

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 644

FINAL READING

Introduced by McDonnell, 5; Vargas, 7.

Read first time January 18, 2023

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Site and Building Development Fund; to
- 2 amend section 81-12,146, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 3 2022; to change provisions relating to the Site and Building
- 4 Development Fund; to repeal the original section; and to declare an
- 5 emergency.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 81-12,146, Revised Statutes Cumulative
2 Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

3 81-12,146 (1) The Site and Building Development Fund is created. The
4 fund shall receive money pursuant to section 76-903 and may include
5 revenue from transfers by the Legislature, grants, private contributions,
6 repayment of loans, and all other sources. The Department of Economic
7 Development, as part of its comprehensive business development strategy,
8 shall administer the fund. Any money in the fund available for investment
9 shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the
10 Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment
11 Act.

12 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer five million
13 dollars from the General Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund
14 for fiscal year 2022-23 and five million dollars from the General Fund to
15 the Site and Building Development Fund for fiscal year 2023-24. Such
16 money shall be placed in a subaccount of the Site and Building
17 Development Fund and earmarked for use to fund large shovel-ready
18 commercial and industrial sites developed under the Municipal Inland Port
19 Authority Act.

20 (3)(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate five
21 hundred thousand dollars from the Site and Building Development Fund for
22 fiscal year 2024-25 to the department to enter into one or more contracts
23 to conduct a comprehensive study or studies to identify and evaluate
24 large commercial and industrial sites in Nebraska that have the potential
25 to attract major investment and employment opportunities. The study shall
26 include consideration of super sites that encompass between five hundred
27 and one thousand acres and mega sites that encompass more than one
28 thousand acres. At least one proposed site shall be located west of the
29 one hundredth meridian in Nebraska. The contracts shall be awarded based
30 on a competitive selection process as determined by the department. The
31 studies shall be completed no later than December 15, 2024.

1 (b) The study shall assess the potential geographic locations; the
2 infrastructure assets that would be required for each site, including
3 highway, rail, and air transportation, and utilities such as water,
4 wastewater treatment, electrical power, and natural gas; the population
5 within fifty miles of each site and whether such population would be
6 sufficient to provide an adequate workforce for such site; and the
7 appropriate level of state investment necessary to position Nebraska as a
8 nationally or globally competitive location for site selection targeting
9 various sectors, including, but not limited to, advanced manufacturing,
10 trade, bioscience, agribusiness, warehousing and supply chain logistics,
11 technology, aerospace, automotive, clean energy, military support, and
12 life sciences. Such identified state investment levels may include, but
13 are not limited to, land acquisition costs and infrastructure
14 investments. The purpose of the study is to provide strategic insights
15 that will enable the state to attract major investment and employment
16 opportunities in order to support the growth of transformational
17 industries within Nebraska.

18 (c) The Director of Economic Development shall appoint an advisory
19 committee comprised of representatives of Nebraska economic development
20 organizations, equally representing each of Nebraska's three
21 congressional districts, to assist the department in identifying the
22 location of potential and preferred super sites and mega sites.

23 Sec. 2. Original section 81-12,146, Revised Statutes Cumulative
24 Supplement, 2022, is repealed.

25 Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
26 passed and approved according to law.