund appropriations allocated

1 for the Nebraska Milk Act;

2 (ii) The estimated fiscal year-end cash fund balance shall not be
3 greater than seventeen percent of the program cash fund appropriations
4 allocated for the act; and

5 (iii) All fee increases or decreases shall be equally distributed
6 between categories to maintain the percentages set forth in subdivision
7 (b) of this subsection.

8 <u>(4)</u> <del>(3)</del> If any person required to have a permit pursuant to the act 9 has been operating prior to applying for a permit, an additional fee of 10 one hundred dollars shall be paid upon application.

11 Sec. 14. Section 2-4323, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 12 amended to read:

2-4323 (1) Every retailer licensee shall file, not later than the 13 last day of January and July of each year, a semiannual tonnage report on 14 forms provided by the department, setting forth the number of net tons of 15 each agricultural liming material sold in Nebraska during the preceding 16 17 six-month period, which report shall cover the periods from July 1 to December 31 and January 1 to June 30, and such other information as the 18 director shall deem necessary. All persons required to be licensed 19 pursuant to the Agricultural Liming Materials Act shall file such report 20 regardless of whether any inspection fee is due. Upon filing the report, 21 22 such person shall pay the inspection fee at the rate prescribed pursuant to this section. The inspection fee shall be at the rate of fixed by the 23 24 director but not exceeding ten cents per ton, except that the director 25 may increase or decrease the fee each year. The fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between 26 the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the 27 28 beginning of such year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of 29 administering the Agricultural Liming Materials Act. For purposes of this 30 31 section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and

services for all urban consumers published by the United States 1 2 Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year . The fee shall be set at an amount to cover the 3 4 expenses of the inspection provided in section 2-4325 and the costs of 5 administering this section. The minimum inspection fee required pursuant to this section shall be five dollars, and no inspection fee shall be 6 paid more than once for any one product. In the case of agricultural lime 7 8 slurry, the fee shall be paid on the base lime material only.

9 (2) If a person fails to report and pay the fee required by subsection (1) of this section by January 31 and July 31, the fee shall 10 be considered delinguent and the person owing the fee shall pay an 11 additional administrative fee of twenty-five percent of the delinquent 12 amount for each month it remains unpaid, not to exceed one hundred 13 14 percent of the original amount due. The department may waive the additional administrative fee based upon the existence and extent of any 15 mitigating circumstances that have resulted in the late payment of such 16 fee. The purpose of the additional administrative fee is to cover the 17 administrative costs associated with collecting fees, and all money 18 collected as an additional administrative fee shall be remitted to the 19 State Treasurer for credit to the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners 20 Administrative Fund. Failure to make an accurate statement of tonnage or 21 to pay the inspection fee or comply as provided in this subsection shall 22 23 constitute sufficient cause for the cancellation of all product 24 registrations or licenses on file for such person.

(3) The director shall annually make information available in such form as he or she may deem proper concerning the tons of agricultural liming material sold in this state. Such report shall in no way divulge the operation of any registrant or licensee.

29 Sec. 15. Section 3-126, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 3-126 The Aeronautics Cash Fund is created. All money received by

-23-

the division pursuant to the State Aeronautics Act shall be remitted to 1 2 the State Treasurer for credit to the fund. The division is authorized, whether acting for this state, as the agent of any of its municipalities, 3 or as the agent of any person owning a privately owned public use 4 5 airport, or when requested by the United States Government or any agency or department thereof, to disburse such money. Any money in the 6 Aeronautics Cash Fund available for investment shall be invested by the 7 state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act 8 9 and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from 10 investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund The State Treasurer shall transfer any money in the Department of Aeronautics Cash 11 12 Fund on July 1, 2017, to the Aeronautics Cash Fund.

Sec. 16. Section 8-1120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as
amended by Laws 2024, LB1074, section 48, is amended to read:

8-1120 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, 15 the 16 Securities Act of Nebraska shall be administered by the Director of Banking and Finance who may employ such deputies, examiners, assistants, 17 or counsel as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose thereof. The 18 employment of any person for the administration of the act is subject to 19 section 49-1499.07. The director may delegate to a deputy director or 20 counsel any powers, authority, and duties imposed upon or granted to the 21 22 director under the act, such as may be lawfully delegated under the 23 common law or the statutes of this state. The director may also employ 24 special counsel with respect to any investigation conducted by him or her 25 under the act or with respect to any litigation to which the director is a party under the act. 26

(2) A security issued by and representing an interest in or a debt of, or guaranteed by, any insurance company shall be registered, pursuant to the provisions of sections 8-1104 to 8-1109, with the Director of Insurance who shall as to such registrations administer and enforce the act, and as pertains to the administration and enforcement of such

-24-

registration of such securities all references in the act to director
 shall mean the Director of Insurance.

3 (3)(a) It shall be unlawful for the director or any of his or her employees to use for personal benefit any information which is filed with 4 5 or obtained by the director and which is not made public. Neither the director nor any of his or her employees shall disclose any confidential 6 information except among themselves, when necessary or appropriate in a 7 proceeding, examination, or investigation under the act, or as authorized 8 9 in subdivision (3)(b) of this subsection. No provision of the act shall either create or derogate from any privilege which exists at common law 10 or otherwise when documentary or other evidence is sought under a 11 subpoena directed to the director or any of his or her employees. 12

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(b)(i) In administering the act, the director may also:

(A) Enter into agreements or relationships with other government
officials, including, but not limited to, the securities administrator of
a foreign state and the Securities and Exchange Commission, or selfregulatory organizations, to share resources, standardized or uniform
methods or procedures, and documents, records, and information; or

(B) Accept and rely on examination or investigation reports made by
other government officials, including, but not limited to, the securities
administrator of a foreign state and the Securities and Exchange
Commission, or self-regulatory organizations.

(ii) For purposes of this subdivision, foreign state means any state
of the United States, other than the State of Nebraska, any territory of
the United States, including Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust
Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the Virgin Islands, and the District
of Columbia.

(4) The director may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations and
prescribe forms to carry out the act. No rule and regulation may be
adopted and promulgated or form may be prescribed unless the director
finds that the action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest

-25-

1 or for the protection of investors and consistent with the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the act. In adopting and 2 promulgating rules and regulations and prescribing forms the director may 3 cooperate with the securities administrators of the other states and the 4 Securities and Exchange Commission with a view to effectuating the policy 5 of the Securities Act of Nebraska to achieve maximum uniformity in the 6 form and content of registration statements, applications, and reports 7 wherever practicable. All rules and regulations and forms of the director 8 9 shall be published and made available to any person upon request.

10 (5) No provision of the act imposing any liability shall apply to 11 any act done or omitted in good faith in conformity with any rule and 12 regulation, form, or order of the director, notwithstanding that the rule 13 and regulation or form may later be amended or rescinded or be determined 14 by judicial or other authority to be invalid for any reason.

(6) Every hearing in an administrative proceeding shall be public
unless the director in his or her discretion grants a request joined in
by all the respondents that the hearing be conducted privately.

(7)(a) (7) The Securities Act Cash Fund is created. All filing fees, 18 registration fees, and all other fees and all money collected by or paid 19 to the director under any of the provisions of the act shall be remitted 20 to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund, except that registration 21 fees collected by or paid to the Director of Insurance pursuant to the 22 23 provisions of the act shall be credited to the Department of Insurance 24 Cash Fund. The Securities Act Cash Fund shall be used for the purpose of administering and enforcing the provisions of the act, except that 25 transfers may be made to the General Fund at the direction of the 26 Legislature. Any money in the Securities Act Cash Fund available for 27 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to 28 Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 29 the Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the 30 31 fund shall be credited to the fund.

-26-

1 (b) The State Treasurer shall transfer thirty-six million dollars 2 from the Securities Act Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2026, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 3 4 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer thirty-two million dollars 5 from the Securities Act Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 6 7 30, 2027, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 8 9 Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer thirty-two million dollars 10 from the Securities Act Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2028, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 11 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 12 13 Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer thirty-two million dollars from the Securities Act Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 14 30, 2029, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 15 16 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 17 Services.

(8) A document is filed when it is received by the director. The 18 19 director shall keep a register of all applications for registration and registration statements which are or have ever been effective under the 20 Securities Act of Nebraska and all denial, suspension, or revocation 21 22 orders which have ever been entered under the act. The register shall be 23 open for public inspection. The information contained in or filed with 24 any registration statement, application, or report may be made available 25 to the public under such conditions as the director may prescribe.

(9) The director may, by rule and regulation or order, authorize or
require the filing of any document required to be filed under the act by
electronic or other means, processes, or systems.

(10) Upon request and at such reasonable charges as he or she shall
 prescribe, the director shall furnish to any person photostatic or other
 copies, certified under his or her seal of office if requested, of any

-27-

entry in the register or any document which is a matter of public record.
 In any proceeding or prosecution under the act, any copy so certified
 shall be prima facie evidence of the contents of the entry or document
 certified.

5 (11) The director in his or her discretion may honor requests from6 interested persons for interpretative opinions.

Sec. 17. Section 23-2310.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,is amended to read:

9 23-2310.04 (1) The County Employees Defined Contribution Retirement Expense Fund is created. The fund shall be credited with money from the 10 retirement system assets and income sufficient to pay the pro rata share 11 of administrative expenses incurred as directed by the board for the 12 13 proper administration of the County Employees Retirement Act and necessary in connection with the administration and operation of the 14 retirement system, except as provided in sections 23-2308.01, 23-2309.01, 15 16 and 23-2310.05. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be 17 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. 18

19 (2) The County Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund is created. The fund shall be credited with money forfeited pursuant to 20 section 23-2319.01 and with money from the retirement system assets and 21 22 income sufficient to pay the pro rata share of administrative expenses incurred as directed by the board for the proper administration of the 23 24 County Employees Retirement Act and necessary in connection with the 25 administration and operation of the retirement system, except as provided in sections 23-2308.01, 23-2309.01, and 23-2310.05. Any money in the fund 26 27 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 28 State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of 29 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 30

31 (3) Forfeiture funds collected from members participating in the

-28-

defined contribution benefit shall be used to either pay expenses or reduce employer contributions related to the defined contribution benefit. Any unused funds shall be allocated as earnings of and transferred to the accounts of the remaining members within twelve months after receipt of the funds by the board.

Sec. 18. Section 23-2319.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
is amended to read:

8 23-2319.01 (1) For a member who has terminated employment and is not vested, the balance of the member's employer account or employer cash 9 balance account shall be forfeited. The forfeited account shall be 10 credited to the County Employees Retirement Fund and shall first be used 11 to meet the expense charges incurred by the retirement board in 12 13 connection with administering the retirement system, which charges shall 14 be credited to the County Employees Defined Contribution Retirement Expense Fund, if the member participated in the defined contribution 15 16 option, or to the County Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund, if the member participated in the cash balance option, and the remainder, 17 if any, shall then be used to restore employer accounts or employer cash 18 19 balance accounts. Except as provided in subsection (3) of section 23-2310.04 and subdivision (4)(c) of section 23-2317, no forfeited 20 amounts shall be applied to increase the benefits any member would 21 otherwise receive under the County Employees Retirement Act. 22

(2) If a member ceases to be an employee due to the termination of his or her employment by the county and a grievance or other appeal of the termination is filed, transactions involving forfeiture of his or her employer account or employer cash balance account and transactions for payment of benefits under sections 23-2315 and 23-2319 shall be suspended pending the final outcome of the grievance or other appeal.

(3) The County Employer Retirement Expense Fund is created. The fund
shall be administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board. Prior to
July 1, 2012, the County Employer Retirement Expense Fund shall be used

-29-

to meet expenses of the retirement system whether such expenses are 1 account 2 incurred in administering the member's employer or in administering the member's employer cash balance account when the funds 3 available in the County Employees Defined Contribution Retirement Expense 4 Fund or County Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund make such 5 use reasonably necessary. The County Employer Retirement Expense Fund 6 shall consist of any reduction in a county contribution which would 7 otherwise be required to fund future service retirement benefits or to 8 9 restore employer accounts or employer cash balance accounts referred to in subsection (1) of this section. On July 1, 2012, or as soon as 10 practicable thereafter, any money in the County Employer Retirement 11 Expense Fund shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to the County 12 Employees Retirement Fund and credited to the cash balance benefit 13 14 established in section 23-2308.01.

(4) Prior to July 1, 2012, expenses incurred as a result of a county 15 16 depositing amounts into the County Employer Retirement Expense Fund shall 17 be deducted prior to any additional expenses being allocated. Any remaining amount shall be allocated in accordance with subsection (3) of 18 this section. Any money in the County Employer Retirement Expense Fund 19 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 20 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 21 State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of 22 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 23

24 Sec. 19. Section 28-1246, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 25 amended to read:

26 28-1246 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, hold for 27 sale, or offer for sale as a distributor, jobber, or retailer any 28 fireworks in this state unless such person has first obtained a license 29 as a distributor, jobber, or retailer. Application for each such license 30 shall be made to the State Fire Marshal on forms prescribed by him or 31 her. Each application shall be accompanied by the required fee, which <u>fee</u>

-30-

shall be determined by the State Fire Marshal five hundred dollars for a 1 2 distributor's license, two hundred dollars for a jobber's license, and twenty-five dollars for a retailer's license. Each application for a 3 retailer's license shall be received by the State Fire Marshal at least 4 ten business days prior to the sales period, as set forth in section 5 28-1249, in which the retailer wishes to sell consumer fireworks. A 6 7 retailer's license shall be good only for the specific sales period listed on the application and within the calendar year in which issued. 8 9 The retailer's license shall at all times be displayed at the place of business of the holder thereof. 10

(2) The funds received pursuant to this section shall be remitted to
 the State Treasurer for credit to the State Fire Marshal Cash Fund.

Sec. 20. Section 28-1251, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-1251 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person, association, 15 partnership, limited liability company, or corporation to conduct fire 16 17 alarm tests and fire alarm inspections without prior written certification by the State Fire Marshal as to the qualifications of such 18 persons conducting such tests and inspections. 19

(2) The State Fire Marshal shall formulate reasonable guidelines to
determine qualifications for fire alarm inspectors and shall administer
an examination pursuant to such guidelines prior to certification of
applicants.

(3) The State Fire Marshal may charge a fee of one hundred dollars
to cover costs of administering such examinations.

26 (4) Unlawful testing or inspection of fire alarms is a Class III27 misdemeanor.

28 Sec. 21. Section 37-323, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 29 amended to read:

30 37-323 (1) The secretary of the commission shall remit to the State
 31 Treasurer all tax money and other funds received by him or her and shall

-31-

take the receipt of the treasurer therefor. The State Treasurer shall
 credit such funds to the State Game Fund except as otherwise provided in
 the Game Law.

4 (2) The State Game Fund is created. Any money in the State Game Fund 5 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 6 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 7 State Funds Investment Act. <u>Any investment earnings from investment of</u> 8 <u>money in the fund shall be credited to the fund.</u>

9 (3) County clerks, other county officials, and the secretary of the commission shall be liable upon their official bonds for failure to pay 10 over any of such funds coming into their hands. Any other agent who 11 receives permit fees under the Game Law or the rules and regulations of 12 the commission and who fails to remit the fees to the commission within a 13 reasonable time after demand by the commission shall be liable to the 14 commission in damages for double the amount of the funds wrongfully 15 withheld. Any agent who purposefully fails to remit such fees with the 16 intention of converting them is guilty of theft. The penalty for such 17 violation shall be determined by the amount converted as specified in 18 19 section 28-518.

20 Sec. 22. Section 37-327.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 21 amended to read:

22 37-327.01 (1) The Game Law Investigation Cash Fund is created. The commission shall use the fund for the purpose of obtaining evidence for 23 enforcement of the Game Law. The fund shall be funded through revenue 24 collected under the Game Law and budgeted or allocated to the fund by the 25 commission, and through donations from persons, wildlife groups, and 26 other charitable sources. Any money in the fund available for investment 27 shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the 28 Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment 29 Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall 30 be credited to the fund. 31

-32-

1 (2) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the commission shall formulate record-2 keeping procedures for all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of 3 cash from the Game Law Investigation Cash Fund. Based on these record-4 5 procedures, the commission shall prepare and keeping deliver electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature by September 15 of each 6 year a detailed report of the previous fiscal year which includes, but is 7 not limited to: (a) The June 30 balance in the Game Law Investigation 8 9 Cash Fund and the amounts delivered to the commission for distribution to agents and informants; (b) the total amount of expenditures; (c) the 10 purpose of the expenditures including: (i) Salaries and any expenses of 11 all agents and informants; (ii) front money for wildlife purchases; (iii) 12 type of wildlife and amount purchased; and (iv) amount of front money 13 14 recovered; (d) the total number of informants on payroll; and (e) the results procured through such transactions. 15 Each member the of 16 Legislature shall receive an electronic copy of such report by making a 17 request for it to the secretary of the commission.

18 (3) The commission shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations19 to carry out this section.

20 Sec. 23. Section 37-431, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 21 amended to read:

22 37-431 (1)(a) The Nebraska Habitat Fund is created. The commission shall remit fees received for annual and multiple-year habitat stamps and 23 24 annual and multiple-year Nebraska migratory waterfowl stamps to the State Treasurer for credit to the Nebraska Habitat Fund. Any money in the fund 25 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 26 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 27 State Funds Investment Act. Up to twenty-five percent of the annual 28 receipts of the fund may be spent by the commission to provide access to 29 private wildlife lands and habitat areas, and the remainder of the fund 30 shall not be spent until the commission has presented a habitat plan to 31

-33-

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the Committee on Appropriations of the Legislature for its approval.

2 (b) Fees received for lifetime habitat stamps and lifetime Nebraska migratory waterfowl stamps under the Game Law shall be credited to the 3 4 Nebraska Habitat Fund. Twenty-five percent of the fees for such stamps 5 shall not be expended but may be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State 6 7 Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Income from such investments may 8 9 be expended by the commission pursuant to section 37-432.

(2)(a) The Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund is created. The commission 10 shall remit fees received for annual and multiple-year aquatic habitat 11 stamps and one dollar of the one-day fishing permit fee as provided in 12 13 section 37-426 to the State Treasurer for credit to the Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be 14 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 15 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Up to thirty 16 17 percent of the annual receipts of the fund may be spent by the commission to provide public waters angler access enhancements and to provide 18 19 funding for the administration of programs related to aquatic habitat and public waters angler access enhancements, and the remainder of the fund 20 shall not be spent until the commission has presented a habitat plan to 21 the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Natural Resources of 22 the Legislature for their approval. 23

(b) Fees received for lifetime aquatic habitat stamps shall be credited to the Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund and shall not be expended but may be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Income from such investments may be expended by the commission pursuant to section 37-432.

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-34-

(3) The secretary of the commission and any county clerk or public

1 official designated to sell habitat stamps, aquatic habitat stamps, or 2 Nebraska migratory waterfowl stamps shall be liable upon their official 3 bonds or equivalent commercial insurance policy for failure to remit the money from the sale of the stamps, as required by sections 37-426 to 4 37-433, coming into their hands. Any agent who receives stamp fees and 5 who fails to remit the fees to the commission within a reasonable time 6 after demand by the commission shall be liable to the commission in 7 damages for double the amount of the funds wrongfully withheld. Any agent 8 who purposefully fails to remit such fees with the intention of 9 converting them is guilty of theft. The penalty for such violation shall 10 be determined by the amount converted as specified in section 28-518. 11

Sec. 24. Section 37-811, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

37-811 There is hereby created the Wildlife Conservation Fund. The 14 fund shall be used to assist in carrying out the Nongame and Endangered 15 16 Species Conservation Act, to pay for research into and management of the ecological effects of the release, importation, commercial exploitation, 17 and exportation of wildlife species pursuant to section 37-548, and to 18 pay any expenses incurred by the Department of Revenue or any other 19 agency in the administration of the income tax designation program 20 required by section 77-27,119.01. The fund shall consist of money 21 credited pursuant to section 60-3,238 and any other money as determined 22 23 by the Legislature. The fund shall also consist of money transferred from 24 the General Fund by the State Treasurer in an amount to be determined by 25 the Tax Commissioner which shall be equal to the total amount of contributions designated pursuant to section 77-27,119.01. Any money in 26 the Wildlife Conservation Fund available for investment shall be invested 27 by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 28 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment 29 earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the 30 31 fund.

-35-

Sec. 25. Section 37-1804, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as
 amended by Laws 2024, LB1413, section 34, is amended to read:

3 37-1804 (1) The Water Recreation Enhancement Fund is created. The 4 fund shall be administered by the Game and Parks Commission. The State 5 Treasurer shall credit to the fund any money transferred to the fund by the Legislature and such donations, gifts, bequests, or other money 6 7 received from any federal or state agency or public or private source. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) subsections (2) and (3) of 8 9 this section, the fund shall be used for water and recreational projects 10 pursuant to the Water Recreation Enhancement Act. Transfers may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. 11 Any money in the Water Recreation Enhancement Fund available for 12 13 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 14 the 15 Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 16

17 (2) For any amount credited to the fund from a source other than a 18 transfer authorized by the Legislature, the State Treasurer shall 19 transfer an equal amount from the Water Recreation Enhancement Fund to 20 the Jobs and Economic Development Initiative Fund at the end of the 21 fiscal year in which such funds were credited, on such dates as directed 22 by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of 23 Administrative Services to be used pursuant to section 61-405.

(2) (3) Transfers may be made from the investment earnings in the
 Water Recreation Enhancement Fund to the Panhandle Improvement Project
 Cash Fund at the direction of the Legislature. The State Treasurer shall
 transfer one million dollars on July 1, 2023, or as soon thereafter as
 administratively possible, from the Water Recreation Enhancement Fund to
 the Panhandle Improvement Project Cash Fund.

30 Sec. 26. Section 43-3718, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

-36-

1 43-3718 The Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund is created. The 2 fund shall be under the control of the Supreme Court and administered by the State Court Administrator. The fund shall be used for grants as 3 4 provided in section 43-3719. The fund shall consist of transfers, grants, 5 donations, gifts, devises, and bequests. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant 6 7 to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Interest earned shall be credited back to the fund. 8

9 Sec. 27. Section 44-116, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is10 amended to read:

(1) All money collected by the Department of Insurance for 11 44-116 examination of the affairs of domestic, foreign, or alien insurance 12 companies and insurers as defined in and pursuant to the Insurers 13 Examination Act or any other provision of Chapter 44 or for valuing the 14 reserve liabilities of life insurance companies shall be remitted by the 15 department to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of 16 Money in the 17 Insurance Cash Fund, which fund is hereby created. Department of Insurance Cash Fund may be used for transfers to the 18 General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any money in the 19 Department of Insurance Cash Fund available for investment shall be 20 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 21 22 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment 23 earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the 24 fund.

(2) The State Treasurer shall transfer fourteen million dollars from the Department of Insurance Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2026, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer eleven million dollars from the Department of Insurance Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2027, on such dates and in such amounts as

-37-

directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the 1 2 Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer eleven million dollars from the Department of Insurance Cash Fund to the 3 4 General Fund on or before June 30, 2028, on such dates and in such 5 amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall 6 7 transfer eleven million dollars from the Department of Insurance Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2029, on such dates and in 8 9 such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 10 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

11 Sec. 28. Section 46-1,164, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is 12 amended to read:

46-1,164 There is hereby created the Surface Water Irrigation 13 Infrastructure Fund to be administered by the Department of Natural 14 Resources. The fund shall be used to provide grants in accordance with 15 section 46-1,165 to irrigation districts. There shall be a one-time 16 17 transfer of fifty million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Surface Water Irrigation Infrastructure Fund to carry out the purposes of 18 19 section 46-1,165. Any money in the Surface Water Irrigation Infrastructure Fund available for investment shall be invested by the 20 state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act 21 22 and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 23

24 Sec. 29. Section 54-627, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 25 amended to read:

54-627 (1) A person shall not operate as a commercial dog or cat breeder, a dealer, a boarding kennel, an animal control facility, an animal shelter, an animal rescue, or a pet shop unless the person obtains the appropriate license. A pet shop shall only be subject to the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant thereto in any area or areas

-38-

1 of the establishment used for the keeping and selling of pet animals. If 2 a facility listed in this subsection is not located at the owner's 3 residence, the name and address of the owner shall be posted on the 4 premises.

5 (2) An applicant for a license shall submit an application for the appropriate license to the department, on a form prescribed by the 6 7 department, together with a one-time license fee of one hundred twentyfive dollars. Such fee is nonreturnable. Any license issued on or before 8 9 November 30, 2015, shall remain valid after expiration unless it lapses pursuant to this section, is revoked pursuant to section 54-631, or is 10 voluntarily surrendered. Upon receipt of an application and the license 11 fee and upon completion of a qualifying inspection, the appropriate 12 license may be issued by the department. The department may enter the 13 premises of any applicant for a license to determine if the applicant 14 meets the requirements for licensure under the act. If an applicant does 15 16 not at the time of inspection harbor any dogs or cats, the inspection 17 shall be of the applicant's records and the planned housing facilities. Such license shall not be transferable to another person or location and 18 shall lapse automatically upon a change of ownership or location. 19

(3)(a) In addition to the license fee required in subsection (2) of this section, an annual fee shall also be charged. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the annual fee shall be determined according to the following fee schedule based upon the daily average number of dogs or cats harbored by the licensee over the previous twelve-month period:

25

(i) Ten or fewer dogs or cats, one hundred seventy-five dollars;

26

(ii) Eleven to fifty dogs or cats, two hundred twenty-five dollars;

27 (iii) Fifty-one to one hundred dogs or cats, two hundred seventy-28 five dollars;

(iv) One hundred one to one hundred fifty dogs or cats, three
hundred twenty-five dollars;

31 (v) One hundred fifty-one to two hundred dogs or cats, three hundred

-39-

seventy-five dollars;

2 (vi) Two hundred one to two hundred fifty dogs or cats, four hundred
3 twenty-five dollars;

4 (vii) Two hundred fifty-one to three hundred dogs or cats, four
5 hundred seventy-five dollars;

6 (viii) Three hundred one to three hundred fifty dogs or cats, five7 hundred twenty-five dollars;

8 (ix) Three hundred fifty-one to four hundred dogs or cats, five
9 hundred seventy-five dollars;

10 (x) Four hundred one to four hundred fifty dogs or cats, six hundred
11 twenty-five dollars;

12 (xi) Four hundred fifty-one to five hundred dogs or cats, six13 hundred seventy-five dollars; and

14 (xii) More than five hundred dogs or cats, two thousand one hundred15 dollars.

(b) If a person operates with more than one type of license at the same location, the person shall pay only one annual fee based on the primary licensed activity occurring at that location as determined by the number of dogs or cats affected by the licensed activity.

20 (c) The annual fee for a licensee that does not own or harbor dogs21 or cats shall be one hundred fifty dollars.

(d) The annual fee for an animal rescue shall be one hundred fiftydollars.

(e) The annual fee for a commercial dog or cat breeder shall be
determined according to the fee schedule set forth in subdivision (a) of
this subsection based upon the total number of breeding dogs or cats
owned or harbored by the commercial breeder over the previous twelvemonth period.

(f) In addition to the fee as prescribed in the fee schedule set forth in subdivision (a) of this subsection, the annual fee for a commercial dog or cat breeder, pet shop, dealer, or boarding kennel shall

-40-

include a fee of two dollars times the daily average number of dogs or cats owned or harbored by the licensee over the previous twelve-month period numbering more than ten dogs or cats subject to subdivision (g) of this subsection.

(g) The director may increase or decrease fees each year. The fees 5 shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the 6 7 percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 8 9 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct 10 and indirect costs of administering the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means 11 the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers 12 13 published by the United States Department of Labor at the close of the 14 twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year The fees charged 15 under subdivision (a) of this subsection may be increased or decreased by 16 rule and regulation as adopted and promulgated by the department, but the 17 maximum fee that may be charged shall not result in a fee for any license 18 category that exceeds the annual fee set forth in subdivision (a) of this 19 subsection by more than one hundred dollars. The fee charged under 20 subdivision (f) of this subsection may be increased or decreased by rule 21 and regulation as adopted and promulgated by the department, but such fee 22 shall not exceed three dollars times the number of dogs or cats harbored 23 by the licensee over the previous twelve-month period numbering more than 24 ten dogs or cats.

(4) A commercial dog or cat breeder, dealer, boarding kennel, or pet shop shall pay the annual fee to the department on or before April 1 of each year. An animal control facility, animal rescue, or animal shelter shall pay the annual fee to the department on or before October 1 of each year. Failure to pay the annual fee by the due date shall result in a late fee equal to twenty percent of the annual fee due and payable each month, not to exceed one hundred percent of such fee, in addition to the

-41-

5 (5) An applicant, a licensee, or a person the department has reason 6 to believe is an operator and required to obtain a license under this 7 section shall make any applicable premises available for inspection 8 pursuant to section 54-628 during normal business hours.

9 (6) The state or any political subdivision of the state which 10 contracts out its animal control duties to a facility not operated by the 11 state or any political subdivision of the state may be exempted from the 12 licensing requirements of this section if such facility is licensed as an 13 animal control facility, animal rescue, or animal shelter for the full 14 term of the contract with the state or its political subdivision.

(7) Any fees collected pursuant to this section shall be remitted to
the State Treasurer for credit to the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator
Inspection Program Cash Fund.

Sec. 30. Section 54-856, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

54-856 (1) There shall be paid to the director an inspection fee of 20 six and one-half ten cents per ton on all commercial feed distributed in 21 22 the State of Nebraska, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. The fee shall be determined by increasing or 23 24 decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Ind<u>ex for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such</u> 25 year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay 26 27 all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Commercial 28 Feed Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers 29 published by the United States Department of Labor at the close of the 30 twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year during the six-month 31

LB3 2024

29

period following January 1, 1987. After the first six months of 1 2 operation, the fee may be raised or lowered by the director after a public hearing is held outlining the reason for any proposed change in 3 4 the rate. The maximum rate fixed by the director shall not exceed fifteen 5 cents per ton. The inspection fee shall be paid on commercial feed distributed by the person whose name appears on the label as the 6 manufacturer, guarantor, or distributor, except that a person other than 7 the manufacturer, guarantor, or distributor may assume liability for the 8 9 inspection fee, subject to the following:

10 (a) No fee shall be paid on a commercial feed if the payment has
11 been made by a previous distributor;

(b) No fee shall be paid on customer-formula feed if the inspectionfee is paid on the commercial feed which is used as ingredients therein;

(c) No fee shall be paid on commercial feed used as ingredients for
the manufacture of other commercial feed. If the fee has already been
paid, credit shall be given for such payment;

(d) In the case of a commercial feed which is distributed in the state only in packages of ten pounds or less, an annual fee fixed by the director, not to exceed twenty-five dollars, shall be paid in lieu of the inspection fee. The annual fee shall be paid not later than the last day of January each year; and

(e) The minimum inspection fee shall be five dollars for any six-month reporting period.

(2) If the director determines that it is necessary to adjust the rate of the inspection fee being paid to the department, all persons holding a valid license issued pursuant to section 54-850 shall be so notified and shall be given an opportunity to offer comment at a public hearing which shall be required prior to any inspection fee rate change.

(3) Each person who is liable for the payment of such fee shall:

30 (a) File, not later than January 31 and July 31 of each year, a
 31 semiannual statement setting forth the number of tons of commercial feed

-43-

distributed in this state during the preceding six-month period, which 1 2 statement shall cover the periods from July 1 to December 31 and January 1 to June 30, and upon filing such statement, pay the inspection fee at 3 4 the rate specified by this section. Any person who holds a valid license 5 issued pursuant to section 54-850 and whose name appears on the label as the manufacturer, guarantor, or distributor shall file such statement 6 7 regardless of whether any inspection fee is due. Inspection fees which are due and owing and have not been remitted to the director within 8 9 fifteen days following the date due shall have an administrative fee of twenty-five percent of the fees due added to the amount due when payment 10 is made, and an additional administrative fee of twenty-five percent of 11 the fees due shall be added if such inspection and administrative fees 12 13 are not paid within thirty days of the due date. The purpose of the additional administrative fees is to cover the administrative costs 14 associated with collecting fees. All money collected as an additional 15 administrative fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to 16 17 the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund. The assessment of this administrative fee shall not prevent the director from taking other 18 actions as provided in the Commercial Feed Act; and 19

(b) Keep such records as may be necessary or required by the 20 indicate accurately the tonnage 21 director to of commercial feed 22 distributed in this state. The director shall have the right to examine such records to verify statements of tonnage. Failure to make an accurate 23 24 statement, to pay the inspection fee, or to comply as provided in this 25 section shall constitute sufficient cause for the cancellation of all licenses on file. 26

27 Sec. 31. Section 54-1165, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 28 amended to read:

54-1165 Every livestock auction market operator shall pay annually,
on or before August 1, a market license fee of one hundred fifty dollars
to the department for each livestock auction market operated by him or

-44-

her, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. 1 2 The fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 3 4 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 5 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Livestock Auction Market Act. For 6 purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the 7 price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the 8 9 United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period 10 ending on August 31 of each year which payment shall constitute a renewal for one year. Fees so paid shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for 11 credit to the Livestock Auction Market Fund for the expenses of 12 13 administration of the Livestock Auction Market Act.

14 Sec. 32. Section 54-1704, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 15 amended to read:

16 54-1704 No person as defined in the Nebraska Livestock Dealer17 Licensing Act as a livestock dealer shall:

(1) Engage in the business of buying, selling, or otherwise dealing 18 in livestock in this state without a valid and effective license issued 19 by the Director of Agriculture under the provisions of this section. All 20 applications for a livestock dealer license or renewal of such license 21 shall be made on forms prescribed for that purpose by the State 22 Veterinarian. The department may by rule and regulation prescribe 23 24 additional information to be contained in such application. The 25 application shall be filed annually with the department on or before October 1 of each year with the applicable fee of fifty dollars, except 26 27 that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. The fee 28 shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 29 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 30 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct 31

and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Livestock Dealer 1 2 Licensing Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers 3 published by the United States Department of Labor at the close of the 4 twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year. The license fees 5 collected as provided by the Nebraska Livestock Dealer Licensing Act 6 shall be deposited in the state treasury, and by the State Treasurer 7 8 placed in the Livestock Auction Market Fund. All money so collected shall 9 be appropriated to the uses of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of administering the provisions of the Nebraska Livestock Dealer 10 Licensing Act; 11

(2)(a) Engage in the business of buying, selling, or otherwise 12 13 dealing in livestock in this state without filing with the department, in 14 connection with his or her application for a license, a fully executed duplicate of a valid and effective bond: (i) If he or she is registered 15 16 and bonded under the provisions of the federal Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, 7 U.S.C. 181 et seq., he or she shall file a statement in the 17 form prescribed by the department evidencing that he or she is 18 maintaining a valid and effective bond or its equivalent under such act; 19 or (ii) if he or she is not registered and bonded under the provisions of 20 the federal Packers and Stockyards Act, he or she shall furnish in 21 connection with his or her application for a license a fully executed 22 23 duplicate of a valid and effective bond in the amount of five thousand dollars or such larger amount as may be specified by regulations 24 25 promulgated by the department.

(b) The bond shall contain the following conditions: (i) That the principal shall pay when due to the person or persons entitled thereto the purchase price of all livestock purchased by such principal for his or her own account or for the accounts of others and such principal shall safely keep and properly disburse all funds, if any, which come into his or her hands for the purpose of paying for livestock purchased for the

-46-

1 accounts of others; (ii) that any person damaged by failure of the 2 principal to comply with the condition clause of the bond may maintain 3 suit to recover on the bond; and (iii) that at least thirty days' notice 4 in writing shall be given to the department by the party terminating the 5 bond; or

6 (3) Continue in the business of a dealer after his or her license or7 bond has expired, or has been suspended or revoked.

8 Sec. 33. Section 54-1904, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is9 amended to read:

10 54-1904 It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or maintain 11 any establishment unless first licensed by the department. A license may 12 be obtained by application to the director upon forms prescribed by him 13 or her for that purpose. The license shall authorize and restrict the 14 licensee to the operation or operations requested in his or her 15 application and approved by the director.

Application for a livestock establishment or a poultry establishment 16 17 license shall be accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars for each establishment<u>, and a</u> <del>. A</del> license application for a 18 rendering 19 establishment or for a pet feed establishment shall be accompanied by a fee of three hundred dollars for each establishment, except that the 20 director may increase or decrease such fees each year. The fees shall be 21 determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage 22 difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year 23 24 ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer Price Index for 25 the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law. For 26 purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the 27 28 price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the 29 United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year. Such fee shall be deposited in the 30 state treasury and deposited in the Livestock Auction Market Fund. 31

-47-

No license shall be issued until an inspection of the facilities described in the license application is completed showing the proposed facilities to be in conformity with the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated thereunder by the director.

Licenses shall be renewable annually on or before their expiration.
No license shall be transferable with respect to licensee or location.
The renewal fee shall be the same as the application fee for each license.

Each license shall by order be summarily suspended whenever an inspection reveals that conditions in any establishment constitute a menace to the public health and shall remain suspended until such conditions are corrected, subject to review by the department and courts as is provided for in the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law.

In addition, the director may, upon ten days' notice in writing, suspend or revoke any license issued hereunder or refuse to renew the same for violation of any of the provisions of the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law or any rule or regulation duly adopted and promulgated by the director. The notice shall specify in writing the charges relied on, and the hearings, disposition, and court review shall be as prescribed by the Nebraska Meat and Poultry Inspection Law.

22 Sec. 34. Section 54-2306, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 23 amended to read:

54-2306 (1) On and after August 1, 1999, any person required to obtain a permit under section 54-2305 shall file an application with the department in the manner established by the department. Such application shall include:

28 (a) The name, residence, and place of business of the applicant;

(b) The exact description of the land upon which the domesticated
cervine animal facility is to be located and the nature of the
applicant's title to the land, whether in fee or under lease; and

-48-

(c) The kind and number of domesticated cervine animals authorized
 to be kept or reared in such facility.

3 (2) The department may by rule and regulation prescribe additional 4 information to be contained in such application. The application shall be 5 filed annually with the department on or before October 1 of each year. The annual fee for a domesticated cervine animal facility permit shall be 6 7 two dollars and fifty cents per animal twelve months of age or older, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. The 8 9 fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 10 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 11 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct 12 13 and indirect costs of administering the Domesticated Cervine Animal Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in 14 the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the 15 16 United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period 17 ending on August 31 of each year not be less than ten dollars nor more than two hundred dollars, as established by the department. 18

19 (3) Permittees not filing by October 1 shall be considered The department may assess an administrative fee for 20 delinguent. delinquency, not to exceed one hundred dollars per month or a portion of 21 a month, in addition to the permit fees. The purpose of the additional 22 23 administrative fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with 24 collecting fees. Such permits shall expire on December 31 of the year of 25 issuance.

26 Sec. 35. Section 61-218, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 27 amended by Laws 2024, LB1368, section 9, is amended to read:

61-218 (1) The Water Resources Cash Fund is created. The fund shall be administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska

-49-

1 State Funds Investment Act.

(2) The State Treasurer shall credit to the fund such money as is 2 (a) transferred to the fund by the Legislature, (b) paid to the state as 3 4 fees, deposits, payments, and repayments relating to the fund, both principal and interest, (c) donated as gifts, bequests, or other 5 contributions to such fund from public or private entities, (d) made 6 7 available by any department or agency of the United States if so directed by such department or agency, (e) allocated pursuant to section 8 9 81-15,175, and (f) received by the state for settlement of claims 10 relating to interstate river compacts or decrees regarding Colorado's past use of water under the Republican River Compact. 11

12 (3)(a) (3) The fund shall be expended by the department <u>in any area</u>
 13 <u>that has adopted an integrated management plan as provided in section</u>
 14 <u>46-715.</u>

15 (b) The fund shall be used in any such area:

16 (i) To (a) to aid management actions taken to reduce consumptive 17 uses of water;

18 (ii) To or to enhance streamflows or ground water recharge;

(iii) For any other activity deemed necessary by the department in
 the development and implementation of an integrated management plan;

21 (iv) For purposes of the Resilient Soils and Water Quality Act; or

22 <u>(v) For in river basins, subbasins, or reaches which are deemed by</u> 23 the department overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713 or fully 24 appropriated pursuant to section 46-714 or are bound by an interstate 25 compact or decree or a formal state contract or agreement, (b) for 26 purposes of projects or proposals described in the grant application as 27 set forth in subdivision (2)(h) of section 81-15,175.

(c) To , and (c) to the extent funds are not expended pursuant to subdivision subdivisions (a) and (b) of this subsection, the department may conduct a statewide assessment of short-term and long-term water management activities and funding needs to meet statutory requirements in

-50-

sections 46-713 to 46-718 and 46-739 and any requirements of an
 interstate compact or decree or formal state contract or agreement.

LB3

2024

3 (d) The fund shall not be used to pay for administrative expenses or 4 any salaries for the department or any political subdivision.

5 (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that three million three hundred thousand dollars be transferred each fiscal year from the General 6 7 Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund for FY2011-12 through FY2022-23, except that for FY2012-13 it is the intent of the Legislature that four 8 million seven hundred thousand dollars be transferred from the General 9 Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund. It is the intent of the 10 Legislature that the State Treasurer credit any money received from any 11 Republican River Compact settlement to the Water Resources Cash Fund in 12 13 the fiscal year in which it is received.

(5)(a) Expenditures from the Water Resources Cash Fund may be made 14 to natural resources districts eligible under subsection (3) of this 15 16 section for activities to either achieve a sustainable balance of consumptive water uses or assure compliance with an interstate compact or 17 decree or a formal state contract or agreement and shall require a match 18 of local funding in an amount equal to or greater than forty percent of 19 the total cost of carrying out the eligible activity. The department 20 shall, no later than August 1 of each year, beginning in 2007, determine 21 the amount of funding that will be made available to natural resources 22 23 districts from the Water Resources Cash Fund and notify natural resources 24 districts of this determination. The department shall adopt and 25 promulgate rules and regulations governing application for and use of the Water Resources Cash Fund by natural resources districts. Such rules and 26 regulations shall, at a minimum, include the following components: 27

(i) Require an explanation of how the planned activity will achieve
a sustainable balance of consumptive water uses or will assure compliance
with an interstate compact or decree or a formal state contract or
agreement as required by section 46-715 and the controls, rules, and

-51-

1 regulations designed to carry out the activity; and

2 (ii) A schedule of implementation of the activity or its components,
3 including the local match as set forth in subdivision (5)(a) of this
4 section.

5 (b) Any natural resources district that fails to implement and 6 enforce its controls, rules, and regulations as required by section 7 46-715 shall not be eligible for funding from the Water Resources Cash 8 Fund until it is determined by the department that compliance with the 9 provisions required by section 46-715 has been established.

(6) The Department of Natural Resources shall submit electronically
an annual report to the Legislature no later than October 1 of each year,
beginning in the year 2007, that shall detail the use of the Water
Resources Cash Fund in the previous year. The report shall provide:

14 (a) Details regarding the use and cost of activities carried out by15 the department; and

(b) Details regarding the use and cost of activities carried out by
each natural resources district that received funds from the Water
Resources Cash Fund.

19 (7)(a) Prior to the application deadline for fiscal year 2011-12, the Department of Natural Resources shall apply for a grant of nine 20 million nine hundred thousand dollars from the Nebraska Environmental 21 Trust Fund, to be paid out in three annual installments of three million 22 23 three hundred thousand dollars. The purposes listed in the grant 24 application shall be consistent with the uses of the Water Resources Cash 25 Fund provided in this section and shall be used to aid management actions taken to reduce consumptive uses of water, to enhance streamflows, to 26 recharge ground water, or to support wildlife habitat in any river basin 27 28 determined to be fully appropriated pursuant to section 46-714 or designated as overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713. 29

30 (b) If the application is granted, funds received from such grant 31 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Water

-52-

Resources Cash Fund for the purpose of supporting the projects set forth 1 2 in the grant application. The department shall include in its grant application documentation that the Legislature has authorized a transfer 3 of three million three hundred thousand dollars from the General Fund 4 into the Water Resources Cash Fund for each of fiscal years 2011-12 and 5 2012-13 and has stated its intent to transfer three million three hundred 6 7 thousand dollars to the Water Resources Cash Fund for fiscal year 8 2013-14.

9 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the department apply 10 for an additional three-year grant that would begin in fiscal year 11 2014-15, an additional three-year grant from the Nebraska Environmental 12 Trust Fund that would begin in fiscal year 2017-18, and an additional 13 three-year grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund that would 14 begin in fiscal year 2020-21 if the criteria established in subsection 15 (4) of section 81-15,175 are achieved.

16 (8) The department shall establish a subaccount within the Water 17 Resources Cash Fund for the accounting of all money received as a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund as the result of 18 an 19 application made pursuant to subsection (7) of this section. At the end of each calendar month, the department shall calculate the amount of 20 interest earnings accruing to the subaccount and shall notify the State 21 Treasurer who shall then transfer a like amount from the Water Resources 22 Cash Fund to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund. 23

(9) Any funds transferred from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund
to the Water Resources Cash Fund shall be expended in accordance with
section 81-15,168.

(10) The State Treasurer shall transfer one million dollars from the Water Resources Cash Fund to the Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Cash Fund as soon as administratively possible after the effective date of this act, but before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the

-53-

1 Department of Administrative Services.

Sec. 36. Section 61-222, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

61-222 The Water Sustainability Fund is created in the Department of 4 Natural Resources. The fund shall be used in accordance with the 5 provisions established in sections 2-1506 to 2-1513 and for costs 6 7 directly related to the administration of the fund. The Legislature shall not appropriate or transfer money from the Water Sustainability Fund for 8 9 any other purpose, except that transfers may be made from the Water Sustainability Fund to the Department of Natural Resources Cash Fund and 10 as a one-time transfer to the General Fund as described in this section. 11

The Water Sustainability Fund shall consist of money transferred to 12 the fund by the Legislature, other funds as appropriated by the 13 Legislature, and money donated as gifts, bequests, or other contributions 14 from public or private entities. Funds made available by any department 15 16 or agency of the United States may also be credited to the fund if so 17 directed by such department or agency. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant 18 to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 19 Investment Act. Investment earnings from investment of money in the fund 20 shall be credited to the fund. 21

It is the intent of the Legislature that twenty-one million dollars be transferred from the General Fund to the Water Sustainability Fund in fiscal year 2014-15 and that eleven million dollars be transferred from the General Fund to the Water Sustainability Fund each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2015-16.

The State Treasurer shall transfer one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars from the Water Sustainability Fund to the Department of Natural Resources Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2021, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

-54-

1 The State Treasurer shall transfer four hundred twenty-five thousand 2 dollars from the Water Sustainability Fund to the Department of Natural 3 Resources Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2021, on such dates and in such 4 amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of 5 the Department of Administrative Services.

6 The State Treasurer shall transfer five hundred thousand dollars 7 from the Water Sustainability Fund to the General Fund on or before June 8 30, 2021, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 9 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 10 Services.

11 The State Treasurer shall transfer four hundred seventy-five 12 thousand dollars from the Water Sustainability Fund to the Department of 13 Natural Resources Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2022, on such dates and 14 in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 15 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

16 The State Treasurer shall transfer four hundred seventy-five 17 thousand dollars from the Water Sustainability Fund to the Department of 18 Natural Resources Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2023, on such dates and 19 in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 20 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

21 Sec. 37. Section 66-1519, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 22 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB867, section 7, is amended to read:

66-1519 (1) There is hereby created the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund to be administered by the department. Revenue from the following sources shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund:

27 (a) The fees imposed by sections 66-1520 and 66-1521;

(b) Money paid under an agreement, stipulation, cost-recovery award
under section 66-1529.02, or settlement; and

30 (c) Money received by the department in the form of gifts, grants,
 31 reimbursements, property liquidations, or appropriations from any source

-55-

1 intended to be used for the purposes of the fund.

2 (2) Money in the fund may be spent for: (a) Reimbursement for the costs of remedial action by a responsible person or his or her designated 3 4 representative and costs of remedial action undertaken by the department 5 in response to a release first reported after July 17, 1983, and on or before June 30, 2028, including reimbursement for damages caused by the 6 department or a person acting at the department's direction while 7 investigating or inspecting or during remedial action on property other 8 9 than property on which a release or suspected release has occurred; (b) payment of any amount due from a third-party claim; (c) fee collection 10 expenses incurred by the State Fire Marshal; (d) direct expenses incurred 11 by the department in carrying out the Petroleum Release Remedial Action 12 Act; (e) other costs related to fixtures and tangible personal property 13 as provided in section 66-1529.01; (f) interest payments as allowed by 14 section 66-1524; (g) claims approved by the State Claims Board authorized 15 16 under section 66-1531; (h) the direct and indirect costs incurred by the department in responding to spills and other environmental emergencies 17 related to petroleum or petroleum products; and (i) up to one million 18 five hundred thousand dollars each fiscal year of the department's cost-19 share obligations and operation and maintenance obligations under the 20 federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability 21 22 Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.

(3) Transfers may be made from the Petroleum Release Remedial Action
Cash Fund to the Superfund Cost Share Cash Fund at the direction of the
Legislature.

(4) Any money in the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Cash Fund
available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
State Funds Investment Act. <u>Investment earnings on and after the</u>
operative date of this section shall be credited to the fund.

31 Sec. 38. Section 68-1804, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

-56-

1 amended to read:

LB3

2024

2 68-1804 (1) The ICF/DD Reimbursement Protection Fund is created. Any 3 money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state 4 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the 5 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. <u>Interest and income earned by the</u> 6 fund shall be credited to the fund.

(2) Beginning July 1, 2014, the department shall use the ICF/DD 7 Reimbursement Protection Fund, including the matching federal financial 8 9 participation under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended, for purposes of enhancing rates paid under the medical assistance program to 10 intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities 11 and for an annual contribution to community-based programs for persons 12 with developmental disabilities as specified in subsection (4) of this 13 section, exclusive of the reimbursement paid under the medical assistance 14 15 program and any other state appropriations to intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities. 16

17 (3) For FY2011-12 through FY2013-14, proceeds from the tax imposed 18 pursuant to section 68-1803 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for 19 credit to the ICF/DD Reimbursement Protection Fund for allocation as 20 follows:

(a) First, fifty-five thousand dollars for administration of thefund;

(b) Second, the amount needed to reimburse intermediate care
facilities for persons with developmental disabilities for the cost of
the tax;

(c) Third, three hundred twelve thousand dollars for community-based
 services for persons with developmental disabilities;

(d) Fourth, six hundred thousand dollars or such lesser amount as
may be available in the fund for non-state-operated intermediate care
facilities for persons with developmental disabilities, in addition to
any continuation appropriations percentage increase provided by the

-57-

Legislature to nongovernmental intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities under the medical assistance program, subject to approval by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the department's annual application amending the medicaid state plan reimbursement methodology for intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities; and

7

(e) Fifth, the remainder of the proceeds to the General Fund.

8 (4) For FY2016-17 and each fiscal year thereafter, the ICF/DD
9 Reimbursement Protection Fund shall be used as follows:

10 (a) First, fifty-five thousand dollars to the department for11 administration of the fund;

(b) Second, payment to the intermediate care facilities for persons
with developmental disabilities for the cost of the tax;

(c) Third, three hundred twelve thousand dollars, in addition to any
federal medicaid matching funds, for payment to providers of communitybased services for persons with developmental disabilities;

17

(d) Fourth, one million dollars to the General Fund; and

(e) Fifth, rebase rates under the medical assistance program in 18 accordance with the medicaid state plan as defined in section 68-907. In 19 calculating rates, the proceeds of the tax provided for in section 20 68-1803 and not utilized under subdivisions (a), (b), (c), and (d) of 21 22 this subsection shall be used to enhance rates in non-state-operated intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities 23 24 by increasing the annual inflation factor to the extent allowed to ensure 25 federal financial participation for the department's payments to intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities. 26

(5) The Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Department of Health and Human Services shall report electronically, no later than December 1 of each year, to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Revenue Committee of the Legislature the amounts collected from each payer of the tax pursuant to section 68-1803 and the

-58-

LB3 2024

amount of each disbursement from the ICF/DD Reimbursement Protection
 Fund.

Sec. 39. Section 71-5318, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB880, section 1, is amended to read:

5 71-5318 (1) The Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund is created. The 6 fund shall be held as a trust fund for the purposes and uses described in 7 the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act.

8 The fund shall consist of federal capitalization grants, state 9 matching appropriations, proceeds of state match bond issues credited to 10 the fund, repayments of principal and interest on loans, transfers made pursuant to section 71-5327, and other money designated for the fund. The 11 director may make loans from the fund pursuant to the Drinking Water 12 State Revolving Fund Act and may conduct activities related to financial 13 administration of the fund, administration or provision of technical 14 15 assistance through public water system source water assessment programs, and implementation of a source water petition program under the Safe 16 17 Drinking Water Act. The state investment officer shall invest any money in the fund available for investment pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 18 19 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act, except that any bond proceeds in the fund shall be invested in accordance with the 20 terms of the documents under which the bonds are issued. The state 21 22 investment officer may direct that the bond proceeds shall be deposited 23 with the bond trustee for investment. Investment earnings shall be 24 credited to the fund.

The department may create or direct the creation of accounts within the fund as the department determines to be appropriate and useful in administering the fund and in providing for the security, investment, and repayment of bonds.

The fund and the assets thereof may be used, to the extent permitted by the Safe Drinking Water Act and the regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act, to (a) pay or to secure the payment of

-59-

bonds and the interest thereon, except that amounts deposited into the fund from state appropriations and the earnings on such appropriations may not be used to pay or to secure the payment of bonds or the interest thereon, and (b) buy or refinance the debt obligation of any municipality for a public water supply system if the debt was incurred and construction began after July 1, 1993.

7 The director may transfer any money in the Drinking Water Facilities 8 Loan Fund to the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Loan Fund 9 to meet the purposes of section 71-5327. The director shall identify any 10 such transfer in the intended use plan presented to the council for 11 annual review and adoption pursuant to section 71-5321.

12 (2) The Land Acquisition and Source Water Loan Fund is created. The
13 fund shall be held as a trust for the purposes and uses described in the
14 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act.

The fund shall consist of federal capitalization grants, state 15 16 matching appropriations, proceeds of state match bond issues credited to 17 the fund, repayments of principal and interest on loans, and other money designated for the fund. The director may make loans from the fund 18 19 pursuant to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act and may conduct activities other than the making of loans permitted under section 1452(k)20 of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The state investment officer shall invest 21 any money in the fund available for investment pursuant to the Nebraska 22 23 Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act, except 24 that any bond proceeds in the fund shall be invested in accordance with 25 the terms of the documents under which the bonds are issued. The state investment officer may direct that the bond proceeds shall be deposited 26 with the bond trustee for investment. Investment earnings shall be 27 28 credited to the fund.

The department may create or direct the creation of accounts within the fund as the department determines to be appropriate and useful in administering the fund and in providing for security, investment, and

-60-

1 repayment of bonds.

The fund and assets thereof may be used, to the extent permitted by the Safe Drinking Water Act and the regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act, to pay or secure the payment of bonds and the interest thereon, except that amounts credited to the fund from state appropriations and the earnings on such appropriations may not be used to pay or to secure the payment of bonds or the interest thereon.

8 The director may transfer any money in the Land Acquisition and 9 Source Water Loan Fund to the Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund.

(3) There is hereby created the Drinking Water Administration Fund. 10 Any funds available for administering loans or fees collected pursuant to 11 the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act shall be remitted to the 12 State Treasurer for credit to such fund. The fund shall be administered 13 by the department for the purposes of the act. The state investment 14 officer shall invest any money in the fund available for investment 15 pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State 16 17 Funds Investment Act. Investment earnings shall be credited to the fund.

The fund and assets thereof may be used, to the extent permitted by the Safe Drinking Water Act and the regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act, to fund subdivisions (9), (11), and (12) of section 71-5322. The annual obligation of the state pursuant to subdivisions (9) and (12) of section 71-5322 shall not exceed sixty-five percent of the revenue from administrative fees collected pursuant to section 71-5321 in the prior fiscal year.

The director may transfer any money in the Drinking Water Administration Fund to the Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund to meet the state matching appropriation requirements of any applicable federal capitalization grants or to meet the purposes of subdivision (9) of section 71-5322.

30 Sec. 40. Section 72-1248, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

LB3 2024

-61-

1 72-1248 Except as otherwise provided by law, interest Interest, 2 premium, and other income received from investments pursuant to sections 72-1244 and 72-1267 shall be credited to the General Fund for cash funds 3 4 and revolving funds as so designated by the Accounting Administrator of 5 the accounting division of the Department of Administrative Services and to the fund from which the investment was made for all other fund types 6 7 as so designated by the Accounting Administrator of the accounting division of the Department of Administrative Services except as otherwise 8 9 provided by law.

10 Sec. 41. Section 77-4025, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 11 amended by Laws 2024, LB1204, section 36, is amended to read:

77-4025 (1) There is hereby created a cash fund in the Department of 12 13 Revenue to be known as the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund. All revenue collected or received by the Tax Commissioner from the license 14 fees, certification fees, and taxes imposed by the Tobacco Products Tax 15 Act shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Tobacco 16 17 Products Administration Cash Fund, except that all such revenue relating to electronic nicotine delivery systems shall be remitted to the State 18 Treasurer for credit to the General Fund. 19

20 (2) All costs required for administration of the Tobacco Products 21 Tax Act shall be paid from the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund. 22 Credits and refunds allowed under the act shall be paid from the Tobacco 23 Products Administration Cash Fund. Any receipts, after credits and 24 refunds, in excess of the amounts sufficient to cover the costs of 25 administration may be transferred to the General Fund at the direction of 26 the Legislature.

27 (3) The State Treasurer shall transfer nine million dollars from the
 28 Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund to the General Fund on or
 29 before June 30, 2026, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by
 30 the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of
 31 Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer nine million

-62-

dollars from the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund to the General 1 2 Fund on or before June 30, 2027, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the 3 4 Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall transfer 5 nine million dollars from the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2028, on such dates and in such 6 7 amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. The State Treasurer shall 8 9 transfer nine million dollars from the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 2029, on such dates 10 and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 11 division of the Department of Administrative Services. 12

(4) (3) Any money in the Tobacco Products Administration Cash Fund
 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska
 State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of
 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

Sec. 42. Section 77-4211, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

20 77-4211 The Property Tax Credit Cash Fund is created. The fund shall 21 only be used pursuant to the Property Tax Credit Act. Any money in the 22 fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 23 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 24 State Funds Investment Act. <u>Any investment earnings from investment of</u> 25 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

26 Sec. 43. Section 79-968, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 27 amended to read:

79-968 All assets of the retirement system shall be credited, according to the purpose for which they are held, to the Expense Fund, to the School Retirement Fund, or to the Contingent Account. Any money in the account or funds available for investment shall be invested by the

-63-

state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act
 and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

Any investment earnings from investment of money in the Expense Fund
shall be credited to the fund.

5 Sec. 44. Section 79-9,115.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative6 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

7 79-9,115.02 Beginning September 1, 2024, all assets of the retirement system shall be credited, according to the purpose for which 8 9 they are held, to the Class V School Expense Fund or to the Class V School Employees Retirement Fund. Any money in the funds available for 10 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to 11 12 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 13 Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in such funds shall be credited to such funds. 14

15 Sec. 45. Section 79-1021, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 16 amended by Laws 2024, LB1284, section 12, is amended to read:

17 79-1021 (1) The Education Future Fund is created. The fund shall be administered by the department and shall consist of money transferred to 18 the fund by the Legislature. Transfers may be made from the Education 19 Future Fund to the Computer Science and Technology Education Fund at the 20 direction of the Legislature. Any money in the Education Future Fund 21 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 22 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 23 24 State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of 25 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

(2) The fund shall be used only for the following purposes, in orderof priority:

(a) To fully fund equalization aid under the Tax Equity and
 Educational Opportunities Support Act;

30 (b) To fund reimbursements related to special education under31 section 79-1142;

-64-

(c) To fund foundation aid under the Tax Equity and Educational
 Opportunities Support Act;

3 (d) To increase funding for school districts in a way that results 4 in direct property tax relief, which means a dollar-for-dollar 5 replacement of property taxes by a state funding source;

6 (e) To provide funding for a grant program created by the 7 Legislature to address teacher turnover rates and keep existing teachers 8 in classrooms;

9 (f) To provide funding to increase career and technical educational 10 classroom opportunities for students, including, but not limited to, 11 computer science education. Such funding must provide students with the 12 academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to 13 succeed in future careers;

14 (g) To provide funding for a grant program created by the 15 Legislature to provide students the opportunity to have a mentor who will 16 continuously engage with the student directly to aid in the student's 17 professional growth and give ongoing support and encouragement to the 18 student;

(h) To provide funding for extraordinary increases in special education expenditures to allow school districts with large, unexpected special education expenditures to more easily meet the needs of all students;

(i) To provide funding to help recruit teachers throughout the state
by utilizing apprenticeships through a teacher apprenticeship program and
an alternative certification process;

(j) To provide funding to develop and implement a professional
 learning system to help provide sustained professional learning and
 training regarding evidence-based reading instruction and for a grant
 program relating to dyslexia research; and

30 (k) To provide funding for a pilot project administered by the State31 Department of Education to provide menstrual products to school

-65-

1 districts.

2 (3)(a) The State Treasurer shall transfer one billion dollars from
3 the General Fund to the Education Future Fund in fiscal year 2023-24, on
4 such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of
5 the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

6 (b) The State Treasurer shall transfer two hundred fifty million 7 dollars from the General Fund to the Education Future Fund in fiscal year 8 2024-25, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 9 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 10 Services.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that two hundred fifty
 million dollars be transferred from the General Fund to the Education
 Future Fund in fiscal year 2025-26 and each fiscal year thereafter.

Sec. 46. Section 80-322.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB252, section 2, is amended to read:

80-322.01 The Department of Veterans' Affairs Cash Fund is created. 16 17 The fund shall include any transfers by the Legislature, any gifts, grants, bequests, contributions, or donations received by the department, 18 and money transferred pursuant to section 80-322. The department shall 19 administer the fund. Disbursements from the fund shall be used by the 20 department for the purposes of supporting veteran services, carrying out 21 the duties and functions of the department, paying administrative costs 22 of the department, or for the specific purposes designated by acceptance 23 24 of any gift, grant, bequest, contribution, or donation. Any money in the 25 fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 26 State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of 27 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 28

29 Sec. 47. Section 81-2,147.10, Revised Statutes Cumulative 30 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

31 81-2,147.10 (1) No person who labels for sale in Nebraska

-66-

agricultural, vegetable, or flower seeds shall sell such seeds in 1 2 Nebraska unless he or she holds a valid seed permit. Application for the permit shall be made to the Department of Agriculture on forms prescribed 3 4 and furnished by the department. Application forms shall be submitted to 5 the department accompanied by an annual registration fee based on the number of pounds of agricultural, vegetable, or flower seed the applicant 6 7 labeled and sold during the preceding calendar year. Registrations shall be renewed on or before January 1 of each year. If a person fails to 8 9 renew the registration by January 31 of each year, such person shall also 10 be required to pay a delinquency fee of twenty percent per month of the amount of the fee due, not to exceed one hundred percent of the annual 11 registration fee. The purpose of the additional delinquency fee is to 12 13 cover the administrative costs associated with collecting fees. All money collected as a delinguency fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer 14 for credit to the Nebraska Seed Administrative Cash Fund. 15

16 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section,
 17 the The annual registration fee shall be:

18 Fee: Applicant sold: 19 Twenty-five dollars Less than ten thousand pounds of 20 agricultural seed (other than 21 lawn and turf seed); 22 Fifty dollars Ten thousand or more pounds of 23 agricultural seed (other than lawn and turf seed) and less than two 24 hundred fifty thousand pounds of 25 26 any kind of seed; 27 One hundred dollars Two hundred fifty thousand or 28 more pounds and less than five hundred thousand pounds of seeds; 29 30 Two hundred fifty dollars Five hundred thousand or more pounds and less than one 31

-67-

LB3 2024	LB3 2024
1	million pounds of seeds;
2	Three hundred fifty dollars One million or more pounds
3	and less than five million
4	pounds of seeds;
5	Seven hundred fifty dollars Five million or more pounds of seeds.
6	(3) The director may increase or decrease fees each year. The fees
7	shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the
8	percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most
9	recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer
10	Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct
11	and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Seed Law. For purposes
12	of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of
13	goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States
14	Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on
15	<u>August 31 of each year.</u>
16	(4) (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply if the
17	agricultural, vegetable, or flower seeds being labeled and sold are of
18	the breeder or foundation seed classes of varieties developed by publicly
19	financed research agencies intended for the purpose of increasing the

(5) (3) The director shall refuse to issue a permit when the 21 application for such permit is not in compliance with the Nebraska Seed 22 23 Law or any rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such law and may cancel any permit when it is subsequently found to be in 24 violation of any provision of such law, rule, or regulation or when the 25 director has satisfactory evidence that the person has used fraudulent or 26 27 deceptive practices in an attempted evasion of the law, rule, or regulation, except that no permit shall be refused or canceled until the 28 person shall have been given an opportunity to be heard before the 29 director. 30

quantity of seed available.

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31 Sec. 48. Section 81-2,162.06, Revised Statutes Cumulative

-68-

1 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

2 81-2,162.06 (1) There shall be paid to the director, for all commercial fertilizers and soil conditioners distributed in this state to 3 4 the ultimate user, except custom-blended products, an inspection fee of ten at the rate fixed by the director but not exceeding fifteen cents per 5 ton, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. 6 7 The fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most 8 9 recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer 10 Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer 11 and Soil Conditioner Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price 12 13 Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor at the close 14 15 of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year. The fee shall be paid by the person distributing the product to the ultimate 16 17 user.

18 (2) The director may increase or decrease the inspection fee each 19 July 1, but such fee shall not exceed the maximum rate established in 20 subsection (1) of this section. The director shall determine the fee 21 based on the estimated annual revenue and fiscal year-end fund balance 22 determined as follows:

(a) The estimated annual revenue shall not be greater than one
 hundred seven percent of the program cash fund appropriations allocated
 for the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act; and

(b) The estimated fiscal year-end cash fund balance shall not be
 greater than seventeen percent of the program cash fund appropriations
 allocated for the Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner
 Act.

30 <u>(2)</u> <del>(3)</del> Payment of the inspection fee shall be evidenced by a 31 statement made with documents showing that fees corresponding to the

-69-

1 tonnage were received by the director.

(3) (4) Every person who distributes commercial fertilizer or soil 2 conditioners to the ultimate user in this state shall file, not later 3 than the last day of January and July of each year, a semiannual tonnage 4 report on forms provided by the department setting forth the number of 5 net tons of commercial fertilizer and soil conditioners distributed in 6 this state during the preceding six-month period, which report shall 7 cover the periods from July 1 to December 31 and January 1 to June 30, 8 and such other information as the director shall deem necessary. All 9 persons required to be licensed pursuant to the Nebraska Commercial 10 Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act shall file such report regardless of 11 whether any inspection fee is due. Upon filing the report, such person 12 13 shall pay the inspection fee at the rate prescribed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section. The minimum inspection fee required 14 pursuant to this section shall be five dollars, and no inspection fee 15 16 shall be paid more than once for any one product.

(4) (5) If a person fails to report and pay the fee required by 17 subsection (3) (4) of this section by January 31 and July 31, the fee 18 shall be considered delinquent and the person owing the fee shall pay an 19 additional administrative fee of twenty-five percent of the delinguent 20 amount for each month it remains unpaid, not to exceed one hundred 21 percent of the original amount due. The department may waive the 22 23 additional administrative fee based upon the existence and extent of any 24 mitigating circumstances that have resulted in the late payment of such fee. The purpose of the additional administrative fee is to cover the 25 administrative costs associated with collecting fees and all money 26 collected as an additional administrative fee shall be remitted to the 27 State Treasurer for credit to the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners 28 Administrative Fund. Failure to make an accurate statement of tonnage or 29 to pay the inspection fee or comply as provided in this subsection shall 30 31 constitute sufficient cause for the cancellation of all product

-70-

1 registrations, licenses, or both on file for such person.

2 <u>(5)</u> <del>(6)</del> No information furnished to the department under this 3 section shall be disclosed in such a way as to reveal the operation of 4 any person.

5 Sec. 49. Section 81-2,162.23, Revised Statutes Cumulative
6 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

7 81-2,162.23 (1) No person shall manufacture or distribute commercial fertilizers or soil conditioners in this state unless such person holds a 8 9 valid license for each manufacturing and distribution facility in this 10 state. Any out-of-state manufacturer or distributor who has no distribution facility within this state shall obtain a license for his or 11 her principal out-of-state office if he or she markets or distributes 12 13 commercial fertilizer or soil conditioners in the State of Nebraska.

14 (2) An applicant for a license shall make application to the department on forms furnished by the department. Application forms shall 15 be submitted to the department accompanied by an annual license fee of 16 17 fifteen dollars, except that the director may increase or decrease the fee each year. The fee shall be determined by increasing or decreasing 18 19 annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the 20 Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all 21 reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska 22 23 Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act. For purposes of this 24 section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States 25 Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period ending on 26 August 31 of each year. Licenses shall be renewed on or before January 1 27 28 of each year.

(3) A copy of the valid license shall be posted in a conspicuousplace in each manufacturing or distribution facility.

31 (4) Persons distributing custom-blended products shall maintain

2024

LB3

1 records of purchase orders received for custom-blended products from the 2 date such orders are received until such products are distributed, which 3 records shall be sufficient to show the product ordered, date of such 4 order, purchaser, and quantity of product ordered.

5 (5) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any retail 6 store which sells or offers for sale less than a five-ton volume of 7 commercial fertilizer or soil conditioners annually.

8 Sec. 50. Section 81-2,174, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
9 amended to read:

81-2,174 Upon issuing a certificate to a beekeeper after 10 an inspection as provided in section 81-2,173, the department shall collect 11 12 a certificate fee in as set forth in rules and regulations adopted and 13 promulgated pursuant to the Nebraska Apiary Act not to exceed the following amounts: Two hundred dollars for the inspection of two hundred 14 fifty colonies or less; two hundred fifty dollars for the inspection of 15 two hundred fifty-one through five hundred colonies; three hundred fifty 16 17 dollars for the inspection of five hundred one through one thousand colonies; and four hundred fifty dollars for the inspection of more than 18 one thousand colonies, except that the director may increase or decrease 19 such fees each year. The fees shall be determined by increasing or 20 decreasing annually by the percentage difference between the Consumer 21 Price Index for the most recent year ending before the beginning of such 22 year and the Consumer Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay 23 24 all reasonable direct and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Apiary Act. For purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the 25 change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers 26 published by the United States Department of Labor at the close of the 27 twelve-month period ending on August 31 of each year. The certification 28 fee shall be paid prior to the issuance of certificates by the 29 department. All fees and any gifts, grants, or donations from any source 30 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the State Apiary 31

-72-

1 Cash Fund which is hereby created. The fund shall be used to defray the 2 expenses of administering the Nebraska Apiary Act. Any money in the fund 3 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 4 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska 5 State Funds Investment Act.

Sec. 51. Section 81-2,270, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB262, section 39, is amended to read:
81-2,270 (1) No person shall operate without a valid permit:

9 (a) A food establishment conducting those food handling activities 10 authorized by such permit;

11 (b) A food processing plant; or

12 (c) A salvage operation.

(2) Application for a permit shall be made to the director on forms 13 prescribed and furnished by the department. Such application shall 14 include (a) the applicant's full name and mailing address and the names 15 and addresses of any partners, members, or corporate officers, (b) 16 whether the applicant is an individual, partnership, limited liability 17 company, corporation, or other legal entity, (c) the location and type of 18 proposed establishment or operation, and (d) the signature of the 19 applicant. Application for a permit shall be made prior to the operation 20 of a food establishment, food processing plant, or salvage operation. The 21 application shall be accompanied by an initial permit fee and an initial 22 23 inspection fee in the same amount as the annual inspection fee if inspections are required to be done by the department. If any food 24 establishment, food processing plant, or salvage operation is operating 25 without a valid permit, such establishment, plant, or operation shall pay 26 an additional fee of sixty dollars prior to the issuance of a valid 27 28 permit.

(3) Payment of the initial permit fee, the initial inspection fee,
and the fee for operating without a valid permit shall not preclude
payment of the annual inspection fees due on August 1 of each year.

-73-

Except as provided in subsections (7) through (10) of this section and subsection (2) of section 81-2,281, a permitholder shall pay annual inspection fees on or before August 1 of each year regardless of when the initial permit was obtained.

5 (4)(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b) of this subsection, The director shall set the initial permit fee and the annual 6 7 inspection fees are as follows: on or before July 1 of each fiscal year to meet the criteria in this subsection. The director may raise or lower 8 9 the fees each year, but the fees shall not exceed the maximum fees listed 10 in subdivision (4)(b) of this section. The director shall determine the fees based on estimated annual revenue and fiscal year-end cash fund 11 balance as follows: 12

13 (i) The estimated annual revenue shall not be greater than one 14 hundred seven percent of program cash fund appropriations allocated for 15 the Nebraska Pure Food Act;

16 (ii) The estimated fiscal year-end cash fund balance shall not be 17 greater than seventeen percent of program cash fund appropriations 18 allocated for the act; and

(iii) All fee increases or decreases shall be equally distributed
 between all categories.

21 (b) The maximum fees are:

22				Secondary	
23				or	
24				Additional	
25				Food	Secondary
26				Preparation	Unit
27				Area	0r
28			Base	Annual	Units
29		Initial	Annual	Inspection	Annual
30		Permit	Inspection	Fee	Inspection
31	Permit Type	Fee	Fee	(per area)	Fee

LB3 2024						LB3 2024
1	Limited Retail					
2	Food Establishment	\$86.19	\$86.19	\$43.09	N/A	
3	Itinerant Food Vendor	\$86.19	\$86.19	\$43.09	N/A	
4	Limited Food Service					
5	Establishment	\$86.19	\$86.19	\$43.09	N/A	
6	Mobile Food Unit					
7	(for each unit)	\$86.19	N/A	N/A	\$43.09	
8	Pushcart (for each unit)	\$86.19	N/A	N/A	\$17.23	
9	Vending Machine					
10	Operations:	\$86.19				
11	One to ten units		N/A	N/A	\$17.23	
12	Eleven to twenty units		N/A	N/A	\$34.46	
13	Twenty-one to thirty					
14	units		N/A	N/A	\$51.69	
15	Thirty-one to forty					
16	units		N/A	N/A	\$68.92	
17	Over forty units		N/A	N/A	\$86.15	
18	Food Processing Plant	\$86.19	\$120.64	\$43.09	N/A	
19	Salvage Operation	\$86.19	\$120.64	\$43.09	N/A	
20	Commissary	\$86.19	\$120.64	\$43.09	N/A	
21	All Other Food					
22	Establishments	\$86.19	\$120.64	\$43.09	N/A	
23	<u>(b) The director may</u>	<u>increase</u>	or decrease	fees each ye	ear. The	fees
24	<u>shall be determined by</u>	increas	ing or decr	<u>easing annu</u>	ally by	<u>the</u>
25	<u>percentage difference be</u>	tween the	Consumer P	rice Index	for the	most
26	recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer					
27	Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct					<u>lirect</u>
28	and indirect costs of administering the Nebraska Pure Food Act. For					
29	purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the					
30	price of goods and serv:	ices for	<u>all urban co</u>	nsumers publ	ished b	<u>y the</u>

-75-

<u>United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period</u>
 ending on August 31 of each year.

3 (5) For a food establishment, a base inspection fee includes one 4 food preparation area and one food handling activity based upon the primary food handling activity conducted within the food establishment as 5 determined by the department. The annual inspection fee shall also 6 include any fees assessed for each additional food preparation area 7 within the primary establishment and any applicable secondary food 8 9 handling activity as determined by the department. Any mobile food establishment that does not return to a commissary each day shall obtain 10 a separate permit and pay the base inspection fee for the mobile food 11 establishment. 12

13 (6) If a person fails to pay the inspection fee for more than one 14 month after the fee is due, such person shall pay a late fee equal to fifty percent of the total fee for the first month that the fee is late 15 16 and one hundred percent for the second month that the fee is late. The purpose of the late fee is to cover the administrative costs associated 17 with collecting fees. All money collected as a late fee shall be remitted 18 to the State Treasurer for credit to the Pure Food Cash Fund. If the 19 total fees due remain unpaid ninety days after the original due date, the 20 permit shall no longer be valid. 21

(7) An educational institution, health care facility, nursing home,
or governmental organization operating any type of food establishment,
other than a mobile food unit or pushcart, is exempt from the
requirements in subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

(8) A food establishment which produces eggs and only stores, packages, sells, delivers, or otherwise provides for human consumption the eggs it produces, or only stores, packages, sells, delivers, or otherwise provides for human consumption eggs produced from no more than four producers at the same time, is exempt from the requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

-76-

1 (9) A food establishment or food processing plant holding a permit 2 under the Nebraska Milk Act is exempt from the requirements of 3 subsections (1) through (6) of this section.

4 (10) A single event food vendor or a religious, charitable, or of 5 fraternal organization operating type any temporary food establishment, mobile food unit, or pushcart is exempt from the 6 7 requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section. Any such organization operating any nontemporary food establishment prior to July 8 9 1, 1985, is exempt from the requirements of subsection (2) of this section. 10

(11) A permitholder may sell food prepared by the permitholder at the location of another permitholder without obtaining a separate permit at such location so long as the permitholder preparing the food is not a food processing plant. Both the permitholder preparing the food and the permitholder selling the food are responsible for compliance with the Nebraska Pure Food Act.

Sec. 52. Section 81-503.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,2022, is amended to read:

19 81-503.01 (1) The State Fire Marshal shall adopt and promulgate
20 rules and regulations constituting a State Fire Code. At a minimum, the
21 State Fire Code shall cover:

22 (a) The prevention of fires;

(b) The storage, sale, and use of flammable liquids, combustibles,
and fireworks;

(c) Electrical wiring and heating, protection equipment devices,
materials, furnishings, and other safeguards within structures necessary
to promote safety and reduce loss by fire;

(d) The means and adequacy of exits, in case of fire, in assembly,
educational, institutional, residential, mercantile, office, storage, and
industrial-type occupancies as such structures are defined in the State
Fire Code;

-77-

(e) All other buildings, structures, and enclosures in which numbers
 of persons congregate from time to time for any purpose, whether
 privately or publicly owned;

4 (f) Design, construction, location, installation, and operation of
5 equipment for storing, handling, and utilization of liquefied petroleum
6 gases, specifying the odorization of such gases and the degree thereof;

7 (g) Chemicals, prozylin plastics, X-ray nitrocellulose films, or any
8 other hazardous material that may now or hereafter exist;

9 (h) Tanks used for the storage of regulated substances pursuant to 10 the Petroleum Products and Hazardous Substances Storage and Handling Act; 11 and

12 (i) Accessibility standards and specifications adopted pursuant to13 section 81-5,147.

(2) Not later than July 1, 2019, the rules and regulations adopted 14 and promulgated as part of the State Fire Code shall conform generally to 15 the standards recommended by the National Fire Protection Association, 16 Pamphlet Number 1, known as the Fire Code, 2012 edition, the National 17 Fire Protection Association, Pamphlet Number 101, known as the Life 18 Safety Code, 2012 edition, and associated pamphlets, but not when doing 19 so would impose an unduly severe or costly burden without substantially 20 contributing to the safety of persons or property. 21

(3) The State Fire Marshal shall enforce the State Fire Code through
inspections, code compliance, and orders. Plans for compliance with the
State Fire Code shall be reviewed by the State Fire Marshal. Plans
submitted after remodeling or construction has begun shall be accompanied
by a penalty of fifty dollars in addition to the plan review fee
established pursuant to subdivision (4)(a) of section 81-505.01.

(4) Rules and regulations adopted and promulgated as part of the
State Fire Code shall apply to sites or structures in public ownership
listed on the National Register of Historic Places but without destroying
the historic quality thereof.

LB3

2024

Sec. 53. Section 81-505.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
 2022, is amended to read:

3 81-505.01 (1) The State Fire Marshal shall establish and assess fees not to exceed the actual costs for the performance of services by the 4 State Fire Marshal or by qualified local fire prevention personnel to 5 whom the State Fire Marshal has delegated authority to perform such 6 services. Prior to establishing or altering such fees, the State Fire 7 Marshal shall hold a public hearing on the question of the adoption of or 8 9 change in fees. Notice of such hearing shall be given at least thirty days prior thereto (a) by publication in a newspaper having general 10 circulation in the state and (b) by notifying in writing the head of any 11 agency or department having jurisdiction over facilities that would be 12 13 subject to the fees. Fees for services performed by the State Fire Marshal shall be paid to the State Fire Marshal and shall be remitted to 14 the State Treasurer for credit to the State Fire Marshal Cash Fund. Fees 15 for services performed by local fire prevention personnel shall be paid 16 17 directly to the office of the local fire prevention personnel.

(2) The fee for inspection for fire safety of any premises or 18 19 facility pursuant to section 81-502 or 81-503.01 shall be not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred fifty dollars and shall be paid by 20 21 the licensee or applicant for a license. The fee for inspection for fire 22 safety of the same premises or facility made within twelve months after 23 the last prior inspection shall be not less than twenty-five nor more 24 than one hundred fifty dollars and shall be paid by the licensee or 25 applicant for a license. The fees for inspection for fire safety of foster family homes as defined in section 71-1901 may be paid by the 26 27 Department of Health and Human Services.

(3) The fee for providing investigation reports to insurance
 companies shall not exceed three dollars for each report provided. The
 State Fire Marshal may charge an amount not to exceed the actual cost of
 preparation for any other approved information release.

1 (2)(a) (4)(a) The State Fire Marshal shall charge a fee for 2 reviewing plans, blueprints, and shop drawings to determine compliance with rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to section 3 4 81-503.01 or 81-5,147. The State Fire Marshal shall establish such fee in 5 rules and regulations adopted and promulgated to be effective on January 1, 2022. Such fee shall meet the costs of administering the plan review 6 7 requirement found in sections 81-503.01 and 81-5,147 but shall not exceed five hundred dollars. The fee schedule as it existed prior to August 28, 8 9 2021, shall be used through December 31, 2021.

(b) The fees established pursuant to subdivision (a) of this 10 subsection shall not be assessed or collected by any political 11 subdivision to which the State Fire Marshal has delegated the authority 12 13 to conduct such review and which reviews plans, blueprints, or shop 14 drawings to determine compliance with such political subdivision's own fire safety regulations. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed 15 to prohibit such political subdivision from assessing or collecting a fee 16 17 set by its governing board for such review.

18 (c) An additional fee equal to fifty percent of the fee charged 19 pursuant to subdivision (a) of this subsection shall be assessed for 20 reviewing plans, blueprints, and shop drawings to determine compliance 21 with the accessibility standards and specifications adopted pursuant to 22 section 81-5,147, except that the additional fee assessed pursuant to 23 this subdivision shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars.

24 Sec. 54. Section 81-550, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as 25 amended by Laws 2024, LB1069, section 6, is amended to read:

26 81-550 (1) The Nebraska Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Cash Fund is 27 created. The fund shall consist of money received from assessments 28 pursuant to this section which shall be remitted to the State Treasurer 29 for credit to the fund. The Nebraska Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Cash 30 Fund shall be used for purposes of administering the Nebraska Natural Gas 31 Pipeline Safety Act of 1969. The fund shall be administered by the State

-80-

Fire Marshal. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be
 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital
 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

4 (2) To defray the cost of administering the Nebraska Natural Gas 5 Pipeline Safety Act of 1969, the State Fire Marshal shall on March 1 of 6 each year make an assessment against persons having pipeline facilities 7 in this state subject to the act, which assessment shall be paid within 8 thirty days thereafter.

9 (3) The assessment against each such person shall be based on the 10 number of meters such person has in service for the retail sale of gas in 11 this state at the end of the calendar year next preceding such 12 assessment. The amount of such assessment shall be set by the State Fire 13 Marshal in an amount not to exceed fifty cents multiplied by the number 14 of such meters for each such person.

(4) It shall be the duty of the State Fire Marshal to make timely application each year to the United States Government for the maximum funds to which this state may be entitled from the United States Government for the administration of the act.

Sec. 55. Section 81-5,152, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, isamended to read:

81-5,152 The training program as set out in section 81-5,151 for
volunteer fire departments and career fire departments shall be free,
except that the State Fire Marshal may charge for such books and
materials given to the students, testing, or specialized courses.

25 The State Fire Marshal may charge a fee for providing to private 26 fire departments training, books, materials, testing, or specialized 27 courses.

28 The State Fire Marshal shall charge a fee for providing to 29 industrial fire brigades training, books, materials, testing, and 30 specialized courses.

31 Sec. 56. Section 81-5,159, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as

-81-

LB3 2024

1 amended by Laws 2024, LB1069, section 7, is amended to read:

81-5,159 (1) Any water-based fire protection system contractor who
installs, repairs, alters, adds to, maintains, or inspects water-based
fire protection systems in this state shall first obtain a contractor
certificate.

(2) A water-based fire protection system contractor may apply to the 6 State Fire Marshal for a contractor certificate. The application shall be 7 made on a form prescribed by the State Fire Marshal and shall include a 8 9 certificate fee of up to one hundred dollars. Each applicant must designate a responsible managing employee on the application, and such 10 individual's name shall appear on the certificate with that of the water-11 based fire protection system contractor upon issuance. Proof of insurance 12 13 required by section 81-5,160 shall also accompany the application.

(3) Upon receipt of a complete application, proof of insurance, and 14 certificate fee, the State Fire Marshal shall schedule a time for an 15 examination of the responsible managing employee to demonstrate that he 16 or she is familiar with the procedures and rules of the State Fire 17 Marshal relating to water-based fire protection systems. If the 18 19 responsible managing employee passes the examination, the State Fire Marshal shall issue the certificate to the water-based fire protection 20 system contractor within thirty days. 21

22 (4) A certificate shall expire on September 30 of the year following issuance. An application for renewal shall be filed at least ten days 23 24 prior to expiration and shall be accompanied by a renewal fee of up to 25 one hundred dollars and a sworn affidavit that the responsible managing employee is currently employed by the water-based fire protection system 26 contractor. A water-based fire protection system contractor who fails to 27 28 apply for renewal within the time stated in this subsection must make a new application for a certificate. 29

30 (5) A responsible managing employee may only act as such for one 31 water-based fire protection system contractor at a time. When a

-82-

responsible managing employee terminates his or her association with a 1 2 water-based fire protection system contractor, the water-based fire protection system contractor shall notify the State Fire Marshal within 3 4 thirty days after termination. The responsible managing employee shall 5 not be designated as the responsible managing employee for more than two water-based fire protection system contractors in any twelve-month 6 period. The State Fire Marshal shall revoke the certificate of a water-7 based fire protection system contractor whose responsible managing 8 9 employee has terminated his or her association with the water-based fire protection system contractor unless an application designating a new 10 11 responsible managing employee is filed within six months after termination or prior to expiration of the current certificate, whichever 12 13 is earlier.

Sec. 57. Section 81-5,170, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

16 81-5,170 (1) Upon making an inspection of any boilers required to 17 be inspected by the Boiler Inspection Act and upon receipt of the 18 inspection fee and certificate fee or registration fee, the boiler 19 inspector shall give to the owner or user of the boilers a certificate of 20 inspection or certificate of registration upon forms prescribed by the 21 State Fire Marshal. The certificate shall be posted in a place near the 22 location of such boiler.

(2) The State Fire Marshal shall establish the amount of the
 inspection fee, certificate fee, and registration fee by rule or
 regulation at the level necessary to meet the costs of administering the
 act.

27 Sec. 58. Section 81-5,199, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 28 2022, is amended to read:

81-5,199 The State Fire Marshal <u>may</u> shall establish by rules and
 regulations a schedule of permit fees not to exceed fifty dollars for
 each amusement ride. Such permit fees shall be established with due

-83-

regard for the costs of administering the Nebraska Amusement Ride Act.
 Such fees and shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the
 Mechanical Safety Inspection Fund.

Sec. 59. Section 81-5,201, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

6 81-5,201 (1) The State Fire Marshal may establish by rules and 7 regulations a schedule of reasonable inspections fees for each amusement 8 ride. The cost of obtaining the certificate of inspection from a 9 qualified inspector shall be borne by the owner of the amusement ride.

10 (2) A separate schedule of fees shall be established for the 11 inspection of bungee jumping operations, including the inspection of 12 cranes used for bungee jumping. The fees shall be established taking into 13 consideration the cost of such inspections.

Sec. 60. Section 81-5,214, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

81-5,214 (1) The State Fire Marshal shall, after a public hearing 16 17 conducted by the State Fire Marshal or his or her designee, establish a reasonable schedule of fees for licenses, permits, certificates, and 18 19 inspections authorized under the Conveyance Safety Act. The State Fire Marshal shall establish the fees at a level necessary to meet the costs 20 of administering the act. Inspection fee schedules relating to the 21 inspection of conveyances adopted prior to January 1, 2008, shall 22 continue to be effective until they are amended or repealed by the State 23 24 Fire Marshal.

25 (2) The State Fire Marshal shall administer the Conveyance Safety 26 Act. It is the intent of the Legislature that the funding for the 27 administration of the act shall be entirely from cash funds remitted to 28 the Mechanical Safety Inspection Fund that are fees collected in the 29 administration of the act.

30 Sec. 61. Section 81-1117, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

-84-

1

81-1117 (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise

LB3

2024

2 requires, information management includes, but is not limited to:

3 (a) Mainframe computers, minicomputers, microprocessors, word
4 processors, and desktop computers;

5 (b) Any peripheral device to be used with the equipment listed in 6 subdivision (1)(a) of this section for such purposes as data input and 7 output, data storage, or data communications;

8 (c) Any code or program to control the operation of the equipment or
9 devices listed in subdivision (1)(a) or (1)(b) of this section; and

(d) Employment of professional expertise for computer system design,
operations, or program development.

(2) Subject to review and approval by the Chief Information Officer,
the information management services administrator shall have the
following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

(a) He or she may review the accounting and other records and 15 16 reporting systems of all divisions within the Department of 17 Administrative Services and within every other department and agency of 18 the state;

19 (b) He or she shall systematically review the potential application of information management to any work performed outside the information 20 management services division or by any department or agency of the state 21 22 or any subdivision of any department or agency of the state, and if the 23 costs of mechanizing such work will not exceed present costs or if 24 efficiencies may be achieved, he or she may accept responsibility for the performance of such work. He or she may also review computer applications 25 being used to determine if revision or deletion of computer applications 26 would be beneficial. The findings of reviews made pursuant to this 27 28 subdivision shall be reported to the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The findings submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall 29 be submitted electronically; 30

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(c) He or she may, with the approval of the Chief Information

-85-

Officer, make such revisions to internal systems for production of
 accounting and other reports as may be necessary to permit economical
 undertaking of work to be performed by the information management
 services division for any agency or department of the state;

5 (d) He or she shall organize the information management services
6 division to provide system review, system design, feasibility studies,
7 and machine reviews;

(e) He or she may review the operations of information management 8 9 installations as may exist in any department or agency of the state and may cause such operations to be merged with those of the information 10 management services division in the event that a cost analysis shows that 11 economic advantage may be achieved. 12 He or she may permit the 13 establishment of departmental or agency information management operations in any department or agency of the state if his or her analysis of 14 feasibility shows a potential economy or a substantial convenience for 15 16 the state incident to such separate establishment. No state agency shall 17 hire, purchase, lease, or rent any information management item listed in subsection (1) of this section without the written approval of the 18 19 information management services administrator. All new computer programs developed or acquired for use with information management equipment of 20 any state agency shall be documented according to standards developed or 21 22 approved by the information management services administrator;

(f) He or she shall prepare a budget in sufficient time in advance of the statutory date for submittal of budget requests by departments and agencies of the state as to permit each department and agency for which services are performed, or are to be performed during the request budget period, to be informed of the cost of maintaining the current fiscal year's production work for inclusion within their respective budget requests;

30 (g) He or she shall provide for a system of charges for services
 31 rendered by the information management services division <u>or the Nebraska</u>

-86-

Information Technology Commission to any other department or agency of 1 2 the state when these charges are allocable to a particular project carried on by such department or division. Such standard rate charges 3 shall, as nearly as may be practical, reflect the actual costs incurred 4 in the performance of services for such department or agency. Such system 5 of charges shall be annually reviewed by the Legislature's Committee on 6 Appropriations. Rates planned for the coming fiscal year shall be 7 included in the instructions for completion of budget request forms as 8 9 annually prepared by the Department of Administrative Services budget division. If rate revisions are required during the fiscal year to 10 reflect changes in the information management services division's 11 operating costs, these revisions shall be announced to state agencies at 12 least thirty days prior to their use in billing these agencies for 13 service. Miscellaneous supplies shall be billed to using agencies at 14 actual cost. Equipment used primarily by one agency for 15 special 16 applications shall be billed to that agency at actual cost. In the event 17 of saturation of the information management services division with the resulting need for contractual support to be furnished by another 18 information management installation, agencies shall be billed at actual 19 cost. The charges received by the department for information management 20 services shall be credited to a fund hereby created which shall be known 21 as the Information Management Revolving Fund. Expenditures shall be made 22 23 from such fund to finance the operations of the information management 24 services division or the Nebraska Information Technology Commission in accordance with appropriations made by the Legislature. Any money in the 25 Information Management Revolving Fund available for investment shall be 26 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 27 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act; 28

(h) He or she may provide information management services and
technical assistance to any subdivision of government as provided for
under the Interlocal Cooperation Act or the Joint Public Agency Act;

-87-

1 (i) He or she shall provide for the centralization of all 2 administrative work, including that of educational institutions, into the 3 information management services division;

4 (j) He or she shall provide definitions of standards and common data 5 elements, coordinate the collection of data, consolidate data files or 6 data banks, and review and approve or disapprove the establishment of 7 separate data banks; and

8 (k) He or she shall provide assistance as requested by the Nebraska 9 Information Technology Commission to support the technical panel created 10 in section 86-521.

11 Each member of the Legislature shall receive an electronic copy of 12 the report required by subdivision (2)(b) of this section by making a 13 request for it to the administrator.

14 Sec. 62. Section 81-1213.05, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is 15 amended to read:

16 81-1213.05 The Youth Outdoor Education Innovation Fund is created. 17 The fund shall consist of transfers made by the Legislature and any gifts, grants, bequests, donations, or money remitted pursuant to section 18 81-1213.04 for credit to the fund. The Department of Economic Development 19 shall administer the fund for the purposes described in section 20 81-1213.04. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be 21 22 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 23 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. <u>Investment</u> earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the 24 25 fund.

26 Sec. 63. Section 81-1230, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 27 2022, is amended to read:

81-1230 (1) The Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund is created. Funding for the grant program described in section 81-1229 shall come from the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund. The Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund may include revenue from appropriations from the

-88-

Legislature, grants, private contributions, and other sources. 1 In 2 addition, the State Treasurer shall make a one-time transfer of seven million three hundred thousand dollars on or before October 1, 2017, from 3 the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to the Rural Workforce Housing 4 Investment Fund. Any money in the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund 5 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 6 7 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. 8

9 (2) The department shall administer the Rural Workforce Housing 10 Investment Fund and may seek additional private or nonstate funds to use 11 in the grant program, including, but not limited to, contributions from 12 the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority and other interested parties.

13 (3) Interest earned by the department on grant funds shall be
 14 applied to the grant program.

15 (3) (4) If a nonprofit development organization fails to engage in 16 the initial qualified activity within twenty-four months after receiving 17 initial grant funding, the nonprofit development organization shall 18 return the grant funds to the department for credit to the General Fund.

19 <u>(4)</u> (5) If a nonprofit development organization fails to allocate 20 any remaining initial grant funding on a qualified activity within 21 twenty-four months after engaging in the initial qualified activity, the 22 nonprofit development organization shall return such unallocated grant 23 funds to the department for credit to the Rural Workforce Housing 24 Investment Fund.

(5) (6) Beginning July 1, 2027, any funds held by the department in
 the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Fund shall be transferred to the
 General Fund.

28 Sec. 64. Section 81-1239, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 29 amended by Laws 2024, LB164, section 17, is amended to read:

30 81-1239 (1) The Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund is
 31 created. Funding for the grant program described in section 81-1238 shall

-89-

come from the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund. The Middle 1 2 Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund may include revenue from appropriations from the Legislature, grants, private contributions, and 3 4 other sources. Any money in the Middle Income Workforce Housing 5 Investment Fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the 6 7 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

8 (2) The department shall establish a subaccount within the Middle 9 Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund that shall be used to fund 10 affordable housing and related land parcel preparation activities under 11 the Economic Recovery Act as described in subdivisions (4)(d) and (e) of 12 section 81-12,241.

(3) The department shall administer the Middle Income Workforce
Housing Investment Fund and may seek additional private or nonstate funds
to use in the grant program, including, but not limited to, contributions
from the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority and other interested
parties.

18 (4) Interest earned by the department on grant funds shall be
 19 applied to the grant program.

(4) (5) If a nonprofit development organization, or a recipient of 20 subaccount funds described in subsection (2) of this section, fails to 21 22 engage in a qualified activity within twenty-four months after receiving 23 initial grant funding, the nonprofit development organization or 24 recipient of subaccount funds shall return the grant proceeds to the 25 department for credit to the General Fund.

(5) (6) Beginning July 1, 2029, any funds held by the department in
 the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund shall be transferred
 to the General Fund.

Sec. 65. Section 81-15,151, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
 2022, is amended to read:

31 81-15,151 (1)(a) The Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction

-90-

Loan Fund is hereby created. The fund shall be held as a trust fund for
 the purposes and uses described in the Wastewater Treatment Facilities
 Construction Assistance Act.

4 (b) The fund shall consist of federal capitalization grants, state matching appropriations, repayments of principal and interest on loans, 5 transfers made pursuant to section 71-5327, and other money designated 6 7 for the fund. The director may make loans from the fund pursuant to the act and may use (i) up to four percent of all federal capitalization 8 9 grant awards to the fund, (ii) up to four hundred thousand dollars per year, or (iii) the equivalent of one-fifth percent per year of the 10 current valuation of the fund for the reasonable cost of administering 11 the fund and conducting activities under Title VI of the federal Clean 12 Water Act. 13

(c) The state investment officer shall invest any money in the fund 14 available for investment pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act 15 16 and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act, except that (i) amounts designated by the director for use in the linked deposit program shall be 17 deposited with eligible financial institutions by the director and (ii) 18 any bond proceeds in the fund shall be invested in accordance with the 19 terms of the documents under which the bonds are issued. The state 20 investment officer may direct that the bond proceeds shall be deposited 21 with the bond trustee for investment. Investment earnings shall be 22 23 credited to the fund.

(d) The department may create or direct the creation of accounts
within the fund as the department determines to be appropriate and useful
in administering the fund and in providing for the security, investment,
and repayment of bonds.

(e) The fund and the assets thereof may be used, to the extent permitted by the Clean Water Act, as amended, and the regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act, (i) to pay or to secure the payment of bonds and the interest thereon, except that amounts deposited into the

-91-

fund from state appropriations and the earnings on such appropriations 1 2 may not be used to pay or to secure the payment of bonds or the interest thereon, (ii) to deposit as provided by the linked deposit program, and 3 4 (iii) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of municipalities for wastewater treatment works if the debt was incurred and construction was 5 begun after March 7, 1985. Eligibility and terms of such refinancing 6 7 shall be in accordance with the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act. 8

9 (f) The director may transfer any money in the Wastewater Treatment 10 Facilities Construction Loan Fund to the Drinking Water Facilities Loan 11 Fund to meet the purposes of section 71-5327. The director shall identify 12 any such transfer in the intended use plan presented to the council for 13 annual review and adoption pursuant to section 71-5321.

(2)(a) There is hereby created the Construction Administration Fund. 14 Any funds available for administering loans or fees collected pursuant to 15 16 the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act shall be deposited in such fund. The fund shall be administered by the department 17 for the purposes of the act. The state investment officer shall invest 18 19 any money in the fund available for investment pursuant to the Nebraska 20 Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Investment earnings shall be credited to the fund. 21

(b) The Construction Administration Fund and assets thereof may be used, to the extent permitted by the Clean Water Act and the regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act, to fund subdivisions (11), (12), and (13) of section 81-15,153. The annual obligation of the state pursuant to subdivisions (11) and (13) of such section shall not exceed sixty-five percent of the revenue from administrative fees collected pursuant to this section in the prior fiscal year.

(c) The director may transfer any money in the Construction
 Administration Fund to the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction
 Loan Fund to meet the nonfederal match requirements of any applicable

-92-

federal capitalization grants or to meet the purposes of subdivision (11)
 of section 81-15,153.

Sec. 66. Section 81-15,174.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
is amended to read:

5 (1) The Nebraska Environmental Endowment Fund is 81-15,174.01 created. The fund shall be used to carry out the purposes of the Nebraska 6 Environmental Trust Act. The fund shall include proceeds designated by 7 the board pursuant to section 81-15,173, including grants from the 8 9 Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund. Grants from the Nebraska Environmental 10 Trust Fund to the Nebraska Environmental Endowment Fund shall be no more than twice the total of any other proceeds received by the Nebraska 11 Environmental Endowment Fund for the same year. Such grants, considered 12 13 in the aggregate, shall in no case exceed fifty percent of the total proceeds credited to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund pursuant to 14 section 9-812 for that year. 15

16 (2) Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested 17 by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 18 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. <u>Any investment</u> 19 <u>earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the</u> 20 <u>fund.</u>

21 <u>(3)</u> Allocations received by the Nebraska Environmental Endowment 22 Fund from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund shall not be reallocated 23 by the board, but shall remain invested. Any interest income earned by 24 the Nebraska Environmental Endowment Fund shall be available for 25 allocation by the board as provided in section 81-15,175.

26 Sec. 67. Section 81-1835, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 27 amended to read:

81-1835 The Victim's Compensation Fund is created. The fund shall be used to pay awards or judgments under the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act other than distributions from the Community Trust. The fund shall include deposits pursuant to sections 29-2286, 33-157,

-93-

81-1836, 83-183.01, and 83-184 and donations or contributions from public 1 2 or private sources and shall be in such amount as the Legislature shall determine to be reasonably sufficient to meet anticipated claims. When 3 4 the amount of money in the fund is not sufficient to pay any awards or 5 judgments under the act, the Director of Administrative Services shall 6 immediately advise the Legislature and request an emergency appropriation to satisfy such awards and judgments. Any money in the fund available for 7 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to 8 9 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the 10 fund shall be credited to the fund. 11

12 Sec. 68. Section 84-612, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 13 amended by Laws 2024, LB600, section 9, and Laws 2024, LB1413, section 14 58, is amended to read:

84-612 (1) There is hereby created within the state treasury a fund
known as the Cash Reserve Fund which shall be under the direction of the
State Treasurer. The fund shall only be used pursuant to this section.

18 (2) The State Treasurer shall transfer funds from the Cash Reserve 19 Fund to the General Fund upon certification by the Director of 20 Administrative Services that the current cash balance in the General Fund 21 is inadequate to meet current obligations. Such certification shall 22 include the dollar amount to be transferred. Any transfers made pursuant 23 to this subsection shall be reversed upon notification by the Director of 24 Administrative Services that sufficient funds are available.

(3) In addition to receiving transfers from other funds, the Cash
Reserve Fund shall receive federal funds received by the State of
Nebraska for undesignated general government purposes, federal revenue
sharing, or general fiscal relief of the state.

(4) The State Treasurer shall transfer fifteen million eight hundred
forty-one thousand dollars from the Governor's Emergency Cash Fund to the
Cash Reserve Fund on or before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such

-94-

amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of
 the Department of Administrative Services.

3 (5) The State Treasurer shall transfer one hundred sixty-six million 4 six hundred seventy-three thousand five hundred eighty dollars from the 5 Cash Reserve Fund to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund on or after 6 July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such amounts 7 as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the 8 Department of Administrative Services.

9 (6) No funds shall be transferred from the Cash Reserve Fund to 10 fulfill the obligations created under the Nebraska Property Tax Incentive 11 Act unless the balance in the Cash Reserve Fund after such transfer will 12 be at least equal to five hundred million dollars.

13 (7) The State Treasurer shall transfer ten million dollars from the 14 Cash Reserve Fund to the School Safety and Security Fund as soon as 15 administratively possible after September 2, 2023, on such dates and in 16 such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 17 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(8) The State Treasurer shall transfer three million dollars from
the Cash Reserve Fund to the Risk Loss Trust on or before June 30, 2024,
on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator
of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(9) The State Treasurer shall transfer eleven million three hundred twenty thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Health and Human Services Cash Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but on or before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(10) The State Treasurer shall transfer five hundred seventy-four
million five hundred thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the
Perkins County Canal Project Fund on or before June 30, 2024, on such
dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the

-95-

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budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

2 (11) The State Treasurer shall transfer one million one hundred 3 fifteen thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Public Safety 4 Cash Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such 5 dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the 6 budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

7 (12) The State Treasurer shall transfer five million dollars from 8 the Cash Reserve Fund to the Nebraska Public Safety Communication System 9 Revolving Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on 10 such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of 11 the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

12 (13) The State Treasurer shall transfer two million four hundred 13 twenty-five thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Nebraska 14 Public Safety Communication System Revolving Fund on or after July 1, 15 2024, but before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as 16 directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the 17 Department of Administrative Services.

(14) The State Treasurer shall transfer seventy million dollars from
the Cash Reserve Fund to the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment
Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates
and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget
division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(15) The State Treasurer shall transfer two million dollars from the
Cash Reserve Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund on or after
July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such amounts
as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the
Department of Administrative Services.

(16) The State Treasurer shall transfer twenty million dollars from
the Cash Reserve Fund to the Economic Development Cash Fund on or after
July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such amounts
as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the

-96-

1 Department of Administrative Services.

2 (17) The State Treasurer shall transfer two hundred forty million 3 dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Economic Recovery Contingency 4 Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates 5 and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 6 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

7 (18) The State Treasurer shall transfer ten million dollars from the 8 Cash Reserve Fund to the Critical Infrastructure Facilities Cash Fund on 9 or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in 10 such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget 11 division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(19) The State Treasurer shall transfer four hundred forty million dollars from the General Fund to the Cash Reserve Fund on or after July 14 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such amounts as 15 directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the 16 Department of Administrative Services.

17 (20) The State Treasurer shall transfer four million dollars from 18 the Cash Reserve Fund to the General Fund on or after July 1, 2024, but 19 before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by 20 the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of 21 Administrative Services.

(21) The State Treasurer shall transfer twenty-nine million four
hundred fifty-eight thousand eight hundred dollars from the Cash Reserve
Fund to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund on or after July 1, 2024,
but before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed
by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of
Administrative Services.

(22) The State Treasurer shall transfer two million five hundred
thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Materiel Division
Revolving Fund on or after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on
such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of

-97-

1 the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

2 (23) The State Treasurer shall transfer ten million dollars from the 3 Cash Reserve Fund to the Youth Outdoor Education Innovation Fund on or 4 after July 1, 2023, but before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such 5 amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of 6 the Department of Administrative Services.

7 (24) The State Treasurer shall transfer twenty-eight million dollars 8 from the Jobs and Economic Development Initiative Fund to the Cash 9 Reserve Fund on or before June 30, 2024, on such dates and in such 10 amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of 11 the Department of Administrative Services.

12 (25) The State Treasurer shall transfer five million dollars from 13 the Cash Reserve Fund to the State Insurance Fund on or before July 10, 14 2024, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 15 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 16 Services.

17 (26) The State Treasurer shall transfer three million five hundred 18 thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Health and Human 19 Services Cash Fund on or after July 1, 2024, but on or before June 30, 20 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 21 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative 22 Services.

(27) The State Treasurer shall transfer three million two hundred
fifty thousand dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the State Insurance
Fund as soon as possible after the effective date of this act, on such
dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the
budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

(28) The State Treasurer shall transfer five million dollars from
the Cash Reserve Fund to the Municipality Infrastructure Aid Fund on or
after July 1, 2024, but before July 15, 2024, on such dates and in such
amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of

-98-

the Department of Administrative Services. 1 2 (29) The State Treasurer shall transfer twenty-five million dollars 3 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Governor's Emergency Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2025, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by 4 5 the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of 6 Administrative Services. 7 (30) The State Treasurer shall transfer ten million dollars from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Governor's Emergency Cash Fund on or before June 8 9 30, 2026, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 10 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. 11 (31) The State Treasurer shall transfer two hundred million dollars 12 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the General Fund on or before June 30, 13 2027, on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget 14 15 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. 16 17 Sec. 69. Section 84-1314, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 18 amended to read: 19 84-1314 (1) The State Employees Defined Contribution Retirement Expense Fund is created. The fund shall be credited with money from the 20 retirement system assets and income sufficient to pay the pro rata share 21

22 of administrative expenses incurred as directed by the board for the proper administration of the State Employees Retirement Act and necessary 23 24 in connection with the administration and operation of the retirement 25 system, except as provided in sections 84-1309.02, 84-1310.01, and 84-1311.03. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be 26 27 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment 28 earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the 29 fund. 30

31 (2) The State Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund is

-99-

created. The fund shall be credited with money forfeited pursuant to 1 2 section 84-1321.01 and with money from the retirement system assets and income sufficient to pay the pro rata share of administrative expenses 3 4 incurred as directed by the board for the proper administration of the 5 State Employees Retirement Act and necessary in connection with the administration and operation of the retirement system, except as provided 6 in sections 84-1309.02, 84-1310.01, and 84-1311.03. Any money in the fund 7 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment 8 9 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of 10 money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 11

12 (3) Forfeiture funds collected from members participating in the 13 defined contribution benefit shall be used to either pay expenses or 14 reduce employer contributions related to the defined contribution 15 benefit. Any unused funds shall be allocated as earnings of and 16 transferred to the accounts of the remaining members within twelve months 17 after receipt of the funds by the board.

Sec. 70. Section 84-1321.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

84-1321.01 (1) For a member who has terminated employment and is not 20 vested, the balance of the member's employer account or employer cash 21 balance account shall be forfeited. The forfeited account shall be 22 credited to the State Employees Retirement Fund and shall first be used 23 24 to meet the expense charges incurred by the retirement board in 25 connection with administering the retirement system, which charges shall be credited to the State Employees Defined Contribution Retirement 26 Expense Fund, if the member participated in the defined contribution 27 28 option, or to the State Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund, if the member participated in the cash balance option, and the remainder, 29 if any, shall then be used to restore employer accounts or employer cash 30 balance accounts. Except as provided in subsection (3) of section 84-1314 31

-100-

and subdivision (4)(c) of section 84-1319, no forfeited amounts shall be
 applied to increase the benefits any member would otherwise receive under
 the State Employees Retirement Act.

4 (2) If a member ceases to be an employee due to the termination of 5 his or her employment by the state and a grievance or other appeal of the 6 termination is filed, transactions involving forfeiture of his or her 7 employer account or employer cash balance account and transactions for 8 payment of benefits under sections 84-1317 and 84-1321 shall be suspended 9 pending the final outcome of the grievance or other appeal.

10 (3) The State Employer Retirement Expense Fund is created. The fund shall be administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board. Prior to 11 July 1, 2012, the fund shall be used to meet expenses of the State 12 Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska whether such 13 14 expenses are incurred in administering the member's employer account or in administering the member's employer cash balance account when the 15 16 funds available in the State Employees Defined Contribution Retirement 17 Expense Fund or State Employees Cash Balance Retirement Expense Fund make such use reasonably necessary. On July 1, 2012, or as soon as practicable 18 19 thereafter, any money in the State Employer Retirement Expense Fund shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to the State Employees Retirement 20 Fund and credited to the cash balance benefit established in section 21 22 84-1309.02.

23 (4) Prior to July 1, 2012, the director of the Nebraska Public 24 Employees Retirement Systems shall certify to the Accounting 25 Administrator of the Department of Administrative Services when accumulated employer account forfeiture funds are available to reduce the 26 state contribution which would otherwise be required to fund future 27 service retirement benefits or to restore employer accounts or employer 28 cash balance accounts referred to in subsection (1) of this section. 29 Following such certification, the Accounting Administrator shall transfer 30 31 the amount reduced from the state contribution from the Imprest Payroll

-101-

Distributive Fund to the State Employer Retirement Expense Fund. Expenses 1 2 incurred as a result of the state depositing amounts into the State Employer Retirement Expense Fund shall be deducted prior to 3 anv additional expenses being allocated. Any remaining amount shall be 4 allocated in accordance with subsection (3) of this section. Any money in 5 the State Employer Retirement Expense Fund available for investment shall 6 7 be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any 8 investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be 9 credited to the fund. 10

11 Sec. 71. Section 84-1506.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 12 is amended to read:

13 84-1506.01 All expenses necessary in connection with the administration and operation of the deferred compensation plan authorized 14 in section 84-1504 shall be paid from the Deferred Compensation Expense 15 16 Fund which is hereby created. The fund shall be credited with the 17 proportionate share of administration expenses from the deferred compensation plan assets and income as directed by the Public Employees 18 Retirement Board for the proper administration of the plan. Any money in 19 the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state 20 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the 21 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment earnings from 22 investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 23

24 Sec. 72. Section 85-1654, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 25 amended to read:

26 85-1654 The Tuition Recovery Cash Fund is hereby established. The 27 fund shall be a cash fund used to receive assessments imposed under 28 section 85-1656 and to pay claims authorized under section 85-1657. Any 29 money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state 30 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the 31 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. <u>Any interest earned by the fund</u>

-102-

1 shall accrue to the fund.

Sec. 73. Section 85-1920, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is
amended to read:

85-1920 The Nebraska Opportunity Grant Fund is created. Money in the 4 5 fund shall include amounts transferred pursuant to section 79-3501 from the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund or, until June 30, 2024, the 6 Nebraska Education Improvement Fund. All amounts accruing to the Nebraska 7 Opportunity Grant Fund shall be used to carry out the Nebraska 8 9 Opportunity Grant Act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the 10 Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment 11 Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the fund shall 12 be credited to the fund. 13

14 Sec. 74. Section 85-3112, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 15 amended by Laws 2024, LB1284, section 20, is amended to read:

16 85-3112 (1) The Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund is created. The 17 fund shall consist of transfers by the Legislature, transfers pursuant to 18 section 79-3501, and loan repayments, penalties, and interest payments 19 received in the course of administering the Attracting Excellence to 20 Teaching Program and the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program.

(2)(a) For all fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2024, the
commission shall allocate on an annual basis up to two hundred fifty
thousand dollars of the funds transferred pursuant to section 79-3501 for
grants to teachers pursuant to the Career-Readiness and Dual-Credit
Education Grant Program.

(b) For all fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2024, the commission shall allocate on an annual basis up to five hundred thousand dollars of the funds transferred pursuant to section 79-3501 exclusively for loans to any eligible student who is enrolling in a student-teaching semester during the award year pursuant to the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program. The funds shall be distributed to all eligible

LB3 2024

-103-

institutions according to the distribution formula as determined by rule
and regulation. The eligible institutions shall act as agents of the
commission in the distribution of the funds to any eligible student for a
student-teaching semester.

(c) Of the funds remaining in the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund 5 after the distributions pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) of this 6 subsection, for all fiscal years, the commission shall allocate on an 7 annual basis up to four hundred thousand dollars in the aggregate of the 8 9 funds to be distributed for the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program to all eligible institutions according to the distribution formula as 10 determined by rule and regulation. The eligible institutions shall act as 11 agents of the commission in the distribution of the funds for the 12 13 Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program to eligible students. The commission shall allocate on an annual basis up to eight hundred thousand 14 dollars of the remaining available funds to be distributed to eligible 15 16 students for the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program. Funding amounts granted in excess of one million two hundred thousand dollars 17 shall be evenly divided for distribution between the two programs. 18

(3) Any money in the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund available for
investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to
the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
Investment Act. Any investment earnings from investment of money in the
fund shall be credited to the fund.

24 Sec. 75. Section 85-3211, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, is 25 amended to read:

26 85-3211 The Door to College Scholarship Fund is created. The 27 commission shall administer the fund, which shall consist of amounts 28 transferred from the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund pursuant to 29 section 79-3501 prior to July 1, 2029, as well as any money transferred 30 by the Legislature and gifts, grants, or bequests from any source, 31 including federal, state, public, and private sources. All amounts

-104-

accruing to the Door to College Scholarship Fund shall be used to carry out the Door to College Scholarship Act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. <u>Any investment earnings from investment of money in the</u> fund shall be credited to the fund.

Sec. 76. Section 86-324, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as
amended by Laws 2024, LB1413, section 59, is amended to read:

9 86-324 (1) The Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund is hereby created. The fund shall provide the assistance necessary to make 10 universal access to telecommunications services available to all persons 11 in the state consistent with the policies set forth in the Nebraska 12 13 Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act. 0nlv eliqible telecommunications companies designated by the commission shall be 14 eligible to receive support to serve high-cost areas from the fund. A 15 16 telecommunications company that receives such support shall use that 17 support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. Any such support should 18 be explicit and sufficient to achieve the purpose of the act. 19

20 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 86-124, in addition to
21 other provisions of the act, and to the extent not prohibited by federal
22 law, the commission:

23 Shall authority and (a) have power to subject eligible 24 telecommunications companies to service quality, customer service, and billing regulations. Such regulations shall apply only to the extent of 25 any telecommunications services or offerings made by an eligible 26 telecommunications company which are eligible for support by the fund. 27 The commission shall be reimbursed from the fund for all costs related to 28 drafting, implementing, and enforcing the regulations and any other 29 services provided on behalf of customers pursuant to this subdivision; 30

31 (b) Shall have authority and power to issue orders carrying out its

-105-

responsibilities and to review the compliance of any eligible
 telecommunications company receiving support for continued compliance
 with any such orders or regulations adopted pursuant to the act;

4 (c) May withhold all or a portion of the funds to be distributed 5 from any telecommunications company failing to continue compliance with 6 the commission's orders or regulations;

7 (d) Shall withhold support distributed from the fund from any 8 telecommunications company using or providing communications any 9 equipment or service deemed to pose a threat to national security identified on the Covered List developed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 1.50002, 10 as such regulation existed on January 1, 2023, and published by the 11 Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau of the Federal Communications 12 Commission pursuant to the federal Secure and Trusted Communications 13 Networks Act of 2019, 47 U.S.C. 1601 et seq., as such act existed on 14 January 1, 2023, and the rules adopted pursuant to such act by the 15 16 Federal Communications Commission on November 11, 2022, in its Report and telecommunications 17 Order FCC 22-84. Any company that removes, discontinues, or replaces any communications equipment or 18 service 19 identified on the Covered List described in this subdivision in 20 compliance with federal law shall not be required to obtain any additional permits from any state agency or political subdivision in the 21 removal, discontinuance, or replacement of such communications equipment 22 or service as long as the state agency or political subdivision is 23 24 properly notified of the necessary replacements and the replacement of any communications equipment is similar to the existing communications 25 equipment; 26

(e) Shall require every telecommunications company to contribute to 27 any universal service mechanism established by the commission pursuant to 28 state law. The commission shall require, as reasonably necessary, an 29 annual audit of any telecommunications company to be performed by a 30 31 third-party certified public accountant to insure the billing,

-106-

collection, and remittance of a surcharge for universal service. The
 costs of any audit required pursuant to this subdivision shall be paid by
 the telecommunications company being audited;

4 (f) Shall require an audit of information provided by а telecommunications company to be performed by a third-party certified 5 public accountant for purposes of calculating universal service fund 6 payments to such telecommunications company. The costs of any audit 7 required pursuant to this subdivision shall be 8 paid bv the 9 telecommunications company being audited; and

(g) May administratively fine pursuant to section 75-156 any person
 who violates the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act.

(3) Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested
by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital
Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

(4)(a) Transfers may be made from earnings on the Nebraska
Telecommunications Universal Service Fund to the 211 Cash Fund or the
General Fund at the direction of the Legislature.

(b) The State Treasurer shall transfer one million two hundred
seventy-five thousand dollars on July 1, 2023, from the earnings on the
Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund to the 211 Cash Fund.
The State Treasurer shall transfer one million four hundred fifty-five
thousand dollars on July 1, 2024, from the earnings on the Nebraska
Telecommunications Universal Service Fund to the 211 Cash Fund.

(c) <u>Any investment earnings from investment of money in the Nebraska</u>
<u>Telecommunications Universal Service Fund remaining after transfers to</u>
<u>the 211 Cash Fund shall be credited to the General Fund.</u> <del>On June 30,</del>
<del>2025, the State Treasurer shall transfer all earnings on the Nebraska</del>
<u>Telecommunications Universal Service Fund, less any transfers made to the</u>
<u>211 Cash Fund in such fiscal year, to the General Fund.</u>

30 Sec. 77. Section 89-187, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
31 2022, is amended to read:

-107-

89-187 For purposes of administering and enforcing the Weights and
 Measures Act, the director is authorized to:

3 (1) Maintain traceability of the primary standards to the National
4 Institute of Standards and Technology;

5

(2) Enforce the provisions of the Weights and Measures Act;

6 (3) Adopt and promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for the7 enforcement of the act including the following:

8 (a) Requirements for the voluntary registration of sales and repair9 personnel for commercial weighing and measuring devices including:

(i) Registration fees for such personnel which shall not exceed the
actual cost to defray the operation of the voluntary registration
program;

13 (ii)(A) Qualifications for registration, which include may examinations, (B) performance standards to maintain registration, (C) 14 types of equipment necessary for the work to be performed by the 15 personnel, (D) responsibilities and privileges of registration, and (E) 16 17 revocation and suspension of such registration and probation of the registrant; and 18

(iii) Minimum standards for the installation and maintenance ofcommercial weighing and measuring devices;

21 (b) Additional standards not specifically provided for in the act;

(c) Standards for (i) attachments or parts entering into the construction or installation of commercial weighing and measuring devices which shall tend to secure correct results in the use of such devices and (ii) the setting of laboratory fees which shall not exceed the actual cost for testing, correcting, calibrating, and verifying secondary standards and the establishment of standard laboratory operating procedures;

(d) Requirements for the suitable use of commercial weighing andmeasuring devices; and

31 (e) Guidelines for the appropriate method of weighing or measuring

-108-

whenever the director determines that such guidelines would further the
 purpose of the act;

3 (4) Establish standards of weight, measure, or count, reasonable
4 standards of fill, and standards for the presentation of cost-per-unit
5 information for any commodity;

(5) Upon an application filed with the department by the applicant, 6 grant exemptions, including specific exemptions for single-use commercial 7 weighing and measuring devices, from the provisions of the act or the 8 9 rules and regulations when the applicant on such application provides 10 assurances, acceptable to the director, that such exemption is appropriate to the maintenance of good commercial practices within the 11 state. Notwithstanding any other provision of the act, meters used by a 12 13 public utility system for the measurement of electricity, natural or 14 manufactured gas, water, or the usage of communication services, the appliances or accessories associated with such meters, and all weighing 15 16 and measuring devices inspected or tested by the Public Service 17 Commission shall be exempt from the registration, inspection, and testing requirements of the act, except that this exemption shall not apply to 18 19 meters which determine the weight or measurement of motor fuel;

20

(6) Conduct investigations to insure compliance with the act;

(7) Delegate to appropriate personnel any of these responsibilities
for the proper administration of the director's office;

(8) In his or her discretion, inspect and test weighing and
measuring devices kept for sale or sold;

(9) Inspect and test annually and from time to time, as in the
director's judgment seems necessary, to ascertain whether commercial
weighing and measuring devices are correct;

(10) Register and test as far as practical all commercial weighing
and measuring devices used in checking the receipt or disbursement of
supplies in every institution for which funds are appropriated by the
Legislature;

-109-

1 (11) Test annually and at the request of the Nebraska State Patrol 2 all weighing and measuring devices used for the enforcement of sections 3 60-3,144, 60-3,147, and 60-6,294. The agency responsible for such 4 weighing and measuring devices shall pay the department for the actual 5 cost of such tests. The department shall bill test fees to such agency 6 upon completion of the test;

(12) Approve for use and may mark commercial weighing and measuring 7 devices which the director finds to be correct and shall reject and mark 8 9 or tag as rejected such commercial weighing and measuring devices which the director finds to be not correct or not registered and inspected in 10 accordance with the Weights and Measures Act. Commercial weighing and 11 measuring devices that have been rejected may be seized if not made 12 correct within the time specified or if used or disposed of in a manner 13 not specifically authorized. The director shall condemn and may seize 14 commercial weighing and measuring devices which are found not to be 15 16 correct and not capable of being made correct;

17 (13) Weigh, measure, or inspect commodities kept for sale, sold, or in the process of delivery to determine whether they contain the amounts 18 19 represented and whether they are kept for sale or sold in accordance with the act or the rules and regulations. When commodities are found not to 20 contain the amounts represented or are found to be kept for sale, sold, 21 or in the process of delivery in violation of the act, the director may 22 23 issue stop-sale, hold, or removal orders and may mark or tag such 24 commodities as being in violation of the act. In carrying out the 25 provisions of this section, the director shall employ recognized procedures pursuant to subdivisions (1)(b) through (d) of section 89-186; 26

(14) Provide for the weights and measures training of inspection
personnel and adopt and promulgate by rule and regulation minimum
training requirements which shall be met by all inspection personnel;

30 (15) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations prescribing the31 appropriate term or unit of measurement to be used whenever the director

-110-

determines in the case of a specific commodity that an existing practice of declaring the quantity by weight, measure, numerical count, or combination thereof does not facilitate value comparisons by consumers or offers an opportunity for consumer confusion;

5 (16) Allow reasonable variations from the stated quantity of 6 contents which shall include those caused by loss or gain of moisture 7 during the course of good distribution practice or by unavoidable 8 deviations in good manufacturing practice only after the commodity has 9 entered intrastate commerce;

10 (17) Verify advertised prices, price representations, and point-of-11 sale systems, as deemed necessary, to determine: (a) The accuracy of 12 prices, quantity, and computations; (b) the correct use of the equipment; 13 and (c) if such systems utilize scanning or coding means in lieu of 14 manual entry, the accuracy of prices and quantity printed or recalled 15 from a database;

16 (18) On or before July 1 of each year, notify all persons who have 17 registered any commercial weighing or measuring device of the amount of 18 fees which are due and that the fees are due on August 1 and shall be 19 delinquent after such date;

(19) Require all persons who operate a weighing and measuring
establishment to obtain a permit to operate such establishment pursuant
to section 89-187.01 and to pay to the department an application permit
fee pursuant to section 89-187.02;

(20) Require all persons who operate a weighing and measuring
establishment to, on or before August 1 of each year:

(a) Register each commercial weighing and measuring device with the
 department upon forms furnished by the director;

(b) Pay to the department a registration fee of four dollars; and
(c) Pay to the department a device inspection fee. <u>The device</u>
<u>inspection fee shall be due each August 1.</u>

31 (i) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (ii) of this

1	subdivision, the fees shall be as follows:			
2	(A) For scales:			
3	<u>Up through 35 pounds capacity: \$14.34</u>			
4	<u>Multiunit Scales: \$80.37</u>			
5	Over 35 through 1,000 pounds capacity: \$25.35			
6	Over 1,000 through 4,000 pounds capacity: \$51.03			
7	<u>Over 4,000 through 50,000 pounds capacity: \$58.36</u>			
8	Over 50,000 through 150,000 pounds capacity: \$62.03			
9	<u>Over 150,000 pounds capacity: \$135.40</u>			
10	(B) For Length Measure Devices:			
11	<u>Cordage or fabric: \$27.55</u>			
12	(C) For Pumps:			
13	Service Station Dispensers—per measuring element: \$9.94			
14	<u>High-capacity service station dispensers over 20 gallons per minute–</u>			
15	per dispensing element: \$29.02			
16	<u>Compressed natural gas—per dispensing element: \$142.74</u>			
17	(D) For Meters:			
18	<u>Vehicle tank meters: \$23.88</u>			
19	Loading rack meters: \$51.03			
20	<u>Liquid petroleum gas meters: \$63.50</u>			
21	Liquid fertilizer and herbicide meters: \$58.36			
22	<u>Liquid feed meters: \$58.36</u>			
23	Cryogenic: \$84.04			
24	(E) For Mass Flow Metering Systems:			
25	Mass flow meters (all liquid): \$122.19; and			
26	<u>(ii) The director may increase or decrease fees each year. The fees</u>			
27	shall be determined by increasing or decreasing annually by the			
28	percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most			
29	recent year ending before the beginning of such year and the Consumer			
30	Price Index for the year 1989 or as required to pay all reasonable direct			
31	and indirect costs of administering the Weights and Measures Act. For			

purposes of this section, Consumer Price Index means the change in the price of goods and services for all urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor at the close of the twelve-month period

4 <u>ending on August 31 of each year; and</u>

5 (i) The device inspection fee shall be due each August 1 and shall 6 be set by the director on or before July 1 of each year. The director may 7 raise or lower the device inspection fees each year to meet the criteria in this subdivision, but the fee shall not be greater than the amount in 8 9 column B of subdivision (20)(c)(ii) of this section. The same percentage 10 shall be applied to each device category for all device inspection fee 11 increases or decreases. The director shall use the amounts in column A of 12 subdivision (20)(c)(ii) of this section as a base for future fee 13 increases or decreases. The director shall determine the fees based on 14 estimated annual revenue and fiscal year-end cash fund balances as 15 follows:

(A) The estimated annual revenue shall not be greater than one
 hundred seven percent of program cash fund appropriations allocated for
 the Weights and Measures Act; and

(B) The estimated fiscal year-end cash fund balance shall not be
 greater than seventeen percent of program cash fund appropriations
 allocated for the act.

22 <del>(ii)</del>

23 Scales: ₿ A 24 Up through 35 pounds capacity 14.34 7.96 25 Multiunit Scales <del>51.00</del> 80.37 26 Over 35 through 1,000 pounds capacity 15.1325.35 27 Over 1,000 through 4,000 pounds capacity <del>51.03</del> <del>31.87</del> 28 Over 4,000 through 50,000 pounds capacity <del>58.36</del> <del>36.65</del> 29 Over 50,000 through 150,000 pounds capacity 39.04 62.03 30 Over 150,000 pounds capacity 86.87 135.40 31 Length Measuring Devices:

-113-

LB3 2024			LB3 2024
1	Cordage or fabric	<del>16.56</del>	<del>27.55</del>
2	Pumps:	_	_
3	Service Station Dispensers-per	_	_
4	measuring element	5.09	<del>9.94</del>
5	High-capacity service station	_	_
6	dispensers over 20 gallons per	_	_
7	minute-per dispensing element	<del>17.52</del>	<del>29.02</del>
8	Compressed natural gas-per	_	_
9	dispensing element	<del>91.65</del>	<del>142.74</del>
10	Meters:	_	_
11	Vehicle tank meters	<del>14.17</del>	<del>23.88</del>
12	Loading rack meters	<del>31.87</del>	<del>51.03</del>
13	Liquid petroleum gas meters	<del>40.00</del>	<del>63.50</del>
14	Liquid fertilizer and herbicide meters	<del>36.65</del>	<del>58.36</del>
15	Liquid feed meters	<del>36.65</del>	<del>58.36</del>
16	<del>Cryogenic</del>	<del>53.39</del>	<del>84.04</del>
17	Mass Flow Metering Systems:	_	_
18	Mass flow meters (all liquid)	<del>78.26</del>	<del>122.19;</del>
19	and	_	_

(21) Require persons delinquent under subdivision (20) of this 20 section to pay an administrative fee of twenty-five percent of the annual 21 22 fees due for each month any such fees are delinquent not to exceed one hundred percent of such fees. Such administrative fees paid shall be in 23 addition to the annual fees due. The purpose of the additional 24 administrative fee is to cover the administrative costs associated with 25 collecting fees. All money collected as an additional administrative fee 26 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Weights and 27 Measures Administrative Fund. 28

Sec. 78. Laws 2024, LB164, section 10, is amended to read:
Sec. 10. The Inland Port Authority Fund is created. The fund shall

-114-

be used by the State Treasurer to carry out section 11 of this act. The 1 fund shall consist of transfers by the Legislature and any federal funds 2 which may become available for the purposes of the Municipal Inland Port 3 Authority Act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be 4 invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital 5 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any investment 6 7 earnings from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the 8 fund.

9

Sec. 79. Laws 2024, LB600, section 7, is amended to read:

Sec. 7. The Municipality Infrastructure Aid Fund is created. The 10 fund shall be administered by the Department of Economic Development and 11 shall be used for the purposes of the Municipality Infrastructure Aid 12 Act. The Municipality Infrastructure Aid Fund shall consist of money 13 transferred by the Legislature and money that was recouped under the 14 Municipality Infrastructure Aid Act. Any money in the fund available for 15 16 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to 17 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Investment earnings from investment of money in the fund 18 19 shall be credited to the fund.

20

Sec. 80. Laws 2024, LB1284, section 16, is amended to read:

Sec. 16. (1) The Computer Science and Technology Education Fund is 21 created. The fund shall be administered by the State Department of 22 23 Education and consist of money transferred by the Legislature, federal funds, and gifts, grants, bequests, or other contributions or donations 24 from public or private entities that have been accepted by the State 25 Board of Education. The fund shall be used to provide computer science 26 and technology training, support, and incentive and stipend payments 27 pursuant to section 15 of this act. Any money in the fund available for 28 investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to 29 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds 30 31 Investment Act. Any interest earned by the fund shall accrue to the fund.

-115-

1 (2)(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer one million 2 dollars for fiscal year 2024-25 and one million dollars for fiscal year 3 2025-26 from the Education Future Fund to the Computer Science and 4 Technology Education Fund to provide computer science and technology 5 education training, support, and incentive and stipend payments pursuant 6 to section 15 of this act.

7 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer an additional 8 five hundred thousand dollars for fiscal year 2024-25 and each fiscal 9 year thereafter from the Education Future Fund to the Computer Science 10 and Technology Education Fund contingent upon the receipt of matching 11 private funds of such amount. The State Department of Education shall 12 provide written notification to the State Treasurer relating to the 13 receipt of private funds that would trigger a state match.

14 Original sections 2-1091.02, 2-1807, 2-2634, 2-2635, Sec. 81. 15 2-2638, 2-2656, 2-2705.01, 2-3408, 2-3633, 2-3971, 2-4323, 3-126, 23-2310.04, 23-2319.01, 28-1246, 28-1251, 37-323, 37-327.01, 37-431, 16 17 43-3718, 44-116, 54-627, 54-856, 54-1165, 54-1704, 54-1904, 54-2306, 72-1248, 77-4211, 79-968, 81-2,174, 81-5,152, 18 68-1804, 81-1117, 19 81-15,174.01, 81-1835, 84-1314, 84-1506.01, and 85-1654, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; sections 37-811, 61-222, 79-9,115.02, 81-2,147.10, 20 81-2,162.06, 81-2,162.23, 81-503.01, 81-505.01, 81-5,170, 81-5,199, 21 81-5,201, 81-5,214, 81-1230, 81-15,151, 84-1321.01, and 89-187, Revised 22 23 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022; sections 46-1,164, 81-1213.05, 24 85-1920, and 85-3211, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; section 8-1120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1074, 25 section 48; section 81-550, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as 26 amended by Laws 2024, LB1069, section 6; section 81-5,159, Reissue 27 28 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1069, section 7; section 66-1519, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended 29 by Laws 2024, LB867, section 7; section 71-5318, Revised Statutes 30 Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB880, section 1; 31

-116-

section 80-322.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as 1 2 amended by Laws 2024, LB252, section 2; section 81-2,270, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, as amended by Laws 2024, LB262, 3 4 section 39; section 37-1804, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as 5 amended by Laws 2024, LB1413, section 34; section 61-218, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1368, section 9; 6 section 77-4025, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 7 8 2024, LB1204, section 36; section 79-1021, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1284, section 12; section 81-1239, 9 Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB164, 10 section 17; section 84-612, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended 11 by Laws 2024, LB600, section 9, and Laws 2024, LB1413, section 58; 12 13 section 85-3112, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 14 2024, LB1284, section 20; section 86-324, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023, as amended by Laws 2024, LB1413, section 59; Laws 2024, LB164, 15 section 10; Laws 2024, LB600, section 7; and Laws 2024, LB1284, section 16 17 16, are repealed.

Sec. 82. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.