

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 327

Introduced by Holdcroft, 36.

Read first time January 16, 2025

Committee: Judiciary

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to probation; to amend section 25-2407,
2 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 29-2259, Revised
3 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define a term; to provide
4 for state payment of probation expenses as prescribed; to provide
5 duties for counties, the State Court Administrator, and the Supreme
6 Court; and to repeal the original sections.

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

1 **Section 1.** Section 25-2407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 25-2407 Any person who serves as an interpreter for persons unable
4 to communicate the English language in court proceedings or probation
5 services as provided in subsection (7) ~~(6)~~ of section 29-2259 shall meet
6 the standards adopted by the Supreme Court. Such standards shall require
7 that interpreters demonstrate the ability to interpret effectively,
8 accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any
9 necessary special vocabulary. A person appointed to interpret for deaf
10 and hard of hearing persons shall be a licensed interpreter as defined in
11 section 20-151 or, if a licensed interpreter is unavailable, an
12 interpreter licensed under the laws of another state.

13 **Sec. 2.** Section 29-2259, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
14 2024, is amended to read:

15 29-2259 (1) The salaries and expenses incident to the conduct and
16 maintenance of the office shall be paid by the state. Other expenses
17 shall be paid by the state as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

18 (2) The salaries and travel expenses of the probation service shall
19 be paid by the state. Travel expenses shall be paid as provided in
20 sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

21 (3) Except as provided in sections 29-2262 and 29-2262.04, the costs
22 of drug testing and equipment incident to the electronic surveillance of
23 individuals on probation shall be paid by the state.

24 (4) For purposes of this section, implementation date means a date
25 selected by the State Court Administrator that is between July 1, 2026,
26 and July 1, 2027.

27 (5) Before the implementation date:

28 (a) ~~(4)~~ The expenses incident to the conduct and maintenance of the
29 principal office within each probation district shall in the first
30 instance be paid by the county in which it is located, but such county
31 shall be reimbursed for such expenses by all other counties within the

1 probation district to the extent and in the proportions determined by the
2 Supreme Court based upon population, number of investigations, and
3 probation cases handled or upon such other basis as the Supreme Court
4 deems fair and equitable; and -

5 (b) ~~(5)~~ Each county shall provide office space and necessary
6 facilities for probation officers performing their official duties and
7 shall bear the costs incident to maintenance of such offices other than
8 salaries, travel expenses, and data processing and word processing
9 hardware and software that is provided on the state computer network.

10 (5)(a) This subsection applies beginning on the implementation date.

11 (b) The state shall pay for the expenses of providing probation
12 services, including:

13 (i) Expenses incident to the conduct and maintenance of the
14 principal office within each probation district;

15 (ii) Expenses for providing office space and necessary facilities
16 for probation staff performing their official duties;

17 (iii) Salaries and travel expenses of probation staff; and

18 (iv) Expenses for the procurement, provision, management, security,
19 and support for comprehensive information technology services. This
20 includes technical support; hardware management, including printers,
21 scanners, telephones, and mobile devices; software licensing; network
22 management; and Internet services.

23 (c) The state shall pay for the costs described in subdivision (5)
24 (b) of this section with money appropriated to the Supreme Court for such
25 purpose.

26 (d) County officials shall work collaboratively with the State Court
27 Administrator to provide for a smooth and coordinated transition of the
28 payment responsibilities provided for in this subsection.

29 (6) The Supreme Court may adopt rules as necessary to carry out this
30 section.

31 (7) ~~(6)~~ The cost of interpreter services for deaf and hard of

1 hearing persons and for persons unable to communicate the English
2 language shall be paid by the state with money appropriated to the
3 Supreme Court for that purpose or from other funds, including grant
4 money, made available to the Supreme Court for such purpose. Interpreter
5 services shall include auxiliary aids for deaf and hard of hearing
6 persons as defined in section 20-151 and interpreters to assist persons
7 unable to communicate the English language as defined in section 25-2402.
8 Interpreter services shall be provided under this section for the
9 purposes of conducting a presentence investigation and for ongoing
10 supervision by a probation officer of such persons placed on probation.

11 ~~(8)~~ ~~(7)~~ The probation administrator shall prepare a budget and
12 request for appropriations for the office and shall submit such request
13 to the Supreme Court and with its approval to the appropriate authority
14 in accordance with law.

15 **Sec. 3.** Original section 25-2407, Reissue Revised Statutes of
16 Nebraska, and section 29-2259, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
17 2024, are repealed.