

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1055

Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

Read first time January 18, 2022

Committee: Appropriations

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate federal
- 2 funds to the Department of Health and Human Services; and to declare
- 3 an emergency.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) There is hereby appropriated \$50,000,000 from
2 Federal Funds for FY2022-23 to the Department of Health and Human
3 Services for the purposes described in subsection (2) of this section.
4 The Federal Funds appropriated in this section are from the funds
5 allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State
6 Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of
7 2021, Public Law 117-2, Subtitle M, Sec. 9901.

8 (2)(a) The Department of Health and Human Services shall create a
9 program to provide grants to any hospital that employs a front-line
10 nurse. Such grants shall be used to provide a premium-pay bonus to such
11 front-line nurse.

12 (b) A hospital or federally-qualified health center is eligible for
13 a grant pursuant to this section if:

14 (i) The hospital or federally-qualified health center employs a
15 front-line nurse in Nebraska;

16 (ii) The hospital or federally-qualified health center identifies in
17 the application for the grant the front-line nurse who will receive the
18 premium-pay bonus; and

19 (iii) Such front-line nurse is not a professional traveling nurse on
20 contract.

21 (c) A hospital or federally-qualified health center that receives a
22 grant under this section shall use the funds to provide a premium-pay
23 bonus to the front-line nurse identified in the application for the
24 grant.

25 (d) Grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be based on the
26 number of full-time-equivalent front-line nurses employed by the hospital
27 or federally-qualified health center and not be for more than five
28 thousand dollars per front-line nurse.

29 (e) For purposes of this section:

30 (i) Federally-qualified health center as defined in section 42
31 U.S.C. 1396d(1)(2)(B), as such act existed on January 1, 2022;

1 (ii) Front-line nurse means a nurse with direct patient-care
2 responsibilities; and

3 (iii) Hospital has the same meaning as in section 71-419.

4 Sec. 2. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
5 passed and approved according to law.