

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1183

Introduced by Aguilar, 35.

Read first time January 19, 2022

Committee: Appropriations

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

1 Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds and declares that:

2 (a) Nebraska's seven federally qualified health centers are
3 nonprofit, community-based organizations that provide comprehensive high-
4 quality primary care and preventive care, including medical, dental,
5 behavioral health, and pharmacy services and support services to low-
6 income families, members of racial and ethnic minority groups, the
7 uninsured, and rural residents; and

8 (b) The COVID-19 public health emergency has had a disproportionate
9 impact on Nebraskans who are served by federally qualified health
10 centers.

11 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$25,000,000
12 Federal Funds for FY2022-23 to the Department of Health and Human
13 Services, Program 502, Public Health Aid, to be distributed as grants as
14 provided in subsection (3) of this section to federally qualified health
15 centers as defined in Federal Program 330, Public Law 104-299, the
16 federal Health Centers Consolidation Act of 1996. The Federal Funds to be
17 appropriated under this section are from the funds allocated to the State
18 of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund
19 pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law
20 117-2, Subtitle M, Sec. 9901.

21 (3) The department shall distribute the funds as grants to federally
22 qualified health centers for costs associated with capital projects that
23 will expand health care access to Nebraskans most impacted by the
24 COVID-19 public health emergency. The grants shall be made to Charles
25 Drew Health Center, One World Community Health Center, East Central
26 District Health Department - Good Neighbor Community Health Center,
27 Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska Health Center, Midtown
28 Community Health Center, Bluestem Health, and Heartland Health Center.

29 (4) For purposes of this section:

30 (a) Capital project means a construction project to build, expand,
31 or develop a new or existing facility or facilities or restoration work

1 on a facility; and

2 (b) Cost, in the context of a capital project, means the cost of
3 land, engineering, architectural planning, contract services,
4 construction, materials, and equipment needed to complete the capital
5 project.

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