

The bill states the Legislature's intent to fund at least one problem solving court in each judicial district by January 1, 2024. These courts follow the Nebraska Supreme Court's rules and must comply with federal

The Nebraska Supreme Court will create a pilot program in one probation district to use physical space and information technology resources within Nebraska courthouses to serve as access points for virtual behavioral health services for court-involved individuals. The program is intended to provide access to behavioral health

A pilot program will be enacted to hire additional assistant probation officers to assist with high-risk caseloads in

If a defendant is ordered to pay fines and costs in addition to restitution as part of a judgment and fails to pay the

When defendant is determined to be indigent, the trial court must first contact the public defender to ask whether they can accept the appointment. If the public defender declines the appointment due to a conflict of interest, the

criminal justice laws to improve public safety and allocate resources more effectively. Two representatives of law enforcement, two county attorneys, and two criminal defense attorneys with at least 10 years of experience will

full amount owed, funds are applied first to the restitution obligation, then to the fines and costs when the

court will appoint an attorney who is paid by the county in an amount determined by the court. The current

The Nebraska Sentencing Reform Task Force is created to identify and recommend changes to the state's

LB50 enacts sentencing guidelines for habitual criminal mandatory minimum sentences and earlier parole eligibility. The changes are intended to provide longer parole supervision at the end of a sentence as well as

• Courts are given authority to appoint limited temporary guardians for persons who are alleged to be incapacitated. Such guardianships are only to assist the person in applying for, validating, and facilitating

Courts are given authority to waive fees for name changes by persons who are unable to pay the costs. This
revision to in forma pauperis filing is primarily directed toward victims of domestic violence. <u>LB157</u>, section 4

eligibility for benefits. Counties with a city of the metropolitan or primary class that have paid for limited temporary guardians may apply for reimbursement from the Department of Health and Human Services. <u>LB157</u>, sections 9-

I. Dependents of law enforcement officers and professional firefighters are eligible for tuition waivers for five years at any state university, state college or community college. Recipients of tuition waivers must reside in

 Concealed handguns can be carried with or without a permit, eliminating requirements for background checks, permit fees, and a gun safety course. Counties, cities and villages are prohibited from regulating the

Counties will provide up to 20 percent of the replacement cost for state aid bridges, rather than a flat 50 percent match, effective September 2, 2023. This reduction in the required match gives the Department of Transportation an opportunity to adjust the match rate if it proves to be a hardship for a county. LB138, section 4

• The County Bridge Match Program's June 30, 2023 termination date is extended to 2029. The County Bridge Match Program was enacted in 2016 as a part of the Transportation Innovation Act to provide funding for counties for the replacement and repair of structurally deficient bridges that are over 20 feet long. Since 2016, nearly 300 bridges have been replaced or removed in 58 counties. <u>LB683</u>, section 1. Effective May 27, 2023; <u>LB818</u>, section

Beginning on September 1, 2024, excavators cannot request marking of underground facilities under the One-

comprised of representatives from the State Fire Marshal, operators and excavators will review the Fire Marshal's

The State of Nebraska is authorized to issue up to \$450 million in bonds to accelerate completion of highway

Call Act more than 17 days prior to the start of the excavation. An underground excavation safety committee

In November 2022, voters approved a constitutional amendment requiring voters to present a valid

photographic identification before casting a ballot. LB514 provides implementing legislation for that amendment.

Identification documents can be issued by the state or federal government, political subdivisions, postsecondary educational institutions, tribal body, or skilled care facilities such as nursing homes. Residents without a driver's license can receive a free state ID for voting purposes or a certified copy of their birth record if they do not have a driver's license or state ID and the record is needed to obtain a state ID for voting purposes. <u>LB514</u>, sections 3,

Registered voters who are unable to produce valid identification or have a reasonable impediment preventing them from presenting identification can cast a provisional ballot. These ballots are counted if the voter presents a valid photo ID to the county clerk or election commissioner on or before the Tuesday after the election or their signature on the reasonable impediment certification form is verified. <u>LB514</u>, sections 10-12 and 18. Effective

Early voters must include their driver's license or state ID card number, a photocopy of another valid ID, or a reasonable impediment certification. Agents obtaining an early ballot for a registered voter must provide the

requirements and procedures, including a list of acceptable forms of identification. In addition, the office will

• <u>LB683</u> created the Nebraska Broadband Office within the Department of Transportation to oversee and coordinate broadband programs in the state. Prior to the passage of LB683, the Public Service Commission and a state broadband coordinator within the office of the state's chief information officer filled many of these roles.

The Rural Communications Sustainability Act is created to require governmental agencies directing public funds

Applicants for Broadband Bridge and Universal Service funds must replace equipment on cell towers that is deemed to be a threat to national security. Additional federal funding has been proposed to "rip and replace" this

Language introduced as <u>LB155</u> clarifies that the prohibition against imposing a fee on a communication service

Language from <u>LB359</u> replaces the July 1 application deadline for Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act grants with general authority for the Public Service Commission to establish application deadlines. The grants help facilitate

Commissioned law enforcement officers will contribute an additional one percent towards their retirement, beginning September 2, 2023. Currently the base contribution rate for all county employees participating in the state-administered retirement plan is 4.5 percent of their pre-tax pay, with commissioned law enforcement officers in counties under 85,000 contributing an additional one percent and officers in counties over 85,000 contributing an additional two percent. Counties contribute an amount equal to 150 percent of the employee contribution.
 Douglas and Lancaster counties do not participate in the state-administered plan. The measure is part of ongoing

The age to take required minimum distributions from the state-administered County Retirement Plan

increases from age 72 to 73 in 2022 and to age 75 in 2032. This reflects changes to federal laws. LB103, section

• Nebraska's motorcycle helmet laws are repealed, effective January 1, 2024. In order to ride without a helmet, riders must be at least 21, complete basic motorcycle training and wear eye protection. <u>LB138</u>, sections 46-47

 Persons assigned a parolee immigration status by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security are eligible for a driver's license or state identification card. The cards are not in compliance with federal REAL ID standards but

Nebraska's statutes are updated to reflect national standards for electric bicycles. <u>LB138</u>, sections 37-44

 Critical infrastructure utility workers will be given priority access to personal protective equipment, medical screening and treatment and vaccines in the event of a civil defense emergency, disaster, or emergency. Utilities

• First responders who are required to have a mental health examination or resilience training that are not reimbursed by their employer can apply to the Department of Health and Human Services for reimbursement.

 With consent from the county or city operating the lottery, keno tickets can be issued in a digital format under language introduced as <u>LB232</u>. The phone or other digital device would have to be present at the location of the

 A debit card, prepaid cash account, or the cash balance of a payment application can be used to purchase keno tickets. Credit cards cannot be used. Debit card users are limited to no more than \$200 of purchases from a

The definition of gross proceeds is revised to exclude admission costs collected at any location where the

facilities with an admission fee are remitted to the county, some facilities, such as licensed racetrack enclosures,

lottery is also available without an admission charge. Because the entire gross proceeds in areas of such

that charge an admission fee in some areas do not offer keno in those areas. Under the revised definition,

 Sales taxes rates will be reduced to 2.75 percent in special retail districts that meet investment and job creation goals under Good Life Transformational Projects Act. <u>LB727</u>, sections 9-15 and 59. Effective June 7,

Waste treatment and disposal plants, such as the facility near Kimball, are eligible for incentives under the

• <u>LB531</u> updates last year's allocation of the state's ARPA funds. It directs the funds to recovery projects in North Omaha and South Omaha and museums dedicated to Standing Bear and Malcolm X. It provides grant funding for a new water source for Lincoln and creates the Revitalize Rural Nebraska Grant Program to help

Liquor manufacturers and wholesalers can engage in sponsorships of events held by civic or charitable

organizations, churches, and other holders of special designated liquor licenses if federal law is adopted making a similar change. Nonprofit organizations that are exempt from federal income taxes can be issued 12 special

Local public health departments may establish county-level multidisciplinary overdose fatality review teams to
identify system gaps and innovative, community-specific overdose prevention and intervention strategies. Team
members include officials from local public health departments, behavioral health providers, law enforcement

Beginning in fiscal year 2025-2025, the Legislature intends to appropriate up to \$4.5 million annually to fund
the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Act. The Act is intended to increase capacity for communitybased mental health and substance use services, psychiatric rehabilitation services, targeted case management
and other services. Providers will be paid in advance for the anticipated cost of providing services, rather than a

The Legislature appropriated \$5 million for FY23-24 to establish interoperable communications between state

The Legislature appropriated \$574 million to the Perkins County canal project. The Department of Natural

alternative methods of contracting to develop the canal that will deliver water from Colorado to Nebraska. <u>LB818</u>,

 Beginning in January 2025, or sooner if possible, the Legislature will maintain a publicly accessible, digital Internet archive of closed-captioned video coverage of legislative floor debate and committee hearings. <u>LB254</u>,

The Legislature appropriated \$500,000 for grants to public power districts to help the state compete for a

Following is a partial listing of interim study resolutions that will be examined during the coming months. This listing represents only those studies of significant interest and importance to county government. They are listed

LR106 (Halloran) Interim study to examine interests in agricultural lands in Nebraska held by foreign individuals,

LR125 (Conrad) Interim study to review juvenile justice involvement for youth who are excessively absent or

LR127 (DeBoer) Interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of court fees as a funding source for the

LR130 (Ballard) Interim study to examine the potential construction of the proposed East Beltway administered

Nebraska for veterans and current service members when choosing where to live after retirement. Government,

LR142 (Day) Interim study to examine Nebraska's policies relating to veterans and the competitiveness of

LR155 (Day) Interim study to examine Nebraska's disability classifications for the homestead exemption.

LR157 (McDonnell) Interim study to examine the retirement systems administered by the Public Employees

<u>LR181</u> (Slama) Interim study to examine the insurance statutes of the State of Nebraska with specific emphasis on the impact of the insurance industry on tort reform and related matters. Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR184 (Moser) Interim study to examine the deployment of broadband services within the State of Nebraska.

LR186 (Albrecht) Interim study to examine issues raised in LB820, 2023, relating to valuation of land in

LR189 (Day) Interim study to examine issues regarding potholes and road maintenance in Nebraska

LR194 (McDonnell) Interim study to research, through collaboration among various stakeholders, ways to

<u>LR195</u> (McDonnell) Interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of Nebraska's state highway system and the priorities and resource allocation methods for the system. Transportation and Telecommunications

LR197 (McDonnell) Interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of the need for Nebraska to foster

LR198 (McDonnell) Interim study to explore support and supplemental funding for public and nonprofit providers

LR201 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine mental health and addiction issues within the Nebraska criminal

LR203 (Dorn) Interim study to review how the State of Nebraska can ensure it has effective emergency medical

and juvenile justice systems and options to increase services and alternatives to current responses of the

<u>LR235</u> (Linehan) Interim study to examine the delinquent tax sale and tax deed process for delinquent real

<u>LR245</u> (Vargas) Interim study to examine juvenile detention costs and necessary updates to the juvenile

of eminent domain by state agencies, boards, commissions, and other political subdivisions. Government,

LR250 (McDonnell) Interim study to consider changes to the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act and to

<u>LR274</u> (Judiciary Committee) Interim study to examine the structure of criminal prosecution in Nebraska.

property assessed clean energy financing for real estate development projects. Urban Affairs

LR238 (McDonnell) Interim study to examine the location of recreational vehicle parks, entertainment venues, and other recreational development and the impact of zoning regulations related to flooding on locating such

LR247 (Cavanaugh, J.) Interim study to examine issues raised in LB133, 2023, relating to laws regarding the use

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development of large industrial and commercial business sites. Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR172 (Vargas) Interim study to examine the occupation taxes imposed on wireless telecommunications

jointly by the city of Lincoln and Lancaster County. Transportation and Telecommunications

by number, introducer, description and committee assignment. Public hearings will be scheduled on some resolutions. <u>Hearing dates</u> will be posted on the Legislature's website as they are scheduled. A complete list of

business entities, and governments. Agriculture. Hearing Date: September 15

regional clean hydrogen hub designation. A work group was created to examine workforce needs for the hydrogen and nuclear industries and make grants to colleges to train workers in these industries. <u>LB565</u>,

agencies and volunteer fire departments, rescue and emergency squads through the use of mobile radios, programming and installation of equipment. The funds can also be used for interoperability training. <u>LB814</u>,

Resources was directed to identify the optimal route and purchase land and was given authority to use

cities of the first and second class and villages to demolish dilapidated commercial property. LB531

designated licenses per year, rather than six. LB376, sections 7 and 11. Effective April 22, 2023

officers, jailers, coroners, and others. LB227, sections 79-94. Effective June 7, 2023

The Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act, commonly referred to as the Nebraska Historic

keno operator or authorized sales outlet when a ticket is issued. LB775, sections 6, 8 and 11

counties will share in the keno proceeds but not the admission charges. LB775, section 7

provider that is authorized to operate in the right-of-way applies only to small cells. This was the intent of legislation enacted in 2019 but questions have arisen recently. <u>LB683</u>, section 2. Effective May 27, 2023

the deployment of broadband in the state. <u>LB683</u>, section 26. Effective May 27, 2023

efforts to attract and retain law enforcement personnel. <u>LB103</u>, sections 3 and 4

will grant driving privileges to Ukrainian refugees and others. LB138, sections 15-20, 29

will maintain lists of critical infrastructure utility workers. LB191, sections 1-5

for broadband deployment to collaborate with the Nebraska Broadband Office and the Public Service

provide information to state agencies to distribute to residents about voter ID requirements and how to obtain free

voter's identification or the listed information. <u>LB514</u>, sections 13 and 15. Effective April 1, 2024

The Secretary of State will create a public awareness campaign and a website dedicated to voter ID

investigation of violations and determine the appropriate civil penalty. <u>LB683</u>, sections 4-11

construction projects. <u>LB727</u>, sections 29-45. Effective June 7, 2023

treatment via telehealth for persons involved in the criminal justice system. LB50, section 2

standards. LB50, section 1

a single probation district. LB50, section 13

restitution is satisfied in full. LB50, section 15

be appointed to the task force. LB50, section 19

10

Law Enforcement

Roads and Bridges

10. Effective May 25, 2023

Voter Identification

20, and 23. Effective June 2, 2023

identification. <u>LB514</u>, section 4. Effective June 2, 2023

LB683, sections 2-3, 22-24. Effective May 27, 2023

Retirement Contributions

1. Effective May 2, 2023

Motor Vehicles

LB191, section 6

Keno

2023

Liquor Laws

Public Health

Other Issues

sections 1-2 and 8-9

Interim Studies

the studies is available here.

truant from school. Judiciary

Military and Veterans Affairs

Revenue

court system and the judicial branch. Judiciary

Retirement Board. Nebraska Retirement Systems

services. Transportation and Telecommunications

Transportation and Telecommunications

address juvenile justice reform. Judiciary

of emergency medical services. Appropriations

criminal and juvenile justice systems. Judiciary

services in rural communities. Health and Human Services

detention facility standards or the Nebraska Juvenile Code. Judiciary

Nebraska. Revenue

municipalities. Urban Affairs

property taxes. Revenue

facilities. Urban Affairs

Military and Veterans Affairs

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Judiciary

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section 226. Effective July 1, 2023

sections 34, 38-41. Effective May 27, 2023

section 14. LB565, sections 1-20. Effective Sept. 2, 2023

fee-for-service model. LB276, sections 1-7

Emergency Management

lottery operator in a single day. LB775, section 9

Tax Credit Act, is extended to 2030. <u>LB727</u>, sections 78-83

ImagiNE Nebraska Act. LB727, section 99. Effective June 7, 2023

Economic Development

Commission. <u>LB683</u>, section 12-18. Effective May 27, 2023

equipment. LB683, sections 19-21, 26. Effective May 27, 2023

April 1, 2024

Broadband

statutory fee of \$200 is eliminated. LB50, sections 16-17

addressing prison overcrowding issues. LB50, sections 47-55

Nebraska for five years following use of the waiver. <u>LB727</u>, sections 107-113

ownership of firearms or other weapons or requiring their registration. <u>LB77</u>