

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1270

Introduced by Clements, 2; McDonnell, 5.

Read first time January 20, 2022

Committee: Judiciary

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to law enforcement officers; to adopt the Law
- 2 Enforcement Attraction and Retention Act.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the Law Enforcement Attraction and Retention Act.

3 Sec. 2. (1) The Legislature finds that:

4 (a) The State of Nebraska and cities and counties in this state have
5 experienced a dramatic decrease in applications for law enforcement
6 officer positions;

7 (b) Law enforcement officers in Nebraska are leaving the law
8 enforcement profession;

9 (c) Law enforcement agencies are not retaining law enforcement
10 officers at a rate sufficient to ensure public safety;

11 (d) Law enforcement officers are the critical element of public
12 safety in Nebraska communities; and

13 (e) Maintaining a robust law enforcement workforce is in the best
14 interests of all Nebraskans.

15 (2) The purpose of the Law Enforcement Attraction and Retention Act
16 is to provide financial incentives to attract and retain law enforcement
17 officers.

18 Sec. 3. (1) The Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council shall
19 accept applications for incentive payments from individual law
20 enforcement officers in Nebraska.

21 (2) To be eligible for a tier 1 incentive payment, a law enforcement
22 officer must have begun his or her employment as a law enforcement
23 officer on or after the effective date of this act and must have
24 completed twelve months of employment as a law enforcement officer. The
25 tier 1 incentive payment shall be equal to one thousand dollars. No law
26 enforcement officer shall receive more than one tier 1 incentive payment.

27 (3) To be eligible for a tier 2 incentive payment, a law enforcement
28 officer must have begun his or her employment as a law enforcement
29 officer on or after the effective date of this act and must have
30 completed five years of employment as a law enforcement officer. The tier
31 2 incentive payment shall be equal to two thousand dollars. No law

1 enforcement officer shall receive more than one tier 2 incentive payment.

2 Sec. 4. (1) The Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council shall
3 accept applications for grants from law enforcement agencies in Nebraska.

4 The grants shall be used to provide hiring bonuses to newly hired law
5 enforcement officers.

6 (2) A law enforcement agency shall be eligible for a grant under
7 this section if:

8 (a) The law enforcement agency is not at the recommended level of
9 staffing under standards set by the council; or

10 (b) The law enforcement agency experiences a twenty percent loss of
11 law enforcement officers during the most recently completed fiscal year
12 or a thirty-three percent loss of law enforcement officers over the
13 course of the three most recently completed fiscal years.

14 Sec. 5. The Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council may adopt
15 and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Law Enforcement
16 Attraction and Retention Act.

17 Sec. 6. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate ten
18 million dollars each fiscal year to the Nebraska Police Standards
19 Advisory Council for purposes of carrying out the Law Enforcement
20 Attraction and Retention Act.