LEGISLATIVE BILL 607

Approved by the Governor April 2, 2024

Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Public Service Commission; to amend section 75-1101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022; to eliminate a provision relating to an annual grant award amount for the 211 Information and Referral Network; and to repeal the original section.

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

Section 1. Section 75-1101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

- 75-1101 (1) For purposes of this section, 211 Information and Referral Network means a statewide information and referral network providing information to the public regarding disaster and emergency response and health and human services provided by public and private entities throughout the state.
- (2) The Public Service Commission shall award a grant annually to a 211 Information and Referral Network which submits an application and meets the requirements of this section. Beginning July 1, 2022, the amount of each grant shall be nine hundred fifty-five thousand dollars.
- (3) To be eligible for a grant, the 211 Information and Referral Network shall update the information and referral services on the network at least annually, shall geographically index the services to provide information on a county-by-county basis, and shall be accredited as meeting the standards for service delivery and quality by the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems or a similar organization approved by the commission.
- (4) The grant may be used to establish a website which includes links to providers of health and human services, the name, address, and telephone number of any organization listed on the website, a description of the type of services provided by the organization, and other information to educate the public about the health and human services available on a geographic basis. The grant may also be used to provide access to the network twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, through telephone access and website access.
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 (5) There is hereby created the 211 Cash Fund. The fund shall be used solely for the purpose of providing grants pursuant to this section and associated administrative costs. All money received by the Public Service Commission for such grants shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to such fund. 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.
- Sec. 2. Original section 75-1101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, is repealed.