

AMENDMENTS TO LB648

Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new  
2 sections:

3           Section 1. Section 79-2304, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
4 amended to read:

5           79-2304 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate seven  
6 hundred fifty thousand dollars from the General Fund for fiscal years  
7 2013-14 and 2014-15, and any amount determined by the Legislature for any  
8 fiscal year thereafter, to the State Department of Education. Such funds  
9 shall be used by the department to provide assistance to institutions  
10 that offer high school equivalency programs and for expanding services  
11 and programs to support the completion of the general educational test.  
12 Each such institution shall offer to eligible individuals adult dropout  
13 recovery services, including recruitment and learning plan development,  
14 and provide proactive coaching and mentoring to such individuals,  
15 culminating in qualification for a high school diploma. For purposes of  
16 this section, eligible individuals include adults and out-of-school  
17 youths sixteen years of age or older who are not enrolled or required to  
18 be enrolled in secondary school under state law and who have not  
19 previously earned a high school diploma or diploma of high school  
20 equivalency. Assistance shall be provided based on participation in an  
21 institution's high school equivalency program as follows:

22           (a) Each such institution shall receive one assistance payment for  
23 each participant who enrolled in its high school equivalency program in  
24 the most recently completed fiscal year;

25           (b) Each such institution shall receive one assistance payment for  
26 each enrolled participant who took an initial examination for a diploma  
27 of high school equivalency in the most recently completed fiscal year;

1 and

2 (c) Each such institution shall receive one assistance payment for  
3 each participant not enrolled in the institution's high school  
4 equivalency program who took the examination for a diploma of high school  
5 equivalency in the most recently completed fiscal year.

6 (2) An institution shall receive ~~no~~ additional assistance for any  
7 enrolled participant who failed his or her initial examination for a  
8 diploma of high school equivalency and requires additional training and  
9 testing.

10 Sec. 2. Section 79-2308, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
11 2022, is amended to read:

12 79-2308 (1) The State Department of Education shall provide for  
13 grants to any entity offering a high school equivalency program, ~~which~~  
14 ~~entity is not an institution.~~ Grants pursuant to this section shall be  
15 awarded to applicants which meet the requirements of section 79-2304.

16 (2) The High School Equivalency Grant Fund is created. Any money in  
17 the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state  
18 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the  
19 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

20 ~~(3) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer four hundred~~  
21 ~~thousand dollars from the Job Training Cash Fund to the High School~~  
22 ~~Equivalency Grant Fund to carry out the purposes of subsection (1) of~~  
23 ~~this section.~~

24 Sec. 3. Original section 79-2304, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
25 Nebraska, and section 79-2308, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
26 2022, are repealed.

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