

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1224**

Introduced by Wayne, 13.

Read first time January 20, 2022

Committee: Appropriations

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

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

2           (a) The tourism industry in Nebraska has been adversely impacted by  
3 the COVID-19 public health emergency;

4           (b) The COVID-19 public health emergency has resulted in fewer  
5 tourism dollars being spent in Nebraska;

6           (c) The primary reasons for fewer tourism dollars being spent in  
7 Nebraska are (i) fewer people traveling for vacation, (ii) the strain on  
8 budgets resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency, and (iii)  
9 uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 public health emergency;

10           (d) New and upgraded tourism attractions are needed to bolster the  
11 tourism industry and bring people to various destinations across the  
12 state; and

13           (e) Recent price inflation hampers new and upgraded tourism  
14 attraction efforts.

15           (2) There is hereby appropriated \$100,000,000 from Federal Funds for  
16 FY2022-23 to the Department of Economic Development for the purposes  
17 described in subsection (3) of this section. The Federal Funds  
18 appropriated in this section are from the funds allocated to the State of  
19 Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant  
20 to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2,  
21 Subtitle M, Sec. 9901.

22           (3)(a) The Department of Economic Development shall provide grants  
23 for new and upgraded tourism attractions.

24           (b) Any award of a grant pursuant to this section shall be  
25 coordinated and administered by the Department of Economic Development in  
26 compliance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

27           (c) The recipient of a grant pursuant to this section shall only  
28 spend the grant in compliance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act  
29 of 2021.

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