

LEGISLATIVE BILL 782

Approved by the Governor April 5, 2012

Introduced by McCoy, 39.

FOR AN ACT relating to state government; to amend sections 2-15,106, 2-2812, 2-4245, 2-5303, 3-801, 9-1,105, 9-809, 9-811.01, 11-203, 13-1205, 13-2114, 18-2117.01, 20-325, 23-2313, 24-704, 24-705, 24-1205, 24-1206, 25-1809, 25-2920, 29-2252.01, 35-1207, 37-327.01, 37-352, 38-1216, 39-1111, 39-1365.02, 39-1391, 39-1392, 42-930, 43-405, 43-512.11, 43-1905, 43-2412, 43-3326, 43-3342.04, 43-3402, 44-113, 44-7507, 46-1304, 46-1305, 48-1,104, 48-1,118, 48-606, 48-621, 48-1117, 48-1625, 48-2213, 48-2307, 48-2909, 49-770, 49-904, 49-1483, 49-1483.03, 49-1488, 49-1492.01, 50-114.03, 50-405, 50-413, 50-1205, 50-1210, 50-1211, 50-1302, 54-642, 54-2428, 58-246, 58-270, 66-4,144, 66-1336, 68-959, 68-1207.01, 68-1518, 69-503, 69-2409, 69-2423, 71-219.03, 71-707, 71-810, 71-816, 71-825, 71-827, 71-830, 71-1134, 71-1628.05, 71-1628.07, 71-17,115, 71-1904, 71-2516, 71-3407, 71-4728, 71-4741, 71-51,103, 71-5206.01, 71-5210, 71-5322, 71-6226, 71-7611, 71-8313, 71-8613, 71-8804, 72-240.26, 72-813, 72-1278, 72-1710, 73-305, 76-1521, 77-385, 77-3,116, 77-4110, 77-4933, 77-5204, 77-5210, 77-5214, 77-5412, 77-5542, 77-5544, 77-5731, 79-760.03, 79-909, 79-976, 79-1905, 81-106, 81-166, 81-187, 81-638, 81-650, 81-6,116, 81-829.43, 81-829.47, 81-829.56, 81-830, 81-8,226, 81-8,239.05, 81-8,251, 81-8,300, 81-1107.05, 81-1108.15, 81-1108.22, 81-1108.31, 81-1108.41, 81-1114, 81-1114.01, 81-1114.02, 81-1117, 81-1120.15, 81-1120.16, 81-1125.01, 81-1307.01, 81-1360, 81-1376, 81-1504.01, 81-15,153, 81-1606, 81-1607, 81-1637, 81-1845, 81-2004.04, 81-2022, 81-2023, 81-2213, 81-2233, 81-2408, 82-333, 83-4,147, 83-924, 83-963, 84-205, 84-304, 84-322, 84-605, 84-702, 84-907.06, 84-1205.05, 84-1219, 84-1315, 84-1617, 85-1413, 85-1414, 85-1415, 85-1429, 85-1811, 86-163, 86-518, 86-530, 86-572, and 90-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 2-111, 2-968, 2-1588, 2-3226.01, 4-113, 9-1,101, 13-1210, 20-504, 25-3309, 28-429, 43-2404.02, 68-908, 70-1003, 79-527.01, 79-2118, 81-1833, 83-1209, 84-602, 85-1416, 85-1807, 85-2106, 86-516, and 86-5,100, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and sections 23-362, 29-2252, 37-919, 43-3720, 44-4225, 47-624, 50-417, 54-857, 61-218, 66-1345, 68-909, 68-971, 68-1017.02, 71-529, 71-7606, 77-367, 77-6309, 79-318, 79-722, 79-759, 79-760.05, 79-8,139, 79-987, 79-1007.07, 79-1022, 79-1103, 79-2104.02, 81-8,239.02, 81-1108.33, 81-1201.11, 81-1201.13, 81-12,142, 81-12,151, 81-12,166, 81-1384, 81-1505.04, 81-15,175, 84-901.01, 84-910, and 85-1412, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011; to require that reports and other information submitted to the Legislature, Clerk of the Legislature, Executive Board of the Legislative Council, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, members of the Legislature, and committees of the Legislature be submitted electronically; to provide powers and duties for the Clerk of the Legislature; to eliminate provisions involving obsolete reports, plans, transfers of funds, and a program; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 2-5304, 3-806, 50-422, 71-5213, 81-12,122, and 85-1,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, section 71-465, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and section 54-1916, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011.

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

Section 1. Section 2-111, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

2-111 The Nebraska State Fair Board shall, no later than November 1 of each year, provide an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the use of the Nebraska State Fair Support and Improvement Cash Fund. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include (1) a detailed listing of how the proceeds of the fund were expended in the prior fiscal year and (2) any distributions from the fund that remain unexpended and on deposit in Nebraska State Fair accounts.

Sec. 2. Section 2-968, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

2-968 The Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force, in consultation with appropriate federal agencies, shall develop and prioritize vegetation

management goals and objectives, analyze the cost-effectiveness of available vegetation treatment, and develop plans and policies to achieve such goals and objectives. Any plan shall utilize the principles of integrated vegetation management and sound science. The task force shall convene within thirty days after the appointment of the members is complete to elect a chairperson and conduct such other business as deemed necessary. The efforts of the task force shall be initially directed toward river basins designated by the Department of Natural Resources as fully appropriated or overappropriated. Task force meetings shall be held in communities within the Republican River and Platte River basins with a final report due to the Governor and the Legislature prior to June 30, 2013. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. It is the intent of the Legislature that expenses of the task force not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars per fiscal year. This section terminates on June 30, 2013.

Sec. 3. Section 2-1588, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

2-1588 (1) Any money in the Nebraska Resources Development Fund may be allocated by the commission in accordance with sections 2-1586 to 2-1595 for utilization by the department, by any state office, agency, board, or commission, or by any political subdivision of the state which has the authority to develop the state's water and related land resources. Such money may be allocated in the form of grants or loans or for acquiring state interests in water and related land resources programs and projects undertaken within the state. The allocation of funds to a program or project in one form shall not of itself preclude additional allocations in the same or any other form to the same program or project. Funds may also be allocated to assist natural resources districts in the preparation of management plans as provided in section 46-709. Funds so allocated shall not be subject to sections 2-1589 to 2-1595.

(2) No project, including all related phases, segments, parts, or divisions, shall receive more than ten million dollars from the fund. On July 1 of each year after 1993, the director shall adjust the project cost and payment limitation of this subsection by an amount equal to the average percentage change in a readily available construction cost index for the prior three years.

(3) Prior to September 1 of each even-numbered year, a biennial report shall be made to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature describing the work accomplished by the use of such development fund during the immediately preceding two-year period. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include a complete financial statement. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report upon making a request to the director.

Sec. 4. Section 2-15,106, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-15,106 On or before September 15 for each odd-numbered year and on or before the date provided in section 81-132 for each even-numbered year, the director shall submit an annual report and plan of work for the state water planning and review process to the Legislature and Governor. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include a listing of expenditures for the past fiscal year, a summary and analysis of work completed in the past fiscal year, funding requirements for the next fiscal year, and a projection and analysis of work to be completed and estimated funding requirements for such work for the next succeeding four years. The explanation of future funding requirements shall include an explanation of the proposed use of such funds and the anticipated results of the expenditure of such funds. The report shall, to the extent possible, identify such information as it affects each agency or other recipient of program funds. The explanation of future funding requirements shall be in a form suitable for providing an explanation of that portion of the budget request pertaining to the state water planning and review process.

Sec. 5. Section 2-2812, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-2812 Funds may be appropriated by the Legislature for the use of ~~such qualified~~ the qualifying organizations enumerated in section 2-2803 and shall be made available through the University of Nebraska budgeting and accounting facilities or such other channel as the Legislature may direct. Each organization shall electronically file a separate biennial budget request with the Legislature.

Sec. 6. Section 2-3226.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

2-3226.01 (1) In order to implement its duties and obligations under the Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act and in addition to

other powers authorized by law, the board of a district with jurisdiction that is part of a river basin for which the district has, in accordance with section 46-715, adopted an integrated management plan which references section 2-3226.04 and explicitly states its intent in the plan to utilize qualified projects described in section 2-3226.04 may issue negotiable bonds and refunding bonds of the district and entitled river-flow enhancement bonds, with terms determined appropriate by the board, payable by (a) funds granted to such district by the state or federal government for one or more qualified projects, (b) the occupation tax authorized by section 2-3226.05, or (c) the levy authorized by section 2-3225. The district may issue the bonds or refunding bonds directly, or such bonds may be issued by any joint entity as defined in section 13-803 whose member public agencies consist only of qualified natural resources districts or by any joint public agency as defined in section 13-2503 whose participating public agencies consist only of qualified natural resources districts, in connection with any joint project which is to be owned, operated, or financed by the joint entity or joint public agency for the benefit of its member natural resources districts. For the payment of such bonds or refunding bonds, the district may pledge one or more permitted payment sources.

(2) Within forty-five days after receipt of a written request by the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature, the qualified natural resources districts shall submit a ~~written~~ an electronic report to the committee containing an explanation of existing or planned activities for river-flow enhancement, the revenue source for implementing such activities, and a description of the estimated benefit or benefits to the district or districts.

(3) ~~Beginning on April 1, 2008, if~~ If a district uses the proceeds of a bond issued pursuant to this section for the purposes described in subdivision (1) of section 2-3226.04 or the state uses funds for those same purposes, the agreement to acquire water rights by purchase or lease pursuant to such subdivision shall identify (a) the method of payment, (b) the distribution of funds by the party or parties receiving payments, (c) the water use or rights subject to the agreement, and (d) the water use or rights allowed by the agreement. If any irrigation district is party to the agreement, the irrigation district shall allocate funds received under such agreement among its users or members in a reasonable manner, giving consideration to the benefits received and the value of the rights surrendered for the specified contract period.

Sec. 7. Section 2-4245, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-4245 The corporation shall, following the close of each fiscal year, submit an annual report of its activities for the preceding year to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the administrator of the corporation. Each report shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement for the corporation during the fiscal year it covers. An independent certified public accountant shall at least once in each year audit the books and accounts of the corporation.

Sec. 8. Section 2-5303, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

2-5303 The Carbon Sequestration Advisory Committee shall:

(1) Advise and assist the Director of Natural Resources in preparing the ~~reports pursuant to sections 2-5304 and 2-5305~~ report and in conducting the assessment pursuant to section 2-5305;

(2) Recommend policies or programs to enhance the ability of Nebraska agricultural landowners to participate in systems of carbon trading. Such recommendations shall include potential policies or programs designed to optimize economic benefits to agricultural producers participating in carbon trading transactions. Such policies or programs may include, but are not limited to, identifying existing or the potential of creating nonprofit organizations or other public or private entities capable of serving as assemblers of carbon credits or as intermediaries on behalf of producers in carbon trading systems;

(3) Encourage the production of educational and advisory materials regarding carbon sequestration on agricultural lands and participation in systems of carbon or greenhouse emissions trading; and

(4) Identify and recommend areas of research needed to better understand and quantify the processes of carbon sequestration on agricultural lands.

Sec. 9. Section 3-801, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

3-801 Sections 3-801 to ~~3-806~~ 3-805 shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska State Airline Authority Act.

Sec. 10. Section 4-113, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

4-113 Each state agency which administers any program of public benefits shall provide an annual report not later than January 31 for the prior year to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature with respect to compliance with sections 4-108 to 4-113. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the total number of applicants for benefits and the number of applicants rejected pursuant to such sections.

Sec. 11. Section 9-1,101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

9-1,101 (1) The Nebraska Bingo Act, the Nebraska County and City Lottery Act, the Nebraska Lottery and Raffle Act, the Nebraska Pickle Card Lottery Act, the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act, and section 9-701 shall be administered and enforced by the Charitable Gaming Division of the Department of Revenue, which division is hereby created. The Department of Revenue shall make annual reports to the Governor, Legislature, Auditor of Public Accounts, and Attorney General on all tax revenue received, expenses incurred, and other activities relating to the administration and enforcement of such acts. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(2) The Charitable Gaming Operations Fund is hereby created. 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.

(3)(a) Forty percent of the taxes collected pursuant to sections 9-239, 9-344, 9-429, and 9-648 shall be available to the Charitable Gaming Division for administering and enforcing the acts listed in subsection (1) of this section. The remaining sixty percent shall be transferred to the General Fund. Any portion of the forty percent not used by the division in the administration and enforcement of such acts and section shall be distributed as provided in this subsection.

(b) On or before November 1 each year, the State Treasurer shall transfer fifty thousand dollars from the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund to the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund, except that no transfer shall occur if the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund contains less than fifty thousand dollars.

(c) Any money remaining in the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund after the transfer pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection not used by the Charitable Gaming Division in its administration and enforcement duties pursuant to this section may be transferred to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature.

(4) The Tax Commissioner shall employ investigators who shall be vested with the authority and power of a law enforcement officer to carry out the laws of this state administered by the Tax Commissioner or the Department of Revenue and to enforce sections 28-1101 to 28-1117 relating to possession of a gambling device. For purposes of enforcing sections 28-1101 to 28-1117, the authority of the investigators shall be limited to investigating possession of a gambling device, notifying local law enforcement authorities, and reporting suspected violations to the county attorney for prosecution.

(5) The Charitable Gaming Division may charge a fee for publications and listings it produces. The fee shall not exceed the cost of publication and distribution of such items. The division may also charge a fee for making a copy of any record in its possession equal to the actual cost per page. The division shall remit the fees to the State Treasurer for credit to the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund.

Sec. 12. Section 9-1,105, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

9-1,105 (1) The Tax Commissioner may apply to the Director of Administrative Services and the Auditor of Public Accounts to establish and maintain a Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund. The funds used to initiate and maintain the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund shall be drawn solely from the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund. The Tax Commissioner shall determine the amount of money to be held in the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund, consistent with carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Charitable Gaming Division of the Department of Revenue but not to exceed five thousand dollars for the entire division. This restriction shall not apply to funds otherwise appropriated to the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund for investigative purposes. When the Director of Administrative Services and the Auditor of Public Accounts

have approved the establishment of the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund, a voucher shall be submitted to the Department of Administrative Services accompanied by such information as the department may require for the establishment of the fund. The Director of Administrative Services shall issue a warrant for the amount specified and deliver it to the Charitable Gaming Division. The fund may be replenished as necessary, but the total amount in the fund shall not exceed ten thousand dollars in any fiscal year. The fund shall be audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts.

(2) Any prize amounts won, less any charitable gaming investigative expenditures, by Charitable Gaming Division personnel with funds drawn from the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund or reimbursed from the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund shall be deposited into the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund.

(3) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the Department of Revenue shall maintain records of all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of cash from the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund.

(4) By September 15 of each year, the department shall report to the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services and to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst the unexpended balance existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year relating to investigative expenses in the Charitable Gaming Investigation Petty Cash Fund and any funds existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year in the possession of Charitable Gaming Division personnel involved in investigations. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. 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. 13. Section 9-809, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

9-809 (1) The books, records, funds, and accounts of the division shall be audited at least annually by or under the direction of the Auditor of Public Accounts who shall submit a report of the audit to the Governor and the Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The expenses of the audit shall be paid from the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund.

(2) The Tax Commissioner shall make an annual written report by November 1 of each year to the Governor and the Legislature, which report shall include a summary of the activities of the division for the previous fiscal year through June 30, a statement detailing lottery revenue, prize disbursements, expenses of the division, and allocation of remaining revenue, and any recommendations for change in the statutes which the Tax Commissioner deems necessary or desirable. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall be a public record.

Sec. 14. Section 9-811.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

9-811.01 (1) The Tax Commissioner may apply to the Director of Administrative Services and the Auditor of Public Accounts to establish and maintain a Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund. The money used to initiate and maintain the fund shall be drawn solely from the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund. The Tax Commissioner shall determine the amount of money to be held in the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund, consistent with carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the division but not to exceed five thousand dollars for the entire division. This restriction shall not apply to funds otherwise appropriated to the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund for investigative purposes. When the Director of Administrative Services and the Auditor of Public Accounts have approved the establishment of the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund, a voucher shall be submitted to the Department of Administrative Services accompanied by such information as the department may require for the establishment of the fund. The Director of Administrative Services shall issue a warrant for the amount specified and deliver it to the division. The fund may be replenished as necessary, but the total amount in the fund shall not exceed ten thousand dollars in any fiscal year. The fund shall be audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts.

(2) Any prize amounts won, less any investigative expenditures, by department personnel with funds drawn from the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund or reimbursed from the State Lottery Operation Cash Fund shall be deposited into the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund.

(3) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the Department of Revenue shall maintain records of all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of cash from the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund.

(4) By September 15 of each year, the department shall report to

the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services and to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst the unexpended balance existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year relating to investigative expenses in the Lottery Investigation Petty Cash Fund and any funds existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year in the possession of division personnel involved in investigations. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. 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. 15. Section 11-203, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

11-203 The Risk Manager shall, during each regular session of the Legislature, file electronically with the Clerk of the Legislature a complete list of the officers and employees who are bonded and the amount of each bond.

Sec. 16. Section 13-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

13-1205 The department shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

(1) To collect and maintain data on the level of public transportation services and needs in the state and identify areas not being adequately served by existing public or private transportation services;

(2) To assess the regional and statewide effect of changes, improvement, and route abandonments in the state's public transportation system;

(3) To develop a six-year statewide transit plan and programs for public transportation in coordination with local plans and programs developed by municipalities, counties, and transit authorities;

(4) To provide planning and technical assistance to agencies of the state, political subdivisions, or groups seeking to improve public transportation;

(5) To advise, consult, and cooperate with agencies of the state, the federal government, and other states, interstate agencies, political subdivisions, and groups concerned with public transportation;

(6) To cooperate with the Public Service Commission by providing periodic assessments to the commission when determining the effect of proposed regulatory decisions on public transportation;

(7) To administer federal and state programs providing financial assistance to public transportation, except those federal and state programs in which a municipality, county, transit authority, or other state agency is designated as the administrator;

(8) To prepare and submit a biennial report to the Governor, the State Energy Office, and the Clerk of the Legislature detailing its activities under the Nebraska Public Transportation Act. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall make recommendations to strengthen, expand, and improve public transportation in the state; and

(9) To exercise all other powers necessary and proper for the discharge of its duties, including the adoption and promulgation of reasonable rules and regulations to carry out the act.

Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by subdivision (8) of this section by making a request for such report to the director.

Sec. 17. Section 13-1210, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

13-1210 (1) The Department of Roads shall annually certify the amount of operating costs eligible for funding under the public transportation assistance program established under section 13-1209.

(2) The department shall submit an annual report to the chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on or before December 1 of each year regarding funds requested by each applicant for eligible operating costs in the current fiscal year pursuant to subsection (2) of section 13-1209 and the total amount of state grants projected to be awarded in the current fiscal year pursuant to the public transportation assistance program. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. The report shall separate into two categories the requests and grants awarded for handicapped vans, otherwise known as paratransit vehicles, and requests and grants awarded for handicapped-accessible fixed-route bus systems.

Sec. 18. Section 13-2114, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

13-2114 Within one hundred twenty days ~~of~~ after the end of the third year following the designation of an area as an enterprise zone and at the end of each two-year period thereafter, the original applying political

subdivision shall file with the department a report on the enterprise zone detailing the status of the zone on the qualifying economic distress criteria, the current status of economic activity within the zone, including the number and type of new business enterprises which have located within the zone and their levels of employment, the status of local efforts to carry out the enterprise zone economic development plan outlined in the original application, the status of local efforts to comply with commitments made under subdivisions (9) and (10) of section 13-2104, the membership and activities of the enterprise zone association, and such other items as the department shall request to enable it to assess the current status of the enterprise zone and to make appropriate recommendations to the Legislature upon the enterprise zone program as set out in the Enterprise Zone Act. Prior to filing such report, the applying political subdivision shall provide copies of the report to its enterprise zone association which shall attach thereto for filing with the department such comments or additional information or recommendations as it deems appropriate. Prior to the commencement of the next following legislative session, the department shall file electronic copies of such reports with the Clerk of the Legislature along with any comments or recommendations it may have with regard thereto or with regard to the act.

Sec. 19. Section 18-2117.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

18-2117.01 (1) On or before December 1 each year, each city which has approved one or more redevelopment plans which are financed in whole or in part through the use of tax-increment financing as provided in section 18-2147 shall provide a report to the Property Tax Administrator on each such redevelopment plan which includes the following information:

(a) A copy of the redevelopment plan and any amendments thereto if they have not been previously filed, including the date upon which the redevelopment plan was approved, the effective date for dividing the ad valorem tax as provided to the county assessor pursuant to subsection (3) of section 18-2147, and the location and boundaries of the property in the redevelopment project; and

(b) A short narrative description of the type of development undertaken by the city or village with the financing and the type of business or commercial activity locating within the redevelopment project area as a result of the redevelopment project.

(2) The Property Tax Administrator shall compile a report for each active redevelopment project, based upon information provided by the cities pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and information reported by the county assessor or county clerk on the certificate of taxes levied pursuant to section 77-1613.01. Each report shall be electronically transmitted to the Clerk of the Legislature not later than March 1 each year. The report may include any recommendations of the Property Tax Administrator as to what other information should be included in the report from the cities so as to facilitate analysis of the uses, purposes, and effectiveness of tax-increment financing and the process for its implementation or to streamline the reporting process provided for in this section to eliminate unnecessary paperwork.

Sec. 20. Section 20-325, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

20-325 The commission shall:

(1) Make studies with respect to the nature and extent of discriminatory housing practices in representative urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout the state;

(2) Publish and disseminate reports, recommendations, and information derived from such studies, including an annual report to the Legislature to be submitted electronically:

(a) Specifying the nature and extent of progress made statewide in eliminating discriminatory housing practices and furthering the purposes of the Nebraska Fair Housing Act, obstacles remaining to achieving equal housing opportunity, and recommendations for further legislative or executive action; and

(b) Containing tabulations of the number of instances and the reasons therefor in the preceding year in which:

(i) Investigations have not been completed as required by subdivision (1)(b) of section 20-326;

(ii) Determinations have not been made within the time specified in section 20-333; and

(iii) Hearings have not been commenced or findings and conclusions have not been made as required by section 20-337;

(3) Cooperate with and render technical assistance to state, local, and other public or private agencies, organizations, and institutions which

are formulating or carrying on programs to prevent or eliminate discriminatory housing practices;

(4) Annually Electronically submit an annual report to the Legislature and make available to the public data on the age, race, color, religion, national origin, handicap, familial status, and sex of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of programs administered by the commission. In order to develop the data to be included and made available to the public under this subdivision, the commission shall, without regard to any other provision of law, collect such information relating to those characteristics as the commission determines to be necessary or appropriate;

(5) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the members of the commission, regarding the investigative and conciliation process that provide for testing standards, fundamental due process, and notice to the parties of their rights and responsibilities; and

(6) Have authority to enter into agreements with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in cooperative agreements under the Fair Housing Assistance Program. The commission shall further have the authority to enter into agreements with testing organizations to assist in investigative activities. The commission shall not enter into any agreements under which compensation to the testing organization is partially or wholly based on the number of conciliations, settlements, and reasonable cause determinations.

Sec. 21. Section 20-504, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

20-504 (1) On or before January 1, 2002, the Nebraska State Patrol, the county sheriffs, all city and village police departments, and any other law enforcement agency in this state shall adopt a written policy that prohibits the detention of any person or a motor vehicle stop when such action is motivated by racial profiling and the action would constitute a violation of the civil rights of the person.

(2) With respect to a motor vehicle stop, on and after January 1, 2002, and until January 1, 2014, the Nebraska State Patrol, the county sheriffs, all city and village police departments, and any other law enforcement agency in this state shall record and retain the following information using the form developed and promulgated pursuant to section 20-505:

(a) The number of motor vehicle stops;

(b) The characteristics of race or ethnicity of the person stopped. The identification of such characteristics shall be based on the observation and perception of the law enforcement officer responsible for reporting the motor vehicle stop and the information shall not be required to be provided by the person stopped;

(c) If the stop is for a law violation, the nature of the alleged law violation that resulted in the motor vehicle stop;

(d) Whether a warning or citation was issued, an arrest made, or a search conducted as a result of the motor vehicle stop. Search does not include a search incident to arrest or an inventory search; and

(e) Any additional information that the Nebraska State Patrol, the county sheriffs, all city and village police departments, or any other law enforcement agency in this state, as the case may be, deems appropriate.

(3) The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice may develop a uniform system for receiving allegations of racial profiling. The Nebraska State Patrol, the county sheriffs, all city and village police departments, and any other law enforcement agency in this state shall provide to the commission (a) a copy of each allegation of racial profiling received and (b) written notification of the review and disposition of such allegation. No information revealing the identity of the law enforcement officer involved in the stop shall be used, transmitted, or disclosed in violation of any collective-bargaining agreement provision or personnel rule under which such law enforcement officer is employed. No information revealing the identity of the complainant shall be used, transmitted, or disclosed in the form alleging racial profiling.

(4) Any law enforcement officer who in good faith records information on a motor vehicle stop pursuant to this section shall not be held civilly liable for the act of recording such information unless the law enforcement officer's conduct was unreasonable or reckless or in some way contrary to law.

(5) On or before October 1, 2002, and annually thereafter until January 1, 2014, the Nebraska State Patrol, the county sheriffs, all city and village police departments, and all other law enforcement agencies in this state shall provide to the commission, in such form as the

commission prescribes, a summary report of the information recorded pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

(6) On and after January 1, 2002, and until April 1, 2014, the commission may, within the limits of its existing appropriations, provide for a review of the prevalence and disposition of motor vehicle stops based on racial profiling and allegations reported pursuant to this section. The results of such review shall be reported annually to the Governor and the Legislature beginning on or before April 1, 2004, until April 1, 2014. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 22. Section 23-362, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

23-362 In order to equitably distribute the added burden of law enforcement imposed upon certain counties of this state by reason of the passage of Public Law 280 of the Eighty-third Congress dealing with state jurisdiction and the resulting withdrawal of federal law enforcement in such counties, there shall each fiscal year be paid out of the state treasury, on the warrant of the Director of Administrative Services as directed by the chairperson of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, not to exceed one hundred one thousand dollars for the benefit of Indians in any county which has land held in trust by the United States Government for the benefit of Indians to be used for purposes of law enforcement and jail operations. Such funds shall be divided as equally as possible between the areas of law enforcement and jail operations. The Auditor of Public Accounts or his or her designee shall conduct, at such time as he or she determines necessary, an audit of the funds distributed pursuant to this section. A detailed report shall be submitted on December 31 of each year, including discussion of the operation and expenditures of the office of the county sheriff and, when completed, a copy of the audit, to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council and the Governor. The report submitted to the executive board shall be submitted electronically. Such payment shall be made to any county of this state meeting the following conditions:

(1) Such county shall have on file in the office of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice a certificate of the county assessor that there are within such county over twenty-five hundred acres of land held in trust by the United States or subject to restriction against alienation imposed by the United States; and

(2) The county board of each such county may participate in alcohol-related programs with nonprofit corporations.

Sec. 23. Section 23-2313, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

23-2313 It shall be the duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts to make an annual audit of the retirement system and an annual report to the retirement board and to the Clerk of the Legislature of the condition of the retirement system. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by this section by making a request for such report to either the Auditor of Public Accounts or the retirement board.

Sec. 24. Section 24-704, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

24-704 (1) The general administration of the retirement system for judges provided for in the Judges Retirement Act, except the investment of funds, is hereby vested in the board. The Auditor of Public Accounts shall make an annual audit of the retirement system and electronically file an annual report of its condition with the Clerk of the Legislature. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the annual report by making a request for such report to the Auditor of Public Accounts. The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the Judges Retirement Act.

(2)(a) The board shall employ a director and such assistants and employees as may be necessary to efficiently discharge the duties imposed by the act. The director shall keep a record of all acts and proceedings taken by the board.

(b) The director shall keep a complete record of all members with respect to name, current address, age, contributions, length of service, compensation, and any other facts as may be necessary in the administration of the act. The information in the records shall be provided by the State Court Administrator in an accurate and verifiable form, as specified by the director. The director shall, from time to time, carry out testing procedures pursuant to section 84-1512 to verify the accuracy of such information. For the purpose of obtaining such facts and information, the director shall have access to the records of the various state departments and agencies and the holder of the records shall comply with a request by the director for access

by providing such facts and information to the director in a timely manner. A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the age of the person named in the certificate.

(c) The director shall develop and implement an employer education program using principles generally accepted by public employee retirement systems so that all employers have the knowledge and information necessary to prepare and file reports as the board requires.

(3) Information necessary to determine membership in the retirement system shall be provided by the State Court Administrator.

(4) Any funds of the retirement system available for investment shall be invested by the Nebraska Investment Council pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Payment for investment services by the council shall be charged directly against the gross investment returns of the funds. Charges so incurred shall not be a part of the board's annual budget request. The amounts of payment for such services, as of December 31 of each year, shall be reported not later than March 31 of the following year to the council, the board, and the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. The state investment officer shall sell any such securities upon request from the director so as to provide money for the payment of benefits or annuities.

Sec. 25. Section 24-705, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

24-705 The board shall have the power to secure and employ the services of such technical and administrative employees as are necessary to carry out the ~~provisions of the~~ Judges Retirement Act. Pursuant to subdivision (2)(e) of section 84-1503, the board shall have an annual report prepared by a member of the American Academy of Actuaries showing a complete valuation of the present and prospective assets and liabilities of the fund created by the act. Such valuation shall be on the basis of actuarial assumptions recommended by the actuary, approved by the board, and kept on file with the board. The report shall further include a prospectus of the amount of the appropriation that will be required from the Legislature for the succeeding year. This report shall be furnished electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature at each regular session. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the director. The employees of the board shall be paid at such rates as the board shall approve. All administrative expenses shall be paid from the retirement fund.

Sec. 26. Section 24-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

24-1205 By December 15, 1995, and each year thereafter, the Judicial Resources Commission shall hold a hearing to determine whether (1) a new judgeship is appropriate in any judicial district or a reduction in judgeships is appropriate in any judicial district or (2) the judicial district boundaries or the number of judicial districts should be changed for the district or county courts. The commission shall also examine current caseload statistics and make any appropriate recommendations for the more balanced use of existing judicial resources. The State Court Administrator shall provide adequate administrative support and information as requested by the commission. A report of this hearing and any recommendations shall be filed by the commission with the Legislature, the Governor, and the Supreme Court on or before December 31 of each year. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 27. Section 24-1206, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

24-1206 (1) The Judicial Resources Commission's determination of whether a judicial vacancy exists or a new judgeship, a reduction in judgeships, a change in number of judicial districts or boundaries, or the reallocation of a judgeship from a district, county, or separate juvenile court in one judicial district to a district, county, or separate juvenile court in another judicial district is appropriate pursuant to section 24-1204 or 24-1205 shall be based upon ~~(1)~~ (a) its analysis of judicial workload statistics compiled pursuant to section 24-1007, ~~(2)~~ (b) whether litigants in the judicial district have adequate access to the courts, ~~(3)~~ (c) the population of the judicial district, ~~(4)~~ (d) other judicial duties and travel time involved within the judicial district, and ~~(5)~~ (e) other factors determined by the Supreme Court to be necessary to assure efficiency and maximum service. The State Court Administrator shall provide adequate administrative support and information as requested by the commission.

(2) After making a determination, the commission shall report the results electronically to the Legislature and recommend any legislative changes which are needed. If no changes in existing law are needed and none

are recommended by the commission, no legislative action shall be necessary to fill any judicial vacancy determined to exist. The Legislature shall not create a new judgeship unless the commission recommends the creation of a new judgeship in its report. If legislative action is required but none is taken in the first legislative session commencing after receipt of the report by the Legislature, the commission shall hold another hearing on the matter and shall determine whether a judicial vacancy exists or again recommend legislative changes to the Legislature in its report.

Sec. 28. Section 25-1809, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

25-1809 There is hereby created the Legal Services Fund to be administered by the Director of Administrative Services. All money received by the Attorney General or directed to be deposited in the fund by any state agency, board, commission, or constitutional officer or the Legislature pursuant to section 25-1808 shall be deposited into the fund. At the end of each fiscal year, the director shall transfer from the fund into the budget of the appropriate state agency, board, commission, or constitutional office or the Legislature those fees and expenses that have been awarded by the court. In those instances when the Attorney General has billed a state agency, board, commission, or constitutional officer or the Legislature, the money awarded shall be appropriated to the budget of the Attorney General. The director shall ~~report~~ electronically submit a summary of such transfers to the Legislature at the end of each fiscal year.

Sec. 29. Section 25-2920, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

25-2920 The director shall report annually to the Chief Justice, the Governor, and the Legislature on the implementation of the Dispute Resolution Act. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include the number and types of disputes received, the disposition of the disputes, any problems encountered, any recommendations to address problems, and a comparison of the cost of mediation and litigation.

Sec. 30. Section 25-3309, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

25-3309 (1) The Secretary of State shall issue a certificate of registration to a civil litigation funding company who complies with subsection (2) of section 25-3307 or a renewal of registration under subsection (3) of section 25-3307.

(2) The Secretary of State may refuse to issue a certificate of registration if the Secretary of State determines that the character, fitness, or financial responsibility of the civil litigation funding company are such as to warrant belief that the business will not be operated honestly or fairly within the purposes of the Nonrecourse Civil Litigation Act.

(3) The Secretary of State may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a certificate of registration for conduct that would have justified denial of registration under subsection (2) of section 25-3307 or for violating section 25-3304.

(4) The Secretary of State may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a certificate of registration only after proper notice and an opportunity for a hearing. The Administrative Procedure Act applies to the Nonrecourse Civil Litigation Act.

(5) The Secretary of State may issue a temporary certificate of registration while an application for registration or renewal of registration is pending.

(6) The Secretary of State shall require a civil litigation funding company registered pursuant to the act to annually submit certain data, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State that contains:

- (a) The number of nonrecourse civil litigation fundings;
- (b) The amount of nonrecourse civil litigation fundings;
- (c) The number of nonrecourse civil litigation fundings required to be repaid by the consumer;
- (d) The amount charged to the consumer, including, but not limited to, the annual percentage fee charged to the consumer and the itemized fees charged to the consumer; and
- (e) The dollar amount and number of cases in which the realization to the civil litigation funding company was less than contracted.

(7) The Secretary of State shall annually prepare and electronically submit a report to the Clerk of the Legislature and to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature on the status of nonrecourse civil litigation funding activities in the state. The report shall include aggregate information reported by registered civil litigation funding companies.

Sec. 31. Section 28-429, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

2010, is amended to read:

28-429 (1) There is hereby established in the Nebraska State Patrol a Division of Drug Control. The division shall consist of such personnel as may be designated by the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety. It shall be the duty of the division to enforce all of the provisions of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and any other provisions of the law dealing with controlled substances and to conduct drug education activities as directed by the superintendent. The Nebraska State Patrol shall cooperate with federal agencies, the department, other state agencies, elementary and secondary schools, and County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund Boards in discharging their responsibilities concerning traffic in controlled substances, in suppressing the abuse of controlled substances, and in conducting drug education activities. To this end the division is authorized to: (a) Arrange for the exchange of information between governmental officials concerning the use and abuse of controlled substances; (b) coordinate and cooperate in training programs on controlled substance law enforcement and education at the local and state levels; (c) establish a centralized unit which will accept, catalog, file, and collect statistics, including records of drug dependent persons and other controlled substance law offenders within the state, and make such information available for federal, state, and local law enforcement purposes on request; (d) cooperate in locating, eradicating, and destroying wild or illicit growth of plant species from which controlled substances may be extracted, and for these purposes a peace officer is hereby authorized to enter onto property upon which there are no buildings or upon which there are only uninhabited buildings without first obtaining a search warrant or consent; (e) develop a priority program so as to focus the bulk of its efforts on the reduction and elimination of the most damaging drugs including narcotic drugs, depressant and stimulant drugs, and hallucinogenic drugs; and (f) develop and conduct drug education activities in cooperation with elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska and with County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund Boards.

(2) There is hereby created the Nebraska State Patrol Drug Control and Education Cash Fund which shall be used for the purposes of (a) obtaining evidence for enforcement of any state law relating to the control of drug abuse and (b) drug education activities conducted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, except that transfers may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any money in the Nebraska State Patrol Drug Control and Education 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.

(3) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall formulate record-keeping procedures to be adhered to by the Nebraska State Patrol for all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of cash from the Nebraska State Patrol Drug Control and Education Cash Fund. Based on these record-keeping procedures, the Nebraska State Patrol shall prepare and electronically deliver to the Clerk of the Legislature at the commencement of each succeeding session a detailed report which shall contain, but not be limited to: (a) Current total in the cash fund; (b) total amount of expenditures; (c) purpose of the expenditures to include: (i) Salaries and any expenses of all agents and informants; (ii) front money for drug purchases; (iii) names of drugs and quantity of purchases; (iv) amount of front money recovered; and (v) drug education activities; (d) total number of informers on payroll; (e) amounts delivered to patrol supervisors for distribution to agents and informants and the method of accounting for such transactions and the results procured through such transactions; and (f) a description of the drug education activities conducted since the date of the previous report. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the superintendent.

(4) The superintendent shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.

Sec. 32. Section 29-2252, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

29-2252 The administrator shall:

- (1) Supervise and administer the office;
- (2) Establish and maintain policies, standards, and procedures for the system, with the concurrence of the Supreme Court;
- (3) Prescribe and furnish such forms for records and reports for the system as shall be deemed necessary for uniformity, efficiency, and statistical accuracy;
- (4) Establish minimum qualifications for employment as a probation officer in this state and establish and maintain such additional

qualifications as he or she deems appropriate for appointment to the system. Qualifications for probation officers shall be established in accordance with subsection (4) of section 29-2253. An ex-offender released from a penal complex or a county jail may be appointed to a position of deputy probation or parole officer. Such ex-offender shall maintain a record free of arrests, except for minor traffic violations, for one year immediately preceding his or her appointment;

(5) Establish and maintain advanced periodic inservice training requirements for the system;

(6) Cooperate with all agencies, public or private, which are concerned with treatment or welfare of persons on probation;

(7) Organize and conduct training programs for probation officers;

(8) Collect, develop, and maintain statistical information concerning probationers, probation practices, and the operation of the system;

(9) Interpret the probation program to the public with a view toward developing a broad base of public support;

(10) Conduct research for the purpose of evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the system;

(11) Adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary or proper for the operation of the office or system;

(12) Transmit a report during each even-numbered year to the Supreme Court on the operation of the office for the preceding two calendar years which shall include a historical analysis of probation officer workload, including participation in non-probation-based programs and services. The report shall be transmitted by the Supreme Court to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(13) Administer the payment by the state of all salaries, travel, and actual and necessary expenses incident to the conduct and maintenance of the office;

(14) Use the funds provided under section 29-2262.07 to augment operational or personnel costs associated with the development, implementation, and evaluation of enhanced probation-based programs and non-probation-based programs and services in which probation personnel or probation resources are utilized pursuant to an interlocal agreement authorized by subdivision (16) of this section and to purchase services to provide such programs aimed at enhancing adult probationer or non-probation-based program participant supervision in the community and treatment needs of probationers and non-probation-based program participants. Enhanced probation-based programs include, but are not limited to, specialized units of supervision, related equipment purchases and training, and programs that address a probationer's vocational, educational, mental health, behavioral, or substance abuse treatment needs;

(15) Ensure that any risk or needs assessment instrument utilized by the system be periodically validated;

(16) Have the authority to enter into interlocal agreements in which probation resources or probation personnel may be utilized in conjunction with or as part of non-probation-based programs and services. Any such interlocal agreement shall comply with section 29-2255;

(17) Collaborate with the Community Corrections Division of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Office of Parole Administration to develop rules governing the participation of parolees in community corrections programs operated by the Office of Probation Administration; and

(18) Exercise all powers and perform all duties necessary and proper to carry out his or her responsibilities.

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

Sec. 33. Section 29-2252.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

29-2252.01 On December 31 and June 30 of each fiscal year, the administrator shall provide a report to the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst which shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The total number of felony cases supervised by the office in the previous six months for both regular and intensive supervision probation;

(2) The total number of misdemeanor cases supervised by the office in the previous six months for both regular and intensive supervision probation;

(3) The felony caseload per officer for both regular and intensive supervision probation on the last day of the reporting period;

(4) The misdemeanor caseload per officer for both regular and intensive supervision probation on the last day of the reporting period;

(5) The total number of juvenile cases supervised by the office in the previous six months for both regular and intensive supervision probation;

(6) The total number of predisposition investigations completed by the office in the previous six months;

(7) The total number of presentence investigations completed by the office in the previous six months; and

(8) The total number of juvenile intake screening interviews conducted and detentions authorized by the office in the previous six months, using the detention screening instrument described in section 43-260.01.

The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 34. Section 35-1207, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

35-1207 (1) Any rural or suburban fire protection district or mutual finance organization seeking funds pursuant to the Mutual Finance Assistance Act shall submit an application for funding to the State Treasurer by July 1. The State Treasurer shall develop the application which requires calculations showing assumed population eligibility under section 35-1205 and the distribution amount under section 35-1206. If the applicant is a mutual finance organization, it shall attach to its first application a copy of the agreement pursuant to section 35-1204 and attach to any subsequent application a copy of an amended agreement or an affidavit stating that the previously submitted agreement is still accurate and effective. Any mutual finance organization making application pursuant to this section shall include with the application additional financial information regarding the manner in which any funds received by the mutual finance organization based upon the prior year's application pursuant to the act have been expended or distributed by that mutual finance organization. The State Treasurer shall provide electronic copies of such reports on mutual finance organization expenditures and distributions to the Clerk of the Legislature by December 1 of each year in which any reports are filed.

(2) The State Treasurer shall review all applications for eligibility for funds under the act and approve any application which is accurate and demonstrates that the applicant is eligible for funds. On or before August 15, the State Treasurer shall notify the applicant of approval or denial of the application and certify the amount of funds for which an approved applicant is eligible. The decision of the State Treasurer may be appealed as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, funds shall be disbursed by the State Treasurer in two payments which are as nearly equal as possible, to be paid on or before November 1 and May 1. If the Mutual Finance Assistance Fund is insufficient to make all payments to all applicants in the amounts provided in section 35-1206, the State Treasurer shall prorate payments to approved applicants. Funds remaining in the Mutual Finance Assistance Fund on June 1 shall be transferred to the General Fund before July 1.

(4) No funds shall be disbursed to an eligible mutual finance organization until it has provided to the State Treasurer the financial information regarding the manner in which it has expended or distributed prior disbursements made pursuant to the Mutual Finance Assistance Act as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

Sec. 35. Section 37-327.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

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 enforcement of the Game Law. The fund shall be funded through revenue collected under the Game Law and budgeted or allocated to the fund by the commission, and through donations from persons, wildlife groups, and other charitable sources. 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.

(2) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the commission shall formulate record-keeping procedures for all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of cash from the Game Law Investigation Cash Fund. Based on these record-keeping procedures, the commission shall prepare and deliver electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature by September 15 of each year a detailed report of the previous fiscal year which includes, but is not limited to: (a) The June 30 balance in the Game Law Investigation Cash Fund and the amounts delivered to the commission for distribution to agents and informants; (b) the total amount

of expenditures; (c) the purpose of the expenditures including: (i) Salaries and any expenses of all agents and informants; (ii) front money for wildlife purchases; (iii) type of wildlife and amount purchased; and (iv) amount of front money recovered; (d) the total number of informants on payroll; and (e) the results procured through such transactions. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the secretary of the commission.

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

Sec. 36. Section 37-352, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

37-352 (1) No appropriation shall be made from the Nebraska Outdoor Recreation Development Cash Fund until the commission has presented electronically a multiyear recreational development plan to the Legislature for its review, modification, and final approval. An updated version of such plan shall also be submitted electronically to the Legislature annually for its modification and approval. The money in such fund shall be administered according to this section by the commission for the development, operation, and maintenance of areas of the state park system. The money in such fund may be used in whole or in part for the matching of federal funds. All disbursements from the fund shall be made upon warrants drawn by the Director of Administrative Services.

(2) When a recreational plan is prepared for any state park system area or part of a state park system area cooperatively managed by the commission and the Nebraska State Historical Society, such plan shall insure that adequate funds are appropriated to develop and maintain historical aspects.

Sec. 37. Section 37-919, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

37-919 On or before December 1, 2012, the commission shall report to the Legislature on the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program. The report shall be submitted electronically and shall include, at a minimum, the number and ages of the participants, the areas in which they reside, the rate of compensation of participants, the number and type of projects in which participants engaged, the significance of those projects to the environment and the economy of the state, and any other matters the commission deems significant for inclusion in the report.

Sec. 38. Section 38-1216, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

38-1216 In addition to any other responsibilities prescribed by the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act, the board shall:

(1) Promote the dissemination of public information and education programs to inform the public about out-of-hospital emergency medical care and other out-of-hospital medical information, including appropriate methods of medical self-help, first aid, and the availability of out-of-hospital emergency medical services training programs in the state;

(2) Provide for the collection of information for evaluation of the availability and quality of out-of-hospital emergency medical care, evaluate the availability and quality of out-of-hospital emergency medical care, and serve as a focal point for discussion of the provision of out-of-hospital emergency medical care;

(3) Review and comment on all state agency proposals and applications that seek funding for out-of-hospital emergency medical care;

(4) Establish model procedures for patient management in out-of-hospital medical emergencies that do not limit the authority of law enforcement and fire protection personnel to manage the scene during an out-of-hospital medical emergency;

(5) Not less than once each five years, undertake a review and evaluation of the act and its implementation together with a review of the out-of-hospital emergency medical care needs of the citizens of the State of Nebraska and submit electronically a report to the Legislature with any recommendations which it may have; and

(6) Identify communication needs of emergency medical services and make recommendations for development of a communications plan for a communications network for out-of-hospital emergency care providers and emergency medical services.

Sec. 39. Section 39-1111, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-1111 The State Highway Commission shall file with the Governor each quarter a report fully and accurately showing conditions existing in the state with reference to the state's highway building and as to construction and maintenance work. Such reports shall further contain an itemized statement

of all expenditures and the purposes for such expenditures since the last report submitted to the Governor. Each of such reports shall further contain an itemized budget of all proposed expenditures for the ensuing quarter. A copy of such report shall be filed electronically with the Clerk of the Legislature and be made available to the public. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the secretary of the commission.

Sec. 40. Section 39-1365.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-1365.02 (1) The Department of Roads shall apply for and make maximum use of available federal funding, including discretionary funding, on all highway construction projects which are eligible for such assistance.

(2) The Department of Roads shall transmit electronically to the Legislature, by December 1 of each year, a report on the needs of the state highway system and the department's planning procedures. Such report shall include:

(a) The criteria by which highway needs are determined;

(b) The standards established for each classification of highways;

(c) An assessment of current and projected needs of the state highway system, such needs to be defined by category of improvement required to bring each segment up to standards. Projected fund availability shall not be a consideration by which needs are determined;

(d) Criteria and data, including factors enumerated in section 39-1365.01, upon which decisions may be made on possible special priority highways for commercial growth; and

(e) A review of the department's procedure for selection of projects for the annual construction program, the five-year planning program, and extended planning programs.

Sec. 41. Section 39-1391, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-1391 The Game and Parks Commission shall develop and file with the Governor and the Legislature a one-year plan and a long-range five-year plan of proposed construction and improvements for all exterior access roads and interior service roads as provided in section 39-1390, based on priority of needs and calculated to contribute to the orderly development of an integrated system of roads with the facilities maintained or managed by the Game and Parks Commission. The first such plan shall be filed on or before January 1, 1974. The plans shall be reviewed and extended annually, on or before January 1 of each year, so that there shall always be a current one-year and five-year plan on file. The plans submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. All plans shall specify the criteria employed in setting the priorities and shall also identify any additional recreation road requirements which may exist but are not reflected in the one-year and five-year plans. The commission shall also, at the time it files such plans and extensions thereof, report the construction and improvements certified during each of the two immediately preceding calendar years.

Sec. 42. Section 39-1392, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

39-1392 The Department of Roads shall develop and file with the Governor and the Legislature a one-year and a long-range five-year plan of scheduled design, construction, and improvement for all exterior access roads and interior service roads as certified to it by the Game and Parks Commission. The first such plans shall be filed on or before January 1, 1974. The plans shall be reviewed and extended annually, on or before January 1 of each year, so that there shall always be a current one-year and five-year plan on file. The plans submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The department shall also, at the time it files such plans and extensions thereof, report the design, construction, and improvement accomplished during each of the two immediately preceding calendar years.

Sec. 43. Section 42-930, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

42-930 (1) By January 1, 1998, each law enforcement agency shall develop a system for recording incidents of domestic abuse within its jurisdiction. All incidents of domestic abuse, whether or not an arrest was made, shall be documented with a written incident report form that includes a domestic abuse identifier.

(2) By January 1, 1998, the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice shall develop or shall approve a monthly reporting process. Each law enforcement agency shall compile and submit a monthly report to the commission on the number of domestic abuse incidents recorded within its jurisdiction.

(3) The commission shall submit a report annually to the Governor,

the Legislature, and the public indicating the total number of incidents of domestic abuse reported by each reporting agency. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 44. Section 43-405, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-405 The administrative duties of the Office of Juvenile Services are to:

- (1) Manage, establish policies for, and administer the office, including all facilities and programs operated by the office or provided through the office by contract with a provider;
- (2) Supervise employees of the office, including employees of the facilities and programs operated by the office;
- (3) Have separate budgeting procedures and develop and report budget information separately from the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (4) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the levels of treatment and for management, control, screening, evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation, parole, transfer, and discharge of juveniles placed with or committed to the Office of Juvenile Services;
- (5) Ensure that statistical information concerning juveniles placed with or committed to facilities or programs of the office is collected, developed, and maintained for purposes of research and the development of treatment programs;
- (6) Monitor commitments, placements, and evaluations at facilities and programs operated by the office or through contracts with providers and submit electronically an annual report of its findings annually to the Legislature. The report shall include an assessment of the administrative costs of operating the facilities, the cost of programming, and the savings realized through reductions in commitments, placements, and evaluations;
- (7) Coordinate the programs and services of the juvenile justice system with other governmental agencies and political subdivisions;
- (8) Coordinate educational, vocational, and social counseling;
- (9) Coordinate community-based services for juveniles and their families;
- (10) Supervise and coordinate juvenile parole and aftercare services; and
- (11) Exercise all powers and perform all duties necessary to carry out its responsibilities under the Health and Human Services, Office of Juvenile Services Act.

Sec. 45. Section 43-512.11, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-512.11 The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit electronically an annual report, ~~annually,~~ not later than February 1 of each year, to the Legislature regarding the effectiveness of programs established pursuant to subdivision (5)(a) of section 43-512. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The number of program participants;
- (2) The number of program participants who become employed, whether such employment is full time or part time or subsidized or unsubsidized, and whether the employment was retained for at least thirty days;
- (3) Supportive services provided to participants in the program;
- (4) Grant reductions realized; and
- (5) A cost and benefit statement for the program.

Sec. 46. Section 43-1905, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-1905 The department shall:

- (1) Have the power to deny any grant award, or portion of such award, made by the board;
- (2) Review and monitor expenditures of money from the fund on a periodic basis; and
- (3) Submit to the Governor and the Legislature an annual report of all receipts and disbursements of funds, including the recipients, the nature of the program funded, the dollar amount awarded, and the percentage of the total annually available funds the grant represents. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report may be made available to the public upon request.

Sec. 47. Section 43-2404.02, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

43-2404.02 (1) There is created a separate and distinct budgetary program within the commission to be known as the County Juvenile Services Aid Program. Funding acquired from participation in the federal act, state General Funds, and funding acquired from other sources which may be used for purposes consistent with the Juvenile Services Act and the federal act shall be used

to aid counties in the establishment and provision of community-based services for accused and adjudicated juvenile offenders and to increase capacity for community-based services to juveniles.

(2) The annual General Fund appropriation to the County Juvenile Services Aid Program shall be apportioned to the counties as aid in accordance with a formula established in rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the commission. The formula shall be based on the total number of residents per county who are twelve years of age through eighteen years of age and other relevant factors as determined by the commission. The commission may require a local match of up to forty percent from counties receiving aid under such program. Any local expenditures for community-based programs for juveniles may be applied toward such match requirement.

(3) Funds provided to counties under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program shall be used exclusively to assist counties in implementation and operation of programs or services identified in their comprehensive juvenile services plan, including, but not limited to, programs for assessment and evaluation, prevention of delinquent behavior, diversion, shelter care, intensive juvenile probation services, restitution, family support services, and family group conferencing. In distributing funds provided under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program, counties shall prioritize programs and services that will reduce the juvenile detention population. No funds appropriated or distributed under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program shall be used for construction of secure detention facilities, secure youth treatment facilities, or secure youth confinement facilities. Aid received under this section shall not be used for capital construction or the lease or acquisition of facilities and shall not be used to replace existing funding for programs or services. Any funds not distributed to counties under this subsection shall be retained by the commission to be distributed on a competitive basis under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program.

(4) Any county receiving funding under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program shall file an annual report as required by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the commission. The report shall include, but not be limited to, information on the total number of juveniles served, the units of service provided, a listing of the county's annual juvenile justice budgeted and actual expenditures, and a listing of expenditures for detention, residential treatment, and nonresidential treatment.

(5) The commission shall report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the distribution and use of funds appropriated under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(6) The commission shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section.

Sec. 48. Section 43-2412, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-2412 (1) Consistent with the purposes and objectives of the Juvenile Services Act and the federal act, the coalition shall:

(a) Make recommendations to the commission on the awarding of grants under the Commission Grant Program to eligible applicants;

(b) Identify juvenile justice issues, share information, and monitor and evaluate programs in the juvenile justice system;

(c) Recommend guidelines and supervision procedures to the Office of Juvenile Services to be used to develop or expand local diversion programs for juveniles from the juvenile justice system;

(d) Prepare an annual report to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Office of Juvenile Services including recommendations on administrative and legislative actions which would improve the juvenile justice system. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(e) Ensure widespread citizen involvement in all phases of its work; and

(f) Meet at least four times each year.

(2) Consistent with the purposes and objectives of the acts and within the limits of available time and appropriations, the coalition may:

(a) Recommend criteria to the Office of Juvenile Services for administrative procedures, including, but not limited to, procedures for intake, detention, petition filing, and probation supervision;

(b) Recommend to the Office of Juvenile Services minimum professional standards, including requirements for continuing professional training, for employees of community-based, youth-serving agencies;

(c) Recommend to the Office of Juvenile Services curricula for and cause to have conducted training sessions for juvenile court judges and employees of other community-based, youth-serving agencies;

(d) Assist and advise state and local agencies in the establishment

of volunteer training programs and the utilization of volunteers;

(e) Apply for and receive funds from federal and private sources for carrying out its powers and duties; and

(f) Provide technical assistance to eligible applicants.

(3) In formulating, adopting, and promulgating the standards, recommendations, and guidelines provided for in this section, the coalition shall consider the differences among counties in population, in geography, and in the availability of local resources.

Sec. 49. Section 43-3326, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3326 The department shall issue electronically a report to the Legislature on or before January 31 of each year which discloses the number of professional, occupational, or recreational licenses which were suspended and the number which were erroneously suspended and restored as a result of the License Suspension Act for the prior year. The Director of Motor Vehicles shall issue electronically a report to the Legislature on or before January 31 of each year which discloses the number of operators' licenses which were suspended and the number which were erroneously suspended and restored as a result of the License Suspension Act for the prior year.

Sec. 50. Section 43-3342.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3342.04 (1) The Title IV-D Division shall establish a Customer Service Unit. In hiring the initial staff for the unit, a hiring preference shall be given to employees of the clerks of the district court. The duties of the Customer Service Unit include, but are not limited to:

(a) Providing account information as well as addressing inquiries made by customers of the State Disbursement Unit; and

(b) Administering two statewide toll-free telephone systems, one for use by employers and one for use by all other customers, to provide responses to inquiries regarding income withholding, the collection and disbursement of support order payments made to the State Disbursement Unit, and other child support enforcement issues, including establishing a call center with sufficient telephone lines, a voice response unit, and adequate personnel available during normal business hours to ensure that responses to inquiries are made by the division's personnel or the division's designee.

(2) The physical location of the Customer Service Unit shall be in Nebraska and shall result in the hiring of a number of new employees or contractor's staff equal to at least one-fourth of one percent of the labor force in the county or counties in which the Customer Service Unit is located. Customer service staff responsible for providing account information related to the State Disbursement Unit may be located at the same location as the State Disbursement Unit.

(3) The department shall issue a report to the Governor and to the Legislature on or before January 31 of each year which discloses information relating to the operation of the State Disbursement Unit for the preceding calendar year including, but not limited to:

(a) The number of transactions processed by the State Disbursement Unit;

(b) The dollar amount collected by the State Disbursement Unit;

(c) The dollar amount disbursed by the State Disbursement Unit;

(d) The percentage of identifiable collections disbursed within two business days;

(e) The percentage of identifiable collections that are matched to the correct case;

(f) The number and dollar amount of insufficient funds checks received by the State Disbursement Unit;

(g) The number and dollar amount of insufficient funds checks received by the State Disbursement Unit for which restitution is subsequently made to the State Disbursement Unit;

(h) The number of incoming telephone calls processed through the Customer Service Unit;

(i) The average length of incoming calls from employers;

(j) The average length of incoming calls from all other customers;

(k) The percentage of incoming calls resulting in abandonment by the customer;

(l) The percentage of incoming calls resulting in a customer receiving a busy signal;

(m) The average holding time for all incoming calls; and

(n) The percentage of calls handled by employees of the Customer Service Unit that are resolved within twenty-four hours.

(4) The report issued to the Legislature pursuant to subsection (3) of this section shall be issued electronically.

Sec. 51. Section 43-3402, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

43-3402 With respect to the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and sections 79-1101 to 79-1104, the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council shall serve in an advisory capacity to state agencies responsible for early childhood care and education, including care for school-age children, in order to:

- (1) Promote the policies set forth in the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and sections 79-1101 to 79-1104;
- (2) Facilitate collaboration with the federally administered Head Start program;
- (3) Make recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services, the State Department of Education, and other state agencies responsible for the regulation or provision of early childhood care and education programs on the needs, priorities, and policies relating to such programs throughout the state;
- (4) Make recommendations to the lead agency or agencies which prepare and submit applications for federal funding;
- (5) Review new or proposed revisions to rules and regulations governing the registration or licensing of early childhood care and education programs;
- (6) Study and recommend additional resources for early childhood care and education programs; and
- (7) Report biennially to the Governor and Legislature on the status of early intervention and early childhood care and education in the state. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such report shall include (a) the number of license applications received under section 71-1911, (b) the number of such licenses issued, (c) the number of such license applications denied, (d) the number of complaints investigated regarding such licensees, (e) the number of such licenses revoked, (f) the number and dollar amount of civil penalties levied pursuant to section 71-1920, and (g) information which may assist the Legislature in determining the extent of cooperation provided to the Department of Health and Human Services by other state and local agencies pursuant to section 71-1914.

Sec. 52. Section 43-3720, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

43-3720 Each applicant who is awarded a grant under section 43-3719 shall provide the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Legislature, and Governor prior to December 31 of each year a report regarding the grant detailing:

- (1) The number of court appointed special advocate volunteers trained during the previous fiscal year;
- (2) The cost of training the court appointed special advocate volunteers trained during the previous fiscal year;
- (3) The number of court appointed special advocate volunteers recruited during the previous fiscal year;
- (4) A description of any programs described in subdivision (2)(d) of section 43-3719;
- (5) The total number of courts being served by court appointed special advocate programs during the previous fiscal year; and
- (6) The total number of children being served by court appointed special advocate volunteers during the previous fiscal year.

The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 53. Section 44-113, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

44-113 The Department of Insurance shall transmit to the Governor, ten days prior to the opening of each session of the Legislature, a report of its official transactions, containing in a condensed form the statements made to the department by every insurance company authorized to do business in this state pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, as audited and corrected by it, arranged in tabular form or in abstracts, in classes according to the kind of insurance, which report shall also contain (1) a statement of all insurance companies authorized to do business in this state during the year ending December 31 next preceding, with their names, locations, amounts of capital, dates of incorporation, and of the commencement of business and kinds of insurance in which they are engaged respectively; and (2) a statement of the insurance companies whose business has been closed since making the last report, and the reasons for closing the same, with the amount of their assets and liabilities, so far as the same are known or can be ascertained by the department. The report shall also be transmitted electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a copy of such report by making a request for it to the director. The department may

transmit the report by electronic format through the gateway or electronic network established under section 84-1204 after notification of such type of delivery is given to the recipient. The department shall maintain the report in a form capable of accurate duplication on paper.

Sec. 54. Section 44-4225, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

44-4225 (1) Following the close of each calendar year, the board shall report the board's determination of the paid and incurred losses for the year, taking into account investment income and other appropriate gains and losses. The board shall distribute copies of the report to the director, the Governor, and each member of the Legislature. The report submitted to each member of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(2) The Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Distributive Fund is created. Commencing with the premium and related retaliatory taxes for the taxable year ending December 31, 2001, and for each taxable year thereafter, any premium and related retaliatory taxes imposed by section 44-150 or 77-908 paid by insurers writing health insurance in this state, except as otherwise set forth in subdivisions (1) and (2) of section 77-912, shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the fund. The fund shall be used for the operation of and payment of claims made against the pool. 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.

(3) The board shall make periodic estimates of the amount needed from the fund for payment of losses resulting from claims, including a reasonable reserve, and administrative, organizational, and interim operating expenses and shall notify the director of the amount needed and the justification of the board for the request.

(4) The director shall approve all withdrawals from the fund and may determine when and in what amount any additional withdrawals may be necessary from the fund to assure the continuing financial stability of the pool.

(5) No later than May 1, 2002, and each May 1 thereafter, after funding of the net loss from operation of the pool for the prior premium and related retaliatory tax year, taking into account the policyholder premiums, account investment income, claims, costs of operation, and other appropriate gains and losses, the director shall transmit any money remaining in the fund as directed by section 77-912, disregarding the provisions of subdivisions (1) through (3) of such section. Interest earned on money in the fund shall be credited proportionately in the same manner as premium and related retaliatory taxes set forth in section 77-912.

Sec. 55. Section 44-7507, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

44-7507 (1) The director shall monitor competition and the availability of insurance in commercial insurance markets. Such monitoring may include requests for information from insurers regarding the lines, types, and classes of insurance that the insurer is seeking and able to write. When requested by an insurer with its response, the director shall keep such responses confidential except as they may be compiled in summaries.

(2) If the director finds that a commercial insurance coverage is contributing to problems in the insurance marketplace due to excessive rates or lack of availability, the director shall submit electronically a report of this finding to the Legislature. Such report may be a separate report or a supplement to the annual report required by section 44-113.

(3) A competitive market is presumed to exist unless the director, after notice and hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, determines by order that a degree of competition sufficient to warrant reliance upon competition as a regulator of rating systems, policy forms, or both does not exist in the market. In determining whether a sufficient degree of competition exists, the director may consider:

(a) Relevant tests of workable competition pertaining to market structure, market performance, and market conduct;

(b) The practical opportunities available to consumers in the market to acquire pricing and other consumer information and to compare and obtain insurance from competing insurers;

(c) Whether long-term and short-term profitability provides evidence of excessive rates;

(d) Whether rating systems filed under section 44-7508 would frequently require amendment or disapproval if filed under sections 44-7510 and 44-7511;

(e) Whether additional competition would appear likely to significantly lower rates or improve the policy forms offered to insureds;

(f) Whether rates would be lowered or policy forms would be improved

by the imposition of a system of prior approval regulation;

(g) Whether policy forms filed under section 44-7508.02 would frequently require amendment or disapproval if filed under section 44-7513; and

(h) Any other relevant factors.

(4) If a market for a particular type of insurance is found to lack sufficient competition to warrant reliance upon competition as a regulator of rating systems or policy forms, the director shall identify factors that appear to be the cause and the extent to which remediation can be achieved on a short-term or long-term basis. To the extent that significant remediation can be achieved consistent with the other goals of the Property and Casualty Insurance Rate and Form Act, the director shall take such action as may be within the director's authority to accomplish such remediation or to promote the accomplishment of such remediation.

(5) If the director finds pursuant to a hearing held in accordance with subsection (3) of this section that the lack of sufficient competition warrants the application of sections 44-7510 and 44-7511 to the rates charged for a type of insurance, an order shall be issued pursuant to this section that applies sections 44-7510 and 44-7511 to the type of insurance. If the director finds pursuant to a hearing held in accordance with subsection (3) of this section that the lack of sufficient competition warrants the application of section 44-7513 to regulate the forms offered for a type of insurance, an order shall be issued pursuant to this section that applies section 44-7513 to the type of insurance. An order issued under this subsection shall expire no later than one year after its original issue unless the director renews the order after a hearing and a finding of a continued lack of sufficient competition. Any order that is renewed after its first year shall not exceed three years after reissue unless the director renews the order after a hearing and a finding of a continued lack of sufficient competition.

(6) The director shall keep on file in one location all complaints from the public and insurance industry sources alleging that a competitive market does not exist. The director shall investigate each complaint to the extent necessary to determine the truth of the allegations. The director shall keep a summary of his or her findings and conclusions with the complaint.

Sec. 56. Section 46-1304, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

46-1304 The Department of Environmental Quality shall prepare a report outlining the extent of ground water quality monitoring conducted by natural resources districts during the preceding calendar year. The department shall analyze the data collected for the purpose of determining whether or not ground water quality is degrading or improving and shall present the results electronically to the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature beginning December 1, 2001, and each year thereafter. The districts shall submit in a timely manner all ground water quality monitoring data collected to the department or its designee. The department shall use the data submitted by the districts in conjunction with all other readily available and compatible data for the purposes of the annual ground water quality trend analysis.

Sec. 57. Section 46-1305, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

46-1305 Each natural resources district shall submit electronically an annual report to the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature detailing all water quality programs conducted by the district in the preceding calendar year. The report shall include the funds received and expended for water quality projects and a listing of any unfunded projects. The first report shall be submitted on or before December 1, 2001, and then each December 1 thereafter.

Sec. 58. Section 47-624, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

47-624 The division shall:

(1) Develop standards for eligible community correctional facilities and programs in which offenders can participate, taking into consideration the following factors:

- (a) Qualifications of staff;
- (b) Suitability of programs;
- (c) Offender needs;
- (d) Probation population;
- (e) Parole population; and
- (f) Other applicable criminal justice data;

(2) Develop and implement a plan to establish statewide operation and use of a continuum of community correctional facilities and programs;

(3) Develop, in consultation with the probation administrator and the Parole Administrator, standards for the use of community correctional

facilities and programs by the Nebraska Probation System and the parole system;

(4) Collaborate with the Office of Probation Administration, the Office of Parole Administration, and the Department of Correctional Services on the development of additional reporting centers as set forth in section 47-624.01;

(5) Analyze and mandate the consistent use of offender risk assessment tools;

(6) Educate the courts, the Board of Parole, criminal justice system stakeholders, and the general public about the availability and use of community correctional facilities and programs;

(7) Enter into contracts, if necessary, for carrying out the purposes of the Community Corrections Act;

(8) In order to ensure adequate funding for substance abuse treatment programs for probationers, consult with the probation administrator and develop or assist with the development of programs as provided in subdivision (14) of section 29-2252;

(9) In order to ensure adequate funding for substance abuse treatment programs for parolees, consult with the Office of Parole Administration and develop or assist with the development of programs as provided in subdivision (8) of section 83-1,102;

(10) Study substance abuse and mental health treatment services in and related to the criminal justice system, recommend improvements, and evaluate the implementation of improvements;

(11) Research and evaluate existing community corrections facilities and programs, within the limits of available funding;

(12) Develop standardized definitions of outcome measures for community corrections facilities and programs, including, but not limited to, recidivism, employment, and substance abuse;

(13) Report annually to the Legislature and the Governor on the development and performance of community corrections facilities and programs. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include the following:

(a) A description of community corrections facilities and programs, endorsed by the division, currently serving offenders in Nebraska, which includes the following information:

(i) The target population and geographic area served by each facility or program, eligibility requirements, and the total number of offenders utilizing the facility or program over the past year;

(ii) Services provided to offenders at the facility or in the program;

(iii) The costs of operating the facility or program and the cost per offender; and

(iv) The funding sources for the facility or program;

(b) The progress made in expanding community corrections facilities and programs statewide and an analysis of the need for additional community corrections services;

(c) An analysis of the impact community corrections facilities and programs have on the number of offenders incarcerated within the Department of Correctional Services; and

(d) The recidivism rates and outcome data for probationers, parolees, and problem-solving-court clients participating in community corrections programs;

(14) Grant funds to entities including local governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, and behavioral health services which will support the intent of the act;

(15) Administer contracts entered into by the division with community correctional facilities or programs;

(16) Establish and administer grants, projects, and programs for the operation of the division; and

(17) Perform such other duties as may be necessary to carry out the policy of the state established in the act.

Sec. 59. Section 48-1,104, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-1,104 The Risk Manager shall make submit electronically a report to the Clerk of the Legislature by January 15 of each year, which report shall include the number of claims for which payments have been made, the amounts paid by categories of medical, hospital, compensation, and other costs separated by the agency and program or activity under which the claim arose. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the Risk Manager.

Sec. 60. Section 48-1,118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

amended to read:

48-1,118 On January 1, 1997, the Governor shall direct the Director of Insurance and the Commissioner of Labor to conduct and complete a cost-benefit analysis and a review of the effectiveness of the changes made by Laws 1993, LB 757, to control or reduce the cost of workers' compensation premiums. Information for the study may be elicited from interested persons and from the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court. The director and the commissioner shall submit a report, which may include recommendations for further legislation, to the chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Governor by October 1, 1997. The Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall hold a public hearing on the study and shall submit a report to the Legislature by December 1, 1997. The Governor or the Legislature, by resolution, may require a similar study in 1999 and every two years thereafter. Any report submitted to the committee and the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 61. Section 48-606, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-606 (1) It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Labor to administer the Employment Security Law. He or she shall have the power and authority to employ such persons, make such expenditures, require such reports, make such investigations, and take such other action as he or she deems necessary or suitable to that end if the same are consistent with the Employment Security Law. The commissioner shall determine his or her own organization and methods of procedure in accordance with such law and shall have an official seal which shall be judicially noticed. Not later than the thirty-first day of December of each year, the commissioner shall submit to the Governor a report covering the administration and operation of such law during the preceding fiscal year and shall make such recommendations for amendments to such law as he or she deems proper. Such report shall include a balance sheet of the money in the fund in which there shall be provided, if possible, a reserve against the liability in future years to pay benefits in excess of the then current contributions, which reserve shall be set up by the commissioner in accordance with accepted actuarial principles on the basis of statistics of employment, business activity, and other relevant factors for the longest possible period. Whenever the commissioner believes that a change in contribution or benefit rates will become necessary to protect the solvency of the fund, he or she shall promptly inform the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature thereof and make recommendations with respect thereto. Such information and recommendations submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such information by making a request for it to the commissioner.

(2) The commissioner may establish a schedule of fees to recover the cost of services including, but not limited to, copying, preparation of forms and other materials, responding to inquiries for information, payments for returned check charges and electronic payments not accepted, and furnishing publications prepared by the commissioner pursuant to the Employment Security Law. Fees received pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in the Employment Security Administration Fund.

(3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow the department to charge any fee for making a claim for unemployment benefits or receiving assistance from the state employment service established pursuant to section 48-662 when performing functions within the purview of the federal Wagner-Peyser Act, 29 U.S.C. 49 et seq., as amended.

Sec. 62. Section 48-621, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-621 (1) The administrative fund shall consist of the Employment Security Administration Fund and the Employment Security Special Contingent Fund. Each fund shall be maintained as a separate and distinct account in all respects, as follows:

(a) There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund to be known as the Employment Security Administration Fund. All money credited to this fund is hereby appropriated and made available to the Commissioner of Labor. All money in this fund shall be expended solely for the purposes and in the amounts found necessary as defined by the specific federal programs, state statutes, and contract obligations for the proper and efficient administration of all programs of the Department of Labor. The fund shall consist of all money appropriated by this state and all money received from the United States of America or any agency thereof, including the Department of Labor and the Railroad Retirement Board, or from any other source for such purpose. Money received from any agency of the United States or any other state as compensation for services or facilities supplied to such agency, any amounts

received pursuant to any surety bond or insurance policy for losses sustained by the Employment Security Administration Fund or by reason of damage to equipment or supplies purchased from money in such fund, and any proceeds realized from the sale or disposition of any equipment or supplies which may no longer be necessary for the proper administration of such programs shall also be credited to this fund. All money in this fund shall be deposited, administered, and disbursed in the same manner and under the same conditions and requirements as is provided by law for other special funds in the state treasury. Any balances in this fund, except balances of money therein appropriated from the General Fund of this state, shall not lapse at any time but shall be continuously available to the commissioner for expenditure consistent with the Employment Security Law. Any money in the Employment Security Administration 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; and

(b) There is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund to be known as the Employment Security Special Contingent Fund. Any money in the Employment Security Special Contingent 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. All money collected under section 48-655 as interest on delinquent contributions, less refunds, shall be credited to this fund from the clearing account of the Unemployment Compensation Fund at the end of each calendar quarter. Such money shall not be expended or available for expenditure in any manner which would permit its substitution for or a corresponding reduction in federal funds which would in the absence of such money be available to finance expenditures for the administration of the unemployment insurance law, but nothing in this section shall prevent the money from being used as a revolving fund to cover expenditures necessary and proper under the law for which federal funds have been duly requested but not yet received, subject to the charging of such expenditures against such federal funds when received. The money in this fund may be used by the Commissioner of Labor only as follows:

(i) To replace within a reasonable time any money received by this state pursuant to section 302 of the federal Social Security Act, as amended, and required to be paid under section 48-622;

(ii) To meet special extraordinary and contingent expenses which are deemed essential for good administration but which are not provided in grants from the Secretary of Labor of the United States and, for this purpose, no expenditures shall be made from this fund except on written authorization by the Governor at the request of the Commissioner of Labor;

(iii) To be transferred to the Nebraska Community College Aid Cash Fund; and

(iv) To be transferred to the Job Training Cash Fund.

(2)(a) Money credited to the account of this state in the Unemployment Trust Fund by the United States Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act may not be requisitioned from this state's account or used except for the payment of benefits and for the payment of expenses incurred for the administration of the Employment Security Law and public employment offices. Such money may be requisitioned pursuant to section 48-619 for the payment of benefits. Such money may also be requisitioned and used for the payment of expenses incurred for the administration of the Employment Security Law and public employment offices but only pursuant to a specific appropriation by the Legislature and only if the expenses are incurred and the money is requisitioned after the date of enactment of an appropriation law which specifies the purposes for which such money is appropriated and the amounts appropriated therefor. Such appropriation is subject to the following conditions:

(i) The period within which such money may be obligated is limited to a period ending not more than two years after the effective date of the appropriation law; and

(ii) The amount which may be obligated is limited to an amount which does not exceed the amount by which the aggregate of the amounts transferred to the account of this state pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act exceeds the aggregate of the amounts used by this state pursuant to the Employment Security Law and charged against the amounts transferred to the account of this state.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (2)(a)(ii) of this section, the amounts obligated under an appropriation for the administrative purposes described in such subdivision shall be charged against transferred amounts at the exact time the obligation is entered into.

(c) The appropriation, obligation, and expenditure or other disposition of money appropriated under this subsection shall be accounted for

in accordance with standards established by the United States Secretary of Labor.

(d) Money appropriated as provided in this subsection for the payment of expenses of administration shall be requisitioned as needed for the payment of obligations incurred under such appropriation and, upon requisition, shall be credited to the Employment Security Administration Fund from which such payments shall be made. Money so credited shall, until expended, remain a part of the Employment Security Administration Fund and, if it will not be immediately expended, shall be returned promptly to the account of this state in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

(e) Notwithstanding subdivision (2)(a) of this section, money credited with respect to federal fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001 shall be used solely for the administration of the unemployment compensation program and are not subject to appropriation by the Legislature.

(3) There is hereby appropriated out of the funds made available to this state in federal fiscal year 2002 under section 903(d) of the federal Social Security Act, as amended, the sum of \$6,800,484, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be used, under the direction of the Department of Labor, for the administration of the Employment Security Law and public employment offices. The expenditure or other disposition of money appropriated under this subsection shall be accounted for in accordance with standards established by the United States Secretary of Labor. Reed Act distributions appropriated pursuant to this subsection may be amortized with federal grant funds provided pursuant to Title III of the federal Social Security Act and the federal Wagner-Peyser Act for the purpose of administering the state unemployment compensation and employment service programs to the extent allowed under such acts and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto. Except as specifically provided in this subsection, all provisions of subsection (2) of this section, except subdivision (2)(a)(i) of this section, shall apply to this appropriation. The commissioner shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the Speaker of the Legislature, and the chairpersons of the Appropriations Committee and the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature describing expenditures made pursuant to this subsection. The report submitted to the committees and the Speaker of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 63. Section 48-1117, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-1117 The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To receive, investigate, and pass upon charges of unlawful employment practices anywhere in the state;

(2) To hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, administer oaths, and take the testimony of any person under oath and, in connection therewith, to require the production for examination of any books and papers relevant to any allegation of unlawful employment practice pending before the commission. The commission may make rules as to the issuance of subpoenas, subject to the approval by a constitutional majority of the elected members of the Legislature;

(3) To cooperate with the federal government and with local agencies to effectuate the purposes of the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, including the sharing of information possessed by the commission on a case that has also been filed with the federal government or local agencies if both the employer and complainant have been notified of the filing;

(4) To attempt to eliminate unfair employment practices by means of conference, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and persuasion;

(5) To require that every employer, employment agency, and labor organization subject to the act shall (a) make and keep such records relevant to the determinations of whether unlawful employment practices have been or are being committed, (b) preserve such records for such periods, and (c) make such reports therefrom, as the commission shall prescribe by regulation or order, after public hearing, as reasonable, necessary, or appropriate for the enforcement of the act or the regulations or orders thereunder. The commission shall, by regulation, require each employer, labor organization, and joint labor-management committee subject to the act which controls an apprenticeship or other training program to maintain such records as are reasonably necessary to carry out the purposes of the act, including, but not limited to, a list of applicants who wish to participate in such program, including the chronological order in which such applications were received, and to furnish to the commission, upon request, a detailed description of the manner in which persons are selected to participate in the apprenticeship or other training program. Any employer, employment agency, labor organization, or joint labor-management committee which believes that the application to it of any regulation or order issued under this section would result in

undue hardship may either apply to the commission for an exemption from the application of such regulation or order or bring a civil action in the district court for the district where such records are kept. If the commission or the court, as the case may be, finds that the application of the regulation or order to the employer, employment agency, or labor organization in question would impose an undue hardship, the commission or the court, as the case may be, may grant appropriate relief;

(6) To report, not less than once every two years, to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor, on the hearings it has conducted and the decisions it has rendered, the other work performed by it to carry out the purposes of the act, and to make recommendations for such further legislation concerning abuses and discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin, as may be desirable. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by this subdivision by making a request for it to the chairperson of the commission; and

(7) To adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the duties prescribed in the act. and

~~(8) To examine and review the policies and procedures of the commission, its investigators, and staff and deliver to the Legislature by January 1, 1994, a report detailing specific proposals designed to expedite the complaint, investigation, and hearing process of the commission. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the:~~

~~(a) Intake procedures and guidelines of the commission;~~

~~(b) Mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and informal conferences designed to settle cases;~~

~~(c) Investigation and supervisory procedures which duplicate similar current procedures or which are burdensome to a prompt investigation of a complaint;~~

~~(d) Handling of reports and investigations of the commission to develop adequate clerical staff;~~

~~(e) Feasibility of revising and developing standard final investigative formats for employment, housing, and harassment cases; and~~

~~(f) Proper role and function of the commission in the hearing process.~~

The review and examination of such policies and procedures in subdivision (8) of this section shall include information from the executive director, commission members, investigators, supervisory personnel, clerical staff, and the public.

Sec. 64. Section 48-1625, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-1625 (1) The state board shall submit to the Governor recommendations for changes in the state plan submitted to the Secretary of Labor outlining the five-year strategy for the statewide workforce investment system for the State of Nebraska in accordance with section 112 of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, 29 U.S.C. 2822.

(2) The state board shall submit to the chairperson and members of the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature, the chairperson of each of the standing committees of the Legislature, the Speaker of the Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Economic Development, the State Department of Education, and the Department of Labor a copy of any recommendations for modification of the state plan and the annual report of the state board. The recommendations and report submitted to the committees, the Speaker of the Legislature, and the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The annual report of the state board shall include information on the number of individuals served, the state's average cost per individual receiving training or placement services, short-term and long-term performance measures of job placements, and training and skill levels of training participants. In order to promote better accountability, such reports shall contain measures of accomplishment of the performance measures set forth at 20 C.F.R. 666.100, as the regulation existed on March 2, 2001, and shall use consistent units of measure in order to provide comparability both within a single annual report and between different annual reports.

Sec. 65. Section 48-2213, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-2213 (1) The position of meatpacking industry worker rights coordinator is established within the department. The coordinator shall be appointed by the Governor.

(2) The duties of the coordinator shall be to inspect and review the practices and procedures of meatpacking operations in the State of Nebraska as

they relate to the provisions of the Governor's Nebraska Meatpacking Industry Workers Bill of Rights, which rights are outlined as follows:

- (a) The right to organize;
- (b) The right to a safe workplace;
- (c) The right to adequate facilities and the opportunity to use them;
- (d) The right to complete information;
- (e) The right to understand the information provided;
- (f) The right to existing state and federal benefits and rights;
- (g) The right to be free from discrimination;
- (h) The right to continuing training, including training of supervisors;
- (i) The right to compensation for work performed; and
- (j) The right to seek state help.

(3) The coordinator and his or her designated representatives shall have access to all meatpacking operations in the State of Nebraska at any time meatpacking products are being processed and industry workers are on the job.

(4) Necessary office space, furniture, equipment, and supplies as well as necessary assistance for the coordinator shall be provided by the commissioner.

(5) Preference shall be given to applicants for the coordinator position who are fluent in the Spanish language.

(6) The coordinator shall, on or before December 1 of each year, submit a report to the members of the Legislature and the Governor regarding any recommended actions the coordinator deems necessary or appropriate to provide for the fair treatment of workers in the meatpacking industry. The report submitted to the members of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 66. Section 48-2307, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-2307 The department shall issue electronically a report to the Legislature on or before January 31 of each year which discloses the number of employees reported to the department and the number of matches during the preceding calendar year for purposes of the New Hire Reporting Act.

Sec. 67. Section 48-2909, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

48-2909 The department shall annually provide a electronically an annual report to the Legislature regarding compliance with and enforcement of the Employee Classification Act. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the number of reports received from both its hotline and web site, the number of investigated reports, the findings of the reports, the amount of combined tax, interest, and fines collected, the number of referrals to the Department of Revenue, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court, and appropriate prosecuting authority, and the outcome of such referrals.

Sec. 68. Section 49-770, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-770 When one section of the statutes is amended in two or more bills in the same session of the Legislature and has not been correlated as a part of the normal legislative process and the amendments are not entirely reconcilable and are in conflict with each other, it shall be the duty of the Revisor of Statutes to cause only the latest version to pass the Legislature to be published in the statutory supplement followed by a brief note explaining the action taken. The Revisor of Statutes shall report electronically each such case to the ~~chairman~~ chairperson of the appropriate standing committee at or prior to the convening of the next regular session of the Legislature for whatever action may be appropriate.

Sec. 69. Section 49-904, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-904 Each commissioner shall attend the meeting of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, and both in and out of such national conference shall do all in his or her power to promote uniformity in state laws, upon all subjects where uniformity may be deemed desirable and practicable. The commission shall report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature from time to time as the commission may deem proper, an account of its transactions, and its advice and recommendations for legislation. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the chairperson of the commission. It shall also be the duty of the commission to bring about as far as practicable the uniform judicial interpretation of all uniform laws.

Sec. 70. Section 49-1483, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1483 (1) Every lobbyist who is registered or required to be

registered shall, for each of his or her principals, file electronically a separate statement for each calendar quarter with the Clerk of the Legislature within thirty days after the end of each calendar quarter. Every principal employing a lobbyist who is registered or required to be registered shall file electronically a separate statement for each calendar quarter with the Clerk of the Legislature within thirty days after the end of each calendar quarter.

(2) Each statement shall show the following:

(a) The total amount received or expended directly or indirectly for the purpose of carrying on lobbying activities, with the following categories of expenses each being separately itemized: (i) Miscellaneous expenses; (ii) entertainment, including expenses for food and drink as provided in subdivision (3)(a) of this section; (iii) lodging expenses; (iv) travel expenses; (v) lobbyist compensation, except that when a principal retains the services of a person who has only part-time lobbying duties, only the compensation paid which is reasonably attributable to influencing legislative action need be reported; (vi) lobbyist expense reimbursement; (vii) admissions to a state-owned facility or a state-sponsored industry or event as provided in subdivision (3)(a) of this section; and (viii) extraordinary office expenses directly related to the practice of lobbying;

(b) A detailed statement of any money which is loaned, promised, or paid by a lobbyist, a principal, or anyone acting on behalf of either to an official in the executive or legislative branch or member of such official's staff. The detailed statement shall identify the recipient and the amount and the terms of the loan, promise, or payment; and

(c) The total amount expended for gifts, other than admissions to a state-owned facility or a state-sponsored industry or event, as provided in subdivision (3)(a) of this section.

(3)(a) Each statement shall disclose the aggregate expenses for entertainment, admissions, and gifts for each of the following categories of elected officials: Members of the Legislature; and officials in the executive branch of the state. Such disclosures shall be in addition to the entertainment expenses reported under subdivision (2)(a)(ii) of this section, admissions reported under subdivision (2)(a)(vii) of this section, and gifts reported under subdivision (2)(c) of this section.

(b) For purposes of reporting aggregate expenses for entertainment for members of the Legislature and officials in the executive branch of the state as required by subdivision (3)(a) of this section, the reported amount shall include the actual amounts attributable to entertaining members of the Legislature and officials in the executive branch of the state. When the nature of an event at which members of the Legislature are entertained makes it impractical to determine the actual cost, the cost of entertainment shall be the average cost per person multiplied by the number of members of the Legislature in attendance. When the nature of an event at which officials in the executive branch of the state are entertained makes it impractical to determine the actual cost, the cost of entertainment shall be the average cost per person multiplied by the number of officials in the executive branch of the state in attendance. For purposes of this subdivision, the average cost per person means the cost of the event divided by the number of persons expected to attend the event.

(4) The lobbyist shall also file any changes or corrections to the information set forth in the registration required pursuant to section 49-1480 so as to reflect the correctness of such information as of the end of each calendar quarter for which such statement is required by this section.

(5) If a lobbyist does not expect to receive lobbying receipts from or does not expect to make lobbying expenditures for a principal, the quarterly statements required by this section as to such principal need not be filed by the lobbyist if the principal and lobbyist both certify such facts ~~in writing~~ electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature. A lobbyist exempt from filing quarterly statements pursuant to this section shall (a) file a statement of activity pursuant to section 49-1488 and (b) resume or commence filing quarterly statements with regard to such principal starting with the quarterly period the lobbyist receives lobbying receipts or makes lobbying expenditures for such principal.

(6) If a principal does not expect to receive lobbying receipts or does not expect to make lobbying expenditures, the quarterly statements required pursuant to this section need not be filed by the principal if the principal and lobbyist both certify such facts ~~in writing~~ electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature. A principal exempt from filing quarterly statements pursuant to this section shall commence or resume filing quarterly statements starting with the quarterly period the principal receives lobbying receipts or makes lobbying expenditures.

(7) A principal shall report electronically the name and address of

every person from whom it has received more than one hundred dollars in any one month for lobbying purposes.

(8) For purposes of sections 49-1480 to 49-1492.01, calendar quarter ~~shall mean~~ means the first day of January through the thirty-first day of March, the first day of April through the thirtieth day of June, the first day of July through the thirtieth day of September, and the first day of October through the thirty-first day of December.

Sec. 71. Section 49-1483.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1483.03 (1) Any lobbyist or principal who receives or expends more than five thousand dollars for lobbying purposes during any calendar month in which the Legislature is in session shall, within fifteen days after the end of such calendar month, file electronically a special report disclosing for that calendar month all information required by section 49-1483. All information disclosed in a special report shall also be disclosed in the next quarterly report required to be filed. The requirement to file a special report shall not apply to a receipt or expenditure for lobbyist fees for lobbying services which have otherwise been disclosed in the lobbyist's application for registration.

(2) Any lobbyist who fails to file a special report required by this section with the Clerk of the Legislature or the commission shall pay to the commission a late filing fee of one hundred dollars for each of the first ten days the report remains not filed in violation of this section. After the tenth day, such lobbyist shall pay, for each day the report remains not filed, an additional late filing fee of one percent of the amount of the receipts and expenditures which were required to be reported, not to exceed ten percent of the amount of the receipts and expenditures which were required to be reported.

Sec. 72. Section 49-1488, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1488 Within forty-five days ~~of~~ after the completion of every regular or special session of the Legislature, each registered lobbyist shall submit electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature a statement listing the legislation upon which the lobbyist acted, including identification by number of any bill or resolution and the position taken by the lobbyist.

Sec. 73. Section 49-1492.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1492.01 (1) Any agency, political subdivision, or publicly funded postsecondary educational institution which gives a gift of an admission to a state-owned facility or a state-sponsored industry or event to a public official, a member of a public official's staff, or a member of the immediate family of a public official shall report the gift on a form prescribed by the commission.

(2) The report shall be filed electronically with the Clerk of the Legislature within fifteen days after the end of the calendar quarter in which the gift is given. The report shall include the following:

(a) The identity of the agency, political subdivision, or publicly funded postsecondary educational institution;

(b) A description of the gift;

(c) The value of the gift; and

(d) The name of the recipient of the gift and the following:

(i) If the recipient is an official in the executive or legislative branch of state government, the office held by the official and the branch he or she serves;

(ii) If the recipient is a member of an official's staff in the executive or legislative branch of state government, his or her job title and the name of the official; or

(iii) If the recipient is a member of the immediate family of an official in the executive or legislative branch of state government, his or her relationship to the official and the name of the official.

(3) For purposes of this section, public official does not include an elected or appointed official of a political subdivision or school board.

(4) Any person who knowingly and intentionally violates this section shall be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

Sec. 74. Section 50-114.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-114.03 (1) The Clerk of the Legislature shall periodically prepare and distribute electronically to all members of the Legislature a list of all reports received from state agencies, boards, and commissions. Such lists shall be prepared and distributed to each legislator no less frequently than once during the first ten days of each legislative session. Upon request by a legislator, the clerk shall arrange for any legislator to receive a an

electronic copy of any such report.

(2) A state agency, board, or commission or other public entity which is required to provide a report to the Legislature ~~may present~~ shall submit the report by electronic format through the gateway or electronic network established under section 84-1204 after notification of such type of delivery is given to the Clerk of the Legislature. Such report shall be listed by the clerk as provided in subsection ~~(1)~~ of this section, and a member of the Legislature may receive a paper copy of the report upon request to the ~~clerk~~. electronically. The Clerk of the Legislature may establish requirements for the electronic submission, distribution, and format of such reports. The clerk may accept a report in written form only upon a showing of good cause.

Sec. 75. Section 50-405, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-405 It shall be the duty of the council (1) to investigate and study the possibilities for consolidation in state government for elimination of all unnecessary activities and of all duplication in office personnel and equipment and of the coordination of departmental activities or of methods of increasing efficiency and effecting economies, (2) to investigate and study the possibilities of reforming the system of local government with a view to simplifying the organization of government, (3) to study the merit system as it relates to state and local government personnel, (4) to cooperate with the administration in devising means of enforcing the law and improving the effectiveness of administrative methods, (5) to study and inquire into the financial administration of the state government and the subdivisions thereof, the problems of taxation, including assessment and collection of taxes, and the distribution of the tax burden, and (6) to study and inquire into future planning of capital construction of the state and its governmental agencies as to location and sites for expansion. ~~Such~~ such proposed planning ~~to~~ shall be submitted electronically to the ~~executive board~~ Executive Board of the Legislative Council for review and recommendation to the Legislature and the Appropriations Committee.

Sec. 76. Section 50-413, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-413 ~~The council~~ Legislative Council shall keep complete minutes of its meetings and shall ~~make~~ submit electronically periodical reports to ~~all the members thereof~~. of the Legislature.

Sec. 77. Section 50-417, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

50-417 The Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee shall study any legislative proposal, bill, or amendment, other than an amendment proposed by the Committee on Enrollment and Review, affecting any public retirement system, existing or proposed, established by the State of Nebraska or any political subdivision thereof and report electronically the results of such study to the Legislature, which report shall, when applicable, include an actuarial analysis and cost estimate and the recommendation of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee regarding passage of any bill or amendment. To assist the committee in the performance of such duties, the committee may consult with and utilize the services of any officer, department, or agency of the state and may from time to time engage the services of a qualified and experienced actuary. In the absence of any report from such committee, the Legislature shall consider requests from groups seeking to have retirement plans established for them and such other proposed legislation as is pertinent to existing retirement systems.

Sec. 78. Section 50-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-1205 The committee shall:

(1) Adopt, by majority vote, procedures consistent with the Legislative Performance Audit Act to govern the business of the committee and the conduct of performance audits;

(2) Ensure that performance audits done by the committee are not undertaken based on or influenced by special or partisan interests;

(3) Review performance audit requests and select, by majority vote, agencies or agency programs for performance audit;

(4) Review, amend, if necessary, and approve a scope statement and an audit plan for each performance audit;

(5) Respond to inquiries regarding performance audits;

(6) Inspect or approve the inspection of the premises, or any parts thereof, of any agency or any property owned, leased, or operated by an agency as frequently as is necessary in the opinion of the committee to carry out a performance audit or preaudit inquiry;

(7) Inspect and examine, or approve the inspection and examination of, the records and documents of any agency as a part of a performance audit

or preaudit inquiry;

(8) Administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of any papers, books, accounts, documents, and testimony, and cause the depositions of witnesses either residing within or without the state to be taken in the manner prescribed by law for taking depositions in civil actions in the district court;

(9) Review completed performance audit reports prepared by the section, together with comments from the evaluated agency, and adopt recommendations and incorporate them into a committee report;

(10) Release the committee report to the public and distribute it electronically to the Legislature with or without benefit of a public hearing;

(11) Hold a public hearing, at the committee's discretion, for the purpose of receiving testimony prior to issuance of the committee report;

(12) Establish a system to ascertain and monitor an agency's implementation of the recommendations contained in the committee report and compliance with any statutory changes resulting from the recommendations;

(13) Issue an annual report each September, to be prepared by the Legislative Auditor and approved by the committee, summarizing recommendations made pursuant to reports of performance audits during the previous fiscal year and the status of implementation of those recommendations;

(14) Consult with the Legislative Auditor regarding the staffing and budgetary needs of the section and assist in presenting budget requests to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature;

(15) Approve or reject, within the budgetary limits of the section, contracts to retain consultants to assist with performance audits requiring specialized knowledge or expertise. Requests for consultant contracts shall be approved by the Legislative Auditor and presented to the Legislative Performance Audit Committee by the Legislative Auditor. A majority vote shall be required to approve consultant contract requests. For purposes of section 50-1213, subsection (11) of section 77-2711, and subsections (10) through (13) of section 77-27,119, any consultant retained to assist with a performance audit or preaudit inquiry shall be considered an employee of the section during the course of the contract; and

(16) At its discretion, and with the agreement of the Auditor of Public Accounts, conduct joint fiscal or performance audits with the Auditor of Public Accounts. The details of any joint audit shall be agreed upon in writing by the committee and the Auditor of Public Accounts.

Sec. 79. Section 50-1210, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-1210 (1) Upon completion of a performance audit, the section shall prepare a report of its findings and recommendations for action. The Legislative Auditor shall provide the section's report concurrently to the committee, agency director, and Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The report submitted to the committee and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. The committee may, by majority vote, release the section's report or portions thereof to other individuals, with the stipulation that the released material shall be kept confidential.

(2) When the Legislative Auditor provides the report to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall issue an opinion to the committee indicating whether the section's recommendations can be implemented by the agency within its current appropriation.

(3) When the Legislative Auditor provides the report to the agency, the agency shall have twenty business days from the date of receipt of the report to provide a written response. Any written response received from the agency shall be attached to the committee report. The agency shall not release any part of the report to any person outside the agency, except that an agency may discuss the report with the Governor. The Governor shall not release any part of the report.

(4) Following receipt of any written response from the agency, the Legislative Auditor shall prepare a brief written summary of the response, including a description of any significant disagreements the agency has with the section's report or recommendations.

Sec. 80. Section 50-1211, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-1211 (1) The committee shall review the section's report, the agency's response, the Legislative Auditor's summary of the agency's response, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's opinion prescribed in section 50-1210. The committee may amend and shall adopt or reject each recommendation in the report and indicate whether each recommendation can be implemented by the agency within its current appropriation. The adopted recommendations shall be incorporated into a committee report, which shall be approved by majority vote.

(2) The committee report shall include, but not be limited to, the section's report, the agency's written response to the report, the Legislative Auditor's summary of the agency response, the committee's recommendations, and any opinions of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst regarding whether the committee's recommendations can be implemented by the agency within its current appropriation.

(3) The committee may decide, by majority vote, to defer adoption of a committee report pending a public hearing. If the committee elects to schedule a public hearing, it shall release, for review by interested persons prior to the hearing, the section's report, the agency's response, the Legislative Auditor's summary of the agency's response, and any opinions of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The public hearing shall be held not less than ten nor more than twenty business days following release of the materials.

(4) When the committee elects to schedule a hearing, a summary of the testimony received at the hearing shall be attached to the committee report as an addendum. A transcript of the testimony received at the hearing shall be on file with the committee and available for public inspection. Unless the committee votes to delay release of the committee report, the report shall be released within forty business days after the public hearing.

(5) Once the committee has approved its report, the committee shall, by majority vote, cause the committee report to be released to all members of the Legislature and to the public. The report submitted to the members of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The committee may, by majority vote, release the committee report or portions thereof prior to public release of the report.

Sec. 81. Section 50-1302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

50-1302 (1) Every four years, beginning in 2008, the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall prepare and publish a report pertaining to boards, commissions, and similar entities created by law that are made part of or are placed in the executive branch of state government. The committee may also include entities created by executive order or by an agency director. The report shall be submitted electronically to the Legislature on December 1 of such year.

(2) The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) The name of each board, commission, or similar entity;
- (b) The name of a parent agency, if any;
- (c) The statutory citation or other authorization for the creation of the board, commission, or entity;
- (d) The number of members of the board, commission, or entity and how the members are appointed;
- (e) The qualifications for membership on the board, commission, or entity;
- (f) The number of times the board, commission, or entity is required to meet during the year and the number of times it actually met;
- (g) Budget information of the board, commission, or entity for the four most recently completed fiscal years; and
- (h) A brief summary of the accomplishments of the board, commission, or entity for the past four years.

Sec. 82. Section 54-642, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

54-642 On or before November 1 of each year, the department shall submit electronically a report to the Legislature in sufficient detail to document all costs incurred in the previous fiscal year in carrying out the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act. The report shall identify costs incurred by the department to administer the act and shall detail costs incurred by primary activity. The department shall also provide a breakdown by category of all revenue credited to the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Program Cash Fund in the previous fiscal year. The Agriculture Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall review the report to ascertain program activity levels and to determine funding requirements of the program.

Sec. 83. Section 54-857, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

54-857 All money received pursuant to the Commercial Feed Act shall be remitted by the director to the State Treasurer for credit to the Commercial Feed Administration Cash Fund which is hereby created. Such fund shall be used by the department to aid in defraying the expenses of administering the act, and to aid in defraying the expenses related to a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture Market News reporting program, and ~~to provide resources to conduct the investigation and feasibility study for implementing a state meat and poultry~~

~~inspection program as identified in section 54-1916.~~ Transfers may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any money in the Commercial Feed 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.

Sec. 84. Section 54-2428, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

54-2428 (1) Any person required to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for an animal feeding operation or a construction and operating permit for a livestock waste control facility shall file an application with the department accompanied by the appropriate fees in the manner established by the department. The application fee shall be established by the council with a maximum fee of two hundred dollars. For major modifications to an application or a permit, the fee shall equal the amount of the application fee.

(2) On or before March 1, 2006, and each year thereafter, each person who has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or who has a large concentrated animal feeding operation, as defined in 40 C.F.R. 122 and 123, as such regulations existed on January 1, 2004, and a state operating permit, a construction and operating permit, or a construction approval issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act or the Livestock Waste Management Act shall pay a per head annual fee based on the permitted capacity identified in the permit for that facility. The department shall invoice each permittee by February 1, 2006, and February 1 of each year thereafter.

(3) The initial annual fee shall be: Beef cattle, ten cents per head; veal calves, ten cents per head; dairy cows, fifteen cents per head; swine larger than fifty-five pounds, four dollars per one hundred head or fraction thereof; swine less than fifty pounds, one dollar per one hundred head or fraction thereof; horses, twenty cents per head; sheep or lambs, one dollar per one hundred head or fraction thereof; turkeys, two dollars per one thousand head or fraction thereof; chickens or ducks with liquid manure facility, three dollars per one thousand head or fraction thereof; and chickens or ducks with other than liquid manure facility, one dollar per one thousand head or fraction thereof. This fee structure may be reviewed in fiscal year 2007-08.

(4) Beginning in fiscal year 2007-08, the department shall annually review and adjust the fee structure in this section and section 54-2423 to ensure that fees are adequate to meet twenty percent of the program costs from the previous fiscal year. All fees collected under this section and sections 54-2423, 54-2435, and 54-2436 shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Livestock Waste Management Cash Fund which is created for the purposes described in the Livestock Waste Management Act. Transfers may be made from the fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any money in the Livestock Waste Management 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.

(5) On or before January 1 of each year, the department shall submit electronically a report to the Legislature in sufficient detail to document all direct and indirect costs incurred in the previous fiscal year in carrying out the Livestock Waste Management Act, including the number of inspections conducted, the number of animal feeding operations with livestock waste control facilities, the number of animal feeding operations inspected, the size of the livestock waste control facilities, the results of water quality monitoring programs, and other elements relating to carrying out the act. The Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall review the report in its analysis of executive programs in order to verify that the revenue generated from fees was used solely to offset appropriate and reasonable costs associated with carrying out the act.

Sec. 85. Section 58-246, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

58-246 The reports required pursuant to section 58-245 shall be public information. No such report shall reveal the name of any individual borrower. The authority shall, following the close of each fiscal year, deliver to the Governor and to the Clerk of the Legislature a set of the individual reporting forms from the preceding year together with the report required pursuant to subsection (2) of section 58-245. The reporting forms and the report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Any member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such reports by making a request to the chairperson of the authority.

Sec. 86. Section 58-270, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

58-270 (1) The authority shall, following the close of each fiscal

year, submit a report of its activities for the preceding year to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. ~~of this state.~~ Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the chairperson of the authority. Each report shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement for the authority during the fiscal year it covers. An independent certified public accountant shall at least once in each year audit the books and accounts of the authority.

(2) At least fourteen days prior to taking any final action to authorize the issuance of bonds to provide financing for projects, the beneficiaries or borrowers of which are not specifically identified, the authority shall notify the Governor, the Clerk of the Legislature, and any news media requesting notification of such proposed issuance of bonds. The notification submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such notice shall include:

- (a) The public purposes to be effectuated and the needs to be addressed through the issuance of the bonds;
- (b) The manner in which such need was identified;
- (c) The anticipated principal amount of the bond issue and the anticipated date of issuance of the bonds;
- (d) The anticipated size of any reserve funds; and
- (e) The professionals involved in connection with the issuance of the bonds.

(3) Within thirty days following the issuance of bonds subject to subsection (2) of this section, the authority shall notify the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature of:

- (a) The final principal amount of the bonds;
- (b) The net interest cost of the bonds;
- (c) The costs of issuance paid and to whom paid;
- (d) The total amount of any reserve funds;
- (e) The net interest cost to the beneficiaries or borrowers; and
- (f) The amount of funds available for loans.

The notification submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(4) With respect to bonds subject to subsection (2) of this section, until ninety-five percent of the proceeds of such bonds to be made available for loans are so used or a corresponding amount of such bonds are redeemed, the authority shall, no less often than quarterly after the issuance of such bonds, report to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature the status of the use of the proceeds of such issue of bonds. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Once the notice required pursuant to subsection (2) of this section is filed, nothing in this section shall require the authority to amend or supplement the notice prior to the issuance of the bonds.

(5) The notice and reporting requirements contained in this section shall be deemed satisfied upon good faith compliance by the authority. The failure to comply with any part of this section shall not affect the validity of any bonds issued by the authority.

Sec. 87. Section 61-218, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, 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 State Funds Investment Act.

(2) The State Treasurer shall credit to the fund such money as is (a) transferred to the fund by the Legislature, (b) paid to the state as fees, deposits, payments, and repayments relating to the fund, both principal and interest, (c) donated as gifts, bequests, or other contributions to such fund from public or private entities, (d) made available by any department or agency of the United States if so directed by such department or agency, and (e) allocated pursuant to section 81-15,175.

(3) The fund shall be expended by the department (a) to aid management actions taken to reduce consumptive uses of water or to enhance streamflows or ground water recharge in river basins, subbasins, or reaches which are deemed by the department overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713 or fully appropriated pursuant to section 46-714 or are bound by an interstate compact or decree or a formal state contract or agreement, (b) for purposes of projects or proposals described in the grant application as set forth in subdivision (2)(h) of section 81-15,175, and (c) to the extent funds are not expended pursuant to 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 sections 46-713 to 46-718 and 46-739 and any requirements of an interstate compact or decree or formal state contract or agreement. The fund shall not be used to pay for administrative expenses or any salaries for the department or any political subdivision.

(4) It is the intent of the Legislature that three million three hundred thousand dollars be transferred each fiscal year from the General Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund for FY2011-12 through FY2018-19.

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

(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 regulations designed to carry out the activity; and

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

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

(a) Details regarding the use and cost of activities carried out by 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.

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

(b) If the application is granted, funds received from such grant shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Water Resources Cash Fund for the purpose of supporting the projects set forth in the grant application. The department shall include in its grant application documentation that the Legislature has authorized a transfer of three million three hundred thousand dollars from the General Fund into the Water Resources Cash Fund for each of fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13 and has stated its intent to transfer three million three hundred thousand dollars to the Water Resources Cash Fund for fiscal year 2013-14.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the department apply for an additional three-year grant that would begin in fiscal year 2014-15 if the criteria established in subsection (4) of section 81-15,175 are achieved.

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

amount from the Water Resources Cash Fund to the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund.

Sec. 88. Section 66-4,144, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

66-4,144 (1) In order to insure that an adequate balance in the Highway Restoration and Improvement Bond Fund is maintained to meet the debt service requirements of bonds to be issued by the commission under subsection (2) of section 39-2223, the Director-State Engineer shall certify to the department the excise tax rate to be imposed by sections 66-4,140 and 66-6,108 for each year during which such bonds are outstanding necessary to provide in each such year money equal in amount to not less than one hundred twenty-five percent of such year's bond principal and interest payment requirements. The department shall adjust the rate as certified by the Director-State Engineer. Such rate shall be in addition to the rate of excise tax set pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. Each such rate shall be effective from July 1 of a stated year through June 30 of the succeeding year or during such other period not longer than one year as the Director-State Engineer certifies to be consistent with the principal and interest requirements of such bonds. Such excise tax rates set pursuant to this subsection may be increased, but such excise tax rates shall not be subject to reduction or elimination unless the Director-State Engineer has received from the State Highway Commission notice of reduced principal and interest requirements for such bonds, in which event the Director-State Engineer shall certify the new rate or rates to the department. The new rate or rates, if any, shall become effective on the first day of the following semiannual period.

(2) In order to insure that there is maintained an adequate Highway Cash Fund balance to meet expenditures from such fund as appropriated by the Legislature, by June 15 or five days after the adjournment of the regular legislative session each year, whichever is later, the Director-State Engineer shall certify to the department the excise tax rate to be imposed by sections 66-4,140 and 66-6,108. The department shall adjust the rate as certified by the Director-State Engineer to be effective from July 1 through June 30 of the succeeding year. The rate of excise tax for a given July 1 through June 30 period set pursuant to this subsection shall be in addition to and independent of the rate or rates of excise tax set pursuant to subsection (1) of this section for such period. The Director-State Engineer shall determine the cash and investment balances of the Highway Cash Fund at the beginning of each fiscal year under consideration and the estimated receipts to the Highway Cash Fund from each source which provides at least one million dollars annually to such fund. The rate of excise tax shall be an amount sufficient to meet the appropriations made from the Highway Cash Fund by the Legislature. Such rate shall be set in increments of one-tenth of one percent.

(3) The Department of Roads shall provide to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst a an electronic copy of the information that is submitted to the Department of Revenue and used to set or adjust the excise tax rate.

(4) If the actual receipts received to date added to any projections or modified projections of deposits to the Highway Cash Fund for the current fiscal year are less than ninety-nine percent or greater than one hundred two percent of the appropriation for the current fiscal year, the Director-State Engineer shall certify to the department the adjustment in rate necessary to meet the appropriations made from the Highway Cash Fund by the Legislature. The department shall adjust the rate as certified by the Director-State Engineer to be effective on the first day of the following semiannual period.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to abrogate the duties of the Department of Roads or attempt to change any highway improvement program schedule.

Sec. 89. Section 66-1336, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

66-1336 The board shall retain the services of a full-time administrator to be appointed by the board. The administrator shall hold office at the pleasure of the board. The administrator shall compile a biennial report to be submitted to the board and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall set forth the activities, contracts, and projects of the board for the previous biennium and the amount of funds expended. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the board.

Sec. 90. Section 66-1345, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

66-1345 (1) There is hereby created the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund which shall be used by the board to pay the credits created in section 66-1344 to the extent provided in this section. 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. The State Treasurer shall transfer to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund such money as shall be (a) appropriated to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund by the Legislature, (b) given as gifts, bequests, grants, or other contributions to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund from public or private sources, (c) made available due to failure to fulfill conditional requirements pursuant to investment agreements entered into prior to April 30, 1992, (d) received as return on investment of the Ethanol Authority and Development Cash Fund, (e) credited to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund from the excise taxes imposed by section 66-1345.01 through December 31, 2012, (f) credited to the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund pursuant to sections 66-489, 66-726, 66-1345.04, and 66-1519, and (g) directed to be transferred pursuant to section 84-612.

(2) The Department of Revenue shall, at the end of each calendar month, notify the State Treasurer of the amount of motor fuel tax that was not collected in the preceding calendar month due to the credits provided in section 66-1344. The State Treasurer shall transfer from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund to the Highway Trust Fund an amount equal to such credits less the following amounts:

(a) For 1993, 1994, and 1995, the amount generated during the calendar quarter by a one-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to sections 66-489 and 66-6,107;

(b) For 1996, the amount generated during the calendar quarter by a three-quarters-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to such sections;

(c) For 1997, the amount generated during the calendar quarter by a one-half-cent tax on motor fuel pursuant to such sections; and

(d) For 1998 and each year thereafter, no reduction.

For 1993 through 1997, if the amount generated pursuant to subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection and the amount transferred pursuant to subsection (1) of this section are not sufficient to fund the credits provided in section 66-1344, then the credits shall be funded through the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund but shall not be funded through either the Highway Cash Fund or the Highway Trust Fund. For 1998 and each year thereafter, the credits provided in such section shall be funded through the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund but shall not be funded through either the Highway Cash Fund or the Highway Trust Fund.

If, during any month, the amount of money in the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund is not sufficient to reimburse the Highway Trust Fund for credits earned pursuant to section 66-1344, the Department of Revenue shall suspend the transfer of credits by ethanol producers until such time as additional funds are available in the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund for transfer to the Highway Trust Fund. Thereafter, the Department of Revenue shall, at the end of each month, allow transfer of accumulated credits earned by each ethanol producer on a prorated basis derived by dividing the amount in the fund by the aggregate amount of accumulated credits earned by all ethanol producers.

(3) The State Treasurer shall transfer from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund to the Management Services Expense Revolving Fund the amount reported under subsection (4) of section 66-1345.02 for each calendar month of the fiscal year as provided in such subsection.

(4) On December 31, 2012, the State Treasurer shall transfer one-half of the unexpended and unobligated funds, including all subsequent investment interest, from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund to the Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund and the Grain Sorghum Development, Utilization, and Marketing Fund in the same proportion as funds were collected pursuant to section 66-1345.01 from corn and grain sorghum. The Department of Agriculture shall assist the State Treasurer in determining the amounts to be transferred to the funds. The State Treasurer shall transfer the remaining one-half of the unexpended and unobligated funds to the General Fund.

(5) Whenever the unobligated balance in the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund exceeds twenty million dollars, the Department of Revenue shall notify the Department of Agriculture at which time the Department of Agriculture shall suspend collection of the excise tax levied pursuant to section 66-1345.01. If, after suspension of the collection of such excise tax, the balance of the fund falls below ten million dollars, the Department of Revenue shall notify the Department of Agriculture which shall resume collection of the excise tax.

(6) On or before December 1, 2003, and each December 1 thereafter, the Department of Revenue and the Nebraska Ethanol Board shall jointly submit a report electronically to the Legislature which shall project the

anticipated revenue and expenditures from the Ethanol Production Incentive Cash Fund through the termination of the ethanol production incentive programs pursuant to section 66-1344. The initial report shall include a projection of the amount of ethanol production for which the Department of Revenue has entered agreements to provide ethanol production credits pursuant to section 66-1344.01 and any additional ethanol production which the Department of Revenue and the Nebraska Ethanol Board reasonably anticipate may qualify for credits pursuant to section 66-1344.

Sec. 91. Section 68-908, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

68-908 (1) The department shall administer the medical assistance program.

(2) The department may (a) enter into contracts and interagency agreements, (b) adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, (c) adopt fee schedules, (d) apply for and implement waivers and managed care plans for eligible recipients, and (e) perform such other activities as necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties under the Medical Assistance Act. A covered item or service as described in section 68-911 that is furnished through a school-based health center, furnished by a provider, and furnished under a managed care plan pursuant to a waiver does not require prior consultation or referral by a patient's primary care physician to be covered. Any federally qualified health center providing services as a sponsoring facility of a school-based health center shall be reimbursed for such services provided at a school-based health center at the federally qualified health center reimbursement rate.

(3) The department shall maintain the confidentiality of information regarding applicants for or recipients of medical assistance and such information shall only be used for purposes related to administration of the medical assistance program and the provision of such assistance or as otherwise permitted by federal law.

(4)(a) The department shall prepare an annual summary and analysis of the medical assistance program for legislative and public review, including, but not limited to, a description of eligible recipients, covered services, provider reimbursement, program trends and projections, program budget and expenditures, the status of implementation of the Medicaid Reform Plan, and recommendations for program changes.

(b) The department shall provide a draft report of such summary and analysis to the Medicaid Reform Council no later than September 15 of each year. The council shall conduct a public meeting no later than October 1 of each year to discuss and receive public comment regarding such report. The council shall provide any comments and recommendations regarding such report in writing to the department no later than November 1 of each year. The department shall submit a final report of such summary and analysis to the Governor, the Legislature, and the council no later than December 1 of each year. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such final report shall include a response to each written recommendation provided by the council.

Sec. 92. Section 68-909, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

68-909 (1) All contracts, agreements, rules, and regulations relating to the medical assistance program as entered into or adopted and promulgated by the department prior to July 1, 2006, and all provisions of the medicaid state plan and waivers adopted by the department prior to July 1, 2006, shall remain in effect until revised, amended, repealed, or nullified pursuant to law.

(2) Prior to the adoption and promulgation of proposed rules and regulations under section 68-912 or relating to the implementation of medicaid state plan amendments or waivers, the department shall provide a report to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Medicaid Reform Council no later than December 1 before the next regular session of the Legislature summarizing the purpose and content of such proposed rules and regulations and the projected impact of such proposed rules and regulations on recipients of medical assistance and medical assistance expenditures. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Any changes in medicaid copayments in fiscal year 2011-12 are exempt from the reporting requirement of this subsection and the requirements of section 68-912.

(3) The Medicaid Reform Council, no later than thirty days after the date of receipt of any report under subsection (2) of this section, may conduct a public meeting to receive public comment regarding such report. The council shall promptly provide any comments and recommendations regarding such report in writing to the department. Such comments and recommendations shall be advisory only and shall not be binding on the department, but the

department shall promptly provide a written response to such comments or recommendations to the council.

(4) The department shall monitor and shall periodically, as necessary, but no less than biennially, report to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Medicaid Reform Council on the implementation of rules and regulations, medicaid state plan amendments, and waivers adopted under the Medical Assistance Act and the effect of such rules and regulations, amendments, or waivers on eligible recipients of medical assistance and medical assistance expenditures. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 93. Section 68-959, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

68-959 (1) No later than January 1, 2012, the division shall design and implement a medical home pilot program, in consultation with the Medical Home Advisory Council, in one or more geographic regions of the state to provide access to medical homes for patients. The division shall apply for any available federal or other funds for the program. The division shall establish necessary and appropriate reimbursement policies and incentives under such program to accomplish the purposes of the Medical Home Pilot Program Act. The reimbursement policies:

(a) Shall require the provision of a medical home for clients;

(b) Shall be designed to increase the availability of primary health care services to clients;

(c) May provide an increased reimbursement rate to providers who provide primary health care services to clients outside of regular business hours or on weekends; and

(d) May provide a postevaluation incentive payment.

(2) No later than June 1, 2014, the division shall evaluate the medical home pilot program and report the results of such evaluation to the Governor and the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. Such report shall include an evaluation of health outcomes and cost savings achieved, recommendations for improvement, recommendations regarding continuation and expansion of the program, and such other information as deemed necessary by the division or requested by the committee.

Sec. 94. Section 68-971, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

68-971 (1) On or before January 1, 2012, the department shall submit an application to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the United States Department of Health and Human Services to amend the medicaid state plan or seek a waiver to provide for utilization of the unused administrative cap to allow for payments to the Nebraska Regional Poison Center funded through the University of Nebraska Medical Center Cash Fund to help offset the cost for treatment of children who are eligible for assistance under the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq., pursuant to the federal Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, Public Law 111-3, as such act existed on January 1, 2010.

(2) Upon approval of the amendment to the medicaid state plan or the granting of the waiver, the University of Nebraska Medical Center shall transfer an amount, not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars, to the Health and Human Services Cash Fund for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to meet the state match to maximize the use of the unused administrative cap money. At the time the department receives the transferred amount or any portion thereof and the corollary federal funds, the department shall transfer the combined funds to the University of Nebraska Medical Center Cash Fund for operation of the Nebraska Regional Poison Center. If no amendment is approved nor waiver granted or if less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars is needed for the match, then the University of Nebraska Medical Center may use the remaining state appropriation for the operation of the Nebraska Regional Poison Center.

(3) The University of Nebraska Medical Center shall report electronically to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst on or before October 1 of every year the amount transferred to the department in the prior fiscal year and the amount of matching funds received under this section for the Nebraska Regional Poison Center in the prior fiscal year.

Sec. 95. Section 68-1017.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

68-1017.02 (1)(a) The Department of Health and Human Services shall apply for and utilize to the maximum extent possible, within limits established by the Legislature, any and all appropriate options available to the state under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and

regulations adopted under such program to maximize the number of Nebraska residents being served under such program within such limits. The department shall seek to maximize federal funding for such program and minimize the utilization of General Funds for such program and shall employ the personnel necessary to determine the options available to the state and issue the report to the Legislature required by subdivision (b) of this subsection.

(b) The department shall submit electronically an annual report annually to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature by December 1 on efforts by the department to carry out the provisions of this subsection. Such report shall provide the committee with all necessary and appropriate information to enable the committee to conduct a meaningful evaluation of such efforts. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, a clear description of various options available to the state under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the department's evaluation of and any action taken by the department with respect to such options, the number of persons being served under such program, and any and all costs and expenditures associated with such program.

(c) The Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature, after receipt and evaluation of the report required in subdivision (b) of this subsection, shall issue recommendations to the department on any further action necessary by the department to meet the requirements of this section.

(2)(a) The department shall develop a state outreach plan to promote access by eligible persons to benefits of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The plan shall meet the criteria established by the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for approval of state outreach plans. The Department of Health and Human Services may apply for and accept gifts, grants, and donations to develop and implement the state outreach plan.

(b) For purposes of developing and implementing the state outreach plan, the department shall partner with one or more counties or nonprofit organizations. If the department enters into a contract with a nonprofit organization relating to the state outreach plan, the contract may specify that the nonprofit organization is responsible for seeking sufficient gifts, grants, or donations necessary for the development and implementation of the state outreach plan and may additionally specify that any costs to the department associated with the award and management of the contract or the implementation or administration of the state outreach plan shall be paid out of private or federal funds received for development and implementation of the state outreach plan.

(c) The department shall submit the state outreach plan to the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for approval on or before August 1, 2011, and shall request any federal matching funds that may be available upon approval of the state outreach plan. It is the intent of the Legislature that the State of Nebraska and the Department of Health and Human Services use any additional public or private funds to offset costs associated with increased caseload resulting from the implementation of the state outreach plan.

(d) The department shall be exempt from implementing or administering a state outreach plan under this subsection, but not from developing such a plan, if it does not receive private or federal funds sufficient to cover the department's costs associated with the implementation and administration of the plan, including any costs associated with increased caseload resulting from the implementation of the plan.

(3)(a)(i) On or before October 1, 2011, the department shall create a TANF-funded program or policy that, in compliance with federal law, establishes categorical eligibility for federal food assistance benefits pursuant to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to maximize the number of Nebraska residents being served under such program in a manner that does not increase the current gross income eligibility limit.

(ii) Such TANF-funded program or policy shall eliminate all asset limits for eligibility for federal food assistance benefits, except that the total of liquid assets which includes cash on hand and funds in personal checking and savings accounts, money market accounts, and share accounts shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars pursuant to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, as allowed under federal law and under 7 C.F.R. 273.2(j)(2).

(iii) This subsection becomes effective only if the department receives funds pursuant to federal participation that may be used to implement this subsection.

(b) For purposes of this subsection:

(i) Federal law means the federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq., and regulations adopted under the act; and

(ii) TANF means the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program established in 42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.

(4) (a) Within the limits specified in this subsection, the State of Nebraska opts out of the provision of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, as such act existed on January 1, 2009, that eliminates eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for any person convicted of a felony involving the possession, use, or distribution of a controlled substance.

(b) A person shall be ineligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits under this subsection if he or she (i) has had three or more felony convictions for the possession or use of a controlled substance or (ii) has been convicted of a felony involving the sale or distribution of a controlled substance or the intent to sell or distribute a controlled substance. A person with one or two felony convictions for the possession or use of a controlled substance shall only be eligible to receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits under this subsection if he or she is participating in or has completed a state-licensed or nationally accredited substance abuse treatment program since the date of conviction. The determination of such participation or completion shall be made by the treatment provider administering the program.

Sec. 96. Section 68-1207.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

68-1207.01 The Department of Health and Human Services shall annually provide a report to the Legislature and Governor outlining the caseloads of child protective services, the factors considered in their establishment, and the fiscal resources necessary for their maintenance. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such report shall include:

(1) A comparison of caseloads established by the department with the workload standards recommended by national child welfare organizations along with the amount of fiscal resources necessary to maintain such caseloads in Nebraska;

(2) (a) The number of child welfare services caseworkers and case managers employed by the State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers, providing services directly to children and families, who are under contract with the State of Nebraska or employed by a private entity under contract with the State of Nebraska and (b) statistics on the average length of employment in such positions, statewide and by health and human services area;

(3) (a) The average caseload of child welfare services caseworkers and case managers employed by the State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers, providing services directly to children and families, who are under contract with the State of Nebraska or employed by a private entity under contract with the State of Nebraska and (b) the outcomes of such cases, including the number of children reunited with their families, children adopted, children in guardianships, placement of children with relatives, and other permanent resolutions established, statewide and by health and human services area; and

(4) The average cost of training child welfare services caseworkers and case managers employed by the State of Nebraska and child welfare services workers, providing services directly to children and families, who are under contract with the State of Nebraska or employed by a private entity under contract with the State of Nebraska, statewide and by health and human services area.

Sec. 97. Section 68-1518, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

68-1518 The department shall file an annual report with the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature on or before January 1 of each year beginning January 1, 1983. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such report shall include:

(1) The number of families and disabled persons applying for support pursuant to ~~sections 68-1501 to 68-1519~~ the Disabled Persons and Family Support Act and the number of families and disabled persons receiving support pursuant to ~~sections 68-1501 to 68-1519,~~ the act;

(2) The types of services and programs being applied for and those being provided through ~~sections 68-1501 to 68-1519,~~ the act;

(3) The effects of the support provided under ~~sections 68-1501 to 68-1519~~ the act on the disabled and their families; and

(4) Any proposals for amendment of ~~sections 68-1501 to 68-1519,~~ the act.

Sec. 98. Section 69-503, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

69-503 (1) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section,

no cigarettes may be sold or offered for sale in this state or offered for sale or sold to persons located in this state unless the cigarettes have been tested in accordance with the following test method and meet the performance standard specified in this section, a written certification has been filed by the manufacturer with the State Fire Marshal in accordance with section 69-504, and the cigarettes have been marked in accordance with section 69-505. Testing shall be as follows:

(a) Testing of cigarettes shall be conducted in accordance with the American Society of Testing and Materials Standard E2187-04, Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes;

(b) Testing shall be conducted on ten layers of filter paper;

(c) No more than twenty-five percent of the cigarettes tested in a test trial in accordance with this subsection shall exhibit full-length burns. Forty replicate tests shall comprise a complete test trial for each cigarette tested;

(d) The performance standard required by this subsection shall only be applied to a complete test trial;

(e) Written certifications shall be based upon testing conducted by a laboratory that has been accredited pursuant to standard ISO/IEC 17025 of the International Organization for Standardization or other comparable accreditation standard required by the State Fire Marshal;

(f) Laboratories conducting testing in accordance with this subsection shall implement a quality control and quality assurance program that includes a procedure that will determine the repeatability of the testing results. The repeatability value shall be no greater than 0.19;

(g) This subsection does not require additional testing if cigarettes are tested consistent with the Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act for any other purpose; and

(h) Testing performed or sponsored by the State Fire Marshal to determine a cigarette's compliance with the performance standard required by this section shall be conducted in accordance with this subsection.

(2) Each cigarette listed in a certification submitted pursuant to section 69-504 that uses lowered permeability bands in the cigarette paper to achieve compliance with the performance standard set forth in this section shall have at least two nominally identical bands on the paper surrounding the tobacco column. At least one complete band shall be located at least fifteen millimeters from the lighting end of the cigarette. For cigarettes on which the bands are positioned by design, there shall be at least two bands fully located at least fifteen millimeters from the lighting end and ten millimeters from the filter end of the tobacco column, or ten millimeters from the labeled end of the tobacco column for nonfiltered cigarettes.

(3) A manufacturer of a cigarette that the State Fire Marshal determines cannot be tested in accordance with the test method prescribed in subdivision (1)(a) of this section shall propose a test method and performance standard for the cigarette to the State Fire Marshal. If the State Fire Marshal determines that another state has enacted reduced cigarette ignition propensity standards that include a test method and performance standard that are the same as those contained in the Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act and the State Fire Marshal finds that the officials responsible for implementing those requirements have approved the proposed alternative test method and performance standard for a particular cigarette proposed by a manufacturer as meeting the fire safety standards of that state's law or regulation under a legal provision comparable to this section, then the State Fire Marshal shall authorize that manufacturer to employ the alternative test method and performance standard to certify that cigarette for sale in this state, unless the State Fire Marshal demonstrates a reasonable basis why the alternative test should not be accepted under the act. All other applicable requirements of this section shall apply to the manufacturer.

(4) Each manufacturer shall maintain copies of the reports of all tests conducted on all cigarettes offered for sale for a period of three years and shall make copies of these reports available to the State Fire Marshal and the Attorney General upon written request. Any manufacturer who fails to make copies of these reports available within sixty days after receiving a written request shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars for each day after the sixtieth day that the manufacturer does not make such copies available.

(5) The State Fire Marshal may adopt a subsequent American Society of Testing and Materials Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes upon a finding that such subsequent method does not result in a change in the percentage of full-length burns exhibited by any tested cigarette when compared to the percentage of full-length burns the same cigarette would exhibit when tested in accordance with the American Society

of Testing and Materials Standard E2187-04 and the performance standard in subdivision (1)(c) of this section.

(6) The State Fire Marshal shall review the effectiveness of this section and report every three years to the Legislature the State Fire Marshal's findings and, if appropriate, recommendations for legislation to improve the effectiveness of this section. The report and legislative recommendations shall be submitted electronically no later than November 15 each three-year period.

(7) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not prohibit wholesale or retail dealers from selling their existing inventory of cigarettes on or after January 1, 2010, if the wholesale or retail dealer can establish that state tax stamps were affixed to the cigarettes prior to such date and if the wholesale or retail dealer can establish that the inventory was purchased prior to such date in comparable quantity to the inventory purchased during the same period of the prior year.

(8) The Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act shall be implemented in accordance with the implementation and substance of the New York Fire Safety Standards for Cigarettes as such standards existed on January 1, 2009.

Sec. 99. Section 69-2409, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

69-2409 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Nebraska State Patrol implement an expedited program of upgrading Nebraska's automated criminal history files to be utilized for, among other law enforcement purposes, an instant criminal history record check on handgun purchasers when buying a handgun from a licensed importer, manufacturer, or dealer so that such instant criminal history record check may be implemented as soon as possible on or after January 1, 1995.

(2) The patrol's automated arrest and conviction records shall be reviewed annually by the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety who shall report the status of such records within thirty days of such review to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The instant criminal history record check system shall be implemented by the patrol on or after January 1, 1995, when, as determined by the Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety, eighty-five percent of the Nebraska arrest and conviction records since January 1, 1965, available to the patrol are included in the patrol's automated system. Not less than thirty days prior to implementation and enforcement of the instant check system, the patrol shall send written notice to all licensed importers, manufacturers, and dealers outlining the procedures and toll-free number described in sections 69-2410 to 69-2423.

(3) Upon implementation of the instant criminal history record check system, a person who desires to purchase, lease, rent, or receive transfer of a handgun from a licensed importer, manufacturer, or dealer may elect to obtain such handgun either under sections 69-2401, 69-2403 to 69-2408, and 69-2409.01 or under sections 69-2409.01 and 69-2410 to 69-2423.

Sec. 100. Section 69-2423, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

69-2423 The Nebraska State Patrol shall provide electronically an annual report to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature which includes the number of inquiries made pursuant to sections 69-2410 to 69-2423 for the prior calendar year, the number of such inquiries resulting in a determination that the potential buyer or transferee was prohibited from receipt or possession of a handgun pursuant to state or federal law, the estimated costs of administering such sections, the number of instances in which a person requested amendment of the record pertaining to such person pursuant to section 69-2414, and the number of instances in which a county court issued an order directing the patrol to amend a record.

Sec. 101. Section 70-1003, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

70-1003 (1) There is hereby established an independent board to be known as the Nebraska Power Review Board to consist of five members, one of whom shall be an engineer, one an attorney, one an accountant, and two laypersons. No person who is or who has within four years preceding his or her appointment been either a director, officer, or employee of any electric utility or an elective state officer shall be eligible for membership on the board. Members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor subject to the approval of the Legislature. Upon expiration of the terms of the members first appointed, the successors shall be appointed for terms of four years. No member of the board shall serve more than two consecutive terms. Any vacancy on the board arising other than from the expiration of a term shall be filled

by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term, and any person appointed to fill a vacancy on the board shall be eligible for reappointment for two more consecutive terms. No more than three members of the board shall be registered members of that political party represented by the Governor. Each member of the board shall receive sixty dollars per day for each day actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of his or her duties, but not to exceed six thousand dollars in any one year, and shall be reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses while so engaged as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. The board shall have jurisdiction as provided in Chapter 70, article 10.

(2) The board shall meet promptly after its members have been appointed. They shall elect from their members a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. Decisions of the board shall require the approval of a majority of the members of the board.

(3) The board shall employ an executive director and may employ such other staff necessary to carry out the duties pursuant to Chapter 70, article 10. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the board and shall be solely responsible to the board. The executive director shall be responsible for the administrative operations of the board and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the board. The board may obtain the services of experts and consultants necessary to carry out the board's duties pursuant to Chapter 70, article 10.

(4) The board shall publish and submit a biennial report with annual data to the Governor, with copies to be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature and with the State Energy Office. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The State Energy Office shall consider the information in the Nebraska Power Review Board's report when the State Energy Office prepares its own reports pursuant to sections 81-1606 and 81-1607. The report of the board shall include:

(a) The assessments for the fiscal year imposed pursuant to section 70-1020;

(b) The gross income totals for each category of the industry and the industry total;

(c) The number of suppliers against whom the assessment is levied, by category and in total;

(d) The projected dollar costs of generation, transmission, and microwave applications, approved and denied;

(e) The actual dollar costs of approved applications upon completion, and a summary of an informational hearing concerning any significant divergence between the projected and actual costs;

(f) A description of Nebraska's current electric system and information on additions to and retirements from the system during the fiscal year, including microwave facilities;

(g) A statistical summary of board activities and an expenditure summary;

(h) A roster of power suppliers in Nebraska and the assessment each paid; and

(i) Appropriately detailed historical and projected electric supply and demand statistics, including information on the total generating capacity owned by Nebraska suppliers and the total peak load demand of the previous year, along with an indication of how the industry will respond to the projected situation.

(5) The board may, in its discretion, hold public hearings concerning the conditions that may indicate that retail competition in the electric industry would benefit Nebraska's citizens and what steps, if any, should be taken to prepare for retail competition in Nebraska's electricity market. In determining whether to hold such hearings, the board shall consider the sufficiency of public interest.

(6) The board may, at any time deemed beneficial by the board, submit a report to the Governor with copies to be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature and the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature. The report filed with the Clerk of the Legislature and the committee shall be filed electronically. The report may include:

(a) Whether or not a viable regional transmission organization and adequate transmission exist in Nebraska or in a region which includes Nebraska;

(b) Whether or not a viable wholesale electricity market exists in a region which includes Nebraska;

(c) To what extent retail rates have been unbundled in Nebraska;

(d) A comparison of Nebraska's wholesale electricity prices to the prices in the region; and

(e) Any other information the board believes to be beneficial to the

Governor, the Legislature, and Nebraska's citizens when considering whether retail electric competition would be beneficial, such as, but not limited to, an update on deregulation activities in other states and an update on federal deregulation legislation.

(7) The board ~~is authorized to~~ may establish working groups of interested parties to assist the board in carrying out the powers set forth in subsections (5) and (6) of this section.

Sec. 102. Section 71-219.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-219.03 The Board of Barber Examiners shall set the fees at a level sufficient to provide for all actual and necessary expenses and salaries of the board and in such a manner that unnecessary surpluses are avoided. The board shall annually file a report with the Attorney General and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst stating the amount of the fees set by the board. Such report shall be submitted on or before July 1 of each year. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 103. Section 71-529, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

71-529 The Department of Health and Human Services may participate in the national efforts described in sections 71-527 and 71-528 and may develop a statewide immunization action plan which is comprehensive in scope and reflects contributions from a broad base of providers and consumers. In order to implement the statewide immunization action plan, the department may:

(1) Actively seek the participation and commitment of the public, health care professionals and facilities, the educational community, and community organizations in a comprehensive program to ensure that the state's children are appropriately immunized;

(2) Apply for and receive public and private awards to purchase vaccines and to administer a statewide comprehensive program;

(3) Provide immunization information and education to the public, parents, health care providers, and educators to establish and maintain a high level of awareness and demand for immunization by parents;

(4) Assist parents, health care providers, and communities in developing systems, including demonstration and pilot projects, which emphasize well-child care and the use of private practitioners and which improve the availability of immunization and improve management of immunization delivery so as to ensure the adequacy of the vaccine delivery system;

(5) Evaluate the effectiveness of these statewide efforts, conduct ongoing measurement of children's immunization status, identify children at special risk for deficiencies in immunization, and report on the activities of the statewide immunization program annually to the Legislature and the citizens of Nebraska. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(6) Recognize persons who volunteer their efforts towards achieving the goal of providing immunization of the children of Nebraska and in meeting the Healthy People 2000 objective of series-complete immunization coverage for ninety percent or more of United States children by their second birthday;

(7) Establish a statewide program to immunize Nebraska children from birth up to six years of age against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, and haemophilus influenzae type B. The program shall serve children who are not otherwise eligible for childhood immunization coverage with medicaid or other federal funds or are not covered by private third-party payment; and

(8) Contract to provide vaccine under the statewide program authorized under subdivision (7) of this section without cost to health care providers subject to the following conditions:

(a) In order to receive vaccine without cost, health care providers shall not charge for the cost of the vaccine. Health care providers may charge a fee for the administration of the vaccine but may not deny service because of the parent's or guardian's inability to pay such fee. Fees for administration of the vaccine shall be negotiated between the department and the health care provider, shall be uniform among participating providers, and shall be no more than the cost ceiling for the region in which Nebraska is included as set by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for the Vaccines for Children Program authorized by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993;

(b) Health care providers shall administer vaccines according to the schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or by the American Academy of Pediatrics unless in the provider's medical judgment, subject to accepted medical practice, such compliance is medically inappropriate; and

(c) Health care providers shall maintain records on immunizations as prescribed by this section for inspection and audit by the Department of Health and Human Services or the Auditor of Public Accounts, including responses by parents or guardians to simple screening questions related to payment coverage by public or private third-party payors, identification of the administration fee as separate from any other cost charged for other services provided at the same time the vaccination service is provided, and other information as determined by the department to be necessary to comply with subdivision (5) of this section. Such immunization records may also be used for information exchange as provided in sections 71-539 to 71-544.

Sec. 104. Section 71-707, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-707 The Department of Health and Human Services shall issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on September 1 for the preceding fiscal year's activities of the Women's Health Initiative of Nebraska. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include progress reports on any programs, activities, or educational promotions that were undertaken by the initiative. The report shall also include a status report on women's health in Nebraska and any results achieved by the initiative.

Sec. 105. Section 71-810, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-810 (1) The division shall encourage and facilitate the statewide development and provision of an appropriate array of community-based behavioral health services and continuum of care for the purposes of (a) providing greater access to such services and improved outcomes for consumers of such services and (b) reducing the necessity and demand for regional center behavioral health services.

(2) The division may reduce or discontinue regional center behavioral health services only if (a) appropriate community-based services or other regional center behavioral health services are available for every person receiving the regional center services that would be reduced or discontinued, (b) such services possess sufficient capacity and capability to effectively replace the service needs which otherwise would have been provided at such regional center, and (c) no further commitments, admissions, or readmissions for such services are required due to the availability of community-based services or other regional center services to replace such services.

(3) The division shall notify the Governor and the Legislature of any intended reduction or discontinuation of regional center services under this section. The notification submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such notice shall include detailed documentation of the community-based services or other regional center services that are being utilized to replace such services.

(4) As regional center services are reduced or discontinued under this section, the division shall make appropriate corresponding reductions in regional center personnel and other expenditures related to the provision of such services. All funding related to the provision of regional center services that are reduced or discontinued under this section shall be reallocated and expended by the division for purposes related to the statewide development and provision of community-based services.

(5) The division may establish state-operated community-based services to replace regional center services that are reduced or discontinued under this section. The division shall provide regional center employees with appropriate training and support to transition such employees into positions as may be necessary for the provision of such state-operated services.

(6) When the occupancy of the licensed psychiatric hospital beds of any regional center reaches twenty percent or less of its licensed psychiatric hospital bed capacity on March 15, 2004, the division shall notify the Governor and the Legislature of such fact. The notification submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Upon such notification, the division, with the approval of a majority of members of the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, may provide for the transfer of all remaining patients at such center to appropriate community-based services or other regional center services pursuant to this section and cease the operation of such regional center.

(7) The division, in consultation with each regional behavioral health authority, shall establish and maintain a data and information system for all persons receiving state-funded behavioral health services under the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act. Information maintained by the division shall include, but not be limited to, (a) the number of persons receiving regional center services, (b) the number of persons ordered by a

mental health board to receive inpatient or outpatient treatment and receiving regional center services, (c) the number of persons ordered by a mental health board to receive inpatient or outpatient treatment and receiving community-based services, (d) the number of persons voluntarily admitted to a regional center and receiving regional center services, (e) the number of persons waiting to receive regional center services, (f) the number of persons waiting to be transferred from a regional center to community-based services or other regional center services, (g) the number of persons discharged from a regional center who are receiving community-based services or other regional center services, and (h) the number of persons admitted to behavioral health crisis centers. Each regional behavioral health authority shall provide such information as requested by the division and necessary to carry out this subsection. The division shall submit reports of such information to the Governor and the Legislature on a quarterly basis beginning July 1, 2005, in a format which does not identify any person by name, address, county of residence, social security number, or other personally identifying characteristic. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(8) The provisions of this section are self-executing and require no further authorization or other enabling legislation.

Sec. 106. Section 71-816, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-816 (1) The Legislature finds that the main sources of funding for the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund are the Charitable Gaming Operations Fund as provided in section 9-1,101 and the State Lottery Operation Trust Fund as provided in section 9-812 and Article III, section 24, of the Constitution of Nebraska. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund be used primarily for counseling and treatment services for problem gamblers and their families who are residents of Nebraska.

(2) The State Committee on Problem Gambling is created. Members of the committee shall have a demonstrated interest and commitment and specialized knowledge, experience, or expertise relating to problem gambling in the State of Nebraska. The committee shall consist of twelve members appointed by the Governor and shall include at least three consumers of problem gambling services. The committee shall appoint one of its members as chairperson of the committee and other officers as it deems appropriate. The committee shall conduct regular meetings and shall meet upon the call of the chairperson or a majority of its members to conduct its official business.

(3) The committee shall develop and recommend to the division guidelines and standards for the distribution and disbursement of money in the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund. Such guidelines and standards shall be based on nationally recognized standards for problem gamblers assistance programs.

(4) In addition, the committee shall develop recommendations regarding (a) the evaluation and approval process for provider applications and contracts for treatment funding from the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund, (b) the review and use of evaluation data, (c) the use and expenditure of funds for education regarding problem gambling and prevention of problem gambling, and (d) the creation and implementation of outreach and educational programs regarding problem gambling for Nebraska residents. The committee may engage in other activities it finds necessary to carry out its duties under this section.

(5) Based on the recommendations of the committee, the division shall adopt guidelines and standards for the distribution and disbursement of money in the fund and for administration of problem gambling services in Nebraska.

(6) The division and the committee shall jointly submit a report within sixty days after the end of each fiscal year to the Legislature and the Governor that provides details of the administration of services and distribution of funds. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 107. Section 71-825, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-825 The department shall provide an annual report, no later than December 1, to the Governor and the Legislature on the operation of the Children and Family Support Hotline established under section 71-822, the Family Navigator Program established under section 71-823, and the provision of voluntary post-adoption and post-guardianship case management services under section 71-824. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 108. Section 71-827, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

amended to read:

71-827 (1) The Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee of the Legislature is created as a special legislative committee. The committee shall consist of nine members of the Legislature appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council as follows: (a) Two members of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, (b) two members of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature, (c) two members of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature, and (d) three members of the Legislature who are not members of such committees. The Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members. The executive board shall appoint members of the committee no later than thirty days after May 23, 2009, and within the first six legislative days of the regular legislative session in 2011. The committee and this section terminate on December 31, 2012.

(2) The committee shall monitor the effect of implementation of the Children and Family Behavioral Health Support Act and other child welfare and juvenile justice initiatives by the department related to the provision of behavioral health services to children and their families.

(3) The committee shall meet at least quarterly with representatives of the Division of Behavioral Health and the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services and with other interested parties and may meet at other times at the call of the chairperson.

(4) Staff support for the committee shall be provided by existing legislative staff as directed by the executive board. The committee may request the executive board to hire consultants that the committee deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the committee under this section.

(5) The committee shall provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature no later than December 1 of each year. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall include, but not be limited to, findings and recommendations relating to the provision of behavioral health services to children and their families.

Sec. 109. Section 71-830, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-830 (1) The Behavioral Health Education Center is created beginning July 1, 2009, and shall be administered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

(2) The center shall:

(a) Provide funds for two additional medical residents in a Nebraska-based psychiatry program each year starting in 2010 until a total of eight additional psychiatry residents are added in 2013. Beginning in 2011 and every year thereafter, the center shall provide psychiatric residency training experiences that serve rural Nebraska and other underserved areas. As part of his or her residency training experiences, each center-funded resident shall participate in the rural training for a minimum of one year. Beginning in 2012, a minimum of two of the eight center-funded residents shall be active in the rural training each year;

(b) Focus on the training of behavioral health professionals in telehealth techniques, including taking advantage of a telehealth network that exists, and other innovative means of care delivery in order to increase access to behavioral health services for all Nebraskans;

(c) Analyze the geographic and demographic availability of Nebraska behavioral health professionals, including psychiatrists, social workers, community rehabilitation workers, psychologists, substance abuse counselors, licensed mental health practitioners, behavioral analysts, peer support providers, primary care physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, and pharmacists;

(d) Prioritize the need for additional professionals by type and location;

(e) Establish learning collaborative partnerships with other higher education institutions in the state, hospitals, law enforcement, community-based agencies, and consumers and their families in order to develop evidence-based, recovery-focused, interdisciplinary curriculum and training for behavioral health professionals delivering behavioral health services in community-based agencies, hospitals, and law enforcement. Development and dissemination of such curriculum and training shall address the identified priority needs for behavioral health professionals; and

(f) Beginning in 2011, develop two interdisciplinary behavioral health training sites each year until a total of six sites have been developed. Four of the six sites shall be in counties with a population of fewer than fifty thousand inhabitants. Each site shall provide annual interdisciplinary training opportunities for a minimum of three behavioral health professionals.

(3) No later than December 1, 2011, and no later than December 1 of every odd-numbered year thereafter, the center shall prepare a report of its activities under the Behavioral Health Workforce Act. The report shall be filed electronically with the Clerk of the Legislature and shall be provided electronically to any member of the Legislature upon request.

Sec. 110. Section 71-1134, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1134 (1) The department in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities established under section 83-1212.01 shall submit quarterly reports to the court, all parties of record, and the guardian of any subject in court-ordered custody.

(2) The department shall submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature regarding the implementation of the Developmental Disabilities Court-Ordered Custody Act. Such reports shall not contain any name, address, or other identifying factors or other confidential information regarding any subject.

Sec. 111. Section 71-1628.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1628.05 Each local public health department shall prepare an annual report regarding the core public health functions carried out by the department in the prior fiscal year. The report shall be submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services by October 1. The Department of Health and Human Services shall compile the reports and submit the results electronically to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature by December 1.

Sec. 112. Section 71-1628.07, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1628.07 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall establish a satellite office of minority health in each congressional district to coordinate and administer state policy relating to minority health. Each office shall implement a minority health initiative in counties with a minority population of at least five percent of the total population of the county as determined by the most recent federal decennial census which shall target, but not be limited to, infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes, and asthma.

(2) Each office shall prepare an annual report regarding minority health initiatives implemented in the immediately preceding fiscal year. The report shall be submitted to the department by October 1. The department shall submit such reports electronically to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature by December 1.

Sec. 113. Section 71-17,115, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-17,115 The department shall annually provide a report to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature on the status of the program, the status of the loan recipients, and the impact of the program on the number of nursing faculty in Nebraska. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Any report which includes information about loan recipients shall exclude confidential information or any other information which specifically identifies a loan recipient.

Sec. 114. Section 71-1904, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-1904 (1) The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to sections 71-1901 to 71-1906.01 for (a) the proper care and protection of children by licensees under such sections, (b) the issuance, suspension, and revocation of licenses to provide foster care, (c) the issuance, suspension, and revocation of probationary licenses to provide foster care, (d) the issuance, suspension, and revocation of provisional licenses to provide foster care, (e) the provision of training in foster care, which training shall be directly related to the skills necessary to care for children in need of out-of-home care, including, but not limited to, abused, neglected, dependent, and delinquent children, and (f) the proper administration of sections 71-1901 to 71-1906.01.

(2) The training required by subdivision (1)(e) of this section may be waived in whole or in part by the department for persons operating foster homes providing care only to relatives of the foster care provider. Such waivers shall be granted on a case-by-case basis upon assessment by the department of the appropriateness of the relative foster care placement. The department shall submit electronically an annual report annually to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature on the number of waivers granted under this subsection and the total number of children placed in relative foster homes.

Sec. 115. Section 71-2516, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

amended to read:

71-2516 The Department of Health and Human Services may participate in national efforts and may develop a statewide environmental lead hazard awareness action plan which is comprehensive in scope and reflects contributions from a broad base of providers and consumers. In order to implement the statewide environmental lead hazard awareness action plan, the department may:

(1) Actively seek the participation and commitment of the public, health care professionals and facilities, the educational community, and community organizations in a comprehensive program to ensure that the state's children are appropriately protected from environmental lead hazards;

(2) Apply for and receive public and private awards to develop and administer a statewide comprehensive environmental lead hazard awareness action plan program;

(3) Provide environmental lead hazard information and education to the public, parents, health care providers, and educators to establish and maintain a high level of awareness;

(4) Assist parents, health care providers, and communities in developing systems, including demonstration and pilot projects, which emphasize the protection of children from environmental lead poisoning and the use of private practitioners; and

(5) Evaluate the effectiveness of these statewide efforts, identify children at special risk for environmental lead hazard exposure, and report electronically on the activities of the statewide program annually to the Legislature and the citizens of Nebraska.

Sec. 116. Section 71-3407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-3407 (1) The purposes of the team shall be to (a) develop an understanding of the causes and incidence of child deaths in this state, (b) develop recommendations for changes within relevant agencies and organizations which may serve to prevent child deaths, and (c) advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the public on changes to law, policy, and practice which will prevent child deaths.

(2) The team shall:

(a) Undertake annual statistical studies of the causes and incidence of child deaths in this state. The studies shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the records of community, public, and private agency involvement with the children and their families prior to and subsequent to the deaths;

(b) Develop a protocol for retrospective investigation of child deaths by the team;

(c) Develop a protocol for collection of data regarding child deaths by the team;

(d) Consider training needs, including cross-agency training, and service gaps;

(e) Include in its annual report recommended changes to any law, rule, regulation, or policy needed to decrease the incidence of preventable child deaths;

(f) Educate the public regarding the incidence and causes of child deaths, the public role in preventing child deaths, and specific steps the public can undertake to prevent child deaths. The team may enlist the support of civic, philanthropic, and public service organizations in the performance of its educational duties;

(g) Provide the Governor, the Legislature, and the public with annual ~~written~~ reports which shall include the team's findings and recommendations for each of its duties. The reports submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically; and

(h) When appropriate, make referrals to those agencies as required in section 28-711 or as otherwise required by state law.

Sec. 117. Section 71-4728, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-4728 The commission shall serve as the principal state agency responsible for monitoring public policies and implementing programs which shall improve the quality and coordination of existing services for deaf or hard of hearing persons and promote the development of new services when necessary. To perform this function the commission shall:

(1) Inventory services available for meeting the problems of persons with a hearing loss and assist such persons in locating and securing such services;

(2) License interpreters under sections 20-150 to 20-159 and prepare and maintain a roster of licensed interpreters. The roster shall include the type of employment the interpreter generally engages in, the type of

license the interpreter holds, and the expiration date of the license. Each interpreter included on the roster shall provide the commission with his or her social security number which shall be kept confidential by the commission. The roster shall be made available to local, state, and federal agencies and shall be used for referrals to private organizations and individuals seeking interpreters;

(3) Promote the training of interpreters for deaf or hard of hearing persons;

(4) Provide counseling to deaf or hard of hearing persons or refer such persons to private or governmental agencies which provide counseling services;

(5) Conduct a voluntary census of deaf or hard of hearing persons in Nebraska and compile a current registry;

(6) Promote expanded adult educational opportunities for deaf or hard of hearing persons;

(7) Serve as an agency for the collection of information concerning deaf or hard of hearing persons and for the dispensing of such information to interested persons by collecting studies, compiling bibliographies, gathering information, and conducting research with respect to the education, training, counseling, placement, and social and economic adjustment of deaf or hard of hearing persons and with respect to the causes, diagnosis, treatment, and methods of prevention of impaired hearing;

(8) Appoint advisory or special committees when appropriate for indepth investigations and study of particular problems and receive reports of findings and recommendations;

(9) Assess and monitor programs for services to deaf or hard of hearing persons and make recommendations to those state agencies providing such services regarding changes necessary to improve the quality and coordination of the services;

(10) Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature with respect to modification in existing services or establishment of additional services for deaf or hard of hearing persons. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(11) Promote awareness and understanding of the rights of deaf or hard of hearing persons;

(12) Promote statewide communication services for deaf or hard of hearing persons;

(13) Assist deaf or hard of hearing persons in accessing comprehensive mental health, alcoholism, and drug abuse services;

(14) Provide licensed interpreters in public and private settings for the benefit of deaf or hard of hearing persons, if private-practice licensed interpreters are not available, and establish and collect reasonable fees for such interpreter services;

(15) Make recommendations to the State Department of Education, public school districts, and educational service units regarding policies and procedures for qualified educational interpreter guidelines and a training program as required in subsection (3) of section 20-150, including, but not limited to, testing, training, and grievances; and

(16) Approve, conduct, and sponsor continuing education programs and other activities to assess continuing competence of licensees. The commission shall establish and charge reasonable fees for such activities. All fees collected pursuant to this section by the commission shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Fund. Such fees shall be disbursed for payment of expenses related to this section.

Sec. 118. Section 71-4741, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-4741 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall determine which birthing facilities are administering hearing screening tests to newborns and infants on a voluntary basis and the number of newborns and infants screened. The department shall annually submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature stating the number of:

(a) Birthing facilities administering voluntary hearing screening tests during birth admission;

(b) Newborns screened as compared to the total number of newborns born in such facilities;

(c) Newborns who passed a hearing screening test during birth admission if administered;

(d) Newborns who did not pass a hearing screening test during birth admission if administered; and

(e) Newborns recommended for followup care.

(2) The Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation

with the State Department of Education, birthing facilities, and other providers, shall develop approved screening methods and protocol for statewide hearing screening tests of substantially all newborns and infants.

(3) Subject to available appropriations, the Department of Health and Human Services shall make the report described in this section available.

Sec. 119. Section 71-51,103, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-51,103 There is hereby created the Nebraska Emergency Medical System Operations Fund. The fund may receive gifts, bequests, grants, fees, or other contributions or donations from public or private entities. The fund shall be used to carry out the purposes of the Statewide Trauma System Act and the Emergency Medical Services Practice Act, including activities related to the design, maintenance, or enhancement of the statewide trauma system, support of emergency medical services programs, and support for the emergency medical services programs for children. The Department of Health and Human Services shall annually, on or before January 1, submit electronically a report to the Legislature which includes a general accounting of the income and expenditures of 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. 120. Section 71-5206.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-5206.01 (1) The Legislature may provide funding to the Office of Rural Health for the purpose of funding the cost of resident stipends and benefits, which funding may include health insurance, professional liability insurance, disability insurance, medical education expenses, continuing competency expenses, pension benefits, moving expenses, and meal expenses in family practice residency programs based in Nebraska but which are not under a contract pursuant to section 71-5206. The resident stipends and benefits funded in this section shall apply only to residents who begin family practice residency training at a qualifying institution in years beginning on or after January 1, 1993. The total funding provided in the form of stipend and benefit support per resident to a family practice residency program under this section shall not exceed the total funding provided in the form of stipend and benefit support per resident to a family practice residency program under section 71-5203.

(2) Upon receiving an itemized statement of the cost of stipends and benefits of a family practice residency program from a sponsoring institution and upon determining that the sponsoring institution is not receiving funds under a contract pursuant to section 71-5206, the office may reimburse such institution fifty percent of such cost for each family practice resident in the program. The office may reimburse such institution twenty-five percent of the remaining cost per family practice resident for each year that one of the program's graduates practices family medicine in Nebraska, up to a maximum of three years for each graduate, and an additional twenty-five percent of the remaining cost per resident for each of the program's graduates who practices family medicine in an area of Nebraska classified as of January 1, 1991, by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services as Medicare Locale 16. The total number of residents receiving annual financial payments made under this section shall not exceed nine students during any school year.

(3) At the end of the third year of the funding under this section, the sponsoring institutions and the office shall report electronically to the Legislature regarding the performance of the residency programs and the placement of residents and physicians for training and practice.

Sec. 121. Section 71-5210, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-5210 Sections 71-5210 to ~~71-5213~~ 71-5212 shall be known and may be cited as the Primary Care Provider Act.

Sec. 122. Section 71-5322, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-5322 The department shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) The power to establish a program to make loans to owners of public water systems, individually or jointly, for construction or modification of safe drinking water projects in accordance with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act and the rules and regulations of the council adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act;

(2) The power, if so authorized by the council pursuant to section 71-5321, to execute and deliver documents obligating the Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund or the Land Acquisition and Source Water Loan Fund and the assets thereof to the extent permitted by section 71-5318 to repay, with interest, loans to or credits into such funds and to execute and deliver documents pledging to the extent permitted by section 71-5318 all or part of

such funds and assets to secure, directly or indirectly, the loans or credits;

(3) The duty to prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(4) The duty to establish fiscal controls and accounting procedures sufficient to assure proper accounting during appropriate accounting periods, including the following:

(a) Accounting from the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority for the costs associated with the issuance of bonds pursuant to the act;

(b) Accounting for payments or deposits received by the funds;

(c) Accounting for disbursements made by the funds; and

(d) Balancing the funds at the beginning and end of the accounting period;

(5) The duty to establish financial capability requirements that assure sufficient revenue to operate and maintain a facility for its useful life and to repay the loan for such facility;

(6) The power to determine the rate of interest to be charged on a loan in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the council;

(7) The power to develop an intended use plan, in consultation with the Director of Public Health of the Division of Public Health, for adoption by the council;

(8) The power to enter into required agreements with the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act;

(9) The power to enter into agreements for the purpose of providing loan forgiveness concurrent with loans to public water systems operated by political subdivisions with populations of ten thousand inhabitants or less which demonstrate serious financial hardships. The department may enter into agreements for up to one-half of the eligible project cost. Such agreements shall contain a provision that payment of the amount allocated is conditional upon the availability of appropriated funds;

(10) The power to provide emergency funding to public water systems operated by political subdivisions with drinking water facilities which have been damaged or destroyed by natural disaster or other unanticipated actions or circumstances. Such funding shall not be used for routine repair or maintenance of facilities;

(11) The power to provide financial assistance consistent with the intended use plan, described in subdivision (7) of this section, for completion of engineering studies, research projects to investigate low-cost options for achieving compliance with safe drinking water standards, preliminary engineering reports, regional water system planning, source water protection, and other studies for the purpose of enhancing the ability of communities to meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, to public water systems operated by political subdivisions with populations of ten thousand inhabitants or less which demonstrate serious financial hardships. The department may enter into agreements for up to ninety percent of the eligible project cost. Such agreements shall contain a provision that payment of the amount obligated is conditional upon the availability of appropriated funds; and

(12) Such other powers as may be necessary and appropriate for the exercise of the duties created under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Act.

Sec. 123. Section 71-6226, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-6226 (1) After receiving and considering reports from the committee or the board, the director shall prepare a final report for the Legislature. The final report shall include copies of the committee report and the board report, if any, but the director shall not be bound by the findings and recommendations of such reports. The director in compiling his or her report shall apply the criteria established in sections 71-6221 to 71-6223 and may consult with the board or the committee. The recommendation of the director shall be developed in a manner consistent with subsection (3) of section 71-6224. The final report shall be submitted electronically to the Speaker of the Legislature, the Chairperson of the Executive Board of the Legislature, and the Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature no later than nine months after the application is submitted to the director and shall be made available electronically to all other members of the Legislature upon request.

(2) The director may recommend that no legislative action be taken on an application. If the director recommends that an application of an applicant group be approved, the director shall recommend an agency to be

responsible for the regulation and the level of regulation to be assigned to such applicant group.

(3) An application which is resubmitted shall be considered the same as a new application.

Sec. 124. Section 71-7606, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

71-7606 (1) The purpose of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act is to provide for the use of dedicated revenue for health-care-related expenditures and administration and enforcement of the Master Settlement Agreement as defined in section 69-2702.

(2) Any funds appropriated or distributed under the act shall not be considered ongoing entitlements or obligations on the part of the State of Nebraska and shall not be used to replace existing funding for existing programs.

(3) No funds appropriated or distributed under the act shall be used for abortion, abortion counseling, referral for abortion, or research or activity of any kind involving the use of human fetal tissue obtained in connection with the performance of an induced abortion or involving the use of human embryonic stem cells or for the purpose of obtaining other funding for such use.

(4) The Department of Health and Human Services shall report annually to the Legislature and the Governor regarding the use of funds appropriated under the act and the outcomes achieved from such use. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 125. Section 71-7611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-7611 (1) The Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund is created. The State Treasurer shall transfer (a) fifty-six million one hundred thousand dollars no later than July 15, 2009, and (b) fifty-nine million one hundred thousand dollars beginning July 15, 2010, and annually thereafter no later than July 15 from the Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund and the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, except that such amount shall be reduced by the amount of the unobligated balance in the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund at the time the transfer is made. The state investment officer upon consultation with the Nebraska Investment Council shall advise the State Treasurer on the amounts to be transferred from the Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund and from the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund under this section in order to sustain such transfers in perpetuity. The state investment officer shall report electronically to the Legislature on or before October 1 of every even-numbered year on the sustainability of such transfers. Except as otherwise provided by law, no more than the amount specified in this subsection may be appropriated or transferred from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund in any fiscal year.

(2) Any money in the Nebraska Health Care 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.

(3) One million dollars in the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund shall be transferred each year to the Autism Treatment Program Cash Fund for five fiscal years beginning on a date determined by the Department of Health and Human Services but no later than ninety days after a waiver under section 68-966 has been approved and shall be distributed with matching private funds from the Autism Treatment Program Cash Fund and matching funds from Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act in each fiscal year as follows: (a) First, to the Department of Health and Human Services for costs related to application, implementation, and administration of a waiver pursuant to section 68-966; (b) second, to the department for other medical costs for children who would not otherwise qualify for medicaid except for the waiver; and (c) third, the balance to fund services pursuant to the waiver.

(4) The University of Nebraska and postsecondary educational institutions having colleges of medicine in Nebraska and their affiliated research hospitals in Nebraska, as a condition of receiving any funds appropriated or transferred from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sexual orientation.

(5) The State Treasurer shall transfer two hundred thousand dollars from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the University of Nebraska Medical Center Cash Fund for the Nebraska Regional Poison Center within fifteen days after each July 1.

(6) Beginning on July 1, 2010, the State Treasurer shall transfer three million dollars annually no later than July 15 of each year from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Cash Fund.

(7) The State Treasurer shall transfer five hundred thousand dollars

annually no later than July 15 of each year from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to the Stem Cell Research Cash Fund.

Sec. 126. Section 71-8313, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-8313 The Department of Health and Human Services shall review the regulation or proposed regulation of categories of facilities based on the criteria in sections 71-8301 to 71-8314. On or before November 1 of each year, the department shall provide the Legislature electronically with recommendations for credentialing of categories of facilities not previously regulated and changes in the statutes governing the credentialing of categories of facilities.

Sec. 127. Section 71-8613, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-8613 The commission shall file an annual report with the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature, prior to each regular session of the Legislature, which details the activities and expenditures of the commission and shall include separately information related to the activities and expenditures of the vending facility program as well as estimates of anticipated expenditures and anticipated revenue available to the vending facility program from all sources. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 128. Section 71-8804, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-8804 (1) The committee shall establish a grant process to award grants to Nebraska institutions or researchers for the purpose of conducting nonembryonic stem cell research. The grant process shall include, but not be limited to, an application identifying the institution or researcher applying for the grant, the amount of funds to be received by the applicant from sources other than state funds, the sources of such funds, and a description of the goal of the research for which the funds will be used and research methods to be used by the applicant.

(2) The committee shall annually submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature stating the number of grants awarded, the amount of the grants, and the researchers or institutions to which the grants were awarded. ~~No more than three years after March 26, 2008, the committee shall report to the Legislature on the progress of any projects that have been awarded grants under the Stem Cell Research Act.~~

Sec. 129. Section 72-240.26, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

72-240.26 The Board of Educational Lands and Funds and the Nebraska Investment Council shall jointly report annually to the Clerk of the Legislature, and such report shall contain anticipated future actions by the board as well as actions already taken. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The board's portion of the report shall include (1) with reference to each tract of land sold pursuant to section 72-201.01: (a) The legal description; (b) the unique characteristics of the land being sold; (c) the appraised value; (d) the sale price; (e) the amount of funds received in the calendar year covered by the report from the sale; (f) the disposition of the funds; (g) the total number of acres of any unsold educational lands remaining under the general management and control of the board by county; (h) the total appraised value of unsold land; and (i) the percentage of the investment portfolio remaining in real estate, including all nonagricultural real estate and (2) the corresponding information for any land that has been acquired or traded. The council's portion of the report shall include a cost-benefit analysis which considers the land being sold versus the anticipated investment potential of proceeds resulting from the sale. The cost-benefit analysis model used shall be consistent with the standards of the investment industry at the time of the proposed sale. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the chairperson of the board.

Sec. 130. Section 72-813, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

72-813 (1) Each state agency shall by September 15 of each year submit to the State Building Administrator a list of all state-owned buildings and land for which it is responsible and shall note the current and planned uses of each building and parcel of land. The State Building Administrator shall compile the information on state-owned buildings and land and provide it, along with any other information or recommendations he or she may consider relevant to the purposes of sections 72-811 to 72-818, to the ~~committee~~ Vacant Building and Excess Land Committee and to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The information provided to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

(2) The committee shall meet to review the information and consider further action or possible amendments to orders made pursuant to this section. If the committee determines that there is reason to believe that any particular state-owned building or piece of land is vacant or excess, the committee shall review the status of the building or land and by majority vote determine whether it should be declared vacant or excess.

(3) If the committee declares a building or land to be vacant or excess, it shall order either maintenance of the building or land by the state building division of the Department of Administrative Services or the disposal of the building or land through sale, lease, demolition, or otherwise. Any order for disposal of a building may include related lands. In determining the appropriate action to be taken in regard to a building or land, the committee shall consider the benefits to the state of the alternative possible actions, including cost-effectiveness, other possible future uses of the building or land for state purposes, and the necessity or utility of the building or land for the furtherance of existing or planned state programs.

Sec. 131. Section 72-1278, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

72-1278 The Nebraska Investment Council shall enter into a contract with a qualified independent organization familiar with similar state investment offices to complete a comprehensive review of the current statutory, regulatory, and organizational situation of the council, review best practices of similar state investment offices, and make recommendations to the council, the Governor, and the Legislature for changes needed to ensure that the council has adequate authority to independently execute its fiduciary responsibilities to the members and beneficiaries of the retirement systems and the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and the residents of Nebraska with regards to other state funds. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 132. Section 72-1710, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

72-1710 A community board shall report ~~in writing~~ electronically at least annually to the Legislature on the activities of the community board and the center. The report shall include, at minimum, the name of each applicant whose application the community board rejects, together with the reasons for the rejection, and the name of each applicant whose application the community board favorably evaluates.

Sec. 133. Section 73-305, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

73-305 The Director of Administrative Services shall, within forty-five days after receipt of the information described in sections 73-302 and 73-303 from the state agency, prepare a report detailing why the proposed contract was approved or disapproved. The report shall be delivered electronically to the chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

Sec. 134. Section 76-1521, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

76-1521 (1) The report required by section 76-1520 shall be on a form provided by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State may incorporate the form with other forms required to be filed by entities identified in subsection (1) of section 76-1520. If there has been no change in the information contained in the previous report filed by the reporting entity, the reporting entity may so indicate in a space provided on the reporting form for that purpose.

(2) The Secretary of State shall include a list of exemptions to the prohibitions contained in Article XII, section 8, of the Constitution of Nebraska and a means by which persons filing the form may indicate, if applicable, which exemptions apply to the reporting entity. The reporting entity may include or attach a statement indicating the basis upon which the reporting entity claims exemption from the prohibitions contained in Article XII, section 8, of the Constitution of Nebraska.

(3) The Secretary of State shall annually prepare a report indicating the total number of entities reporting under sections 76-1520 to 76-1524, the number of entities reporting as a corporation, as a limited partnership, as a limited liability partnership, as a limited liability company, and as a trust and the basis upon which the reporting entities claim exemption from the prohibitions contained in Article XII, section 8, of the Constitution of Nebraska. The Secretary of State shall deliver the report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature on or before January 1 each year.

Sec. 135. Section 77-367, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

77-367 (1) The Department of Revenue may contract to procure products and services to develop, deploy, or administer systems or programs which identify nonfilers of returns, underreporters, or nonpayers of taxes administered by the department or improper or fraudulent payments made through programs administered by the department. Fees for services, reimbursements, costs incurred by the department, or other remuneration may be funded from the amount of tax, penalty, interest, or other recovery actually collected and shall be paid only after the amount is collected. The Legislature intends to appropriate an amount from the tax, penalty, interest, and other recovery actually collected, not to exceed the amount collected, which is sufficient to pay for services, reimbursements, costs incurred by the department, or other remuneration pursuant to this section. Vendors entering into a contract with the department pursuant to this section are subject to the requirements and penalties of the confidentiality laws of this state regarding tax information.

(2) Ten percent of all proceeds received during each calendar year due to the contracts entered into pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Department of Revenue Enforcement Fund for purposes of identifying nonfilers, underreporters, nonpayers, and improper or fraudulent payments.

(3) The Tax Commissioner shall submit electronically an annual report annually to the Revenue Committee of the Legislature and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on the amount of dollars generated during the previous fiscal year pursuant to this section.

Sec. 136. Section 77-385, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-385 The report required under section 77-382 and a summary of the report shall be submitted to the Governor, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, and the chairpersons of the Legislature's Revenue and Appropriations Committees on or before October 15, 1991, and October 15 of every even-numbered year thereafter. The report submitted to the executive board and the committees shall be submitted electronically. The summary shall be included with or appended to the Governor's budget presented to the Legislature in odd-numbered years.

Sec. 137. Section 77-3,116, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-3,116 (1) The Department of Revenue and the Department of Labor shall cooperate and participate in the collection of data for the study described in section 77-3,115. Other state agencies, including the University of Nebraska, shall assist in the study or the update as requested by the Department of Revenue and as any necessary funds are available. Any agency may contract with the Department of Revenue to provide such assistance. The Department of Revenue may also contract with an independent entity for the entity to conduct or assist in conducting such study or update. The department, other state agency, or independent entity preparing the material or study shall utilize and consider, along with other information, the results of any available study relating to the items listed in section 77-3,115 and conducted or contracted for by the Legislature in the year prior to April 16, 1992.

(2) A preliminary report of the initial study's models and initial findings shall be reported by the Department of Revenue to the chairpersons of the Appropriations Committee and Revenue Committee of the Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Governor by December 1, 1992. The initial study shall be completed and the department shall report its findings to the same entities by December 1, 1993. The study shall be updated and the update shall be reported to the same entities ~~(1)~~ (a) on December 1, 1994, and every four years thereafter or ~~(2)~~ (b) more often if determined appropriate by the Tax Commissioner and if the data or economic circumstances reported in the previous report have changed to such a degree as to vary the conclusions in the previous report or update. The study submitted to the Appropriations Committee and Revenue Committee of the Legislature and the Clerk of the Legislature pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted electronically.

(3) Any models developed for the initial study or update shall be electronically shared with the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The Department of Revenue shall include in its budget request for every other biennium following the 1991-93 biennium sufficient appropriation authority to conduct or contract for the required update.

Sec. 138. Section 77-4110, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-4110 (1) The Tax Commissioner shall submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature no later than July 15 of each year.

(2) The report shall list (a) the agreements which have been signed during the previous calendar year, (b) the agreements which are still in effect, (c) the identity of each taxpayer, and (d) the location of each

project.

(3) The report shall also state by industry group (a) the specific incentive options applied for under the Employment and Investment Growth Act, (b) the refunds allowed on the investment, (c) the credits earned, (d) the credits used to reduce the corporate income tax and the credits used to reduce the individual income tax, (e) the credits used to obtain sales and use tax refunds, (f) the number of jobs created, (g) the total number of employees employed in the state by the taxpayer on the last day of the calendar quarter prior to the application date and the total number of employees employed in the state by the taxpayer on subsequent reporting dates, (h) the expansion of capital investment, (i) the estimated wage levels of jobs created subsequent to the application date, (j) the total number of qualified applicants, (k) the projected future state revenue gains and losses, (l) the sales tax refunds owed to the applicants, (m) the credits outstanding, and (n) the value of personal property exempted by class in each county.

(4) No information shall be provided in the report that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 139. Section 77-4933, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-4933 (1) The Department of Revenue shall submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature no later than July 15 each year. The report shall list (a) the agreements which have been signed during the previous calendar year, (b) the agreements which are still in effect, (c) the identity of each company, and (d) the location of each project.

(2) The report shall also state by industry group (a) the amount of wage benefit credits allowed under the Quality Jobs Act, (b) the number of direct jobs created at the project, (c) the amount of direct capital investment under the act, (d) the estimated wage levels of jobs created by the companies at the projects, (e) the estimated indirect jobs and investment created on account of the projects, and (f) the projected future state and local revenue gains and losses from all revenue sources on account of the direct and indirect jobs and investment created on account of the project.

(3) No information shall be provided in the report that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 140. Section 77-5204, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5204 For the purpose of developing and directing programs to provide increased and enhanced opportunities for beginning farmers and livestock producers, the Beginning Farmer Board is created. For administrative and budgetary purposes only, the board shall be housed within the Department of Agriculture. The board shall be vested with the following duties and responsibilities:

(1) To approve and certify beginning farmers and livestock producers as eligible for the programs provided by the board, for eligibility to claim tax credits authorized by section 77-5209.01, and for eligibility to claim an exemption of taxable tangible personal property tax as provided by section 77-5209.02;

(2) To approve and certify owners of agricultural assets as eligible for the tax credits authorized by sections 77-5211 to 77-5213;

(3) To advocate joint ventures between beginning farmers or livestock producers and existing private and public credit and banking licensed institutions, as well as to advocate joint ventures with owners of agricultural assets desiring to assist beginning farmers and livestock producers seeking entry into farming or livestock production;

(4) To provide necessary and reasonable assistance and support to beginning farmers and livestock producers for qualification and participation in financial management programs approved by the board;

(5) To advocate appropriate changes in policies and programs of other public and private institutions or agencies which will directly benefit beginning farmers and livestock producers and may include changes regarding financing, taxation, and any other existing policies which prohibit or impede individuals from entering into farming or livestock production;

(6) To provide adequate explanations of facts and aspects of available programs offered or recommended by the board intended for beginning farmers and livestock producers;

(7) To assist and educate beginning farmers and livestock producers by acting as a liaison between beginning farmers or livestock producers and the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority;

(8) To encourage licensed financial institutions and individuals to use alternative amortization schedules for loans and land contracts granted to beginning farmers and livestock producers;

(9) To refer beginning farmers and livestock producers to agencies

and organizations which may provide additional pertinent information and assistance;

(10) To provide any other assistance and support the board deems necessary and appropriate in order for entry into farming or livestock production;

(11) To adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act, including criteria required for tax credit eligibility and financial management program certification and guidelines which constitute a viably sized farm that is necessary to adequately support a beginning farmer or livestock producer. Such guidelines shall vary and take into account the region of the state, number of acres, land quality and type, type of operation, type of crops or livestock raised, and other factors of farming or livestock production; and

(12) To keep minutes of the board's meetings and other books and records which will adequately reflect actions and decisions of the board and to provide an annual report to the Governor, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Clerk of the Legislature by December 1. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 141. Section 77-5210, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5210 The board shall submit an annual report of the activities and actions of the board for the preceding fiscal year to the Governor, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the Clerk of the Legislature by December 1. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by request to the chairperson of the board. Each report shall include the following information:

- (1) A complete operating and financial statement for the board for the prior fiscal year;
- (2) The number of qualified beginning farmers and livestock producers receiving assistance from the board;
- (3) The number of owners of agricultural assets claiming tax credits and the monetary amount of credits granted by the board; and
- (4) Any other relevant information which the board deems necessary to report.

No information furnished to the board shall be disclosed in the report in such a way as to reveal information from a tax return of any person.

Sec. 142. Section 77-5214, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5214 ~~The board shall conduct a study in order to ascertain the fiscal impact of future tax credits granted by the board to owners of agricultural assets. Such study shall attempt to reasonably estimate the number of qualified beginning farmers or livestock producers that would be eligible to enter into a board approved and certified three-year share-rental agreement with an owner of agricultural assets and other such relevant facts and information for review by the board. The findings of such study by the board shall be submitted to the Governor, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst by January 3, 2000. In order to carry out the study and the provisions of the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act, the Department of Agriculture shall provide any and all of the necessary support and assistance to the board.~~

Sec. 143. Section 77-5412, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5412 (1) The Tax Commissioner shall submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature no later than June 30 of each year.

(2) The report shall state by industry group (a) the credits earned, (b) the credits used to reduce the corporate income tax and the credits used to reduce the individual income tax, (c) the number of jobs created, (d) the total number of employees employed by taxpayers at qualifying projects on the last day of the calendar quarter prior to the application date and the total number of employees employed by the taxpayers for the projects on subsequent reporting dates, (e) the expansion of capital investment, (f) the estimated wage levels of jobs created subsequent to the application date, (g) the total number of qualified applicants, (h) the projected future state revenue gains and losses, and (i) the credits outstanding.

(3) No information shall be provided in the report that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 144. Section 77-5542, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5542 (1) The Department of Revenue shall submit electronically an

annual report to the Legislature no later than July 15 each year. The report shall list (a) the agreements which have been signed during the previous calendar year, (b) the agreements which are still in effect, (c) the identity of each company, and (d) the location of each project.

(2) The report shall also state by industry group (a) the amount of wage benefit credits and investment tax credits allowed under the Invest Nebraska Act, (b) the number of direct jobs created at the projects, (c) the amount of direct capital investment under the act, (d) the estimated wage levels of jobs created by the companies at the projects, (e) the estimated indirect jobs and investment created on account of the projects, and (f) the projected future state and local revenue gains and losses from all revenue sources on account of the direct and indirect jobs and investment created on account of the projects.

(3) No information shall be provided in the report that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 145. Section 77-5544, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5544 (1) By January 1, 2005, and each January 1 every five years thereafter for so long as there are companies that have qualified for benefits and remain within the entitlement period and there are sufficient companies qualified for benefits so as not to reveal confidential information that allows identification of any company, there shall be an audit to determine compliance with the Invest Nebraska Act. The Tax Commissioner shall contract with a qualified independent accounting firm to conduct the audit. The cost of the audit shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Department of Revenue by the Legislature. Such cost shall include, in addition to the fees and costs of such independent firm, the incremental costs to the department to comply with this section, as determined by the department. If a qualified independent accounting firm cannot be located or engaged to conduct such audit, then such audit shall instead be performed by the department. A qualified independent firm shall be a firm that meets all of the following requirements: (a) The firm must be an accounting firm employing or comprised of at least ten certified public accountants who are licensed under the Public Accountancy Act to practice accounting and auditing in Nebraska; (b) the firm, at the time of the beginning of such audit, and for the period of at least twenty-four months before such audit commences, has not performed any services for any of the companies that at such time have filed applications under the Invest Nebraska Act, and the firm must agree not to engage in and to withdraw from representing any companies that file applications after such audit commences and before the audit report is issued; (c) the firm must have executed such audit contract as required by the Tax Commissioner; and (d) the firm, and all such accountants and personnel of such firm who will be involved in the audit, must have executed such confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements as required by the Tax Commissioner. In hiring such firm, the Tax Commissioner shall comply with all Nebraska laws pertaining to the selection and hiring of outside private sector services.

(2) The purpose of the audit is to examine information collected by the department in order to determine:

(a) The extent the data collected from the companies receiving benefits is verified;

(b) The extent to which the projects receiving benefits from the act are in compliance with the act initially and throughout the entitlement period;

(c) Whether the requirements of the act regarding the investment threshold have been attained and maintained by the companies;

(d) Whether and to what extent new employees are added by the companies to their workforce and employed at the project locations;

(e) Whether and to what extent the new jobs created meet the minimum compensation requirements of the act;

(f) The industry or industries in which the new jobs are created, by North American Industry Classification System Code;

(g) The extent to which the minimum new job threshold of the act has been attained and maintained by the companies;

(h) By category of spending, what is purchased by the companies that is claimed as qualified investments; and

(i) Gross sales from output of the project if reasonably determinable.

(3) After the audit is conducted, and on or before January 1, 2005, and each January 1 every five years thereafter, the auditor shall issue a report to the Legislature and Governor detailing the results of the audit. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall be presented using aggregated information and other techniques

so as not to reveal confidential information that allows identification of the company. The report shall not be issued until the Tax Commissioner has confirmed in writing that the report does not reveal any confidential information that allows identification of the company. For purposes of this section, confidential information includes all information that is (a) referred to as confidential in section 77-5534, (b) restricted from disclosure or treated as confidential under any federal or state law, or (c) provided by the company to the department in connection with the company's project under the act. The report shall detail all assumptions, methods, or models that were used in performing the analysis and shall report information by industry group or expenditure category so that further analysis can be performed. The firm shall have access to all records of the department with regard to the credits granted under the act and the companies receiving such credits. Such records shall remain confidential in the hands of the firm conducting the audit and shall not be revealed to any person that is not employed by the department or the firm conducting the audit. No officer or employee of the firm conducting the audit shall disclose any information to any other person if such information is protected by federal or state confidentiality laws. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, neither the independent accounting firm nor any of its personnel shall be provided by the department with any confidential information except to the extent and under conditions when the department is permitted without penalty to do so under applicable federal or state laws.

(4) All information provided by the department to the independent accounting firm shall be examined only on the premises of the department and shall be stored in a secure place. The firm shall make no copies of such information. Any qualified independent accounting firm, or any personnel of the firm, which violates this section shall be guilty of a Class IV felony and, in the discretion of the court, may be assessed the costs of prosecution.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the company to provide, or require the department to obtain from the company, any information beyond that required as part of the application or beyond that required by the department to confirm the company is entitled to the benefits of the act or to obtain the information required in subsection (2) of this section. The independent accounting firm shall not request any information from the company or its personnel. The independent accounting firm shall be permitted and expected to obtain additional outside public information available from sources outside of the company and the department in order to comply with the requirements for the report if copies of all such data, information, and sources are made available to the public or included with the report.

(6) Information obtained in connection with the audit from either the department or the company is confidential and is not discoverable or admissible in evidence in any civil action, and no department or company personnel shall be compelled to testify in regard thereto. Such information may be discovered and be admissible, and testimony compelled in regard thereto, by the department or by the company in an action relating to the determination of whether the company is entitled to the benefits of the act.

Sec. 146. Section 77-5731, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

77-5731 (1) The Tax Commissioner shall submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature no later than July 15 of each year.

(2) The report shall list (a) the agreements which have been signed during the previous calendar year, (b) the agreements which are still in effect, (c) the identity of each taxpayer who is party to an agreement, and (d) the location of each project.

(3) The report shall also state, for taxpayers who are parties to agreements, by industry group (a) the specific incentive options applied for under the Nebraska Advantage Act, (b) the refunds allowed on the investment, (c) the credits earned, (d) the credits used to reduce the corporate income tax and the credits used to reduce the individual income tax, (e) the credits used to obtain sales and use tax refunds, (f) the credits used against withholding liability, (g) the number of jobs created under the act, (h) the total number of employees employed in the state on the last day of the calendar quarter prior to the application date and the total number of employees employed in the state on subsequent reporting dates, (i) the expansion of capital investment, (j) the estimated wage levels of jobs created under the act subsequent to the application date, (k) the total number of qualified applicants, (l) the projected future state revenue gains and losses, (m) the sales tax refunds owed, (n) the credits outstanding under the act, (o) the value of personal property exempted by class in each county under the act, (p) the value of property for which payments equal to property taxes paid were

allowed in each county, and (q) the total amount of the payments.

(4) In estimating the projected future state revenue gains and losses, the report shall detail the methodology utilized, state the economic multipliers and industry multipliers used to determine the amount of economic growth and positive tax revenue, describe the analysis used to determine the percentage of new jobs attributable to the Nebraska Advantage Act assumption, and identify limitations that are inherent in the analysis method.

(5) The report shall provide an explanation of the audit and review processes of the Department of Revenue in approving and rejecting applications or the grant of incentives and in enforcing incentive recapture. The report shall also specify the median period of time between the date of application and the date the agreement is executed for all agreements executed by December 31 of the prior year.

(6) The report shall provide information on project-specific total incentives used every two years for each approved project. The report shall disclose (a) the identity of the taxpayer, (b) the location of the project, and (c) the total credits used and refunds approved during the immediately preceding two years expressed as a single, aggregated total. The incentive information required to be reported under this subsection shall not be reported for the first year the taxpayer attains the required employment and investment thresholds. The information on first-year incentives used shall be combined with and reported as part of the second year. Thereafter, the information on incentives used for succeeding years shall be reported for each project every two years containing information on two years of credits used and refunds approved. The incentives used shall include incentives which have been approved by the department, but not necessarily received, during the previous two calendar years.

(7) The report shall include an executive summary which shows aggregate information for all projects for which the information on incentives used in subsection (6) of this section is reported as follows: (a) The total incentives used by all taxpayers for projects detailed in subsection (6) of this section during the previous two years; (b) the number of projects; (c) the total number of employees of these taxpayers employed in the state on the last day of the calendar quarter prior to the application date, the new jobs at the project for which credits have been granted, and the total number of employees employed in the state by these taxpayers on subsequent reporting dates; (d) the average compensation paid employees in the state in the year of application and for the new jobs at the project; and (e) the total investment for which incentives were granted. The executive summary shall summarize the number of states which grant investment tax credits, job tax credits, sales and use tax refunds for qualified investment, and personal property tax exemptions and the investment and employment requirements under which they may be granted.

(8) No information shall be provided in the report that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 147. Section 77-6309, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

77-6309 By November 15 of each odd-numbered year, the Department of Economic Development shall submit a report to the Legislature and the Governor that includes:

- (1) The number and geographic location of qualified investors;
- (2) The number, geographic location, and amount of qualified investment made into each qualified small business;
- (3) A breakdown of the industry sectors in which qualified small businesses are involved;
- (4) The number of actual tax credits issued by project under the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act on an annual basis; and
- (5) The number of jobs created at each qualified small business.

The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 148. Section 79-318, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-318 The State Board of Education shall:

- (1) Appoint and fix the compensation of the Commissioner of Education;
- (2) Remove the commissioner from office at any time for conviction of any crime involving moral turpitude or felonious act, for inefficiency, or for willful and continuous disregard of his or her duties as commissioner or of the directives of the board;
- (3) Upon recommendation of the commissioner, appoint and fix the compensation of a deputy commissioner and all professional employees of the board;

(4) Organize the State Department of Education into such divisions, branches, or sections as may be necessary or desirable to perform all its proper functions and to render maximum service to the board and to the state school system;

(5) Provide, through the commissioner and his or her professional staff, enlightened professional leadership, guidance, and supervision of the state school system, including educational service units. In order that the commissioner and his or her staff may carry out their duties, the board shall, through the commissioner: (a) Provide supervisory and consultation services to the schools of the state; (b) issue materials helpful in the development, maintenance, and improvement of educational facilities and programs; (c) establish rules and regulations which govern standards and procedures for the approval and legal operation of all schools in the state and for the accreditation of all schools requesting state accreditation. All public, private, denominational, or parochial schools shall either comply with the accreditation or approval requirements prescribed in this section and section 79-703 or, for those schools which elect not to meet accreditation or approval requirements, the requirements prescribed in subsections (2) through (6) of section 79-1601. Standards and procedures for approval and accreditation shall be based upon the program of studies, guidance services, the number and preparation of teachers in relation to the curriculum and enrollment, instructional materials and equipment, science facilities and equipment, library facilities and materials, and health and safety factors in buildings and grounds. Rules and regulations which govern standards and procedures for private, denominational, and parochial schools which elect, pursuant to the procedures prescribed in subsections (2) through (6) of section 79-1601, not to meet state accreditation or approval requirements shall be as described in such section; (d) institute a statewide system of testing to determine the degree of achievement and accomplishment of all the students within the state's school systems if it determines such testing would be advisable; (e) prescribe a uniform system of records and accounting for keeping adequate educational and financial records, for gathering and reporting necessary educational data, and for evaluating educational progress; (f) cause to be published laws, rules, and regulations governing the schools and the school lands and funds with explanatory notes for the guidance of those charged with the administration of the schools of the state; (g) approve teacher education programs conducted in Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions designed for the purpose of certificating teachers and administrators; (h) approve certificated-employee evaluation policies and procedures developed by school districts and educational service units; and (i) approve general plans and adopt educational policies, standards, rules, and regulations for carrying out the board's responsibilities and those assigned to the State Department of Education by the Legislature;

(6) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the guidance, supervision, accreditation, and coordination of educational service units. Such rules and regulations for accreditation shall include, but not be limited to, (a) a requirement that programs and services offered to school districts by each educational service unit shall be evaluated on a regular basis, but not less than every seven years, to assure that educational service units remain responsive to school district needs and (b) guidelines for the use and management of funds generated from the property tax levy and from other sources of revenue as may be available to the educational service units, to assure that public funds are used to accomplish the purposes and goals assigned to the educational service units by section 79-1204. The State Board of Education shall establish procedures to encourage the coordination of activities among educational service units and to encourage effective and efficient educational service delivery on a statewide basis;

(7) Submit a biennial report to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature covering the actions of the board, the operations of the State Department of Education, and the progress and needs of the schools and recommend such legislation as may be necessary to satisfy these needs. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(8) Prepare and distribute reports designed to acquaint school district officers, teachers, and patrons of the schools with the conditions and needs of the schools;

(9) Provide for consultation with professional educators and lay leaders for the purpose of securing advice deemed necessary in the formulation of policies and in the effectual discharge of its duties;

(10) Make studies, investigations, and reports and assemble information as necessary for the formulation of policies, for making plans, for evaluating the state school program, and for making essential and adequate

reports;

(11) Submit to the Governor and the Legislature a budget necessary to finance the state school program under its jurisdiction, including the internal operation and maintenance of the State Department of Education;

(12) Interpret its own policies, standards, rules, and regulations and, upon reasonable request, hear complaints and disputes arising therefrom;

(13) With the advice of the Department of Motor Vehicles, adopt and promulgate rules and regulations containing reasonable standards, not inconsistent with existing statutes, governing: (a) The general design, equipment, color, operation, and maintenance of any vehicle with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of eleven or more passengers used for the transportation of public, private, denominational, or parochial school students; and (b) the equipment, operation, and maintenance of any vehicle with a capacity of ten or less passengers used for the transportation of public, private, denominational, or parochial school students, when such vehicles are owned, operated, or owned and operated by any public, private, denominational, or parochial school or privately owned or operated under contract with any such school in this state, except for vehicles owned by individuals operating a school which elects pursuant to section 79-1601 not to meet accreditation or approval requirements. Similar rules and regulations shall be adopted and promulgated for operators of such vehicles as provided in section 79-607;

(14) Accept, on behalf of the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired, devise of real property or donations or bequests of other property, or both, if in its judgment any such devise, donation, or bequest is for the best interest of the center or the students receiving services from the center, or both, and irrigate or otherwise improve any such real estate when in the board's judgment it would be advisable to do so;

(15) Accept, in order to administer the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, any devise, donation, or bequest received by the State Department of Education pursuant to section 79-2206; and

(16) Upon acceptance of any devise, donation, or bequest as provided in this section, administer and carry out such devise, donation, or bequest in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. If not prohibited by the terms and conditions of any such devise, donation, or bequest, the board may sell, convey, exchange, or lease property so devised, donated, or bequeathed upon such terms and conditions as it deems best and remit all money derived from any such sale or lease to the State Treasurer for credit to the State Department of Education Trust Fund.

Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by subdivision (7) of this section by making a request for it to the commissioner.

None of the duties prescribed in this section shall prevent the board from exercising such other duties as in its judgment may be necessary for the proper and legal exercise of its obligations.

Sec. 149. Section 79-527.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

79-527.01 (1) The Truancy Intervention Task Force is created. The task force shall consist of:

(a) The probation administrator or his or her designee;
 (b) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee; and
 (c) The chief executive officer of the Department of Health and Human Services or his or her designee.

(2) The task force shall study and evaluate the data contained in the reports required by subsection (2) of section 79-527 and shall develop recommendations to reduce incidents of excessive absenteeism. The task force may contact a school district or a county attorney for additional information. The task force shall report electronically to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2011, and each July 1 thereafter.

Sec. 150. Section 79-722, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-722 In conjunction with the multicultural education program prescribed in section 79-720, the State Department of Education shall design a process for evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of each multicultural education program, including the collection of baseline data. The collection of baseline data for evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of each multicultural education program shall not include the testing, assessment, or evaluation of individual students' attitudes or beliefs. An evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of each multicultural education program shall be conducted every five school years.

On or before November 1, 2013, and on or before November 1 every five years thereafter, the department shall report the results of each evaluation to the Clerk of the Legislature, the Education Committee of the Legislature, and the State Board of Education and publish such report on a web site established by the department. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature and the committee shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 151. Section 79-759, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-759 Beginning with the 2011-12 school year, the State Department of Education may implement a three-year pilot project for the districtwide administration of a standard college admission test, selected by the State Board of Education, to students in the eleventh grade attending a public school in a participating school district to determine if such test (1) would improve the college-going rate and career readiness of Nebraska students and (2) could be utilized as the assessment for the one grade in high school as required under section 79-760.03. Participation by school districts in the pilot project shall be voluntary and shall be subject to the approval of the board. On or before September 1, 2012, and on or before September 1 each year thereafter through 2014, the department shall report to the Governor, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the chairperson of the Education Committee of the Legislature on the pilot project. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature and the committee shall be submitted electronically. The project shall be paid for with funds from the Education Innovation Fund as provided in section 9-812.

Sec. 152. Section 79-760.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

79-760.03 (1) For school year 2009-10 and each school year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall implement a statewide system for the assessment of student learning and for reporting the performance of school districts and learning communities pursuant to this section. The assessment and reporting system shall measure student knowledge of subject matter materials covered by measurable academic content standards selected by the state board.

(2) The state board shall adopt a plan for an assessment and reporting system and implement and maintain the assessment and reporting system according to such plan. The plan shall be submitted annually to the State Department of Education, the Governor, the chairperson of the Education Committee of the Legislature, and the Clerk of the Legislature. The plan submitted to the committee and the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The state board shall select grade levels for assessment and reporting required pursuant to subsections (4) through (7) of this section. The purposes of the system are to:

(a) Determine how well public schools are performing in terms of achievement of public school students related to the state academic content standards;

(b) Report the performance of public schools based upon the results of state assessment instruments and national assessment instruments;

(c) Provide information for the public and policymakers on the performance of public schools; and

(d) Provide for the comparison among Nebraska public schools and the comparison of Nebraska public schools to public schools elsewhere.

(3) The Governor shall appoint a technical advisory committee to review the statewide assessment plan and state assessment instruments developed under the Quality Education Accountability Act. The technical advisory committee shall consist of three nationally recognized experts in educational assessment and measurement, one administrator from a school in Nebraska, and one teacher from a school in Nebraska. The members shall serve terms of three years, except that two of the members shall be appointed for initial terms of two years. Any vacancy shall be filled by the Governor for the remainder of the term. One of the members shall be designated as chairperson by the Governor. Members shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. The committee shall advise the Governor, the state board, and the State Department of Education on the development of statewide assessment instruments and the statewide assessment plan. The appointments to the committee shall be confirmed by the Legislature.

(4) The state board shall prescribe a statewide assessment of writing that relies on writing samples in each of three grades selected by the state board. Each year at least one of the three selected grades shall participate in the statewide writing assessment with each selected grade level participating at least once every three years.

(5) For school year 2009-10 and for each school year thereafter, the

state board shall prescribe a statewide assessment of reading. The statewide assessment of reading shall include assessment instruments for each of the grade levels three through eight and for one grade in high school and standards adopted by the state board pursuant to section 79-760.01.

(6) For no later than school year 2010-11 and for each school year thereafter, the state board shall prescribe a statewide assessment of mathematics. The statewide assessment of mathematics shall include assessment instruments for each of the grade levels three through eight and for one grade in high school and standards adopted by the state board pursuant to section 79-760.01. If no statewide assessment of mathematics is administered in school year 2009-10, school districts shall report mathematics assessment results in the same manner as such information was reported in school year 2008-09.

(7) For no later than school year 2011-12 and each school year thereafter, the state board shall prescribe a statewide assessment of science. The statewide assessment of science shall include assessment instruments for each of the grade levels selected by the state board and standards adopted by the state board pursuant to section 79-760.01. The grade levels shall include at least one grade in elementary school, one grade in middle school or junior high school, and one grade in high school.

(8) The department shall conduct studies to verify the technical quality of assessment instruments and demonstrate the comparability of assessment instrument results required by the act. The department shall annually report such findings to the Governor, the Legislature, and the state board. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(9) The state board shall recommend national assessment instruments for the purpose of national comparison. Each school district shall report individual student data for scores and sub-scores according to procedures established by the state board and the department pursuant to section 79-760.05.

(10) The aggregate results of assessment instruments and national assessment instruments shall be reported by the district on a building basis to the public in that district, to the learning community coordinating council if such district is a member of a learning community, and to the department. Each learning community shall also report the aggregate results of any assessment instruments and national assessment instruments to the public in that learning community and to the department. The department shall report the aggregate results of any assessment instruments and national assessment instruments on a learning community, district, and building basis as part of the statewide assessment and reporting system.

(11) (a) The assessment and reporting plan shall:

(i) Provide for the confidentiality of the results of individual students; and

(ii) Include all public schools and all public school students.

(b) The state board shall adopt criteria for the inclusion of students with disabilities, students entering the school for the first time, and students with limited English proficiency.

The department may determine appropriate accommodations for the assessment of students with disabilities or any student receiving special education programs and services pursuant to section 79-1139. Alternate academic achievement standards in reading, mathematics, and science and alternate assessment instruments aligned with the standards may be among the accommodations for students with severe cognitive disabilities.

(12) The state board may select additional grade levels and additional subject areas for statewide assessment instruments to comply with federal requirements.

(13) The state board shall not require school districts to administer assessments or assessment instruments other than as prescribed by the act.

(14) The state board shall appoint committees of teachers, from each appropriate subject area, and administrators to assist in the development of statewide assessment instruments required by the act.

Sec. 153. Section 79-760.05, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-760.05 (1) The State Board of Education shall implement a statewide system for tracking individual student achievement, using the student identifier system of the State Department of Education, that can be aggregated to track student progress by demographic characteristics, including, but not limited to, race, poverty, high mobility, attendance, and limited English proficiency, on available measures of student achievement which include, but need not be limited to, national assessment instruments and state assessment instruments. Such a system shall be designed so as

to aggregate student data by available educational input characteristics, which may include class size, teacher education, teacher experience, special education, early childhood programs, federal programs, and other targeted education programs. School districts shall provide the department with individual student achievement data from assessment instruments required pursuant to section 79-760.03 in order to implement the statewide system.

(2) The department shall annually analyze and report on student achievement for the state, each school district, and each learning community aggregated by the demographic characteristics described in subsection (1) of this section. The department shall report the findings to the Governor, the Legislature, school districts, educational service units, and each learning community. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Such analysis shall include aggregated data that would indicate differences in achievement due to available educational input characteristics described in subsection (1) of this section. Such analysis shall include indicators of progress toward state achievement goals for students in poverty, limited English proficient students, and highly mobile students.

Sec. 154. Section 79-8,139, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-8,139 (1) Each eligible institution shall file an annual report with the department for the Attracting Excellence to Teaching Program and the Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program for any fiscal year in which the eligible institution receives funding to distribute to students pursuant to either or both of such programs containing such information as required by rule and regulation. On or before December 31 of each even-numbered year, the department shall submit a report to the Governor, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Education Committee of the Legislature on the status of the programs, the status of the borrowers, and the impact of the programs on the number of teachers in shortage areas in Nebraska and on the number of teachers receiving graduate degrees in teaching endorsement areas in Nebraska. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature and the committee shall be submitted electronically. Each report shall include information on an institution-by-institution basis, the status of borrowers, and a financial statement with a description of the activity of the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund.

(2) Any report pursuant to this section which includes information about borrowers shall exclude confidential information or any other information which specifically identifies a borrower.

Sec. 155. Section 79-909, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

79-909 The Auditor of Public Accounts shall make an annual audit of the retirement system and submit electronically an annual report to the Clerk of the Legislature of its condition. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the Auditor of Public Accounts. Expenses of the audit shall be paid from the Expense Fund.

Sec. 156. Section 79-976, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

79-976 Any funds of the retirement system available for investment shall be invested by the Nebraska Investment Council pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Payment for investment services by the council shall be charged directly against the gross investment returns of the funds. Charges so incurred shall not be a part of the retirement board's annual budget request. The amounts of payment for such services, as of December 31 of each year, shall be reported not later than March 31 of the following year to the council, the retirement board, and the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. All money received by the State Treasurer and the retirement board for the retirement system shall be invested by the state investment officer within thirty-one days after receipt.

Sec. 157. Section 79-987, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-987 (1) An annual audit of the affairs of the retirement system shall be conducted. At the option of the board, such audit may be conducted by a certified public accountant or the Auditor of Public Accounts. The costs of such audit shall be paid from funds of the retirement system. A copy of such audit shall be filed with the Auditor of Public Accounts.

(2) Beginning March 31, 2012, and each March 31 thereafter, if such retirement plan is a defined benefit plan, the trustees of a retirement system established pursuant to section 79-979 shall cause to be prepared an annual report and the administrator shall file the same with the Public Employees

Retirement Board and submit to the members of the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature a copy of such report. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. The report shall consist of a full actuarial analysis of each such retirement plan established pursuant to section 79-979. The analysis shall be prepared by an independent private organization or public entity employing actuaries who are members in good standing of the American Academy of Actuaries, and which organization or entity has demonstrated expertise to perform this type of analysis and is unrelated to any organization offering investment advice or which provides investment management services to the retirement plan.

Sec. 158. Section 79-1007.07, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-1007.07 (1)(a) The annual financial report required pursuant to section 79-528 shall include:

(i) The amount of the poverty allowance used in the certification of state aid pursuant to section 79-1022 for such school fiscal year;

(ii) The amount of federal funds received based on poverty as defined by the federal program providing the funds;

(iii) The expenditures and sources of funding for each program related to poverty with a narrative description of the program, the method used to allocate money to the program and within the program, and the program's relationship to the poverty plan submitted pursuant to section 79-1013 for such school fiscal year;

(iv) The expenditures and sources of funding for support costs directly attributable to implementing the district's poverty plan; and

(v) An explanation of how any required elements of the poverty plan for such school fiscal year were met.

(b) The department shall set up accounting codes for the receipts and expenditures required to be reported on the annual financial report pursuant to this subsection.

(2) The department shall determine the poverty allowance expenditures using the reported expenditures on the annual financial report for the most recently available complete data year that would include in the poverty allowance expenditures only those expenditures that were used to specifically address issues related to the education of students living in poverty or to the implementation of the poverty plan, that do not replace expenditures that would have occurred if the students involved in the program did not live in poverty, that are not included in other allowances, and that are paid for with noncategorical funds generated by state or local taxes or funds distributed through the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act pursuant to the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 or the federal Education Jobs Fund created pursuant to Public Law 111-226. The department shall establish a procedure to allow school districts to receive preapproval for categories of expenditures that could be included in poverty allowance expenditures.

(3) If the poverty allowance expenditures do not equal 117.65 percent or more of the poverty allowance for the most recently available complete data year, the department shall calculate a poverty allowance correction. The poverty allowance correction shall equal the poverty allowance minus eighty-five percent of the poverty allowance expenditures. If the poverty allowance expenditures do not equal fifty percent or more of the allowance for such school fiscal year, the school district shall also be disqualified from receiving a poverty allowance for the school fiscal year for which aid is being calculated.

(4) If the department determines that the school district did not meet the required elements of the poverty plan for the most recently available complete data year, the department shall calculate a poverty allowance correction equal to fifty percent of the poverty allowance for such school fiscal year and the school district shall also be disqualified from receiving a poverty allowance for the school fiscal year for which aid is being calculated. Any poverty allowance correction calculated pursuant to this subsection shall be added to any poverty allowance correction calculated pursuant to subsection (3) of this section to arrive at the total poverty allowance correction.

(5) The department may request additional information from any school district to assist with calculations and determinations pursuant to this section. If the school district does not provide information upon the request of the department pursuant to this section, the school district shall be disqualified from receiving a poverty allowance for the school fiscal year for which aid is being calculated.

(6) The department shall annually provide electronically an annual report to the Legislature with a report containing a general description of

the expenditures and funding sources for programs related to poverty statewide and specific descriptions of the expenditures and funding sources for programs related to poverty for each school district.

(7) The state board shall establish a procedure for appeal of decisions of the department to the state board for a final determination.

Sec. 159. Section 79-1022, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-1022 (1) On or before March 10, 2010, and March 1, 2011, for school fiscal year 2010-11, on or before July 1, 2011, for school fiscal year 2011-12, and on or before March 1 of each year thereafter for each ensuing fiscal year, the department shall determine the amounts to be distributed to each local system and each district pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and shall certify the amounts to the Director of Administrative Services, the Auditor of Public Accounts, each learning community, and each district. The amount to be distributed to each district that is not a member of a learning community from the amount certified for a local system shall be proportional based on the formula students attributed to each district in the local system. The amount to be distributed to each district that is a member of a learning community from the amount certified for the local system shall be proportional based on the formula needs calculated for each district in the local system. On or before March 1, 2011, for school fiscal year 2010-11, on or before July 1, 2011, for school fiscal year 2011-12, and on or before March 1 of each year thereafter for each ensuing fiscal year, the department shall report the necessary funding level to the Governor, the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, and the Education Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committees of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, certified state aid amounts, including adjustments pursuant to section 79-1065.02, shall be shown as budgeted non-property-tax receipts and deducted prior to calculating the property tax request in the district's general fund budget statement as provided to the Auditor of Public Accounts pursuant to section 79-1024. Increases in state aid for school fiscal year 2010-11 from the first certification in 2010 to the second certification on or before March 1, 2011, shall not require a school district to revise its previously adopted budget statement pursuant to section 13-511 for school fiscal year 2010-11 unless expenditures are increased in such school fiscal year as a result of such increases in state aid. The amount of such increased state aid that has not been included in an amended budget for school fiscal year 2010-11 shall be included in the unencumbered cash balance pursuant to section 13-504 for the school fiscal year 2011-12 budget for each school district.

(2) Except as provided in this subsection, subsection (8) of section 79-1016, and sections 79-1033 and 79-1065.02, the amounts certified pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall be distributed in ten as nearly as possible equal payments on the last business day of each month beginning in September of each ensuing school fiscal year and ending in June of the following year, except that when a school district is to receive a monthly payment of less than one thousand dollars, such payment shall be one lump-sum payment on the last business day of December during the ensuing school fiscal year. For school fiscal year 2010-11, payments shall be based on the amounts certified pursuant to subsection (1) of this section on March 10, 2010, except that on the last business day of April, the department shall make federal Education Jobs Fund allocations available pursuant to section 79-1028.04 equal to any increases in state aid for school fiscal year 2010-11 from the first certification in 2010 to the second certification on or before March 1, 2011, rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

Sec. 160. Section 79-1103, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-1103 (1)(a) The State Department of Education shall establish and administer the Early Childhood Education Grant Program. Upon the effective date of an endowment agreement, administration of the Early Childhood Education Grant Program with respect to programs for children from birth to age three shall transfer to the board of trustees. If there is no endowment agreement in effect, the department shall request proposals in accordance with this section for all early childhood education programs from school districts, individually or in cooperation with other school districts or educational service units, working in cooperation with existing nonpublic programs which meet the requirements of subsection (2) of section 79-1104. If there is an endowment agreement in effect, the board of trustees shall administer the Early Childhood Education Grant Program with respect to programs for children from birth to age three pursuant to section 79-1104.02 and the department shall continue to administer the Early Childhood Education Grant Program with

respect to other prekindergarten programs pursuant to sections 79-1101 to 79-1104.05. All administrative procedures of the board of trustees, including, but not limited to, rules, grant applications, and funding mechanisms, shall harmonize with those established by the department for other prekindergarten programs.

(b) The first priority shall be for (i) continuation grants for programs that received grants in the prior school fiscal year and for which the state aid calculation pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act does not include early childhood education students, in an amount equal to the amount of such grant, except that if the grant was a first-year grant the amount shall be reduced by thirty-three percent, (ii) continuation grants for programs for which the state aid calculation pursuant to the act includes early childhood education students, in an amount equal to the amount of the grant for the school fiscal year prior to the first school fiscal year for which early childhood education students were included in the state aid calculation for the school district's local system minus the calculated state aid amount, and (iii) for school fiscal year 2007-08, continuation grants for programs for which the state aid calculation pursuant to the act includes early childhood education students, but such state aid calculation does not result in the school district receiving any equalization aid, in an amount equal to the amount of the grant received in school fiscal year 2006-07. The calculated state aid amount shall be calculated by multiplying the basic funding per formula student for the school district by the formula students attributed to the early childhood education programs pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act.

(c) The second priority shall be for new grants and expansion grants for programs that will serve at-risk children who will be eligible to attend kindergarten the following school year. New grants may be given for up to three years in an amount up to one-half of the total budget of the program per year. Expansion grants may be given for one year in an amount up to one-half of the budget for expanding the capacity of the program to serve additional children.

(d) The third priority shall be for new grants, expansion grants, and continuation grants for programs serving children younger than those who will be eligible to attend kindergarten the following school year. New grants may be given for up to three years in an amount up to one-half the total budget of the program per year. Expansion grants may be given for one year in an amount up to one-half the budget for expanding the capacity of the program to serve additional children. Continuation grants under this priority may be given annually in an amount up to one-half the total budget of the program per year minus any continuation grants received under the first priority.

(e) Programs serving children who will be eligible to attend kindergarten the following school year shall be accounted for separately for grant purposes from programs serving younger children, but the two types of programs may be combined within the same classroom to serve multi-age children. Programs that receive grants for school fiscal years prior to school fiscal year 2005-06 to serve both children who will be eligible to attend kindergarten the following school year and younger children shall account for the two types of programs separately for grant purposes beginning with school year 2005-06 and shall be deemed to have received grants prior to school fiscal year 2005-06 for each year that grants were received for the types of programs representing the age groups of the children served.

(2) Each program proposal which is approved by the department shall include (a) a planning period, (b) an agreement to participate in periodic evaluations of the program to be specified by the department, (c) evidence that the program will be coordinated or contracted with existing programs, including those listed in subdivision (d) of this subsection and nonpublic programs which meet the requirements of subsection (2) of section 79-1104, (d) a plan to coordinate and use a combination of local, state, and federal funding sources, including, but not limited to, programs for children with disabilities below five years of age funded through the Special Education Act, the Early Intervention Act, funds available through the flexible funding provisions under the Special Education Act, the federal Head Start program, 42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq., the federal Even Start Family Literacy Program, 20 U.S.C. 6361 et seq., Title I of the federal Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq., and child care assistance through the Department of Health and Human Services, (e) a plan to use sliding fee scales and the funding sources included in subdivision (d) of this subsection to maximize the participation of economically and categorically diverse groups and to ensure that participating children and families have access to comprehensive services, (f) the establishment of an advisory body which includes families and community members, (g) the utilization

of appropriately qualified staff, (h) an appropriate child-to-staff ratio, (i) appropriate group size, (j) compliance with minimum health and safety standards, (k) appropriate facility size and equipment, (l) a strong family development and support component recognizing the central role of parents in their children's development, (m) developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum, practices, and assessment, (n) sensitivity to the economic and logistical needs and circumstances of families in the provision of services, (o) integration of children of diverse social and economic characteristics, (p) a sound evaluation component, including at least one objective measure of child performance and progress, (q) continuity with programs in kindergarten and elementary grades, (r) instructional hours that are similar to or less than the instructional hours for kindergarten except that a summer session may be offered, (s) well-defined language development and early literacy emphasis, including the involvement of parents in family literacy activities, (t) a plan for ongoing professional development of staff, and (u) inclusion of children with disabilities as defined in the Special Education Act, all as specified by rules and regulations of the department in accordance with sound early childhood educational practice.

(3) The department shall make an effort to fund programs widely distributed across the state in both rural and urban areas.

(4) A report evaluating the programs shall be made to the State Board of Education and the Legislature by January 1 of each odd-numbered year. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Up to five percent of the total appropriation for the Early Childhood Education Grant Program may be reserved by the department for evaluation and technical assistance for the programs.

(5) Early childhood education programs, whether established pursuant to this section or section 79-1104, may be approved for purposes of the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act, expansion grants, and continuation grants on the submission of a continuation plan demonstrating that the program will meet the requirements of subsection (2) of this section and a proposed operating budget demonstrating that the program will receive resources from other sources equal to or greater than the sum of any grant received pursuant to this section for the prior school year plus any calculated state aid as calculated pursuant to subsection (1) of this section for the prior school year.

(6) The State Board of Education may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to implement the Early Childhood Education Grant Program, except that if there is an endowment agreement in effect, the board of trustees shall recommend any rules and regulations relating specifically to the Early Childhood Education Grant Program with respect to programs for children from birth to age three. It is the intent of the Legislature that the rules and regulations for programs for children from birth to age three be consistent to the greatest extent possible with those established for other prekindergarten programs.

Sec. 161. Section 79-1905, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

79-1905 The State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services shall annually report to the Legislature and the Governor regarding the actions, activities, accomplishments, and shortcomings in carrying out the Nebraska Read, Educate, and Develop Youth Act. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 162. Section 79-2104.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

79-2104.02 Each learning community coordinating council shall use any funds received after January 15, 2011, pursuant to section 79-1241.03 for evaluation and research pursuant to plans developed by the learning community coordinating council with assistance from the ~~educational service unit coordinating council~~ Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council and adjusted on an ongoing basis. The evaluation shall be conducted by one or more other entities or individuals who are not employees of the learning community and shall measure progress toward the goals and objectives of the learning community, which goals and objectives shall include reduction of excessive absenteeism of students in the member school districts of the learning community and closing academic achievement gaps based on socioeconomic status, and the effectiveness of the approaches used by the learning community or pilot project to reach such goals and objectives. Any research conducted pursuant to this section shall also be related to such goals and objectives. After the first full year of operation, each learning community shall report evaluation and research results electronically to the Education Committee of the Legislature on or before December 1 of each year.

Sec. 163. Section 79-2118, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

2010, is amended to read:

79-2118 (1) Each learning community, together with its member school districts, shall develop a diversity plan to provide educational opportunities pursuant to sections 79-769 and 79-2110 in each subcouncil district designed to attract students from diverse backgrounds, which plan may be revised from time to time. The initial diversity plan shall be completed by December 31 of the year the initial learning community coordinating council for the learning community takes office. The goal of the diversity plan shall be to annually increase the socioeconomic diversity of enrollment at each grade level in each school building within the learning community until such enrollment reflects the average socioeconomic diversity of the entire enrollment of the learning community.

(2) Each diversity plan for a learning community shall include specific provisions relating to each subcouncil district within such learning community. The specific provisions relating to each subcouncil district shall be approved by both the achievement subcouncil for such district and by the learning community coordinating council.

(3) The learning community coordinating council shall report electronically to the Education Committee of the Legislature on or before December 1 of each even-numbered year on the diversity and changes in diversity at each grade level in each school building within the learning community and on the academic achievement for different demographic groups in each school building within the learning community.

Sec. 164. Section 81-106, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-106 The Tax Commissioner shall annually examine and audit or supervise and direct the examination and audit of the books, accounts, vouchers, records, and expenditures of the office of Auditor of Public Accounts and report promptly to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature the result of such examination and audit. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the Tax Commissioner.

Sec. 165. Section 81-166, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-166 The materiel division shall keep an accurate record of the postage used by each state officer, department, commission, board, bureau, court, or other agency and charge such state officer, department, commission, board, bureau, court, or other agency with the exact amount of postage so used plus administrative and operational costs. Administrative and operational costs shall be charged as a percentage of the amount charged for postage. Such charge shall, as nearly as may be practical, reflect the actual administrative and operational costs of the central mailing room and its related activities. ~~The percentage charge shall be reported annually to the Legislature's Committee on Appropriations.~~ The division shall submit electronically an annual report to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature of the percentage charge. Rates planned for the coming fiscal year shall be included in the instructions for completion of budget request forms as annually prepared by the Department of Administrative Services' budget division. If rate revisions are required during the fiscal year to reflect changes in the administrative and operational costs, these revisions shall be announced to each state officer, department, commission, board, bureau, court, or other agency at least thirty days prior to their use.

Sec. 166. Section 81-187, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-187 A copy of all estimates, reports, and allocation requests required by the Deferred Building Renewal Act shall be submitted electronically to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst upon his or her request.

Sec. 167. Section 81-638, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-638 (1) The Legislature shall appropriate for each year from the Health and Human Services Cash Fund to the department an amount derived from one cent of the cigarette tax imposed by section 77-2602, less any amount appropriated from the fund specifically to the University of Nebraska Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases. The department shall, after deducting expenses incurred in the administration of such funds, distribute such funds exclusively for grants and contracts for research of cancer and smoking diseases, for funding the cancer registry prescribed in sections 81-642 to 81-650, and for associated expenses due to the establishment and maintenance of such cancer registry. Not more than two hundred thousand dollars shall be appropriated for funding the cancer registry and associated expenses. The University of Nebraska may receive such

grants and contracts, and other postsecondary institutions having colleges of medicine located in the State of Nebraska may receive such contracts.

(2) The Legislature shall appropriate for each year from the Health and Human Services Cash Fund to the department for cancer research an amount derived from two cents of the cigarette tax imposed by section 77-2602 to be used exclusively for grants and contracts for research on cancer and smoking diseases. No amount shall be appropriated or used pursuant to this subsection for the operation and associated expenses of the cancer registry. Not more than one-half of the funds appropriated pursuant to this subsection shall be distributed to the University of Nebraska Medical Center for research in cancer and allied diseases and the University of Nebraska Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases. The remaining funds available pursuant to this subsection shall be distributed for contracts with other postsecondary educational institutions having colleges of medicine located in Nebraska which have cancer research programs for the purpose of conducting research in cancer and allied diseases.

(3) Any contract between the department and another postsecondary educational institution for cancer research under subsection (2) of this section shall provide that:

(a) Any money appropriated for such contract shall only be used for cancer research and shall not be used to support any other program in the institution;

(b) Full and detailed reporting of the expenditure of all funds under the contract is required. The report shall include, but not be limited to, separate accounting for personal services, equipment purchases or leases, and supplies. Such reports shall be made available electronically to the Legislature; and

(c) No money appropriated for such contract shall be spent for travel, building construction, or any other purpose not directly related to the research that is the subject of the contract.

Sec. 168. Section 81-650, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-650 The department shall annually submit electronically an annual report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee with the documentation on the operation and performance of the cancer registry program established pursuant to sections 81-642 to 81-650.

Sec. 169. Section 81-6,116, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-6,116 (1) Information reported under section 81-6,114 may be used by the department for statistical and public health planning purposes and for other public health purposes as identified by the department in rule and regulation.

(2) The department shall periodically review information collected under section 81-6,114 for the purpose of identifying potential policies or practices of any reporting facility which may be detrimental to the public health, including, but not limited to, policies and practices which may have the effect of limiting access to needed health care services for Nebraska residents. The department shall provide electronically recommendations to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature relating to appropriate administrative and legislative responses to such policies and practices and shall provide electronically an annual report to the chairperson of such committee of its findings and its current or planned activities under this section, if any.

Sec. 170. Section 81-829.43, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-829.43 (1) In addition to prevention measures included in the state, city, village, county, and interjurisdictional emergency operations plans, the Governor shall consider on a continuing basis steps that could be taken to prevent or reduce the harmful consequences of disasters, emergencies, and civil defense emergencies. At his or her direction and pursuant to any other authority and competence they have, state agencies, including, but not limited to, those charged with responsibilities in connection with flood plain management, stream encroachment and flow regulation, fire prevention and control, air quality, public works, land use and land-use planning, and construction standards, shall make studies of prevention-related matters. The Governor, from time to time, shall make such recommendations to the Legislature, local governments, and other appropriate public and private entities as may facilitate measures for prevention or mitigation of the harmful consequences of disasters, emergencies, and civil defense emergencies. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(2) The appropriate state agencies, in conjunction with the Nebraska

Emergency Management Agency, shall keep land uses and construction of structures and other facilities under continuing study and identify areas which are particularly susceptible to severe land shifting, subsidence, flood, or other catastrophic occurrence. The studies under this subsection shall concentrate on means of mitigating or avoiding the dangers caused by any such occurrence or the consequences thereof.

(3) If the agency believes on the basis of the studies or other competent evidence that an area is susceptible to a disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency of catastrophic proportions without adequate warning, that existing building standards and land-use controls in that area are inadequate and could add substantially to the magnitude thereof, and that changes in zoning regulations, other land-use regulations, or building requirements are essential in order to further the purposes of this section, it shall specify the essential changes to the Governor. If the Governor upon review of the recommendation finds after public hearing that the changes are essential, he or she shall so recommend to the agencies or local governments with jurisdiction over the area and subject matter. If no action or insufficient action pursuant to his or her recommendations is taken within the time specified by the Governor, he or she shall so inform the Legislature electronically and request appropriate legislative action to mitigate the impact of a disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency.

(4) The Governor, at the same time that he or she makes recommendations pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, may suspend the standard or control which he or she finds to be inadequate to protect the public safety and by regulation place a new standard or control in effect. The new standard or control shall remain in effect until rejected by resolution of the Legislature or amended by the Governor. During the time it is in effect, the standard or control contained in the Governor's regulation shall be administered and given full effect by all relevant regulatory agencies of the state and local governments to which it applies. The Governor's action shall be subject to judicial review but shall not be subject to temporary stay pending litigation.

Sec. 171. Section 81-829.47, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-829.47 (1) If the Governor finds that two or more adjoining counties would be better served by an interjurisdictional emergency management arrangement than by maintaining separate emergency management organizations and services, he or she may delineate by order or regulation an interjurisdictional area adequate to plan for, prevent, or respond to a disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency in that area and direct such steps to be taken as are necessary, including the creation of an interjurisdictional emergency management relationship, a joint emergency operations plan, mutual aid, or an interjurisdictional emergency management organization. A finding of the Governor pursuant to this subsection shall be based on one or more factors related to the difficulty of maintaining an efficient and effective disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery and emergency management system without such interjurisdictional arrangement, such as:

- (a) Small or sparse population;
- (b) Limitations on public financial resources severe enough to make maintenance of separate emergency management organizations and services unreasonably burdensome;
- (c) Unusual vulnerability to disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency as evidenced by past history, topographical features, drainage characteristics, potential for disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency, and presence of facilities or operations prone to disaster, emergency, or civil defense emergency;
- (d) The interrelated character of the counties in a multicounty area; or
- (e) Other relevant conditions or circumstances.

(2) If the Governor finds that a vulnerable area lies only partly within this state and includes territory in another state or states and that it would be desirable to establish an interstate relationship, mutual aid, or an interstate emergency management organization, he or she shall take steps to that end as desirable. If this action is taken with jurisdictions that have enacted the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact, any resulting agreements may be considered supplemental agreements pursuant to Article 6 of that compact.

(3) If the other jurisdictions with which the Governor proposes to cooperate pursuant to subsection (2) of this section have not enacted the compact, he or she may negotiate special agreements with the jurisdictions. Any agreement, if sufficient authority for the making thereof does not

otherwise exist, shall become effective only after its text has been communicated electronically to the Legislature and if the Legislature has not disapproved it prior to adjournment of the next session competent to consider it or within thirty days of its submission, whichever is later.

Sec. 172. Section 81-829.56, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-829.56 (1) This state hereby enacts into law and enters into the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact with all states bordering this state which have enacted or shall hereafter enact the compact in the form substantially as adopted in this state.

(2) The Governor may enter into the compact with any state which does not border this state if he or she finds that joint action with the state is desirable in meeting common intergovernmental problems of emergency disaster planning, prevention, response, and recovery.

(3) Nothing in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be construed to limit previous or future entry into the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact of this state with other states.

(4) If any person holds a license, certificate, or other permit issued by any state or political subdivision thereof evidencing the meeting of qualifications for professional, mechanical, or other skills, the person may render aid involving that skill in this state to meet an emergency or disaster and this state shall give due recognition to the license, certificate, or other permit.

(5) In addition to the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact, the Governor may enter into and execute on behalf of the State of Nebraska mutual aid agreements or emergency preparedness compacts with other states. Any such agreement or compact shall provide for reimbursement of all costs incurred by the State of Nebraska for actions taken in another state, for indemnification of the State of Nebraska and its employees against all claims, costs, or fees arising from actions taken in another state, and for termination of the agreement or assistance as necessary to meet disasters, emergencies, or other needs of the State of Nebraska. Any mutual aid agreement or emergency preparedness compact other than the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact which does not meet the requirements specified in this subsection shall be submitted electronically to the Legislature for approval by the Legislature before it can become effective.

Sec. 173. Section 81-830, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-830 (1) The Office of Homeland Security is created. The Governor shall appoint the Director of State Homeland Security who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(2) The purpose of the office is to ensure preparedness by the State of Nebraska in response to terrorist acts. The office shall coordinate efforts regarding domestic security issues with the United States Department of Homeland Security. The Director of State Homeland Security shall serve as the contact between the state and the United States Department of Homeland Security.

(3) (a) The Homeland Security Policy Group is created. The Director of State Homeland Security shall serve as chairperson of the policy group. The policy group is charged with assessing strategic alternatives and recommending broad courses of action for the development of comprehensive strategies. The Governor shall appoint other members of the policy group who shall serve at the will of the Governor. The Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall select one member of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and one member of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature to serve as ex officio nonvoting members of the policy group.

(b) The policy group shall report electronically by March 1 of each year to the executive board identifying federal funds sent to the state in support of its preparedness activities and indicating the use of federal funds received by the state for homeland security, including specific amounts allocated to any unit of state or local government and the use to which the unit shall apply the funds.

(c) The policy group shall not be subject to the Open Meetings Act or to sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.

Sec. 174. Section 81-8,226, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,226 The Risk Manager shall report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature all claims and judgments paid under the State Tort Claims Act. Such report shall include the name of each claimant, a statement of the amount claimed and the amount awarded, and a brief description of the claim including the agency and program or activity under which the claim arose. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by

making a request for it to the Risk Manager.

Sec. 175. Section 81-8,239.02, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-8,239.02 The following separate permanent revolving funds are established in the state treasury for use under the Risk Management Program according to the purposes for which each fund is established:

(1) The State Insurance Fund is hereby created for the purpose of purchasing insurance to cover property, fidelity, and liability risks of the state and workers' compensation claims against the state and other risks to which the state or its agencies, officials, or employees are exposed and for paying related expenses, including the costs of administering the Risk Management Program. The fund may receive deposits from assessments against state agencies to provide insurance coverage as directed by the Risk Manager. The Risk Manager may retain in the fund sufficient money to pay for any deductibles, self-insured retentions, or copayments as may be required by such insurance policies and Risk Management Program expenses;

(2) The State Self-Insured Property Fund is hereby created for the purpose of replacing, repairing, or rebuilding state property which has incurred damage or is suffering other loss not fully covered by insurance and for paying related expenses. The fund may receive deposits from assessments against state agencies to provide property coverage as directed by the Risk Manager. The Risk Manager may assess state agencies to provide self-insured property coverage;

(3) The State Self-Insured Indemnification Fund is hereby created for the purpose of paying indemnification claims under section 81-8,239.05. Indemnification claims shall include payments for awards, settlements, and associated costs, including appeal bonds and reasonable costs associated with a required appearance before any tribunal. The fund may receive deposits from assessments against state agencies to pay for the costs associated with providing and supporting indemnification claims. The creation of this fund shall not be interpreted as expanding the liability exposure of the state or its agencies, officials, or employees; and

(4) The State Self-Insured Liability Fund is hereby created for the purpose of paying compensable liability and fidelity claims against the state or its agencies, officials, or employees which are not fully covered by insurance and for which there is insufficient agency funding and for which a legislative appropriation is made under the provisions of section 81-8,239.11. The creation of this fund shall not be interpreted as expanding the liability exposure of the state or its agencies, officials, or employees. The Risk Manager shall report electronically all claims and judgments paid from the State Self-Insured Liability Fund to the Clerk of the Legislature annually. The report shall include the name of the claimant, the amount claimed and paid, and a brief description of the claim, including any agency, program, and activity under which the claim arose. Any member of the Legislature may receive a an electronic copy of the report by making a request to the Risk Manager.

Sec. 176. Section 81-8,239.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,239.05 (1) The State of Nebraska shall indemnify its officials and employees and its past officials and employees for money damages and reasonable costs incurred as a result of an act or omission occurring in the course and scope of employment of such official or employee after May 22, 1981. Such official's or employee's right to indemnification shall include the payments of awards, settlements, and associated costs, including appeal bonds and reasonable costs associated with a required appearance before any tribunal.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply in case of malfeasance in office or willful or wanton neglect of duty. This section shall not be interpreted as an expansion of any state official's or employee's personal liability.

(3) The Attorney General shall notify the Risk Manager when an official or employee is being represented by the Attorney General or has engaged competent counsel approved by the Attorney General. The reasonable costs of litigation, including appeal bonds, or the reasonable costs of any appearance before any tribunal shall be paid by the Risk Manager from the State Self-Insured Indemnification Fund.

(4) The Attorney General shall file copies of all awards and settlements and any final court approval with the Risk Manager and shall request that the Risk Manager make the required payments, if funds are available, from the State Self-Insured Indemnification Fund, except that any portion of an award or settlement which is for punitive damages may only be paid with the approval of the Legislature. The official or employee may file a

claim under the State Miscellaneous Claims Act if payment is not made.

(5) The Risk Manager shall report electronically all claims and judgments paid from the State Self-Insured Indemnification Fund to the Clerk of the Legislature annually. The report shall include the name of the claimant, the amount claimed and paid, and a brief description of the claim, including any agency, program, and activity under which the claim arose. Any member of the Legislature may receive a an electronic copy of the report by making a request to the Risk Manager.

Sec. 177. Section 81-8,251, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,251 In addition to whatever reports he or she may make from time to time, the Public Counsel shall on or about February 15 of each year report to the Clerk of the Legislature and to the Governor concerning the exercise of his or her functions during the preceding calendar year. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. In discussing matters with which he or she has dealt, the Public Counsel need not identify those immediately concerned if to do so would cause needless hardship. So far as the annual report may criticize named agencies or officials, it must include also their replies to the criticism. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the Public Counsel.

Sec. 178. Section 81-8,300, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,300 (1) After investigation, the Risk Manager or State Claims Board shall either approve, approve with conditions or limitations, or disapprove of each claim or request and append to the claim or request a concise statement of the facts brought out in such investigation upon which its approval or disapproval is based. If any claim is approved in an amount of more than five thousand dollars, the approval of the board is required. Such claim or request, together with the original papers supporting it and the appended statement, shall be filed with the Risk Manager in the manner prescribed by the State Claims Board. The Risk Manager shall promptly notify each claimant of the decision by the Risk Manager or State Claims Board on his or her claim by regular mail. The notification shall include ~~(1)~~ (a) the decision of the Risk Manager or State Claims Board, ~~(2)~~ (b) a statement that a claimant dissatisfied with the decision of the Risk Manager may have his or her claim reviewed by the board or a statement that a claimant dissatisfied with the decision of the board may have his or her claim reviewed by the Legislature upon application, ~~(3)~~ (c) the procedure for making an application for review, and ~~(4)~~ (d) the time limit for making such application.

(2) If the claimant is dissatisfied with the decision of the Risk Manager, he or she may file an application for review by the board. If the claimant is dissatisfied with the decision of the board, he or she may file an application for review by the Legislature. The application for review shall be filed with the Risk Manager in the manner prescribed by the board. The application for review shall be filed within sixty days after the date of the decision which is being reviewed.

(3) Each claim which has been approved or for which an application for review with the Legislature has been filed and each request referred to in section 81-8,297 shall be delivered electronically by the Risk Manager to the chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature at the next regular session of the Legislature convening after the date of the decision of the board. The Risk Manager may direct the payment by the state agency involved of any claim not in excess of five thousand dollars if such payment is agreed to by the head of the agency involved. The State Claims Board may direct payment by the state agency involved of any claim not in excess of fifty thousand dollars if such payment is agreed to by the head of the agency involved and the agency has sufficient funds to pay the claim. If claims approved by the Risk Manager or State Claims Board arise out of the same facts and circumstances, they shall be aggregated. If the Risk Manager or State Claims Board does not direct the payment of a claim as set forth in this section or the claim exceeds the dollar limitations set forth in this section, the claim shall be reviewed by the Legislature and an appropriation made therefor if appropriate. The Risk Manager shall report electronically all claims and judgments paid under the State Miscellaneous Claims Act to the Clerk of the Legislature and the ~~Chairperson~~ chairperson of the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature. The report shall include the name of the claimant, a statement of the amount claimed and paid, and a brief description of the claim including the agency and program or activity under which the claim arose. Any member of the Legislature may receive a an electronic copy of the report by making a request to the Risk Manager.

Sec. 179. Section 81-1107.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,

is amended to read:

81-1107.05 (1) The Director of Administrative Services may initiate interfund borrowing among the various revolving funds within the Department of Administrative Services, except that at no time shall the aggregate advances from all lending funds exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

(2) The director shall report to the budget administrator of the budget division of the department and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst:

(a) The amount of each interfund loan processed or repaid and the date of the transaction; and

(b) An explanation of each interfund loan transaction.

The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

(3) By July 15 each year, the director shall report to the budget administrator and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst the:

(a) Outstanding aggregate balances advanced from the respective revolving funds within the department as of the preceding June 30; and

(b) Outstanding aggregate balances borrowed by each fund from the respective revolving funds within the department as of the preceding June 30.

The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 180. Section 81-1108.15, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1108.15 (1) Except as provided in the Nebraska State Capitol Preservation and Restoration Act, the division shall have the primary functions and responsibilities of statewide facilities planning, facilities construction, and facilities administration and shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.

(2) Facilities planning shall include the following responsibilities and duties:

(a) To maintain utilization records of all state-owned, state-occupied, and vacant facilities;

(b) To coordinate comprehensive capital facilities planning;

(c) To define and review program statements based on space utilization standards;

(d) To prepare or review planning and construction documents;

(e) To develop and maintain time-cost schedules for capital construction projects;

(f) To assist the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in the preparation of the capital construction budget recommendations;

(g) To maintain a complete inventory of all state-owned, state-occupied, and vacant sites and structures and to review the proposals for naming such sites and structures;

(h) To determine space needs of all state agencies and establish space-allocation standards; and

(i) To cause a state comprehensive capital facilities plan to be developed.

(3) Facilities construction shall include the following powers and duties:

(a) To maintain close contact with and inspections of each project so as to assure execution of time-cost schedules and efficient contract performance if such project's total design and construction cost is more than fifty thousand dollars;

(b) To perform final acceptance inspections and evaluations; and

(c) To coordinate all change or modification orders and progress payment orders.

(4) Facilities administration shall include the following powers and duties:

(a) To serve as state leasing administrator or agent for all facilities to be leased for use by the state and for all state-owned facilities to be rented to state agencies or other parties subject to section 81-1108.22. The division shall remit the proceeds from any rentals of state-owned facilities to the State Treasurer for credit to the State Building Revolving Fund and the State Building Renewal Assessment Fund;

(b) To provide all maintenance, repairs, custodial duties, security, and administration for all buildings and grounds owned or leased by the State of Nebraska except as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this section;

(c) To be responsible for adequate parking and the designation of parking stalls or spaces, including access aisles, in offstreet parking facilities for the exclusive use of handicapped or disabled or temporarily handicapped or disabled persons pursuant to section 18-1737;

(d) To ensure that all state-owned, state-occupied, and vacant facilities are maintained or utilized to their maximum capacity or to dispose

of such facilities through lease, sale, or demolition;

(e) To submit electronically an annual report annually to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Committee on Building Maintenance regarding the amount of property leased by the state and the availability of state-owned property for the needs of state agencies;

(f) To report monthly time-cost data on projects to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(g) To administer the State Emergency Capital Construction Contingency Fund;

(h) To submit status reports to the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst after each quarter of a construction project is completed detailing change orders and expenditures to date. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. Such reports shall be required on all projects costing five hundred thousand dollars or more and on such other projects as may be designated by the division; and

(i) To submit a final report on each project to the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a comparison of final costs and appropriations made for the project, change orders, and modifications and whether the construction complied with the related approved program statement. Such reports shall be required on all projects costing five hundred thousand dollars or more and on such other projects as may be designated by the division.

(5) Subdivisions (4)(b), (c), and (d) of this section shall not apply to (a) state-owned facilities to be rented to state agencies or other parties by the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska state colleges, the Department of Aeronautics, the Department of Roads, and the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, (b) buildings and grounds owned or leased for use by the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska state colleges, and the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, (c) buildings and grounds owned, leased, or operated by the Department of Correctional Services, (d) facilities to be leased for nonoffice use by the Department of Roads, (e) buildings or grounds owned or leased by the Game and Parks Commission if the application of such subdivisions to the buildings or grounds would result in ineligibility for or repayment of federal funding, (f) buildings or grounds of the state park system, state recreation areas, state historical parks, state wildlife management areas, or state recreational trails, or (g) other buildings or grounds owned or leased by the State of Nebraska which are specifically exempted by the division because the application of such subdivisions would result in the ineligibility for federal funding or would result in hardship on an agency, board, or commission due to other exceptional or unusual circumstances, except that nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit the assessment of building rental depreciation charges to tenants of facilities owned by the state and under the direct control and maintenance of the division.

(6) Security for all buildings and grounds owned or leased by the State of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska, except the buildings and grounds described in subsection (5) of this section, shall be the responsibility of the Nebraska State Patrol. The Nebraska State Patrol shall consult with the Governor, the Chief Justice, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, and the State Capitol Administrator regarding security policy within the State Capitol and capitol grounds.

(7) Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the reports required by subdivisions (4)(f), (h), and (i) of this section by making a request for them to the State Building Administrator. The information on such reports shall be submitted to the division by the agency responsible for the project.

Sec. 181. Section 81-1108.22, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1108.22 (1) The division shall have the responsibility of providing office space in leased and state-owned buildings in the proximity of the State Capitol and in other locations.

(2) When any board, agency, commission, or department of the state government not otherwise specifically authorized by law desires to use funds available for the purpose of renting office space outside of the State Capitol, it shall submit a request to the Director of Administrative Services. If the director approves the lease, the terms and location shall be approved by the director and the administrator in writing and the leases shall be entered into and administered by the administrator on behalf of the board, agency, commission, or department. A copy of all such lease contracts shall be kept on file by the state building division and shall be open to inspection by

the Legislature and the public during normal business hours.

(3) (a) The administrator shall develop a system of charges to cover basic rental, maintenance, renovations, and operation of such leased and owned properties. The charges to state agencies, boards, commissions, or departments of state government shall be paid from funds available for the purpose of renting space on a regular basis and placed, as applicable, in the State Building Revolving Fund and the State Building Renewal Assessment Fund. The administrator shall make payments for basic rentals, renovations, and maintenance and operational costs of all leased and owned buildings from the State Building Revolving Fund except for expenses relating to security provided by the Nebraska State Patrol as provided in subdivision (b) of this subsection.

(b) The State Building Revolving Fund is created. The fund shall be administered by the administrator. The fund shall consist of rental charges and other receipts collected pursuant to contractual agreements between the state building division and other entities as authorized by law. The fund shall only be used to support the operation of the state building division as provided by law, except that the Legislature shall make fund transfers each fiscal year through the budget process from the State Building Revolving Fund to the Capitol Security Revolving Fund to help pay non-general-fund costs associated with the operation of the state capitol security division of the Nebraska State Patrol. Any money in the State Building Revolving 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) The charges for such leased and owned properties shall only be adjusted by the administrator on July 1. Prior to any adjustment in the system of charges, the Department of Administrative Services, on or before December 1 of the year preceding the effective date of such adjustment, shall provide ~~written~~ electronic notification to the Committee on Building Maintenance, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst of the proposed adjustment to the system of charges.

(5) Commencing on April 18, 1992, all leases of real property entered into by any state agency, board, commission, or department shall be subject to this section. Leases held by a state agency, board, commission, or department on such date shall be valid until the lease contract is terminated or is subject to renewal. The division shall monitor all such leases and determine when the lease is subject to renewal. Once the determination is made, the division shall cancel the lease as of the renewal date and shall treat the need of the agency, board, commission, or department as an original request for space and subject to this section. This subsection shall not apply to (a) state-owned facilities to be rented to state agencies or other parties by the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska state colleges, the Department of Aeronautics, the Department of Roads, and the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, (b) facilities to be leased for use by the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska state colleges, and the Board of Educational Lands and Funds, (c) facilities to be leased for nonoffice use by the Department of Roads, or (d) facilities controlled by the State Department of Education, which were formerly controlled by the Nebraska School for the Visually Handicapped, to be rented to state agencies or other parties by the department.

Sec. 182. Section 81-1108.31, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1108.31 Whenever any improvement district for the opening, widening, or otherwise improving Fifteenth Street in the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, which connects, adjoins, and is adjacent to the State Capitol and the University of Nebraska, is created by the Mayor and the City Council of the city of Lincoln, Nebraska, the President of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the State Capitol Administrator are hereby authorized to sign petitions for the creation of an improvement district including that portion of Fifteenth Street in Lincoln, Nebraska, leading from the State Capitol to the university campus. This is for no other purpose than to form a plan and program, with the gathering of data and cost for the improvement of that portion of Fifteenth Street. Such plan shall be submitted electronically to a subsequent Legislature for the Legislature which shall render its approval or rejection before any liability whatsoever for the consummation of such plan shall be fixed or made. Neither the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska nor the administrator shall expend any money, nor shall the provisions of this section be construed to authorize the expenditure of any public funds whatsoever, except for the preliminary survey incident to the formation of such improvement plans, until the same shall have been authorized by a specific appropriation of the Legislature for the purpose based on the tentative plans so formulated and submitted to the Legislature as

contemplated in this section.

Sec. 183. Section 81-1108.33, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-1108.33 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that the state will not assume responsibility for the substandard construction, repair, or maintenance of, or for the excessive maintenance or repair costs for, real property, structures, or improvements which will be made available by gift, bequest, or devise to or acquired with the proceeds of donations, gifts, bequests, devises, or grants from an individual, an organization, a corporation, a foundation, or a similar entity or from a nonfederal governmental agency by any state agency, board, or commission. Therefor, prior to any construction, repair, or maintenance work on such real property, structure, or improvement, the state building division and the Task Force for Building Renewal shall review the plans, specifications, other construction or repair documents, and potential maintenance requirements as a requirement for acceptance or acquisition by the state of such real property, structure, or improvement.

(2)(a) Any gift of, bequest of, or devise of real property, a structure, or an improvement proposed to be made available to any state agency, board, or commission and any acquisition of real property, a structure, or an improvement with the proceeds of a donation, gift, bequest, devise, or grant from an individual, an organization, a corporation, a foundation, or a similar entity or from a nonfederal governmental agency shall be reviewed by the state building division and the Task Force for Building Renewal pursuant to sections 81-176, 81-1108.15, and 81-1114. Such review shall include any potential matching of state funds, any plans, specifications, and other construction or repair documents reviewed pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, and any potential maintenance requirements as a condition of acceptance or acquisition. Subsequent to such review, the state building division and the task force shall submit a report to the Governor, the Committee on Building Maintenance, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst including a summary of the review of the plans, specifications, and other construction or repair documents and potential maintenance requirements and outlining the terms and conditions of the proposed gift, bequest, devise, or acquisition along with its recommendation. The report submitted to the committee and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

(b) Any proposed gift of, bequest of, or devise of real property, a structure, or an improvement in excess of ten thousand dollars shall be approved by the Governor and the Legislature prior to acceptance and any acquisition of real property, a structure, or an improvement with the proceeds of a donation, gift, bequest, devise, or grant from an individual, an organization, a corporation, a foundation, or a similar entity or from a nonfederal governmental agency shall be approved by the Governor and Legislature prior to such acquisition. If the Legislature is not in session, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, after recommendation by the Committee on Building Maintenance, may approve such gift, bequest, devise, or acquisition along with the Governor.

(c) No construction or other work related to the proposed gift, bequest, devise, or acquisition shall be initiated prior to receiving the approval required by this section.

(3) For purposes of this section, gift of, bequest of, or devise of (a) real property, (b) a structure, or (c) an improvement shall include, but not be limited to, a donation of, gift of, bequest of, devise of, or grant of (i) real property, (ii) a structure, or (iii) an improvement from an individual, an organization, a corporation, a foundation, or a similar entity or from a nonfederal governmental agency. For purposes of this section, gift, bequest, or devise shall not include a donation, gift, bequest, devise, or grant of tangible or intangible personal property.

(4) This section shall not apply to the University of Nebraska or any Nebraska state college, since these agencies are subject to and participate in statewide facilities planning developed by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education pursuant to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act.

Sec. 184. Section 81-1108.41, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1108.41 (1) The division shall cause a state comprehensive capital facilities plan to be developed. The plan shall project the state's facilities needs for a period of six years and shall be based on programmatic projections and input from each state agency. To aid in the development of the plan, the Governor shall appoint a State Comprehensive Capital Facilities Planning Committee with representatives from various

state agencies. The committee shall develop and adopt comprehensive planning guidelines and a process of project prioritization. The state comprehensive capital facilities plan shall be submitted electronically to the Committee on Building Maintenance for review before such plan shall be submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst on or before November 15 prior to the beginning of each biennium. The plan submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. The plan shall be based on priorities developed by the State Comprehensive Capital Facilities Planning Committee. The University of Nebraska and any Nebraska state college shall not be required to comply with or be subject to the provisions of this section since these agencies are subject to and participate in statewide facilities planning developed by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education pursuant to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act.

(2) An appropriation for drawings and construction may be made only after submission of an acceptable program statement on or before September 15 of the year previous to the initiation of such appropriation. Such program statement shall include, but not be limited to, (a) an assessment of the compatibility of the project with the state comprehensive capital facilities plan and the agency or departmental comprehensive capital facilities plan, (b) the identification of the impact of the project on the space utilization of other facilities under the control of the agency or department, and (c) the identification of the future impact on the agency or departmental programmatic needs, demand for utilities in excess of current capacity, parking needs, street and road needs, and site acquisition needs. Such program statement shall be submitted to the division and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The program statement submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

(3) No contract for the planning, design, or construction of a new facility or major modification or repair of an existing facility provided for by any state appropriation may be initiated unless an acceptable program statement has been approved by the Governor, the agency or department has submitted to the division a certificate from the Committee on Building Maintenance that there is no state-owned property which is adequate or which through cost-effective renovation, as determined by the division, could be made adequate to meet the agency's or department's needs, and the conditions of the contracts are approved in writing by the division, except that the provisions of this section shall not apply to projects when the total design and construction cost of the project is less than the limit established by the division. Such program statements and contracts shall be reviewed by the division.

(4) The division shall file a written report on each program statement and contract reviewed with the Governor and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. This report shall cover the consistency of the project with the state comprehensive capital facilities plan and the agency or departmental comprehensive capital facilities plan. A subsequent review and report upon completion of the planning or design phase of the project shall indicate the compatibility of the project with the agency or departmental comprehensive capital facilities plan, compare the probable cost of the project with accepted cost standards for similar construction projects, and review the relationship of the project to other state agency or departmental capital facilities in the same complex.

Sec. 185. Section 81-1114, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1114 The building division shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

(1) Shall prepare, for submittal to the Governor and to the office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, analyses of the cost of every desired land and building acquisition, new building construction, either underway or proposed, major repair or remodeling of new, newly acquired, or existing buildings, and each and every structural improvement to land, utilities, roads, walks, and parking lots, costing four hundred thousand dollars or more, but excluding right-of-way projects of the Department of Roads. The analyses submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. The Department of Administrative Services shall adjust the dollar amount in this section every four years beginning January 1, 2002, to account for inflationary and market changes. The adjustment shall be based on percentage changes in a construction cost index and any other published index relevant to operations and utilities costs, as selected by the department;

(2) Shall record the relationship between the proposed capital facilities and the individual or departmental agencies' operating programs with particular attention to needs of immediate or future operations of the

department or agency submitting such plan;

(3) Shall make recommendations to the Governor, the committee of the Legislature which shall from time to time have responsibility for preparing recommendations for appropriations, and the individual department or agency concerned, on the probable costs of such acquisition, construction, repair, or remodeling. The recommendations submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically; and

(4) Shall require the submission by each department and agency of the state of copies of all written contracts for acquisition, construction, repair, or remodeling, including federal contracts, before such contracts are executed by the executive officer of the state authorized to execute such contracts, and shall maintain copies of such contracts on file for inspection by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

Sec. 186. Section 81-1114.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1114.01 Each department and agency of the state prior to submitting a capital construction project request in excess of four hundred thousand dollars shall cause to be prepared a comprehensive capital facilities plan. Such plan shall include, but not be limited to, a projection of future programmatic needs, analysis of existing facilities and the utilization of such facilities, and identification of projects to meet those projected programmatic needs, including addition to, or renovation or replacement of, existing space, parking, streets, and utilities. The comprehensive capital facilities plan shall be updated or revised when a major capital construction project requested for funding is not in compliance with such plan or when revisions in projected programmatic needs would significantly affect the comprehensive capital facilities plan. Such plans and any updates or revisions shall be submitted to the state building division and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The plans and any updates or revisions submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. Such plans and revisions or updates shall be prepared in accordance with rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the state building division. The Department of Administrative Services shall adjust the dollar amount in this section every four years beginning January 1, 2002, to account for inflationary and market changes. The adjustment shall be based on percentage changes in a construction cost index and any other published index relevant to operations and utilities costs, as selected by the department.

Sec. 187. Section 81-1114.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1114.02 Any state agency, prior to bidding a capital construction project with a total project cost exceeding the limit established by the Department of Administrative Services in accordance with section 81-1114.01, shall submit proposed construction documents to the state building division for review. The state building division shall review the construction documents and submit comments to the budget division, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the affected agencies. The comments submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. Comments shall include identification of possible cost and design alternatives and a determination whether the construction documents are consistent with approved program statements. The state building division shall, by rules and regulations, establish the elements to be included in the construction documents. Comments and reviews of construction documents shall be completed within thirty days after such documents are submitted to the state building division. No funds shall be expended on actual construction until construction documents have been approved by the state building division. A copy of the approval or disapproval shall be forwarded to the requesting agency, the budget division, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The copy submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 188. Section 81-1117, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1117 (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, information management includes, but is not limited to:

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

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

(c) Any code or program to control the operation of the equipment or 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 reporting systems of all divisions within the Department of Administrative Services and within every other department and agency of the state;

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

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

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

(e) He or she may review the operations of information management 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 management services division in the event that a cost analysis shows that economic advantage may be achieved. He or she may permit the establishment of departmental or agency information management operations in any department or agency of the state if his or her analysis of feasibility shows a potential economy or a substantial convenience for the state incident to such separate establishment. No state agency shall hire, purchase, lease, or rent any information management item listed in subsection (1) of this section without the written approval of the information management services administrator. All new computer programs developed or acquired for use with information management equipment of any state agency shall be documented according to standards developed or 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;

(g) He or she shall provide for a system of charges for services rendered by the information management services division to any other department or agency of the state when these charges are allocable to a particular project carried on by such department or division. Such standard rate charges shall, as nearly as may be practical, reflect the actual costs incurred in the performance of services for such department or agency. Such system of charges shall be annually reviewed by the Legislature's Committee on Appropriations. Rates planned for the coming fiscal year shall be included in the instructions for completion of budget request forms as annually prepared by the Department of Administrative Services budget division. If rate revisions are required during the fiscal year to reflect changes in the information management services division's operating costs, these revisions shall be announced to state agencies at least thirty days prior to their use in billing these agencies for service. Miscellaneous supplies shall be billed to using agencies at actual cost. Equipment used primarily by one agency for special applications shall be billed to that agency at actual cost. In the event of saturation of the information management services division with the resulting need for contractual support to be furnished by another information management installation, agencies shall be billed at actual cost. The charges received by the department for information management services shall be credited to a fund hereby created which shall be known as the Information Management Revolving Fund. Expenditures shall be made from such fund to finance the operations of the information management services division in accordance with appropriations made by the Legislature. Any money in the Information Management Revolving 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;

(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;

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

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

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

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

Sec. 189. Section 81-1120.15, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1120.15 The Director of Communications shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

(1) To provide the Legislature and the Governor technical assistance, advice, and information concerning the financial and administrative operations of the communications systems of all agencies of the state;

(2) To provide the Legislature and the Governor recommendations for dealing with financial, management, and organizational problems affecting the communications systems and services of the state, its departments and agencies. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(3) To make inquiries of the agencies as to their communications charges and prepare cost comparisons to insure that uniformity, efficiency, and equality be achieved within the communications system;

(4) To make recommendations to the agencies pertaining to revisions to internal systems as may be necessary to promote frugality and economy in the communications system; and

(5) To provide services such as system review, system design, feasibility studies, equipment reviews, and for long-range planning and management service within the division of communications.

Sec. 190. Section 81-1120.16, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1120.16 It shall be the duty of the director to consult each department, office, board, bureau, commission, or institution in the state for which money is to be appropriated and expended for communications services, equipment, or facilities, including the executive and judicial departments, state colleges, university, and state institutions. The director shall make or cause to be made under his or her supervision an investigation to determine whether the appropriations are being judiciously and economically expended for the purposes for which they were made and shall transmit to the Governor, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, and the expending agency a complete report of each such investigation. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. In making such investigations he or she shall, at all reasonable times, have access to the offices of all state departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, and institutions and may, for the purpose of obtaining information as to the operation and communications needs thereof, examine the books, papers, and public records therein, and the agencies shall, through their proper officers, furnish such data, information, or statements as may be requested of them.

Sec. 191. Section 81-1125.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1125.01 It shall be the duty of the Director of Administrative Services to digest, prepare, and report to the Governor, ~~the~~ ~~of the state,~~ Tax Commissioner, and the Clerk of the Legislature, at least twenty days before the commencement of each regular session of the Legislature:

(1) A full and detailed statement of the condition of the treasury, and the amount of the expenditures for the last fiscal year;

(2) A full and detailed statement of the public debt, showing fully all liabilities and resources of the state; and

(3) Such plans as he or she may deem expedient for (a) the support of public credit, (b) lessening the public expenses, (c) using the public money to the best advantage, (d) promoting frugality and economy in public offices, and generally for the better management and more perfect understanding of the fiscal affairs of the state, and (e) securing uniformity

and efficiency in the levying and collecting of taxes, systematizing the work to be done by officers having duties to perform under the revenue law.

The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by this section by making a request for it to the director.

Sec. 192. Section 81-1201.11, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-1201.11 The department shall:

(1) Serve as the lead state agency in the area of economic development. The department shall develop a program to promote coordination and cooperation within state government and with institutions of higher education, local governments, other political subdivisions of the state, and the private sector;

(2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and other materials which may be helpful or necessary to the full development of the state's economy, which may be relevant with regard to the possibilities of future development in Nebraska, and which will be of use to local governments, the Governor, other state agencies, and the Legislature in discharging their responsibilities. The department shall develop a program to ensure cooperation between state agencies, the University of Nebraska, and other entities with related economic information;

(3) Provide staff services when, in the opinion of the director, such services are necessary and appropriate in the areas of economic development to cities of the first class, cities of the second class, and villages on a contractual basis when the terms of such contracts can be mutually accepted;

(4) Assist the Governor in coordinating the efforts of local governments to develop mutual and cooperative solutions to their common problems; and

(5) Prepare annually a status report on the activities and impacts of the department and its programs. The status report shall include information detailing the status of all programs administered by the department for which the Legislature requires reporting. The status report shall be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on the first working day of July of each year. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 193. Section 81-1201.13, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-1201.13 (1) The Travel and Tourism Division shall develop a program to provide promotional services and technical assistance to local governments and industry members and to ensure the protection and development of Nebraska's attraction resources.

(2)(a) The department shall have an advisory committee to provide regular consultation to the Travel and Tourism Division, which committee shall be named the Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee. Such advisory committee shall include, at a minimum, one representative from the Game and Parks Commission, one representative from the Nebraska Travel Association, one representative from the Nebraska Hotel and Motel Association, one representative from a tourism attraction that records at least two thousand out-of-state visitors per year, and one representative from the Nebraska Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.

(b) The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee shall develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote tourism in Nebraska. The advisory committee shall adopt policy criteria to be used in the development of the plan. The plan shall include:

(i) A review of the existing and potential sources of funding for tourism at the state and local levels;

(ii) A comprehensive inventory of local tourism boards, the structure of such boards, and their funding;

(iii) Criteria for local tourism boards in terms of appointments to such boards and for awarding grants by such boards at the local level to ensure local resources are used to achieve the greatest return;

(iv) An examination of other states' funding models for tourism;

(v) Marketing strategies for promoting tourism;

(vi) A proposal for creating new or expanding existing tourism capacity, which may include encouraging regional cooperation, collaboration, or privatization; and

(vii) Recommended legislation or funding requirements.

(c) The department may hire a consultant to assist the Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee in developing the statewide strategic plan. The department may accept, in trust, any gifts, devises, and bequests

to be held and administered by the department for the purposes of hiring a consultant. The advisory committee shall prepare and present electronically the statewide strategic plan to the Legislature by September 1, 2012.

(3) All advertising contracts awarded by the department concerning travel and tourism shall be based on competitive bids. Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking into consideration the best interests of the state, the quality of performance of the services rendered, the conformity with specifications, the purposes for which required, and the time of completion, and with the consultation of the Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee. In determining the lowest responsible bidder, in addition to price, the following elements shall be given consideration: (a) The ability, capacity, creativity, and skill of the bidder to perform the contract required; (b) the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and efficiency of the bidder; (c) whether the bidder can perform the contract within the time specified; (d) the quality of performance of previous contracts; (e) the previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws relating to the contract; and (f) such other information as may be secured having a bearing on the decision to award the contract. The department shall advertise for bids for the awarding of contracts concerning travel and tourism pursuant to sections 73-101 to 73-105. At least thirty working days shall elapse between the time formal bids are advertised for and the time of their opening. Contracts shall be awarded within sixty working days after the bidding has been closed. Each person submitting a bid shall, by certified mail, be notified as to whom the contract was awarded.

Sec. 194. Section 81-12,142, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-12,142 The department shall prepare and present electronically a report to the Legislature by December 1, 2013, on the Small Business Innovation Act that includes, but is not limited to, businesses assisted, aggregate change in sales revenue, number of jobs created, and range of newly created jobs that includes an average wage.

Sec. 195. Section 81-12,151, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-12,151 The Department of Economic Development shall submit electronically an annual report regarding the Site and Building Development Act to the Legislature no later than July 1 of each year beginning July 1, 2012. The report shall contain no information that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 196. Section 81-12,166, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-12,166 The department shall submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on or before July 1 of each year which includes, but is not limited to, a description of the demand for financial assistance and programs under the Business Innovation Act from all geographic regions in Nebraska, a listing of the recipients and amounts of financial assistance awarded pursuant to the act in the previous fiscal year, the impact of the financial assistance, and an evaluation of the act's performance based on the documented goals of the recipients. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The department may require recipients to provide periodic performance reports to enable the department to fulfill the requirements of this section. The report shall contain no information that is protected by state or federal confidentiality laws.

Sec. 197. Section 81-1307.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1307.01 The Director of Personnel shall measure, through the use of salary surveys, the competitive standing of state salaries with salary levels of the labor market. The State Personnel Board shall review the methodology and results of the survey. A report of the survey findings, including the board's review, shall be provided to the Legislature and the Governor along with the recommendations regarding wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment for unorganized employees by the Chief Negotiator pursuant to section 81-1376. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 198. Section 81-1360, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1360 The administrator shall be the head of the office. The administrator shall be given all necessary top management support to insure that there is compliance with Nebraska's program and shall be provided with sufficient staff and budget support to carry out the duties of the office. The administrator shall:

(1) Have the authority and responsibility for coordinating, directing, and implementing the program;

- (2) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of the agencies' plans;
- (3) Provide counseling and technical assistance to the agencies in the development of their plans;
- (4) Review agency plans and direct modification to insure the effectiveness of the plans and their compliance with the program;
- (5) Monitor the progress of agency plans by establishing reporting forms as required by the program;
- (6) Review the quarterly reports of the agencies;
- (7) Monitor the progress of the program and report quarterly to the Governor;
- (8) Make formal recommendations for legislation, when necessary, in order to make changes in the program;
- (9) Serve as liaison between the state and federal compliance agencies;
- (10) Plan, coordinate, and conduct training in equal employment opportunity, racial awareness, and concerns of women, the disabled, and aging for all segments of the state government work force;
- (11) Coordinate the activities of the agency affirmative action individual in each agency;
- (12) Investigate any complaints involving unfair treatment, terms and conditions of employment, or perceived acts or policies involving discrimination;
- (13) Conduct contract compliance reviews on all vendors, grantees, and contractors who have programs or projects which are funded in whole or in part by state funds;
- (14) Coordinate the Disadvantage Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise programs which are funded in whole or in part by state or federal funds; and
- (15) Submit an annual report to the Governor and Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 199. Section 81-1376, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1376 There is hereby created within the Department of Administrative Services the Division of Employee Relations to be headed by the Chief Negotiator who shall be appointed by, serve at the pleasure of, and represent the Governor. The Director of Administrative Services may serve as the Chief Negotiator. The division shall be responsible for negotiating and administering all labor contracts entered into by the State of Nebraska, except that the division shall not be responsible for contracts entered into by constitutional offices, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.

The Chief Negotiator shall for agencies within the jurisdiction of the division:

- (1) Negotiate or supervise the negotiations of labor contracts on a statewide basis;
- (2) Be responsible for the administration of all collective-bargaining agreements, except that the Chief Negotiator may delegate such responsibility to designated representatives who may be employees of state agencies when the Chief Negotiator deems it appropriate;
- (3) Be vested with authority on all mandatory topics of bargaining to negotiate the contracts. Contracts may adjust or change rates of pay and other terms and conditions of employment that are mandatory topics of bargaining pursuant to the Industrial Relations Act and the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act;
- (4) Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature regarding wages, hours, and conditions of employment for all unorganized employees. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;
- (5) Consult with agency and department heads regarding possible terms of labor contracts and administration of agreements when appropriate; and
- (6) Manage the day-to-day operations of the division.

The division and the Chief Negotiator may represent any of the constitutional offices in labor contract negotiations and administration of contracts if requested to do so by such offices by resolution of the governing officer or body submitted to the Chief Negotiator and affected collective-bargaining agent and filed with the commission.

The responsibilities for negotiating contracts with employees of the Nebraska state colleges and the University of Nebraska shall not be exercised by the division and the Chief Negotiator. The Board of Regents and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall be responsible for

negotiating contracts with exclusive collective-bargaining agents for their employees.

Sec. 200. Section 81-1384, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-1384 On March 16, the Chief Negotiator, any appointed negotiator for the Board of Regents, any appointed negotiator for the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, and any appointed negotiator for other constitutional offices shall report to the Legislature and the Governor on the status of negotiations. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The Governor may amend his or her budget recommendations accordingly.

Sec. 201. Section 81-1504.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1504.01 The Department of Environmental Quality shall provide the following information to the Governor and to the Clerk of the Legislature by December 1 of each year:

(1) A report by type of service or aid provided by the use and distribution of federal funds received by the department. The report shall also include user fees, permit fees, license fees, and application fees authorized by the federal Environmental Protection Agency as follows:

(a) Actual expenditure of each grant or authorized fees for the most recently completed state fiscal year, including state matching funds;

(b) Current budget and planned use and distribution of each grant and authorized fees for the current state fiscal year, including state matching funds;

(c) A summary of the projected funding level of each grant and authorized fees and the impact of federal mandates and regulations upon the future use of each grant and authorized fees; and

(d) Program summaries including statistical summaries when applicable for the most recently completed state fiscal year and program activity goals for the current state fiscal year;

(2) A summary of regulations of the federal Environmental Protection Agency which the department is required to implement and which do not include federal funding assistance and the possible financial impact to the state and political subdivisions;

(3) A report by type of service or aid provided by the use and distribution of state general and cash funds, including user fees, permit fees, license fees, and application fees, to carry out activities that are not funded by federal grants as follows:

(a) Actual expenditure of state funds, by agency sections, for the most recently completed state fiscal year, including a breakdown of expenditures by personal services, operations, travel, capital outlay, and consulting and contractual services;

(b) Current budget and planned use and distribution of state funds, by agency sections, for the current state fiscal year, including a breakdown of expenditures for personal services, operations, travel, capital outlay, and consulting and contractual services;

(c) A summary of projected program funding needs based upon the statutory requirements and public demand for services and the department's assessment of anticipated needs statewide; and

(d) Program summaries including statistical summaries when applicable for the most recently completed state fiscal year and program activity goals for the current state fiscal year;

(4) A report regarding staff turnover by job class and the department's assessment of its ability to hire and retain qualified staff considering the state's personnel pay plan;

(5) A report listing the method used by each new or existing licensee, permittee, or other person who is required by the department to establish proof of financial responsibility; and

(6) A report for the previous state fiscal year relating to the purpose of the Nebraska Litter Reduction and Recycling Act and of funds credited to the Nebraska Litter Reduction and Recycling Fund.

The reports and summaries submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 202. Section 81-1505.04, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-1505.04 (1)(a) The department shall collect an annual emission fee from major sources of air pollution. Each major source shall pay the emission fee for regulated pollutants in the amount of twenty-five dollars per ton per pollutant or as adjusted pursuant to this section. The fee shall be based upon the amount of emissions of each regulated pollutant as reported or estimated by the source in the previous calendar year, but fees shall not be

paid on amounts in excess of four thousand tons per year for any regulated pollutant.

(b) Beginning with calendar year 2001 emissions, fees shall not be paid for a mid-sized electric generation facility on amounts in excess of four hundred tons per year for any regulated pollutant.

(c) A mid-sized electric generation facility owned by a municipality shall continue to be considered a separate mid-sized electric generation facility for purposes of this section even if the facility is subsequently permitted with another general unit larger than one hundred fifteen megawatts under separate ownership. Each facility under separate ownership shall be considered a separate major source for purposes of this section.

(d) For purposes of this section, mid-sized electric generation facility means a facility that:

(i) Uses coal as the primary source of fuel in the facility's largest generation unit;

(ii) Has a name plate generating capacity of between seventy and one hundred fifteen megawatts in the facility's largest generation unit; and

(iii) Is not operating in a political subdivision which has been delegated the authority to enforce the air quality permit program within its jurisdiction.

(2) (a) The emission fee may be increased or decreased annually by the department by the percentage difference between the Consumer Price Index for the most recent year ending before the 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 developing and administering the air quality permit program. 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 ending on August 31 of each year.

(b) For purposes of this section, reasonable direct and indirect costs of developing and administering the air quality permit program, as required under the federal Clean Air Act, as the act existed on May 31, 2001, 42 U.S.C. 7661a through f, include:

(i) Consideration of any associated overhead charges for personnel, equipment, buildings, and vehicles;

(ii) Reviewing and acting on any application for a permit or permit revision;

(iii) Implementing and enforcing the terms of any permit, not including any court costs or other costs associated with any formal enforcement action;

(iv) Emissions and ambient monitoring, including adequate resources to audit and inspect source-operated monitoring programs;

(v) Preparing generally applicable regulations or guidance;

(vi) Modeling, analyses, or demonstrations;

(vii) Preparing inventories and tracking emissions;

(viii) Developing and implementing any emissions trading programs as defined by the department; and

(ix) Providing support to sources under the Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel.

(c) The council shall establish procedures for the method of calculation and payment of the emission fee in a manner consistent with this section and shall establish the definition of or a table listing the pollutants which are regulated pollutants and a definition of major source. Such definitions or listing shall comply with and not be more stringent than the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act, as the act existed on May 31, 2001, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

(3) On or before January 1 of each year, the department shall submit electronically a report to the Legislature in sufficient detail to document all direct and indirect program costs incurred in the previous fiscal year in carrying out the air quality permit program. The Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall review such report in its analysis of executive programs in order to verify that revenue generated from emission fees was used solely to offset appropriate and reasonable costs associated with the air quality permit program. The report shall identify costs incurred by the department to administer the permit program for each major source. In addition, the department shall identify costs incurred by primary activity not specific to a major source.

(4) The department shall administer a cost tracking system which shall show costs for each major source and costs for each primary activity that is not specific to a major source. The department shall consult with interested parties regarding identification of primary activities to be tracked by the cost tracking system.

Sec. 203. Section 81-15,153, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-15,153 The department shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) The power to establish a program to make loans to municipalities or to counties, individually or jointly, for construction or modification of publicly owned wastewater treatment works in accordance with the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act and the rules and regulations of the council adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act;

(2) The power to establish a program to make loans to municipalities or to counties for construction, rehabilitation, operation, or maintenance of nonpoint source control systems in accordance with the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act and the rules and regulations of the council adopted and promulgated pursuant to such act;

(3) The power, if so authorized by the council pursuant to section 81-15,152, to execute and deliver documents obligating the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Loan Fund and the assets thereof to the extent permitted by section 81-15,151 to repay, with interest, loans to or deposits into the fund and to execute and deliver documents pledging to the extent permitted by section 81-15,151 all or part of the fund and its assets to secure, directly or indirectly, the loans or deposits;

(4) The duty to prepare an annual report for the Governor and the Legislature containing information which shows the financial status of the program. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(5) The duty to establish fiscal controls and accounting procedures sufficient to assure proper accounting during appropriate accounting periods, including the following:

(a) Accounting from the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority for the costs associated with the issuance of bonds pursuant to the act;

(b) Accounting for payments or deposits received by the fund;

(c) Accounting for disbursements made by the fund; and

(d) Balancing the fund at the beginning and end of the accounting period;

(6) The duty to establish financial capability requirements that assure sufficient revenue to operate and maintain a facility for its useful life and to repay the loan for such facility;

(7) The power to determine the rate of interest to be charged on a loan in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the council;

(8) The power to enter into required agreements with the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Clean Water Act;

(9) The power to enter into agreements to provide grants concurrent with loans to municipalities with populations of ten thousand inhabitants or less which demonstrate serious financial hardships. The department may authorize grants for up to one-half of the eligible project cost. Such grants shall contain a provision that payment of the amount allocated is conditional upon the availability of appropriated funds;

(10) The power to authorize emergency grants to municipalities with wastewater treatment facilities which have been damaged or destroyed by natural disaster or other unanticipated actions or circumstances. Such grants shall not be used for routine repair or maintenance of facilities;

(11) The power to provide financial assistance to municipalities with populations of ten thousand inhabitants or less for completion of engineering studies, research projects, investigating low-cost options for achieving compliance with the Clean Water Act, encouraging wastewater reuse, and conducting other studies for the purpose of enhancing the ability of communities to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act. The department may authorize financial assistance for up to ninety percent of the eligible project cost. Such state allocation shall contain a provision that payment of the amount obligated is conditional upon the availability of appropriated funds; and

(12) Such other powers as may be necessary and appropriate for the exercise of the duties created under the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Construction Assistance Act.

Sec. 204. Section 81-15,175, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

81-15,175 (1) The board may make an annual allocation each fiscal year from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund to the Nebraska Environmental Endowment Fund as provided in section 81-15,174.01. The board shall make annual allocations from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund and may make annual allocations each fiscal year from the Nebraska Environmental Endowment Fund for projects which conform to the environmental categories of the

board established pursuant to section 81-15,176 and to the extent the board determines those projects to have merit. The board shall establish a calendar annually for receiving and evaluating proposals and awarding grants. To evaluate the economic, financial, and technical feasibility of proposals, the board may establish subcommittees, request or contract for assistance, or establish advisory groups. Private citizens serving on advisory groups shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses pursuant to sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

(2) The board shall establish rating systems for ranking proposals which meet the board's environmental categories and other criteria. The rating systems shall include, but not be limited to, the following considerations:

(a) Conformance with categories established pursuant to section 81-15,176;

(b) Amount of funds committed from other funding sources;

(c) Encouragement of public-private partnerships;

(d) Geographic mix of projects over time;

(e) Cost-effectiveness and economic impact;

(f) Direct environmental impact;

(g) Environmental benefit to the general public and the long-term nature of such public benefit; and

(h) Applications recommended by the Director of Natural Resources and submitted by the Department of Natural Resources pursuant to subsection (7) of section 61-218 shall be awarded fifty priority points in the ranking process for the 2011 grant application if the Legislature has authorized annual transfers of three million three hundred thousand dollars to the Water Resources Cash Fund for each of fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13 and has stated its intent to transfer three million three hundred thousand dollars to the Water Resources Cash Fund in fiscal year 2013-14. Priority points shall be awarded if the proposed programs set forth in the grant application are consistent with the purposes of reducing consumptive uses of water, enhancing streamflows, recharging ground water, or supporting wildlife habitat in any river basin determined to be fully appropriated pursuant to section 46-714 or designated as overappropriated pursuant to section 46-713.

(3) A grant awarded under this section pursuant to an application made under subsection (7) of section 61-218 shall be paid out in the following manner:

(a) The initial three million three hundred thousand dollar installment shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Water Resources Cash Fund no later than fifteen business days after the date that the grant is approved by the board;

(b) The second three million three hundred thousand dollar installment shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Water Resources Cash Fund no later than May 15, 2013; and

(c) The third three million three hundred thousand dollar installment shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Water Resources Cash Fund no later than May 15, 2014, if the Legislature has authorized a transfer of three million three hundred thousand dollars from the General Fund to the Water Resources Cash Fund for fiscal year 2013-14.

(4) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Natural Resources apply for an additional three-year grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund that would begin in fiscal year 2014-15 and such application shall be awarded fifty priority points in the ranking process as set forth in subdivision (2)(h) of this section if the following criteria are met:

(a) The Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature has examined options for water funding and has submitted a report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor by December 1, 2012, setting forth:

(i) An outline and priority listing of water management and funding needs in Nebraska, including instream flows, residential, agricultural, recreational, and municipal needs, interstate obligations, water quality issues, and natural habitats preservation;

(ii) An outline of statewide funding options which create a dedicated, sustainable funding source to meet the needs set forth in the report; and

(iii) Recommendations for legislation;

(b) The projects and activities funded by the department through grants from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund under this section have resulted in enhanced stream flows, reduced consumptive uses of water, recharged ground water, supported wildlife habitat, or otherwise contributed towards conserving, enhancing, and restoring Nebraska's ground water and surface water resources. On or before July 1, 2014, the department shall submit electronically a report to the Natural Resources Committee of the

Legislature providing demonstrable evidence of the benefits accrued from such projects and activities; and

(c) In addition to the grant reporting requirements of the trust, on or before July 1, 2014, the department provides to the board a report which includes documentation that:

(i) Expenditures from the Water Resources Cash Fund made to natural resources districts have met the matching fund requirements provided in subdivision (5)(a) of section 61-218;

(ii) Ten percent or less of the matching fund requirements has been provided by in-kind contributions for expenses incurred for projects enumerated in the grant application. In-kind contributions shall not include land or land rights; and

(iii) All other projects and activities funded by the department through grants from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund under this section were matched not less than forty percent of the project or activity cost by other funding sources.

(5) The board may establish a subcommittee to rate grant applications. If the board uses a subcommittee, the meetings of such subcommittee shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act. The subcommittee shall (a) use the rating systems established by the board under subsection (2) of this section, (b) assign a numeric value to each rating criterion, combine these values into a total score for each application, and rank the applications by the total scores, (c) recommend an amount of funding for each application, which amount may be more or less than the requested amount, and (d) submit the ranked list and recommended funding to the board for its approval or disapproval.

(6) The board may commit funds to multiyear projects, subject to available funds and appropriations. No commitment shall exceed three years without formal action by the board to renew the grant or contract. Multiyear commitments may be exempt from the rating process except for the initial application and requests to renew the commitment.

(7) The board shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations and publish guidelines governing allocations from the fund. The board shall conduct annual reviews of existing projects for compliance with project goals and grant requirements.

(8) Every five years the board may evaluate the long-term effects of the projects it funds. The evaluation may assess a sample of such projects. The board may hire an independent consultant to conduct the evaluation and may report the evaluation findings to the Legislature and the Governor. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 205. Section 81-1606, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1606 The Director of the State Energy Office shall develop and maintain a program of collection, compilation, and analysis of energy statistics and information. Existing information reporting requests, maintained at the state and federal levels, shall be utilized whenever possible in any data collection required under the provisions of sections 81-1601 to 81-1607. A central state repository of energy data shall be developed and coordinated with other governmental data-collection and record-keeping programs. The director shall, on at least an annual basis, with monthly compilations, submit to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature a report identifying state energy consumption by fuel type and by use to the extent that such information is available. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting or authorizing the revealing of confidential information. For purposes of this section confidential information shall mean any process, formula, pattern, decision, or compilation of information which is used, directly or indirectly, in the business of the producer, refiner, distributor, transporter, or vendor, and which gives such producer, refiner, distributor, transporter, or vendor an advantage or an opportunity to obtain an advantage over competitors who do not know or use it.

Sec. 206. Section 81-1607, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1607 (1) On or before February 15 of each year, the Director of the State Energy Office shall transmit to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature a comprehensive report designed to identify emerging trends related to energy supply, demand, and conservation and to specify the level of statewide energy need within the following sectors: Agricultural, commercial, residential, industrial, transportation, utilities, government, and any other sector that the director determines to be useful. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

(2) The report shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) An assessment of the state's energy resources, including examination of the current energy supplies and any feasible alternative sources;

(b) The estimated reduction in annual energy consumption resulting from various energy conservation measures;

(c) The status of the office's ongoing studies;

(d) Recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for administrative and legislative actions to accomplish the purposes of sections 70-625, 70-704, 81-161, 81-1602, 81-1606, and 81-1607; and

(e) The use of funds disbursed during the previous year under sections 81-1635 to 81-1641. The use of such funds shall be reported each year until the funds are completely disbursed and all contractual obligations have expired or otherwise terminated.

Sec. 207. Section 81-1637, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1637 (1) The Governor shall submit electronically a predisbursement plan to the Legislature if in session or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council if the Legislature is not in session.

(2) The predisbursement plan shall generally outline the uses and beneficiaries of proposed disbursements from the fund, as well as the expected benefits to the state as a whole.

(3) The predisbursement plan shall also include a policy statement which shall indicate (a) a perception of the current and anticipated trends regarding energy availability, costs, and needs in the state, (b) assumptions regarding the impacts on energy needs of the state of current and anticipated state and federal policies and market forces affecting energy use, and (c) generally, how the types of projects to be selected will address those trends and assumptions.

(4) The Legislature may hold a public hearing within thirty days of receipt of the predisbursement plan to solicit testimony on such plan. The Legislature may, no later than fifteen days following such hearing, make recommendations to the State Energy Office concerning the plan. No disbursement of or obligation to disburse any money in the fund shall be made after July 9, 1988, until forty-five days after the predisbursement plan referring to such disbursement has been submitted to the Legislature or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, as the case may be.

Sec. 208. Section 81-1833, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

81-1833 (1) The committee shall prepare and submit to the commission a biennial report of its activities under the Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Act, including the name of each applicant, a brief description of the facts in each case, and the amount of compensation awarded, except that if the applicant was the victim of a sexual assault the victim's name shall not be included in the report, but shall be available to the Governor or a member of the Legislature upon request to the committee. Such report shall be submitted to the Governor and Clerk of the Legislature as part of the commission's report submitted pursuant to section 81-1423.

(2) The committee shall act as the oversight committee for the Community Trust and shall annually report its activities and findings as the oversight committee to the commission, the Governor, and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. If any questionable or improper actions or inactions on the part of the Community Trust are observed, the committee shall immediately notify the Attorney General who shall investigate the matter.

Sec. 209. Section 81-1845, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1845 (1) Any public or private nonprofit agency may apply to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for selection and funding as a victim and witness assistance center pursuant to sections 81-1843 to 81-1851.

(2) The commission shall consider the following factors, together with any other factors it deems appropriate, in selecting applicants to receive funds and be designated as a victim and witness assistance center:

(a) The number of volunteers that the proposed center will utilize;

(b) The stated goals of the applicant;

(c) The potential number of people that may be served by the proposed center and the needs of the community for such a center;

(d) Evidence of community support for the establishment of the proposed center; and

(e) The organizational structure of the agency which will operate the proposed center and provide services to victims and witnesses of crimes.

(3) Upon evaluation of all applicants, the Nebraska Commission

on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice shall select a number of public or private nonprofit agencies which the commission deems qualified for designation to receive funding for the establishment and operation of such centers.

(4) The commission shall, upon the establishment of such centers, conduct appraisals of their performance to determine which of the centers shall receive continuation grants. The commission shall report its finding to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 210. Section 81-2004.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2004.04 (1) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining legislative oversight and accountability, the Nebraska State Patrol shall maintain records of all expenditures, disbursements, and transfers of cash from the Nebraska State Patrol Cash Fund and the Investigation Petty Cash Fund.

(2) By September 15 of each year, the patrol shall report to the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst the unexpended balance existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year relating to investigative expenses in ~~(1)~~ (a) the Nebraska State Patrol Cash Fund, ~~(2)~~ (b) the Investigation Petty Cash Fund, ~~(3)~~ (c) any special checking account or accounts used by the patrol in carrying out the duties specified in section 81-2004.02, and ~~(4)~~ (d) any funds existing on June 30 of the previous fiscal year in the possession of personnel of the patrol involved in investigations. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

(3) The Legislature may require a separate accounting of the investigation funds according to specific types of investigations.

Sec. 211. Section 81-2022, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2022 Any funds of the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System available for investment shall be invested by the Nebraska Investment Council pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Payment for investment services by the council shall be charged directly against the gross investment returns of the funds. Charges so incurred shall not be a part of the board's annual budget request. The amounts of payment for such services, as of December 31 of each year, shall be reported not later than March 31 of the following year to the council, the board, and the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically.

The state investment officer shall sell any securities upon request from the director so as to provide money for the payment of benefits or annuities.

Sec. 212. Section 81-2023, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2023 It shall be the duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts to make an annual audit of the retirement system, and submit electronically an annual report to the Clerk of the Legislature of its condition. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such report by making a request for it to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

Sec. 213. Section 81-2213, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2213 The department shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To develop, approve, and submit to the Governor a two-year, three-year, or four-year state plan on aging, as determined by the department, for purposes of administering grant funds allocated to the state under the federal Older Americans Act, as now or hereafter amended, or administering state funds allocated to the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act;

(2) To cooperate with similar departments, commissions, or councils in the federal government and in other states;

(3) To adopt and promulgate rules, regulations, and bylaws governing its procedure and activities and as necessary to carry out the policies of the department and the policies prescribed by the Administration on Aging pursuant to the federal Older Americans Act, as now or hereafter amended;

(4) To create committees to aid in the discharge of its powers and duties;

(5) To cooperate with and assist other state and local governmental agencies and officials on matters relating to services for older individuals;

(6) To divide the state into planning-and-service areas as provided in section 71-807 for behavioral health regions, except that Regions 3 and 5 may each be divided into two planning-and-service areas with boundaries as established by the department for planning-and-service areas in existence in

those regions on July 1, 1982;

(7) To establish minimum standards for program operations and to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the performance of area agencies on aging and for any services provided by such area agencies on aging which are funded in whole or in part under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act or the federal Older Americans Act, as now or hereafter amended;

(8) To require the submission of a one-year and a five-year area plan and budget by each area agency on aging or agency seeking designation as an area agency on aging. Such plans and budgets shall be submitted sixty days prior to the start of each fiscal year in accordance with the uniform area plan format and other instructions issued by the department;

(9) To review and approve a one-year and a five-year area plan and budget for the support of each area agency on aging and the provision of eligible activities and services as defined in section 81-2222;

(10) To adopt and submit electronically to the Legislature a community aging services budget;

(11) To review the performance of each area agency on aging and, based on the department-approved area plan and budget, to determine the continued designation or the withdrawal of the designation of an area agency on aging receiving or requesting resources through the state or under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act or the federal Older Americans Act, as now or hereafter amended. After consultation with the director of the area agency on aging and the governing unit of the area agency on aging, the department may withdraw a designation when it can be shown that federal or state laws, rules, or regulations have not been complied with, state or federal funds are not being expended for the purposes for which they were intended, or older individuals are not receiving appropriate services within available resources. Withdrawal of a designation may be appealed to the department. Upon withdrawal of a designation, the department may temporarily perform all or part of the functions and responsibilities of the area agency on aging, may designate another agency to perform such functions and responsibilities identified by the department until the designation of a new area agency on aging, and, when deemed necessary, may temporarily deliver services to assure continuity;

(12) To conduct continuing studies and analyses of the problems faced by older individuals within the state and develop such recommendations for administrative or legislative action as appear necessary;

(13) To develop grants and plans, enter into contracts, accept gifts, grants, and federal funds, and do all things necessary and proper to discharge these powers and duties;

(14) To accept and administer any other programs or resources delegated, designated, assigned, or awarded to the department from public or private sources;

(15) To report and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on the activities of the department and the committee and improvements or additional resources needed to promote the general welfare of older individuals in Nebraska. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report; and

(16) Such other powers and duties necessary to effectively implement the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act.

Sec. 214. Section 81-2233, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2233 The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit an annual report on care management units to the Governor and the Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 215. Section 81-2408, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-2408 Each agency shall report monthly to the Director of Administrative Services and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst any account that has not been paid within the applicable time period prescribed by section 81-2403. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically. Each agency shall report annually any interest charge on a past-due account, whether paid or unpaid, to the Governor and to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 216. Section 82-333, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

82-333 The Nebraska Arts Council shall report to the Clerk of the Legislature and Director of Administrative Services annually regarding disbursements from the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

The report shall include a complete listing of the uses of the fund, the sources of funding used to match state funds, the amount of investment earnings credited to the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund, and the balance of the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund. The report shall cover the period July 1 through June 30 and shall be submitted no later than November 1 of each year.

Sec. 217. Section 83-4,147, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

83-4,147 An annual progress report shall be provided electronically to the Legislature ensuring that all programmatic objectives are being met. The report shall include an evaluation of the impact of the multi-treatment programs, including program costs, educational achievement, inmate disciplinary activity, probation release decisionmaking, and community reintegration on November 1 of the year following implementation.

Sec. 218. Section 83-924, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

83-924 Subject to the supervision and approval of the Director of Correctional Services, each assistant director shall have the following duties, powers, and responsibilities:

- (1) To coordinate and direct all programs and facilities under his or her jurisdiction;
- (2) To select and manage such staff and supervise the operation of such equipment as he or she may require;
- (3) To make such revisions to internal systems in each division as may be necessary to promote economy and facilitate maximum utilization of existing correctional services and facilities;
- (4) To cause any existing program and facilities to be utilized by or merged with those of any other division in order to provide for greater efficiency or achieve any economic advantage;
- (5) To provide the Legislature and the Governor technical assistance, advice, and information concerning administrative operations within his or her division;
- (6) To provide the Legislature and the Governor with recommendations for dealing with financial, management, and organization problems affecting his or her division. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically; and
- (7) To exercise all powers and perform all duties necessary and proper in carrying out his or her responsibilities.

Sec. 219. Section 83-963, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

83-963 The department shall prepare an annual report on committed offenders who are paroled or granted controlled release pursuant to the Correctional System Overcrowding Emergency Act. The report shall summarize each such former committed offender's behavior since parole and generally evaluate his or her success or lack of success in becoming a law-abiding member of society. The annual report shall be filed electronically with the Executive Board of the Legislative Council on or before December 31, with the first such report submitted by December 31 of the first year that committed offenders are paroled pursuant to the act. A notice of the filing of the report shall be submitted electronically to each member of the Legislature when the annual report is filed with the Executive Board.

Sec. 220. Section 83-1209, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

83-1209 To carry out the policies and purposes of the Developmental Disabilities Services Act, the director shall:

- (1) Ensure effective management by (a) determining whether applicants are eligible for specialized services, (b) authorizing service delivery for eligible persons, (c) ensuring that services are available, accessible, and coordinated, (d) ensuring that eligible persons have their needs assessed by a team process, have individual program plans developed by a team process to address assessed needs, which plans incorporate the input of the individual and the family, and have services delivered in accordance with the program plan, (e) having the amount of funding for specialized services determined by an objective assessment process, (f) providing information and referral services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families, (g) promoting the development of pilot projects of high quality, cost-efficient services provided by specialized programs, and (h) administering the Beatrice State Developmental Center;
- (2) Ensure a coordinated statewide response by (a) developing a comprehensive and integrated statewide plan for specialized services to persons with developmental disabilities in conjunction with state and local officials, designated advocates for such persons, service providers, and the

general public, (b) reporting biennially to the Legislature, the Governor, service providers, and the public on persons served and progress made toward meeting requirements of the plan, and (c) creating a statewide registry of persons eligible for specialized services. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(3) Ensure specialized services which are efficient and individualized by (a) developing a written policy which ensures the adequate and equitable distribution of fiscal resources based upon a consistent rationale for reimbursement that allows funding to follow service recipients as their service needs change and which also includes a plan for funding shortfalls and (b) administering all state and federal funds as may be allowed by law;

(4) Ensure maximum quality of services by (a) developing a due process mechanism for resolution of disputes, (b) coordinating the development of review teams designed to enhance the quality of specialized services, (c) developing certification and accreditation requirements for service providers, (d) providing technical assistance to local service providers, and (e) providing eligible persons, their families, and the designated protection and advocacy system authorized pursuant to the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. 15001 et seq., with copies of all reports resulting from surveys of providers of specialized services conducted as part of the certification and accreditation process; and

(5) Establish and staff a developmental disabilities division which shall assist in carrying out the policies and purposes of the Developmental Disabilities Services Act.

Sec. 221. Section 84-205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-205 The duties of the Attorney General shall be:

(1) To appear and defend actions and claims against the state;

(2) To investigate, commence, and prosecute any and all actions resulting from violations of sections 32-1401 to 32-1417;

(3) To consult with and advise the county attorneys, when requested by them, in all criminal matters and in matters relating to the public revenue. He or she shall have authority to require aid and assistance of the county attorney in all matters pertaining to the duties of the Attorney General in the county of such county attorney and may, in any case brought to the Court of Appeals or Supreme Court from any county, demand and receive the assistance of the county attorney from whose county such case is brought;

(4) To give, when required, without fee, his or her opinion in writing upon all questions of law submitted to him or her by the Governor, head of any executive department, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Public Accounts, Board of Educational Lands and Funds, State Department of Education, Public Service Commission, or Legislature;

(5) At the request of the Governor, head of any executive department, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Public Accounts, Board of Educational Lands and Funds, State Department of Education, or Public Service Commission, to prosecute any official bond or any contract in which the state is interested which is deposited with any of them and to prosecute or defend for the state all civil or criminal actions and proceedings relating to any matter connected with any of such officers' departments if, after investigation, he or she is convinced there is sufficient legal merit to justify the proceeding. Such officers shall not pay or contract to pay from the funds of the state any money for special attorneys or counselors-at-law unless the employment of such special counsel is made upon the written authorization of the Governor or the Attorney General;

(6) To enforce the proper application of money appropriated by the Legislature to the various funds of the state and prosecute breaches of trust in the administration of such funds;

(7) To prepare, when requested by the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, or Auditor of Public Accounts or any other executive department, proper drafts for contracts, forms, or other writings which may be wanted for the use of the state and report to the Legislature, whenever requested, upon any business pertaining to the duties of his or her office. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(8) To pay all money received, belonging to the people of the state, immediately upon receipt thereof, into the state treasury;

(9) To keep a record in proper books provided for that purpose at the expense of the state, a register of all actions and demands prosecuted or defended by him or her in behalf of the state and all proceedings had in relation thereto, and deliver the same to his or her successor in office;

(10) To appear for the state and prosecute and defend all civil or criminal actions and proceedings in the Court of Appeals or Supreme Court

in which the state is interested or a party. When requested by the Governor or the Legislature, the Attorney General shall appear for the state and prosecute or defend any action or conduct any investigation in which the state is interested or a party before any court, officer, board, tribunal, or commission;

(11) To prepare and promulgate model rules of procedure appropriate for use by as many agencies as possible. The Attorney General shall add to, amend, or revise the model rules as necessary for the proper guidance of agencies;

(12) To include within the budget of the office sufficient funding to assure oversight and representation of the State of Nebraska for district court appeals of administrative license revocation proceedings under section 60-498.04; and

(13) To create a Child Protection Division to be staffed by at least three assistant attorneys general who each have five or more years of experience in the prosecution or defense of felonies or misdemeanors, including two years in the prosecution or defense of crimes against children. Upon the written request of a county attorney, the division shall provide consultation and advise and assist in the preparation of the trial of any case involving a crime against a child, including, but not limited to, the following offenses:

- (a) Murder as defined in sections 28-303 and 28-304;
- (b) Manslaughter as defined in section 28-305;
- (c) Kidnapping as defined in section 28-313;
- (d) False imprisonment as defined in sections 28-314 and 28-315;
- (e) Child abuse as defined in section 28-707;
- (f) Pandering as defined in section 28-802;
- (g) Debauching a minor as defined in section 28-805; and
- (h) Offenses listed in sections 28-813, 28-813.01, and 28-1463.03.

Any offense listed in subdivisions (a) through (h) of this subdivision shall include all inchoate offenses pursuant to the Nebraska Criminal Code and compounding a felony pursuant to section 28-301. Such crimes shall not include matters involving dependent and neglected children, infraction violations, custody, parenting time, visitation, or other access matters, or child support. If the county attorney declines in writing to prosecute a case involving a crime against a child because of an ethical consideration, including the presence or appearance of a conflict of interest, or for any other reason, the division shall, upon the receipt of a written request of the county attorney, the Department of Health and Human Services, the minor child, the parents of the minor child, or any other interested party, investigate the matter and either decline to prosecute the matter or initiate the appropriate criminal proceedings in a court of proper jurisdiction.

For purposes of this subdivision, child or children shall mean an individual or individuals sixteen years of age or younger.

Sec. 222. Section 84-304, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-304 It shall be the duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts:

(1) To give information ~~in writing~~ electronically to the Legislature, whenever required, upon any subject relating to the fiscal affairs of the state or with regard to any duty of his or her office;

(2) To furnish offices for himself or herself and all fuel, lights, books, blanks, forms, paper, and stationery required for the proper discharge of the duties of his or her office;

(3) To examine or cause to be examined, at such time as he or she shall determine, books, accounts, vouchers, records, and expenditures of all state officers, state bureaus, state boards, state commissioners, the state library, societies and associations supported by the state, state institutions, state colleges, and the University of Nebraska, except when required to be performed by other officers or persons. Such examinations shall be done in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards for financial audits and attestation engagements set forth in Government Auditing Standards (2007 Revision), published by the Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office, and except as provided in subdivision (11) of this section, subdivision (16) of section 50-1205, and section 84-322, shall not include performance audits, whether conducted pursuant to attestation engagements or performance audit standards as set forth in Government Auditing Standards (2007 Revision), published by the Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office;

(4)(a) To examine or cause to be examined, at the expense of the political subdivision, when the Auditor of Public Accounts determines such examination necessary or when requested by the political subdivision, the

books, accounts, vouchers, records, and expenditures of any agricultural association formed under Chapter 2, article 20, any county agricultural society, any joint airport authority formed under the Joint Airport Authorities Act, any city or county airport authority, any bridge commission created pursuant to section 39-868, any cemetery district, any development district, any drainage district, any health district, any local public health department as defined in section 71-1626, any historical society, any hospital authority or district, any county hospital, any housing agency as defined in section 71-1575, any irrigation district, any county or municipal library, any community mental health center, any railroad transportation safety district, any rural water district, any township, Wyuka Cemetery, the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, any entity created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act which includes either the participation of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council or any educational service unit, any village, any political subdivision with the authority to levy a property tax or a toll, or any entity created pursuant to the Joint Public Agency Act which has separately levied a property tax based on legal authority for a joint public agency to levy such a tax independent of the public agencies forming such joint public agency.

(b) The Auditor of Public Accounts may waive the audit requirement of subdivision (4)(a) of this section upon the submission by the political subdivision of a written request in a form prescribed by the auditor. The auditor shall notify the political subdivision in writing of the approval or denial of the request for a waiver;

(5) To report promptly to the Governor and the appropriate standing committee of the Legislature the fiscal condition shown by such examinations conducted by the auditor, including any irregularities or misconduct of officers or employees, any misappropriation or misuse of public funds or property, and any improper system or method of bookkeeping or condition of accounts. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically. In addition, if, in the normal course of conducting an audit in accordance with subdivision (3) of this section, the auditor discovers any potential problems related to the effectiveness, efficiency, or performance of state programs, he or she shall immediately report them in writing electronically to the Legislative Performance Audit Committee which may investigate the issue further, report it electronically to the appropriate standing committee of the Legislature, or both;

(6)(a) To examine or cause to be examined the books, accounts, vouchers, records, and expenditures of a fire protection district. The expense of the examination shall be paid by the political subdivision.

(b) Whenever the expenditures of a fire protection district are one hundred fifty thousand dollars or less per fiscal year, the fire protection district shall be audited no more than once every five years except as directed by the board of directors of the fire protection district or unless the auditor receives a verifiable report from a third party indicating any irregularities or misconduct of officers or employees of the fire protection district, any misappropriation or misuse of public funds or property, or any improper system or method of bookkeeping or condition of accounts of the fire protection district. In the absence of such a report, the auditor may waive the five-year audit requirement upon the submission of a written request by the fire protection district in a form prescribed by the auditor. The auditor shall notify the fire protection district in writing of the approval or denial of a request for waiver of the five-year audit requirement. Upon approval of the request for waiver of the five-year audit requirement, a new five-year audit period shall begin.

(c) Whenever the expenditures of a fire protection district exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars in a fiscal year, the auditor may waive the audit requirement upon the submission of a written request by the fire protection district in a form prescribed by the auditor. The auditor shall notify the fire protection district in writing of the approval or denial of a request for waiver. Upon approval of the request for waiver, a new five-year audit period shall begin for the fire protection district if its expenditures are one hundred fifty thousand dollars or less per fiscal year in subsequent years;

(7) To appoint two assistant deputies (a) whose entire time shall be devoted to the service of the state as directed by the auditor, (b) who shall be certified public accountants with at least five years' experience, (c) who shall be selected without regard to party affiliation or to place of residence at the time of appointment, (d) who shall promptly report in duplicate to the auditor the fiscal condition shown by each examination, including any irregularities or misconduct of officers or employees, any misappropriation or misuse of public funds or property, and any improper system or method of

bookkeeping or condition of accounts, and it shall be the duty of the auditor to file promptly with the Governor a duplicate of such report, and (e) who shall qualify by taking an oath which shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State;

(8) To conduct audits and related activities for state agencies, political subdivisions of this state, or grantees of federal funds disbursed by a receiving agency on a contractual or other basis for reimbursement to assure proper accounting by all such agencies, political subdivisions, and grantees for funds appropriated by the Legislature and federal funds disbursed by any receiving agency. The auditor may contract with any political subdivision to perform the audit of such political subdivision required by or provided for in section 23-1608 or 79-1229 or this section and charge the political subdivision for conducting the audit. The fees charged by the auditor for conducting audits on a contractual basis shall be in an amount sufficient to pay the cost of the audit. The fees remitted to the auditor for such audits and services shall be deposited in the Auditor of Public Accounts Cash Fund;

(9) To conduct all audits and examinations in a timely manner and in accordance with the standards for audits of governmental organizations, programs, activities, and functions published by the Comptroller General of the United States;

(10) To develop and maintain an annual budget and actual financial information reporting system for political subdivisions that is accessible on-line by the public; and

(11) When authorized, to conduct joint audits with the Legislative Performance Audit Committee as described in section 50-1205.

Sec. 223. Section 84-322, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-322 The Auditor of Public Accounts, when expressly authorized by a majority vote of the members of the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, may conduct performance audits of state executive branch offices, state agencies, state bureaus, state boards, state commissions, the state library, societies and associations supported by the state, state institutions, state colleges, and the University of Nebraska. The auditor shall issue the performance audit report to the Governor, the appropriate standing committee of the Legislature, and the Legislative Performance Audit Committee. The report submitted to the committees of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 224. Section 84-602, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

84-602 It shall be the duty of the State Treasurer:

(1) To receive and keep all money of the state not expressly required to be received and kept by some other person;

(2) To disburse the public money upon warrants drawn upon the state treasury according to law and not otherwise;

(3) To keep a just, true, and comprehensive account of all money received and disbursed;

(4) To keep a just account with each fund, and each head of appropriation made by law, and the warrants drawn against them;

(5) To render a full statement to the Department of Administrative Services of all money received by him or her from whatever source, and if on account of revenue, for what year; of all penalties and interest on delinquent taxes reported or accounted for to him or her, and of all disbursements of public funds; with a list, in numerical order, of all warrants redeemed, the name of the payee, amount, interest, and total amount allowed thereon, and with the amount of the balance of the several funds unexpended; which statement shall be made on the first day of December, March, June, and September, and more often if required;

(6) To report electronically to the Legislature as soon as practicable, but within ten days after the commencement of each regular session, a detailed statement of the condition of the treasury and its operations for the preceding fiscal year;

(7) To give information ~~in writing~~ electronically to the Legislature, whenever required, upon any subject connected with the treasury or touching any duty of his or her office;

(8) To account for, and pay over, all money received by him or her as such treasurer, to his or her successor in office, and deliver all books, vouchers, and effects of office to him or her; and such successor shall receipt therefor. In accounting for and paying over such money the treasurer shall not be held liable on account of any loss occasioned by any investment, when such investment shall have been made pursuant to the direction of the state investment officer; and

(9) To develop and maintain a single, searchable web site with information on state tax receipts and expenditures which is accessible by the public at no cost to access as provided in section 84-602.02. The web site shall be hosted on a server owned and operated by the State of Nebraska or approved by the Chief Information Officer. The naming convention for the web site shall identify the web site as a state government web site. The web site shall not include the treasurer's name, the treasurer's image, the treasurer's seal, or a welcome message.

Sec. 225. Section 84-605, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-605 All the books, papers, letters, and transactions pertaining to the office of State Treasurer shall be open to the inspection of a committee of the Legislature to examine and settle all accounts, and to count all money. When ~~and~~ ~~when~~ the successor of any such treasurer shall be elected and qualified, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall examine and settle all accounts of such treasurer remaining unsettled, and give him or her a certified statement showing the balance of money, securities, and effects for which he or she is accountable, and which have been delivered to his or her successor, and report the same balance electronically to the Legislature.

Sec. 226. Section 84-702, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-702 ~~The state officers who are required by law to make biennial reports to the Clerk of the Legislature shall cause as many copies as they may determine proper to be printed and ready for distribution on or before the first day of the session of the Legislature.~~ Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of such a biennial report required to be submitted by a state officer to the Clerk of the Legislature by making a request for it to the state officer responsible for the report.

Sec. 227. Section 84-901.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

84-901.01 ~~On or after May 25, 2011, when~~ (1) When legislation is enacted requiring the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations by an agency, such agency shall adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations within one year after the public hearing required under subsection (2) of section 84-907. Such time shall not include the time necessary for submission of the rules and regulations to the Attorney General pursuant to section 84-905.01 or submission of the rules and regulations to the Governor pursuant to section 84-908. Any agency which does not adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as required by this section shall submit a written electronically an explanation to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council and the standing committee of the Legislature which has subject matter jurisdiction over the issue involved in the legislation, stating the reasons why it has not adopted such rules and regulations as required by this section, the date by which the agency expects to adopt such rules and regulations, and any suggested statutory changes that may enable the agency to adopt such rules and regulations.

(2) The changes made to the Administrative Procedure Act by Laws 2011, LB617, shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of a rule or regulation adopted prior to May 25, 2011.

Sec. 228. Section 84-907.06, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-907.06 Whenever an agency proposes to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule or regulation, (1) at least thirty days before the public hearing, when notice of a proposed rule or regulation is sent out, or (2) at the same time the agency applies to the Governor for a waiver of the notice of public hearing, the agency shall send electronically to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council (a) a copy of the hearing notice required by section 84-907, (b) if applicable, a draft copy of the rule or regulation, and (c) the information provided to the Governor pursuant to section 84-907.09.

Sec. 229. Section 84-910, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

84-910 On or before July 1 of each year, each agency shall provide electronically to the Legislative Performance Audit Committee a status report on all rules and regulations pending before the agency which have not been adopted and promulgated. If an additional appropriation was made with respect to legislation enacted to provide funding for or additional staff to implement a program for which rules and regulations are required to be adopted, the status report shall include what the funding has been used for and what functions the staff have been performing while such rules and regulations are pending. The format of the report shall be established by the committee no later than June 1, 2011, and shall be updated thereafter.

Sec. 230. Section 84-1205.05, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,

is amended to read:

84-1205.05 The board shall provide quarterly reports to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council and Nebraska Information Technology Commission on its activities pursuant to sections 84-1205 to 84-1205.04. The report submitted to the executive board shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 231. Section 84-1219, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-1219 The administrator shall prepare a biennial report on the status of programs established by ~~him~~ the administrator as provided in ~~sections 84-1201 to 84-1226,~~ the Records Management Act and on the progress made during the preceding biennium in implementing and effectuating such programs. Copies of this report shall be furnished the Governor, the Speaker of the Legislature, and such other officials and agencies as the Governor or the board shall direct. The report submitted to the Speaker of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 232. Section 84-1315, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-1315 It shall be the duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts to make an annual audit of the retirement system and an annual report to the retirement board and to the Clerk of the Legislature of the condition of the retirement system. The report submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. Each member of the Legislature shall receive a an electronic copy of the report required by this section by making a request for such report to either the Auditor of Public Accounts or the retirement board.

Sec. 233. Section 84-1617, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

84-1617 The personnel division of the Department of Administrative Services shall provide electronically an annual report to the Clerk of the Legislature. The report shall include the following information based on the prior fiscal year: (1) The number of temporary employees employed by the state; (2) the number of such temporary employees who were eligible for health insurance coverage pursuant to section 84-1601; (3) the number of such temporary employees who elected coverage; and (4) the average length of health insurance coverage for those temporary employees who elected coverage.

Sec. 234. Section 85-1412, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, is amended to read:

85-1412 The commission shall have the following additional powers and duties:

(1) Conduct surveys and studies as may be necessary to undertake the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403 and request information from governing boards and appropriate administrators of public institutions and other governmental agencies for research projects. All public institutions and governmental agencies receiving state funds shall comply with reasonable requests for information under this subdivision. Public institutions may comply with such requests pursuant to section 85-1417;

(2) Recommend to the Legislature and the Governor legislation it deems necessary or appropriate to improve postsecondary education in Nebraska and any other legislation it deems appropriate to change the role and mission provisions in sections 85-917 to 85-966.01. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(3) Establish any advisory committees as may be necessary to undertake the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403 or to solicit input from affected parties such as students, faculty, governing boards, administrators of the public institutions, administrators of the private nonprofit institutions of postsecondary education and proprietary institutions in the state, and community and business leaders regarding the coordination function of the commission;

(4) Participate in or designate an employee or employees to participate in any committee which may be created to prepare a coordinated plan for the delivery of educational programs and services in Nebraska through the telecommunications system;

(5) Seek a close liaison with the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education in recognition of the need for close coordination of activities between elementary and secondary education and postsecondary education;

(6) Administer the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System or other information system or systems to provide the commission with timely, comprehensive, and meaningful information pertinent to the exercise of its duties. The information system shall be designed to provide comparable data on each public institution. The commission shall also administer the uniform information system prescribed in sections 85-1421 to 85-1427 known as the Nebraska Educational Data System. Public institutions shall supply

the appropriate data for the information system or systems required by the commission;

(7) Administer the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act, and the Postsecondary Institution Act;

(8) Accept and administer loans, grants, and programs from the federal or state government and from other sources, public and private, for carrying out any of its functions, including the administration of privately endowed scholarship programs. Such loans and grants shall not be expended for any other purposes than those for which the loans and grants were provided. The commission shall determine eligibility for such loans, grants, and programs, and such loans and grants shall not be expended unless approved by the Governor;

(9) On or before December 1 of each even-numbered year, submit to the Legislature and the Governor a report of its objectives and activities and any new private colleges in Nebraska and the implementation of any recommendations of the commission for the preceding two calendar years. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(10) Provide staff support for interstate compacts on postsecondary education; and

(11) Request inclusion of the commission in any existing grant review process and information system; and

~~(12) In collaboration with the State Department of Education, public and private postsecondary educational institutions, private, denominational, or parochial secondary schools, educational service units, and school districts, conduct a study regarding the need for uniform policies and practices for dual-enrollment courses and career academies in Nebraska, including transferability of dual-enrollment courses and consistency of administration of career academies. The study shall also include a review of any program that provides Nebraska high school students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement through participation in courses and examinations administered by a not-for-profit organization and of the need for uniform policies and practices related to the acceptance and transferability of such courses and the college credit or advanced placement earned as a result of a student's performance on such examinations. The commission shall report the findings of such study and its recommendations, including recommendations for possible legislation, to the Legislature on or before December 15, 2011. For purposes of this subdivision, dual-enrollment course has the same definition as provided in section 79-1201.01.~~

Sec. 235. Section 85-1413, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

85-1413 (1) Pursuant to the authority granted in Article VII, section 14, of the Constitution of Nebraska and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, the commission shall establish and revise as needed a comprehensive statewide plan for postsecondary education which shall include (a) definitions of the role and mission of each public postsecondary educational institution within any general assignments of role and mission as prescribed in sections 85-917 to 85-966 and (b) a plan for facilities which utilize tax funds designated by the Legislature.

~~(2) Beginning on September 1, 1999, the commission shall work in consultation with the governing boards in revising the existing comprehensive statewide plan to reflect the role and mission of public postsecondary educational institutions and to articulate statewide goals. The process of reviewing and revising the plan shall be completed by January 1, 2001, if practicable.~~

~~(3) (2) The planning process of the commission (a) shall be policy-based and ongoing in order to achieve, within the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403, the best possible use of available state resources for high quality and accessible postsecondary educational services and (b) shall take into consideration (i) the needs of the state as described in subsection (4) (3) of this section, (ii) general assignments of role and mission for each public institution in sections 85-917 to 85-966, and (iii) plans for facilities which utilize tax funds designated by the Legislature.~~

~~(4) (3) In establishing the plan, the commission shall assess the postsecondary educational needs of the state in the following areas:~~

- ~~(a) The basic and continuing needs of various age groups;~~
- ~~(b) Business and industrial needs for a skilled work force;~~
- ~~(c) Demographic, social, and economic trends;~~
- ~~(d) The needs of the ethnic populations;~~
- ~~(e) College attendance, retention, and dropout rates;~~
- ~~(f) The needs of recent high school graduates and place-bound adults;~~

- (g) The needs of residents of all geographic regions; and
- (h) Any other areas the commission may designate.

~~(5)~~ (4) The plan shall provide a structure or process which encourages and facilitates harmonious and cooperative relationships between public and private postsecondary educational institutions and shall recognize the role and relationship of elementary and secondary education and private postsecondary educational institutions in the state to postsecondary education.

~~(6)~~ (5) The commission shall incorporate into the plan provisions and policies to guide decisionmaking by the commission pursuant to this section and sections 85-1414 and 85-1415. The provisions and policies shall address issues which include, but are not limited to:

(a) The facilitation of statewide transfer-of-credit guidelines to be considered by institutional governing boards. The statewide transfer-of-credit guidelines shall be designed to facilitate the transfer of students among public institutions. The statewide transfer-of-credit guidelines shall not require nor encourage the standardization of course content and shall not prescribe course content or credit value assigned by any public institution to the courses;

(b) Recommended guidelines for admissions which recognize selective and differentiated admission standards at public institutions and which are consistent with the role and mission of each public institution. It is the intent of the Legislature that changes in admission standards be implemented in conjunction with the role and mission statements established pursuant to this section and sections 85-917 to 85-966 and the adoption of statewide transfer-of-credit and remedial program policies to assure that access to postsecondary education is not limited;

(c) Recommended enrollment guidelines consistent with the role and mission of each public institution and specific recommendations designed to increase diversity through more effective enrollment and retention at public institutions;

(d) Recommended guidelines for rational and equitable statewide tuition rates and fees for public institutions. The commission shall identify public policy issues relating to tuition and fees of the public postsecondary educational institutions in the state. The recommended guidelines shall take into account the role and mission of each public institution and the need to maximize access to public postsecondary education regardless of a student's financial circumstance;

(e) In conjunction with and consistent with its recommended guidelines on admission standards, recommended guidelines which place the primary emphasis at the community college level for postsecondary education remedial programs and reduce the role of the University of Nebraska in offering remedial programs. The commission shall collaborate with the Commissioner of Education to develop recommendations for secondary schools designed to reduce the need for remedial or developmental programs at the postsecondary level;

(f) In consultation with the governing boards or their designated representatives, designation of geographic and programmatic service areas for each public institution consistent with role and mission assignments. Except as permitted by the commission pursuant to section 85-1414, ~~after July 1, 1992,~~ no public institution shall provide programs at any site outside its assigned geographic and programmatic service area unless permitted under rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the commission;

(g) After consultation with the governing boards and experts from outside the State of Nebraska, the establishment of a peer group or groups for each public institution for purposes of budget review. In fulfilling this charge, the commission may accept a peer group determined by a governing board in consultation with out-of-state experts;

(h) Effective use of information technologies and telecommunications to aid in the delivery of instruction at the postsecondary level. In cooperation with the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission, other state agencies, and, when appropriate, representatives of elementary and secondary public education, the commission may assist in the development of instructional delivery systems employing information technologies and telecommunications. The commission, with the involvement of faculties, public institutions and private postsecondary educational institutions, and the information technology and telecommunications community, shall establish policies to ensure that the objectives of quality and efficiency are met in the delivery of information technology and telecommunications-aided instruction;

(i) Workforce development. The commission shall explore methods to improve the competitive quality of the work force and shall encourage enhanced

communications and partnerships between public institutions and business and industry;

(j) Public service activities. The public institutions shall develop and provide to the commission a comprehensive inventory of public service programs and activities of public institutions; and

(k) Financial aid strategy. The commission shall develop a state strategy for state-supported student financial aid programs with the goal of assuring access to and choice in postsecondary education in Nebraska for Nebraska residents within the limits of available state resources.

~~(7)~~ (6) The commission shall develop a unified statewide facilities plan in consultation with the governing boards or their designated representatives and update the plan periodically.

~~(8)~~ (7) Prior to March 15 of the year following the year of adoption of the revised comprehensive statewide plan for postsecondary education required by subsection ~~(2)~~ of this section and prior to March 15 of the year following a year in which any revision is made to the comprehensive statewide plan, the Education Committee of the Legislature shall review the comprehensive statewide plan and revisions thereto at a public hearing and report its findings electronically to the Legislature.

Sec. 236. Section 85-1414, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

85-1414 (1) Pursuant to the authority granted in Article VII, section 14, of the Constitution of Nebraska and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, the commission shall establish an ongoing process to review, monitor, and approve or disapprove the new and existing programs of public institutions and proposed capital construction projects which utilize tax funds designated by the Legislature in order to provide compliance and consistency with the comprehensive statewide plan and to prevent unnecessary duplication. When complying with requests for information during the review, monitoring, and approval process, public institutions may comply pursuant to section 85-1417.

(2) (a) Governing boards shall submit to the commission all proposals for any new program after the governing board has approved the program and prior to implementation of the program. Except for programs submitted for conditional approval by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection, the commission shall have ninety days from the date the program was submitted to take action to approve or disapprove a program or it shall stand approved. The commission shall establish a waiver process for specific, short-term job training programs and short-term public service programs as defined by the commission. New programs submitted for review may be approved or disapproved in whole or in part and with or without recommended modifications based on criteria established pursuant to subsection (7) of this section.

(b) After approval of the program by the governing board, the governing board may submit a proposal for a program which is not authorized by the role and mission provisions of sections 85-917 to 85-966 to the commission for conditional approval. Within one hundred twenty days from its receipt of the proposal, the commission shall report electronically to the Legislature its recommendation in support for or opposition to the amendments to the role and mission statutes that would be necessary for the commission to approve the program and for the institution to offer the program. The time period for submission of the report may be extended for up to an additional ninety days by resolution of the commission which shall show good cause why the extent of review required for this particular proposal necessitates an extension of time to complete the review. Such extension shall be filed electronically with the chairperson of the Education Committee of the Legislature prior to the expiration of the initial one hundred twenty days. The report shall contain supporting rationale for the commission's position, such additional comments as the commission deems appropriate and, in the event the commission supports the amendments to the role and mission statutes, the commission's specific recommendation as to the form of such amendments. If the report indicates support for the necessary amendments to the role and mission statutes, the report shall also constitute the commission's conditional approval of the program, unless the report specifically indicates disapproval of the program. If the necessary amendments to the role and mission statutes supported by the commission in its report to the Legislature are subsequently enacted by the Legislature, the program shall stand approved. Nothing in this section for conditional approval shall be construed to affect the commission's future consideration of such proposal or approval or disapproval of any programs affected by the proposal.

(3) Following approval of a new program, such program shall be added to the schedule of existing programs to be reviewed by the commission.

Following consultation with the governing board, new programs approved by the commission may also be required to meet, within a reasonable time as stipulated by the commission, minimum performance standards established by the commission pursuant to its rules and regulations. If a program fails to meet minimum performance standards, the commission shall review the program and may continue or withdraw its approval for the program.

(4) Existing programs shall be reviewed by the commission pursuant to a program review process established by the commission in consultation with the governing boards or their designated representatives which, to the extent possible while still allowing for timely review by the commission, shall coincide with institutional review and accreditation cycles. In reviewing existing programs, the commission may make use of nonconfidential information and conclusions provided by accreditation processes supplied to the commission by the institutions. All programs in existence prior to January 1, 1992, shall be considered approved until the approval is confirmed or withdrawn by the commission pursuant to the program review process conducted by the commission.

(5) Existing programs which do not meet criteria established by the commission pursuant to subsection (7) of this section shall be targeted for indepth review by the public institutions and their governing boards. In performing such indepth review, institutions may make use of information and conclusions provided by accreditation and other established and ongoing academic review processes rather than providing for a separate review process. Programs continued by the governing boards shall be further monitored by the governing board which shall report the status and process of the monitoring to the commission. If the commission determines that a program does not merit continuation, it shall hold a public hearing, following thirty days' notice to the public institution, to consider if the program should be continued. Following the hearing, the commission shall take action to approve or disapprove continuance of the program.

(6) Existing programs disapproved for continuance by the commission shall be terminated by a public institution when all students in the program on the date of the decision of the commission to disapprove continuance of the program have had a reasonable opportunity, as determined by the governing board of the public institution, to complete the program. Existing public service programs disapproved for continuance by the commission shall be terminated at the end of the fiscal year in which the decision to disapprove is made.

(7) The commission shall establish criteria for the review, monitoring, and approval or disapproval of programs. The governing boards of the public institutions shall be responsible for assuring the quality and effectiveness of programs offered by their institutions. The commission's criteria shall be designed to (a) meet educational needs and (b) assure efficiency and avoid unnecessary duplication. Criteria shall include:

- (i) Centrality to the role and mission of the public institution;
- (ii) Consistency with the comprehensive statewide plan;
- (iii) Evidence of need and demand; and
- (iv) Adequacy of resources to support proposed new programs.

The criteria shall not infringe on the prerogative of the governing boards to make decisions on the quality of staff and the design of curriculum.

(8) The commission shall develop specific criteria for review, monitoring, and approval or disapproval of participation by any public institution in proposed or existing education centers in addition to the criteria specified in this section. Participation by a public institution in an education center shall also be approved by the governing board of such public institution. The commission shall develop policies and procedures for conducting and approving off-campus programming in an education center.

(9) Each public institution shall submit its most recent institutional facilities plan to the commission subject to commission guidelines for the format and content of such plans. The commission shall (a) review each institutional facilities plan to ensure (i) consistency with the comprehensive statewide plan, statewide facilities plan, and institutional role and mission assignments and (ii) identification of unnecessary duplication of facilities and (b) make a written report of its review to the governing board of the public institution within ninety days after receipt of the institutional facilities plan. The commission may, in accordance with the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403, recommend modifications to the institutional facilities plans and may require submission of periodic updates of the institutional facilities plans.

(10) Governing boards shall submit all proposed capital construction projects which utilize tax funds designated by the Legislature to the commission for review and approval or disapproval. The commission shall, in accordance with the coordination function of the commission pursuant

to section 85-1403, review, monitor, and approve or disapprove each such capital construction project to provide compliance and consistency with the statewide facilities plan and the comprehensive statewide plan and to prevent unnecessary duplication of capital facilities. The commission may disapprove a project only on the basis of a finding by the commission that the project (a) does not comply or is inconsistent with one or more provisions of the statewide facilities plan or other relevant provisions of the comprehensive statewide plan or (b) will result in unnecessary duplication of capital facilities.

(11) In fulfilling its program and project approval activities prescribed in this section, the commission shall, in accordance with the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403, recognize educational activities among all segments of postsecondary education and take into account the educational programs, facilities, and other resources of both public and independent and private postsecondary educational institutions.

(12) Any program which is authorized by action of the Legislature or a governing board and which is not in existence prior to January 1, 1992, shall not become operative unless and until such program has been approved by the commission pursuant to this section.

Sec. 237. Section 85-1415, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

85-1415 (1) Consistent with the authority granted to the Legislature pursuant to Article XIII, section 1, of the Constitution of Nebraska, the commission shall review all capital construction projects proposed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges pursuant to sections 85-404 and 85-408 and by any nonprofit corporation created by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska or the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges when (a) state general funds, (b) funds received by the University of Nebraska or any state college for the purposes of reimbursing overhead costs and expenses in connection with any federal or other grant or contract, (c) tuition, or (d) the state's operating investment pool investment income constitute all or any part of the funds used for the repayment of all or any part of the bonds of such nonprofit corporation. Such boards shall submit all such projects, including applicable financing plans, to the commission for review.

(2) Within sixty days ~~from~~ after the date of submission of a proposed project, the commission shall take action by recommending that the Legislature or the Executive Board of the Legislative Council either approve or disapprove the project. Following such action by the commission, each such proposed project together with the commission's recommendation of approval or disapproval shall be submitted electronically by the board concerned to the Legislature or to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council. The Legislature or, if the Legislature is not in session, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall thereafter take action to approve or disapprove the proposed project.

Sec. 238. Section 85-1416, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

85-1416 (1) Pursuant to the authority granted in Article VII, section 14, of the Constitution of Nebraska and the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education Act, the commission shall, in accordance with the coordination function of the commission pursuant to section 85-1403, review and modify, if needed to promote compliance and consistency with the comprehensive statewide plan and prevent unnecessary duplication, the budget requests of the governing boards.

(2)(a) At least thirty days prior to submitting to the Governor their biennial budget requests pursuant to section 81-1113 and any major deficit appropriation requests pursuant to instructions of the Department of Administrative Services, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall each submit to the commission an outline of its proposed operating budget. The outline of its proposed operating budget or outline of proposed state aid request shall include those information summaries provided to the institution's governing board describing the respective institution's budget for the next fiscal year or biennium. The outline shall contain projections of funds necessary for (i) the retention of current programs and services at current funding levels, (ii) any inflationary costs necessary to maintain current programs and services at the current programmatic or service levels, and (iii) proposed new and expanded programs and services. In addition to the outline, the commission may request an institution to provide to the commission any other supporting information to assist the commission in its budget review process. An institution may comply with such requests pursuant to section 85-1417.

(b) On September 15 of each biennial budget request year, the boards

of governors of the community colleges or their designated representatives shall submit to the commission outlines of their proposed state aid requests.

(c) The commission shall analyze institutional budget priorities in light of the comprehensive statewide plan, role and mission assignments, and the goal of prevention of unnecessary duplication. The commission shall submit to the Governor and Legislature by October 15 of each year recommendations for approval or modification of the budget requests together with a rationale for its recommendations. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The analysis and recommendations by the commission shall focus on budget requests for new and expanded programs and services and major statewide funding issues or initiatives as identified in the comprehensive statewide plan. If an institution does not comply with the commission's request pursuant to subdivision (a) of this subsection for additional budget information, the commission may so note the refusal and its specific information request in its report of budget recommendations. The commission shall also provide to the Governor and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on or before October 1 of each even-numbered year a report identifying public policy issues relating to student tuition and fees, including the appropriate relative differentials of tuition and fee levels between the sectors of public postsecondary education in the state consistent with the comprehensive statewide plan. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically.

(3) At least thirty days prior to submitting to the Governor their biennial budget requests pursuant to section 81-1113 and any major deficit appropriation requests pursuant to instructions of the Department of Administrative Services, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall each submit to the commission information the commission deems necessary regarding each board's capital construction budget requests. The commission shall review the capital construction budget request information and may recommend to the Governor and the Legislature modification, approval, or disapproval of such requests consistent with the statewide facilities plan and any project approval determined pursuant to subsection (10) of section 85-1414 and to section 85-1415. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The commission shall develop from a statewide perspective a unified prioritization of individual capital construction budget requests for which it has recommended approval and submit such prioritization to the Governor and the Legislature for their consideration. The prioritization submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. In establishing its prioritized list, the commission may consider and respond to the priority order established by the Board of Regents or the Board of Trustees in their respective capital construction budget requests.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect other constitutional, statutory, or administrative requirements for the submission of budget or state aid requests by the governing boards to the Governor and the Legislature.

Sec. 239. Section 85-1429, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

85-1429 On or before March 15 of each year, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education shall provide electronically a report that evaluates progress toward attainment of the priorities listed in subdivision (3) of section 85-1428. The Education Committee of the Legislature shall review the report at a public hearing and report its findings electronically to the Legislature.

Sec. 240. Section 85-1807, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

85-1807 (1) The State Treasurer shall deposit money received by the Nebraska educational savings plan trust into three funds: The College Savings Plan Program Fund, the College Savings Plan Expense Fund, and the College Savings Plan Administrative Fund. The State Treasurer shall deposit money received by the trust into the appropriate fund. The State Treasurer and Accounting Administrator of the Department of Administrative Services shall determine the state fund types necessary to comply with section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code and state policy. The money in the funds shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to policies established by the Nebraska Investment Council. The program fund, the expense fund, and the administrative fund shall be separately administered. The Nebraska educational savings plan trust shall be operated with no General Fund appropriations.

(2) All money paid by participants in connection with participation agreements and all investment income earned on such money shall be deposited as received into separate accounts within the program fund. Contributions to

the trust made by participants may only be made in the form of cash. All funds generated in connection with participation agreements shall be deposited into the appropriate accounts within the program fund. A participant or beneficiary shall not provide investment direction regarding program contributions or earnings held by the trust. Money accrued by participants in the program fund may be used for payments to any institution of higher education.

(3) The College Savings Plan Administrative Fund is created. Money from the trust transferred from the expense fund to the administrative fund in an amount authorized by an appropriation from the Legislature shall be utilized to pay for the costs of administering, operating, and maintaining the trust, to the extent permitted by section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code. The administrative fund shall not be credited with any money other than money transferred from the expense fund in an amount authorized by an appropriation by the Legislature or any interest income earned on the balances held in the administrative fund. ~~The State Treasurer shall transfer any money in the administrative fund on July 1, 2010, to the expense fund on July 1, 2010, or as soon as administratively possible.~~ Any money in the administrative 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) The College Savings Plan Expense Fund is created. The expense fund shall be used to pay costs associated with the Nebraska educational savings plan trust and shall be funded with fees assessed to the program fund. The State Treasurer shall transfer from the expense fund to the State Investment Officer's Cash Fund an amount equal to the pro rata share of the budget appropriated to the Nebraska Investment Council as permitted in section 72-1249.02, to cover reasonable expenses incurred for investment management of the Nebraska educational savings plan trust. Annually and prior to such transfer to the State Investment Officer's Cash Fund, the State Treasurer shall report to the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services and to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst the amounts transferred during the previous fiscal year. ~~The State Treasurer shall transfer any money in the endowment fund on July 1, 2010, to the expense fund on such date. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.~~ Transfers may be made from the expense fund to the General Fund at the direction of the Legislature. Any money in the expense 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. 241. Section 85-1811, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

85-1811 (1) The State Treasurer shall submit an annual audited financial report, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, on the operations of the Nebraska educational savings plan trust by November 1 to the Governor and the Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The State Treasurer shall cause the audit to be made either by the Auditor of Public Accounts or by an independent certified public accountant designated by the State Treasurer, and the audit shall include direct and indirect costs attributable to the use of outside consultants, independent contractors, and any other persons who are not state employees.

(2) The annual audit shall be supplemented by all of the following information prepared by the State Treasurer:

(a) Any related studies or evaluations prepared in the preceding year;

(b) A summary of the benefits provided by the trust, including the number of participants and beneficiaries in the trust; and

(c) Any other information which is relevant in order to make a full, fair, and effective disclosure of the operations of the trust, including the investment performance of the funds.

Sec. 242. Section 85-2106, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

85-2106 The commission shall prepare an annual report on scholarships awarded pursuant to the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act and shall submit the report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the number and amount of scholarships awarded, the postsecondary educational institutions attended by scholarship recipients, and information regarding the success of scholarship recipients in the courses for which the scholarships were awarded.

Sec. 243. Section 86-163, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

86-163 The commission shall file with the Clerk of the Legislature an annual report on or before September 30 of each year on the status of

the Nebraska telecommunications industry. The report ~~may~~ shall be submitted in electronic format. The report shall:

- (1) Describe the quality of telecommunications service being provided to the citizens of Nebraska;
- (2) Describe the availability of diverse and affordable telecommunications service to all of the people of Nebraska;
- (3) Describe the level of telecommunications service rates;
- (4) Describe the use and continued need for the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund;
- (5) Describe the availability and location of 911 service and E-911 service as required by section 86-437;
- (6) Describe the availability and location of wireless 911 service or enhanced wireless 911 service as required by section 86-460;
- (7) Address the need for further legislation to achieve the purposes of the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act; and
- (8) Address the funding level of the Nebraska Competitive Telephone Marketplace Fund and an accounting of commission expenses related to its duties under section 86-127.

Sec. 244. Section 86-516, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

86-516 The commission shall:

- (1) Annually by July 1, adopt policies and procedures used to develop, review, and annually update a statewide technology plan;
- (2) Create an information technology clearinghouse to identify and share best practices and new developments, as well as identify existing problems and deficiencies;
- (3) Review and adopt policies to provide incentives for investments in information technology infrastructure services;
- (4) Determine a broad strategy and objectives for developing and sustaining information technology development in Nebraska, including long-range funding strategies, research and development investment, support and maintenance requirements, and system usage and assessment guidelines;
- (5) Adopt guidelines regarding project planning and management and administrative and technical review procedures involving state-owned or state-supported technology and infrastructure. Governmental entities, state agencies, and noneducation political subdivisions shall submit all projects which use any combination of general funds, federal funds, or cash funds for information technology purposes to the process established by sections 86-512 to 86-524. The commission may adopt policies that establish the format and minimum requirements for project submissions. The commission may monitor the progress of any such project and may require progress reports;
- (6) Adopt minimum technical standards, guidelines, and architectures upon recommendation by the technical panel. Such standards and guidelines shall not unnecessarily restrict the use of new technologies or prevent commercial competition, including competition with Network Nebraska;
- (7) Establish ad hoc technical advisory groups to study and make recommendations on specific topics, including workgroups to establish, coordinate, and prioritize needs for education, local communities, intergovernmental data communications, and state agencies;
- (8) By November 15 of each even-numbered year, make recommendations on technology investments to the Governor and the Legislature, including a prioritized list of projects, reviewed by the technical panel pursuant to section 86-521. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;
- (9) Approve grants from the Community Technology Fund and Government Technology Collaboration Fund;
- (10) Adopt schedules and procedures for reporting needs, priorities, and recommended projects;
- (11) Assist the Chief Information Officer in developing and maintaining Network Nebraska pursuant to section 86-5,100; and
- (12) Determine the format that state agencies, boards, and commissions shall use to report their information technology plans under section 86-524.01. The commission shall include an analysis of such plans in the statewide technology plan.

Sec. 245. Section 86-518, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

86-518 By November 15 of each even-numbered year, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission shall submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 246. Section 86-530, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

86-530 The Chief Information Officer shall report annually to the Governor and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on the status of enterprise projects. The report submitted to the committee shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 247. Section 86-572, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

86-572 The Geographic Information Systems Council shall:

(1) Make recommendations to the Legislature and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission for program initiatives and funding. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically;

(2) Establish guidelines and policies for statewide Geographic Information Systems operations and management to include:

(a) The acquisition, development, maintenance, quality assurance such as standards, access, ownership, cost recovery, and priorities of data bases;

(b) The compatibility, acquisition, and communications of hardware and software;

(c) The assessment of needs, identification of scope, setting of standards, and determination of an appropriate enforcement mechanism;

(d) The fostering of training programs and promoting education and information about Geographic Information Systems; and

(e) The promoting of Geographic Information Systems development in the State of Nebraska and providing or coordinating additional support to address Geographic Information Systems issues as such issues arise;

(3) Report to, assist, and advise the Chief Information Officer in setting information technology policy; and

(4) Provide assistance as requested by the commission and support the technical panel created in section 86-521.

Sec. 248. Section 86-5,100, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

86-5,100 The Chief Information Officer, in partnership with the University of Nebraska, shall develop and maintain a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network to be called Network Nebraska. The network shall consist of contractual arrangements with providers to meet the demand of state agencies, local governments, and educational entities as defined in section 79-1201.01. Such network shall provide access to a reliable and affordable infrastructure capable of carrying a spectrum of services and applications, including distance education, across the state. The Chief Information Officer shall provide access to each school district, each educational service unit, each community college, each state college, and the University of Nebraska at the earliest feasible date and no later than July 1, 2012. Access may be provided through educational service units or other aggregation points. Participation in Network Nebraska shall not be required for any educational entity. The Chief Information Officer shall aggregate demand for those state agencies and educational entities choosing to participate and shall reduce costs for participants whenever feasible. The Chief Information Officer shall establish a cost structure based on actual costs, including necessary administrative expenses but not including administrative travel or conference expenses, and shall charge participants according to such cost structure. The Chief Information Officer shall annually provide a detailed report of such costs to each participant and to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst. The report submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall be submitted electronically.

Sec. 249. Section 90-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

90-309 (1) The Nebraska State Capitol Environs Commission shall meet at least annually with the Nebraska Capitol Commission to discuss and coordinate projects that may impact the capitol and its surrounding environs pursuant to section 81-1108.38.

(2) The Nebraska State Capitol Environs Commission shall report each January to the city council and mayor of the city of Lincoln, to the Legislature, and to the Governor. The report submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically. The report shall review the major decisions rendered during the preceding year and outline the rationale for the decisions. The report may also survey the status of the Nebraska State Capitol Environs District and make recommendations for its enhancement and protection.

Sec. 250. Sections 70, 71, 72, and 251 of this act become operative on January 1, 2015. The other sections of this act become operative three calendar months after the adjournment of this legislative session.

Sec. 251. Original sections 49-1483, 49-1483.03, and 49-1488,

Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.

Sec. 252. Original sections 2-15,106, 2-2812, 2-4245, 2-5303, 3-801, 9-1,105, 9-809, 9-811.01, 11-203, 13-1205, 13-2114, 18-2117.01, 20-325, 23-2313, 24-704, 24-705, 24-1205, 24-1206, 25-1809, 25-2920, 29-2252.01, 35-1207, 37-327.01, 37-352, 38-1216, 39-1111, 39-1365.02, 39-1391, 39-1392, 42-930, 43-405, 43-512.11, 43-1905, 43-2412, 43-3326, 43-3342.04, 43-3402, 44-113, 44-7507, 46-1304, 46-1305, 48-1,104, 48-1,118, 48-606, 48-621, 48-1117, 48-1625, 48-2213, 48-2307, 48-2909, 49-770, 49-904, 49-1492.01, 50-114.03, 50-405, 50-413, 50-1205, 50-1210, 50-1211, 50-1302, 54-642, 54-2428, 58-246, 58-270, 66-4,144, 66-1336, 68-959, 68-1207.01, 68-1518, 69-503, 69-2409, 69-2423, 71-219.03, 71-707, 71-810, 71-816, 71-825, 71-827, 71-830, 71-1134, 71-1628.05, 71-1628.07, 71-17,115, 71-1904, 71-2516, 71-3407, 71-4728, 71-4741, 71-51,103, 71-5206.01, 71-5210, 71-5322, 71-6226, 71-7611, 71-8313, 71-8613, 71-8804, 72-240.26, 72-813, 72-1278, 72-1710, 73-305, 76-1521, 77-385, 77-3,116, 77-4110, 77-4933, 77-5204, 77-5210, 77-5214, 77-5412, 77-5542, 77-5544, 77-5731, 79-760.03, 79-909, 79-976, 79-1905, 81-106, 81-166, 81-187, 81-638, 81-650, 81-6,116, 81-829.43, 81-829.47, 81-829.56, 81-830, 81-8,226, 81-8,239.05, 81-8,251, 81-8,300, 81-1107.05, 81-1108.15, 81-1108.22, 81-1108.31, 81-1108.41, 81-1114, 81-1114.01, 81-1114.02, 81-1117, 81-1120.15, 81-1120.16, 81-1125.01, 81-1307.01, 81-1360, 81-1376, 81-1504.01, 81-15,153, 81-1606, 81-1607, 81-1637, 81-1845, 81-2004.04, 81-2022, 81-2023, 81-2213, 81-2233, 81-2408, 82-333, 83-4,147, 83-924, 83-963, 84-205, 84-304, 84-322, 84-605, 84-702, 84-907.06, 84-1205.05, 84-1219, 84-1315, 84-1617, 85-1413, 85-1414, 85-1415, 85-1429, 85-1811, 86-163, 86-518, 86-530, 86-572, and 90-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 2-111, 2-968, 2-1588, 2-3226.01, 4-113, 9-1,101, 13-1210, 20-504, 25-3309, 28-429, 43-2404.02, 68-908, 70-1003, 79-527.01, 79-2118, 81-1833, 83-1209, 84-602, 85-1416, 85-1807, 85-2106, 86-516, and 86-5,100, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and sections 23-362, 29-2252, 37-919, 43-3720, 44-4225, 47-624, 50-417, 54-857, 61-218, 66-1345, 68-909, 68-971, 68-1017.02, 71-529, 71-7606, 77-367, 77-6309, 79-318, 79-722, 79-759, 79-760.05, 79-8,139, 79-987, 79-1007.07, 79-1022, 79-1103, 79-2104.02, 81-8,239.02, 81-1108.33, 81-1201.11, 81-1201.13, 81-12,142, 81-12,151, 81-12,166, 81-1384, 81-1505.04, 81-15,175, 84-901.01, 84-910, and 85-1412, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011, are repealed.

Sec. 253. The following sections are outright repealed: Sections 2-5304, 3-806, 50-422, 71-5213, 81-12,122, and 85-1,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, section 71-465, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, and section 54-1916, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2011.