

## ENGROSSED LEGISLATIVE BILL 952

Introduced by Dorn, 30.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to courts; to amend sections 29-3921, 43-3701, 43-3717, and 43-3718, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 24-209, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to create a fund and terminate funds and a section; to eliminate obsolete provisions relating to transfers, funds, grants, and reports; to harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; to repeal the original sections; to outright repeal sections 43-3719 and 43-3720, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.

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

**Section 1.** The Supreme Court Operations Cash Fund is created. The State Court Administrator shall administer the fund. The fund shall be used for court and probation programs that enhance the administration of justice and improve community safety. The fund shall consist of fees, grants, donations, gifts, and payments received pursuant to contractual agreements with political subdivisions for court services. 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.** Section 24-209, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, is amended to read:

24-209 (1) The Nebraska Appellate Courts Online Library shall be the repository for the published judicial opinions of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals which have been designated for permanent publication. All previous official bound and printed volumes of the appellate courts' opinions shall be made available on the Nebraska Appellate Courts Online Library. Other distribution of such electronic opinions shall be as directed by the Supreme Court.

(2) The Supreme Court Reports Cash Fund is hereby created. The fund

terminates on the operative date of this act, and the State Treasurer shall transfer any money in the fund on such date to the General Fund.

**Sec. 3.** Section 29-3921, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

29-3921 The Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund is created. The fund shall be used for the operations of the commission. The Commission on Public Advocacy Operations Cash Fund shall consist of money remitted pursuant to section 33-156. It is the intent of the Legislature that the commission shall be funded solely from the 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. 4.** Section 43-3701, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3701 Sections 43-3701 to 43-3718 shall be known and may be cited as the Court Appointed Special Advocate Act.

**Sec. 5.** Section 43-3717, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3717 The Legislature finds and declares that:

(1) The safety and well-being of abused and neglected children throughout the State of Nebraska should be of paramount concern to the state and its residents;

(2) Court appointed special advocate volunteers provide a unique and vital service to the children they represent and work to ensure the safety and well-being of abused and neglected children; and

(3) Court appointed special advocate volunteers have provided, in many cases, the judges who adjudicate cases with essential information that has not only ensured the safety and well-being of abused and neglected children throughout Nebraska, but has also saved the state thousands of dollars.

**Sec. 6.** Section 43-3718, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3718 The Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund is created. The fund

terminates on the operative date of this act, and the State Treasurer shall transfer any money in the fund on such date to the General Fund. This section terminates on January 1, 2027.

**Sec. 7.** This act becomes operative on July 1, 2026.

**Sec. 8.** Original sections 29-3921, 43-3701, 43-3717, and 43-3718, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 24-209, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, are repealed.

**Sec. 9.** The following sections are outright repealed: Sections 43-3719 and 43-3720, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

**Sec. 10.** Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.

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**PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATURE**

*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the within LB 952 was passed by the One Hundred Ninth Legislature of Nebraska at its Second Session on the ..... day of ..... 20.....*

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**CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE**

**Approved:**

..... 20....., ..... o'clock .....M.

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**GOVERNOR**