

State of Nebraska
Recovery Plan

**State and Local Fiscal Recovery
Funds**

2022 Report

State of Nebraska
2022 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Intended uses of funding include, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Education Services, Precision Ag Infrastructure Admin, Dairy Industry Study, Noxious Flood Plain Weeds, Small and Medium Meat Processor Grants, Internship & Workforce, Assisted Living Facilities, Behavioral Health Care Services, Child Welfare Case Count and Provider Rates, Childcare Capacity, Developmental Disabilities Provider Rates, DHHS Model System of Care, Emergency Medical Services Grants, Food Assistance Grants, Foster Care Aged Out Youths, HIV Surveillance & Prevention, Local Public Health Departments, Medicaid Nursing Facility Staffing, Nurse and Behavioral Health Professional Loan Repayments, Pediatric Mental Health Services Technology, Health and Human Services Public Health and Safety Premium Pay, Rural Ambulances, Rural Health Provider Incentives, Public Health and Safety Premium Pay, Ft. Laramie-Gering Irrigation Canal, Water Transport Infrastructure Grants, OCIO Utilization Increases, State Park System Lagoon Projects, Correctional Facility Public Health and Safety Premium Pay, Community College Workforce Development, State Colleges Facility & Equipment Upgrades, Behavioral Health Care Services, Climate Change Report, Behavioral Health Education Center, Rural Health Complex, Wyuka Cemetery Stormwater, Healthcare Facility Capacity Expansion, International Competition Grants, Economic Recovery Act, Meat Processing Infrastructure, Nuclear Reactor Study, Shovel-Ready Capital Projects, Workforce Housing, Law Enforcement Training Center, Rural Interpreting & Legal Communication, Community College Dual Enrollment, Drinking Water Projects, Reverse Osmosis System Grants, and State Fair Drainage Upgrades.

The majority of these programs are just getting started, and had no obligations or expenditures as of June 30, 2022.

Uses of Funds

Programs from LB1014:

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY PREMIUM PAY. There are hereby appropriated for FY2021-22 the following amounts of Federal Funds related to premium pay for Public Health and Public Safety positions as a result of COVID-19 conditions, totaling \$36,700,000.

Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. The State Department of Education shall spend the funds appropriated in this section exclusively for programs and interpreters that provide services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing in the following manner: (1) \$300,000 for equipment; (2) \$300,000 for service; and (3) \$400,000 for an enhanced education interpreter training and mentoring program.

Department of Agriculture: There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$9,875,000 Federal Funds for the Independent Processor Assistance Program, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$125,000 Federal Funds for a dairy industry study, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be

restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - Division of Employment. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for worker training programs administered by the Department of Labor and distributed through the recommendation of the Nebraska Worker Training Board pursuant to the guidelines established in section 48-622.03. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Behavioral Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$1,800,000 Federal Funds for funding for a pediatric trauma center in Nebraska to purchase technology that will support statewide pediatric mental health services through telehealth and telemonitoring, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Rural Health Provider Incentive Program. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$5,000,000 Federal Funds for repayment of qualified educational debts owed by eligible health professionals as provided in section 71-5662. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Nursing Incentives There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$5,000,000 Federal Funds for scholarships to students (a) residing in Nebraska, (b) intending to enroll or enrolled in a nursing program that (i) is approved pursuant to sections 38-2232 to 38-2236, (ii) is offered by a public or private postsecondary institution in Nebraska, and (iii) consists of courses of instruction in regularly scheduled classes leading only to an associate degree, diploma, or certificate in nursing or an accelerated bachelor of science in nursing degree, (c) intending to practice as a licensed practical nurse, licensed registered nurse, or nurse aide upon completion of the approved nursing program, and (d) agreeing in writing to work for two years in this state as a licensed practical nurse, licensed registered nurse, or nurse aide upon completion of the approved nursing program. Each qualifying student shall receive a scholarship of up to \$2,500 per semester. (3) Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Public Assistance. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds to provide grants to nonprofit organizations pursuant to this section, which shall only be used for such purpose. (2) The Department of Health and Human Services shall create a program to award grants to nonprofit organizations in the following manner: (a) \$17,500,000 shall be awarded to nonprofit organizations that focus on food distribution in ten or more counties in the state and qualify for The Emergency Food Assistance Program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture. Funds awarded pursuant to this subdivision (a) shall be used for the purchase and distribution of food, infrastructure, and equipment and for construction of increased capacity; and (b) \$2,500,000 shall be awarded for regional or local capacity and food security innovation grants to decrease Nebraska's reliance on national supply chains, to support local businesses, to create local and regional economic resilience, to encourage healthy eating habits, to reduce food deserts, and to support partnerships between local businesses and producers meeting the greatest needs statewide in the most efficient and sustainable manner. (3) The Department of Health and Human Services shall: (a) Create a process for soliciting, vetting, awarding, and monitoring grants; or (b) Contract with a third-party to solicit, vet, award, and monitor grants. (4) The program created pursuant to this section shall be coordinated and administered in compliance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. (5) Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Public Assistance There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds to contract with a statewide nonprofit organization that supports children and families to increase child care capacity in areas of need by providing grants to expand or start child care programs for children from birth through five years of age. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Child Welfare Aid. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$15,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$3,000,000 Federal Funds for an increase in provider rates, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$12,000,000 Federal Funds for an increase in provider rates, which shall only be used for such purpose. It is the intent of the Legislature that the \$12,000,000 Federal Funds appropriated in FY2022-23 be used as follows: \$6,000,000 Federal Funds for provider rate increases in FY2022-23 and \$6,000,000 Federal Funds for provider rate increases in FY2023-24. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$7,000,000 Federal Funds for child welfare case count increase, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$3,000,000 Federal Funds for child welfare case count increase, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated

pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Child Welfare Aid. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. (2) The Department of Health and Human Services shall use the funds appropriated in this section for the following purposes: (a) Facility upgrades, building maintenance, transportation, construction, and training for youth who have aged out of the foster care system; and (b) Preparation of youth who have aged out of the foster care system to enter the workforce in Nebraska. (3) Any recipient of funding from the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to this section shall: (a) Provide low-income housing in a campus environment for youth who have aged out of the foster care system; and (b) Require youth who have aged out of the foster care system to find employment, attend school, or both. (4) Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Developmental Disability Aid. There is included in the appropriation for this program for FY2022-23 \$47,500,000 Federal Funds for rate increases for agency providers for the following services: Prevocational; Residential Habilitation, excluding Shared Living Services; Supported Employment – Individual; Enclave; Behavioral In-Home Habilitation; Community Inclusion; Community Integration; Consultative Assessment; Crisis Intervention Support; Habilitative Workshop; Independent Living; In-Home Residential Habilitation; Medical In-Home Habilitation; Supported Family Living; Supported Employment – Follow Along; and Child Day Habilitation, which shall only be used for such purpose. Such payments shall be used for the purpose of enhancing employee retention and recruitment. There is included in the amount shown for rate increases for agency providers: (1) \$20,000,000 for FY2022-23; (2) \$15,000,000 for FY2023-24; and (3) \$12,500,000 for FY2024-25.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Public Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for the local public health departments that receive aid pursuant to section 71-1628.08, which shall be distributed evenly to the local public health departments for one-time infrastructure needs and any other costs, including testing, personal protective equipment, and other preventive measures, to combat the COVID-19 virus and any of its mutations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Public Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$500,000 Federal Funds for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Surveillance and Prevention Programs for education on the benefits of preexposure prophylaxis medication and for the costs of medication.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$5,000,000 Federal Funds for a grant program for a model system of care for individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 with persistent symptoms. The one-time grant shall be awarded to a rehabilitation hospital with the capacity to provide interdisciplinary research. The model system of care shall be a comprehensive program to address persistent COVID-19 symptoms and include the following activities: (1) Post-COVID-19 research; (2) Post-COVID-19 clinics; (3) Mental health services expanded to address cognitive and psychiatric needs of post-COVID-19 patients; and (4)

Educational materials for health care providers and the public. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$5,462,800 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. The Department of Health and Human Services shall distribute the funds appropriated in this section to assisted-living facilities. Such distribution to a licensed assisted-living facility shall equal four hundred dollars per licensed bed in such facility. A licensed assisted-living facility shall use the funds distributed pursuant to this section for: (a) Incentives for staff members employed by the licensed assisted-living facility in order to enhance employee recruitment and retention; or (b) Assistance with costs for supplies and equipment purchased by the licensed assisted-living facility.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$47,500,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide money to licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities in the following manner: (a) \$35,625,000 to Medicaid-certified nursing facilities divided proportionately by the Medicaid-certified beds at such facilities; and (b) \$11,875,000 divided proportionally by the Medicaid-certified beds at the facilities that are in the top twenty-five percent of Medicaid-certified nursing facilities with the highest percentage of Medicaid days, as a percentage of that facility's total days as reported on provider tax forms and equally among the Medicaid-certified nursing facilities that were in the top twenty-five percent of Medicaid-certified nursing facilities with the highest percentage of bed-days paid by Medicaid in fiscal year 2021-22. The money provided to the licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities by the Department of Health and Human Services shall be used to provide supplemental incentive payments for direct care staff members employed at licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities. Such payments are intended to enhance employee recruitment and retention. (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that the money paid to the licensed and Medicaid-certified nursing facilities pursuant to this section be expended by such facilities for the purpose of enhancing employee recruitment and retention of direct care staff as follows: (a) \$20,000,000 total for FY2022-23; (b) \$15,000,000 total for FY2023-24; and (c) \$12,500,000 total for FY2024-25. (5) For purposes of this section, direct care staff means nursing facility employees who regularly perform in-person work with residents, interact with residents, or physically handle items handled by residents. The term includes nurses, medication aides, therapists, therapy aides, dietary staff, social service and activity staff, housekeeping and maintenance staff, and other medical staff.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds for a rural ambulance replacement program, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the amount shown as aid to this program for FY2022-23 \$5,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to licensed emergency medical services programs, which shall only be used for such purpose. It is the intent of the Legislature that the

grants be used for the onetime purchase of equipment, including, but not limited to, power cots, defibrillators, and other similar lifesaving equipment, and that priority in awarding grants be given to an emergency medical services program which is volunteer-based, which is located in a community with a population of fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the United States Bureau of the Census, and which has high needs, as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with a statewide organization dedicated to supporting providers of prehospital emergency medical care in Nebraska. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Health Aid. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$2,500,000 Federal Funds for purposes of providing grants of up to \$250,000 for capital costs of expanding access to behavioral health acute care beds in rural areas where beds are not currently available or a shortage exists, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - Critical Infrastructure Facilities. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$23,100,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to an irrigation district which is part of an interstate irrigation system that experienced a failure, in order to satisfy matching requirements for a project authorized by the United States Bureau of Reclamation for construction and repairs on any tunnel or canal pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - Water Projects There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds to provide a grant to a city of the primary class that utilizes more than thirty million gallons per day of water to be used for the design, construction, and implementation of additional water supply projects, which shall only be used for such purpose. Eligible project costs shall include, but not be limited to, costs for a water treatment plant, land acquisition, acquiring permits, a wellfield, pumping, and transportation of water over twenty-five miles for the purpose of providing potable water to the city. The Department of Natural Resources may award a grant to a city of the primary class based on criteria and procedures established by the department. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT - Governor's Emergency Program. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds estimate and for FY2022-23 \$5,000,000 Federal Funds

estimate for all state agency, board, or commission operating and administrative expenses associated with administering Federal Funds allocated pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802. Such funds shall be used to directly pay or reimburse state agencies, boards, and commissions for operating and administrative expenses associated with administering Federal Funds allocated pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 up to \$5,000,000 Federal Funds estimate and for FY2022-23 up to \$5,000,000 Federal Funds estimate to reimburse the Department of Health and Human Services, Agency No. 25, Program No. 33, for information technology utilization expenses incurred which are related to pandemic relief processing and to equipment and operating a mobile workforce, from March 3, 2021, through June 30, 2023. The Military Department shall monitor and approve the expenditures for this program.

GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION - State Parks Facilities Deferred Maintenance. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$8,100,000 Federal Funds for wastewater projects within the state park system, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

COORDINATING COMMISSION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION - Community Colleges ARPA Grant. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$25,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$35,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education shall administer the Community Colleges ARPA Grant program. The commission shall designate a subprogram for each community college as defined in section 85-1503 in the following structure: Subprogram 011, Western Community College; subprogram 012, Mid-Plains Community College; subprogram 013, Central Community College; subprogram 014, Northeast Community College; subprogram 015, Southeast Community College; and subprogram 016, Metropolitan Community College. Each community college shall not receive more than \$10,000,000 in total funding from the appropriation to this program. A community college shall make a grant application to the commission for funding for a capital project or for offering a course or program that meets the criteria established by the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the commission. A community college receiving funding from this program shall meet all necessary federal and commission compliance and reporting requirements. The grant funds shall not be used to offset student or institutional costs for (1) individuals currently enrolled in secondary school or (2) individuals enrolled in programs with the primary purpose of earning general academic transfer credits applicable toward a four-year degree. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES - Nebraska State Colleges - System Office. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$8,000,000 Federal Funds for purchase of equipment and for water and sewer upgrade projects, which shall only be used for such purpose. Of the amount appropriated to this program, it is the intent of the Legislature that \$2,000,000 Federal Funds be used to purchase needed equipment to prepare health care professionals in combating the effects of

COVID-19 and that \$6,000,000 Federal Funds be used to upgrade water and sewer systems on the three state college campuses.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA Program - University – Administration. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for startup costs related to the UNK-UNMC Rural Health Complex in Kearney, Nebraska, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for construction costs of the UNK-UNMC Rural Health Complex in Kearney, Nebraska, which shall only be used for such purpose.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA Program - University – Administration. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$25,500,000 Federal Funds for the Behavioral Health Education Center for the purposes described in section 71-830 to be spent by the Behavioral Health Education Center in the following manner: (1) \$13,000,000 for graduate and postgraduate training opportunities such as internships, practicums, and fellowships; (2) \$8,000,000 for the expansion of telebehavioral health services in rural areas; (3) \$2,500,000 for education and training opportunities for students and behavioral health professionals related to behavioral health issues caused or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and (4) \$2,000,000 for stipends for provisionally licensed behavioral health professionals employed in the field of behavioral health.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA Program - University – Administration. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$150,000 Federal Funds for the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources to update the Assessing Climate Change report released in 2014. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall contract with a third-party, science-based organization to develop an independent report that identifies and recommends specific prescriptive measures to be taken by the State of Nebraska relating to the updated Assessing Climate Change report. Such prescriptive measures shall include (1) a conservation and management plan under section 320 of the federal Clean Water Act and (2) plans for green infrastructure investments and projects to improve resilience to climate change. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall electronically deliver both the updated Assessing Climate Change report and independent report providing recommendations by the third-party, science based organization to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1, 2024.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - State Building Division. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$1,800,000 Federal Funds for a grant to a state-owned cemetery for sediment control and stormwater projects. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Community and Rural Development. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2021-22 \$21,500,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$18,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid, which shall only be used for such purpose. (2)(a) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$6,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to prepare land parcels pursuant to the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act. There is included in the amount

shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to prepare land parcels pursuant to the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act. (b) For purposes of this subsection, preparing land parcels shall include: (i) Laying of drinking water transmission lines; (ii) Rehabilitation, renovation, maintenance, or costs to secure vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (iii) Costs associated with acquiring and securing legal title of vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities and other costs to position the property for current or future use for the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act; (iv) Removal and remediation of environmental contaminants or hazards from vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities, when conducted in compliance with applicable environmental laws or regulations; (v) Demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings in disproportionately impacted communities; and (vi) Costs associated with inspection fees and other administrative costs incurred to ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations for demolition or other remediation activities in disproportionately impacted communities. (3) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,500,000 Federal Funds to contract with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, as described in the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act, for development of affordable housing units eligible for federal four and nine percent low-income housing tax credit programs. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds to contract with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, as described in the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act, for development of affordable housing units eligible for federal four and nine percent low-income housing tax credit programs. (4)(a) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. (b) The Department of Economic Development shall create a program in accordance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, for the purpose of awarding grants to nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, including housing for refugees and other such immigrants. Housing developed under this program shall be for households with an income at or below 185% of the most recent poverty guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and shall include housing located in disproportionately impacted geographies or directed towards disproportionately impacted populations or households, including, but not limited to, those in a qualified census tract, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 42(d)(5) (B)(ii)(I), as such section existed on January 1, 2022. (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that at least one-half of the funds distributed pursuant to this subsection (4) be awarded as grants to organizations located in counties with a population of fewer than 100,000 residents as determined by the most recent federal decennial census. (5) There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for job training and placement grants to nonprofit organizations for employment and employability services for refugees. (6) Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$500,000 Federal Funds for the purpose of awarding major sponsorship grants for international competitions to be hosted in Nebraska that are recognized by an

international governing body. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds for wastewater pretreatment and runoff control for meat processing plant site development, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$10,000,000 Federal Funds for capital construction grants to build mental health care and education capacity, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$30,000,000 Federal Funds for capital construction grants to build mental health care and education capacity, which shall only be used for such purpose. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to capital projects eligible under the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, which shall only be used for such purpose. There is included in the amount show as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$50,000,000 Federal Funds for grants to capital projects eligible under the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, which shall only be used for such purpose. It is the intent of the Legislature that, in addition to the requirements of the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act, the Department of Economic Development shall divide total appropriations, including any General Fund appropriations, for grants to capital projects eligible under the act equally by each congressional district and give priority to grant requests less than or equal to \$5,000,000. After eligible grantees with priority status have been awarded grant funds, remaining funds may be awarded on a statewide basis with the department considering each project based on the overall economic impact of the project to the respective community and the overall benefit to the State of Nebraska. It is the intent of the Legislature that the department make reasonable adjustments to dates and deadlines and request additional documentation pursuant to any requirements for use of Federal Funds received pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Industrial Recruitment. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds for distribution to a political subdivision that owns or operates a nuclear power plant in Nebraska. Such political subdivision shall use

the funds appropriated in this section to conduct a feasibility study to assess (1) siting options for new advanced nuclear reactors throughout Nebraska and (2) existing electric generation facilities based on key compatibility assets for such advanced nuclear reactors. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE - Training Center Renovation. \$47,700,000 The appropriation in this section is intended to be used to enhance and expand the law enforcement training capabilities of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center.

COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING - Deaf and Hard of Hearing. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$500,000 Federal Funds for the purpose of supporting (1) in-person interpreting in rural areas and (2) legal communication access. Expenditures from the appropriation to this program shall not be restricted to state aid if operating and administrative expenditures are necessary to administer the funding appropriated pursuant to this section. In such instances, an agency, board, or commission shall be reimbursed through the Federal Fund appropriation to the Military Department.

AID TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES - Aid to Community Colleges. There is included in the appropriation to this program for FY2022-23 \$15,000,000 Federal Funds for state aid for dual enrollment, which shall only be used for such purpose. The funds appropriated in this section for dual enrollment shall be distributed to community college areas in direct proportion to the full-time equivalent enrollment in dual credit courses delivered by the respective community college areas based upon dual enrollment credit hour data reported to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education by the respective community college areas for the year in which those enrollments occurred. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program: (1) \$5,000,000 for FY2022-23; (2) \$5,000,000 for FY2023-24; and (3) \$5,000,000 for FY2024-25. For purposes of this section, dual enrollment course means a course delivered to high school students for whom credit shall be reported on the student's postsecondary educational institution transcript. It is the intent of the Legislature that amounts distributed to each community college area in proportion to enrollment in dual enrollment courses be applied to support discounting of tuition assessed for enrollment in such courses.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY - Environmental Quality. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$4,000,000 Federal Funds for grants for reverse osmosis systems, which shall only be used for such purpose. The Department of Environment and Energy shall provide grants for villages and cities of the second class to install reverse osmosis systems in community water systems where drinking water test levels are above ten parts per million of nitrate and, if appropriate, provide grant funds for use to install reverse osmosis systems if test levels for nitrate in drinking water pumped from private wells are above ten parts per million.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY - Wastewater Loan Fund. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2022-23 \$20,000,000 Federal Funds for wastewater and drainage system updates at the state fair grounds, which shall only be used for such purpose.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY - Drinking Water Facilities Loan Fund. There is included in the amount shown as aid for this program for FY2021-22 \$1,000,000 Federal Funds and for FY2022-23

\$6,000,000 Federal Funds to provide grant assistance for a rural drinking water project that serves rural water connections and at least four communities in two contiguous counties in order to convert to ground water sources and to provide for water system infrastructure and distribution, which shall only be used for such purpose.

Program from LB1024

Section 1. Sections 1 to 7 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Economic Recovery Act.

Sec. 2. The Legislature finds that: (1) The COVID-19 public health emergency has caused widespread economic, social, and public health-related turmoil that deepened existing disparities; (2) The social and economic challenges caused and exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency include high unemployment, wage decreases, increased homelessness, and food insecurity; (3) The impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and related challenges were disproportionately felt in low-income and minority communities such as North Omaha and South Omaha; (4) The social and economic challenges in North Omaha and South Omaha have persisted for multiple generations, partially fueled by past racial segregation and the historical practice known as redlining; (5) Funding under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to respond to the challenges facing North Omaha and South Omaha that have been worsened by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and (6) Federal guidance issued by the United States Department of the Treasury has identified qualified census tracts as areas in which certain activities and investments will be deemed presumptively eligible for the use of funds under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Sec. 3. For purposes of the Economic Recovery Act, qualified census tract means a qualified census tract as defined in 26 U.S.C. 42(d)(5)(B)(ii)(I), as such section existed on January 1, 2022.

Sec. 4. (1) A primary responsibility of the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development shall be to utilize federal or state funding to award grants as provided in this section. The division shall develop a coordinated plan and a grant application and scoring process to award grants under subsection (3) of this section. (2) The coordinated plan developed pursuant to this section shall direct and prioritize the use of grants toward the economic recovery of those communities and neighborhoods within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency and related challenges, with an emphasis on housing needs, assistance for small businesses, job training, and business development within such communities and neighborhoods. In prioritizing the use of grants, the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division may rely on any studies produced pursuant to section 5 of this act. Not later than August 1, 2022, the division shall submit a copy of an initial coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature. Not later than December 1, 2022, the division shall submit a final copy of such coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature. (3)(a) The Economic Recovery and Incentives Division shall create a Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant Program to provide funding to public and private entities located within qualified census tracts throughout the state to respond to the negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency. (b) Not to exceed ten million dollars in grants shall be distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located in a city of the primary class. (c) Not to exceed ten million dollars in grants shall be distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located

outside of a city of the metropolitan class or a city of the primary class. (d) All remaining funds shall be allocated for grants distributed under the grant program to eligible grantees in qualified census tracts that are located in a city of the metropolitan class, with no less than thirty-five million dollars in such grants allocated to eligible grantees which are located south of Dodge Street and east of 72nd Street in such city and no less than fifty-five million dollars in such grants allocated to eligible grantees which LB1024 2022 LB1024 2022 -1- are located north of Dodge Street and east of 72nd Street in such city. Any funds not applied for within such areas may be allocated for grants to eligible grantees in any qualified census tract in such city. (4) In addition to grants under the Qualified Census Tract Recovery Grant Program, the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division shall provide grant funding for the following purposes: (a) Not to exceed sixty million dollars in grants to a nonprofit economic development organization for the development of a business park located within or adjacent to one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class and within two miles of a major airport as defined in section 13-3303; (b) Not to exceed thirty million dollars in grants to one or more innovation hubs located in one or more qualified census tracts and within two miles of a major airport as defined in section 13-3303 providing services and resources within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class; (c) Not to exceed three million dollars in grants in fiscal year 2022-23 and not to exceed three million dollars in fiscal year 2023-24 to a nonprofit organization partnering with a city of the metropolitan class for the purpose of providing internships and crime prevention within qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of such city; (d) Not to exceed five million dollars in grants pursuant to the purposes of the Nebraska Film Office Fund on or before June 30, 2023, for the purpose of producing a film on Chief Standing Bear, a portion of which is to be filmed in one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class; (e) Not to exceed twenty million dollars in grants to public or private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts which are located in a city of the metropolitan class; (f) Not to exceed twenty million dollars in grants to public or private entities to prepare land parcels for affordable housing or conduct other eligible affordable housing interventions under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 including production, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership units within qualified census tracts which are located in a city of the primary class; (g) Not to exceed five million dollars in grants to a county agricultural society with facilities within a city of the primary class to recoup lost revenue; and (h) Not to exceed one million dollars in grants to a postsecondary institution located in a qualified census tract in a city of the metropolitan class to provide funding for a financial literacy program to improve economic and health outcomes for individuals residing in qualified census tracts. (5) For purposes of subdivisions (4)(e) and (f) of this section, preparing land parcels shall include: (a) Laying drinking water mains, lines, pipes, or channels; (b) Rehabilitation, renovation, maintenance, or other costs to secure vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (c) Acquiring and securing legal title of vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities; (d) Removal and remediation of environmental contaminants or hazards from vacant or abandoned properties in disproportionately impacted communities when conducted in compliance with applicable environmental laws or regulations; (e) Demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings in disproportionately impacted communities; and (f) Costs associated with inspection fees and other administrative costs incurred to ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations for demolition or other

remediation activities in disproportionately impacted communities. (6) All grants made by the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division utilizing federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 shall meet the eligible uses under such act and any relevant guidance on the use of such funds by the United States Department of the Treasury.

Sec. 5. (1) The Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature is established as a special committee of the Legislature to perform the duties provided in the Economic Recovery Act. The special legislative committee shall consist of the chairperson of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature, who shall serve as chairperson of the special legislative committee, the Speaker of the Legislature, the chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature or his or her designee, and four other members of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the Executive Board of the Legislative Council. The appointed members of the special legislative committee shall include members who represent legislative districts containing one or more qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class. (2) The Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall provide staff as required by the special legislative committee from existing legislative staff. In addition, the special legislative committee may hire additional staff, make expenditures for travel, and enter into contracts for consulting, engineering, LB1024 2022 LB1024 2022 -2- and development studies. The contracts shall be based on competitive bids and subject to approval of the executive board upon the recommendation of a majority of the members of the special legislative committee. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two million dollars for fiscal year 2022-23 to carry out this section. (3) The special legislative committee may hold hearings and request and receive reports from the federal government, state agencies, counties, municipalities, and other public and private entities regarding the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on low-income and minority communities in Nebraska. The special legislative committee may hold one or more closed sessions for the receipt of confidential information if at least one-half of the members of the special legislative committee vote in open session to hold a closed session. (4) No later than June 30, 2022, the special legislative committee shall issue a request for proposals for studies on potential eligible uses of funds made available under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 or state funds within or adjacent to qualified census tracts located within the boundaries of a city of the metropolitan class. Such studies shall include, but not be limited to, potential eligible uses of such funds in the areas of entrepreneurship, housing, employment, job creation, and small business assistance. Copies of all such studies received by the special legislative committee shall be forwarded to the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development.

Sec. 6. (1) The Economic Recovery Contingency Fund is created. The fund shall consist of transfers by the Legislature to carry out the Economic Recovery Act. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. (2) No funds shall be expended from the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund until the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the Department of Economic Development has submitted a final copy of its coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature pursuant to section 4 of this act and to the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services.

Sec. 7. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two hundred fifty million dollars from federal funds for fiscal year 2022-23 to the Department of Economic Development to carry out the Economic Recovery Act. The federal funds described in this subsection are the funds allocated to the State of

Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended. The department may use not more than ten million dollars of such federal funds for the administration of the Economic Recovery Act. (2) Of the intended appropriation described in subsection (1) of this section, eighty million dollars of such federal funds shall not be expended by the Department of Economic Development until the Economic Recovery and Incentives Division of the department has submitted a final copy of its coordinated plan to the Economic Recovery Special Committee of the Legislature pursuant to section 4 of this act. (3) The State Treasurer shall transfer any interest earned after the effective date of this act on federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund on such dates and in such amounts as directed by the budget administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services. (4) It is the intent of the Legislature that any unobligated amount as of July 1, 2024, of the federal funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended, be appropriated to the Department of Economic Development to carry out the Economic Recovery Act no later than August 1, 2024. (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Department of Economic Development for fiscal year 2022-23 to provide grants under the Economic Recovery Act. (6) It is the intent of the Legislature to transfer ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund for fiscal year 2023-24 and ten million dollars from the General Fund to the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund for fiscal year 2024-25 to provide grants under the Economic Recovery Act. (7) The Department of Economic Development shall not use money from the General Fund to implement or administer the grants provided under the Economic Recovery Act.

Promoting equitable outcomes

For projects underway as of June 30, 2022:

Shovel-Ready Capital Projects:

Goals: The goal is to replace lost revenue to non-profits throughout the state impacted by COVID-19.

Awareness: A competitive grant was made available to all non-profits throughout the state. The grant was advertised on the Department of Economic Development Website and information was made available through the public legislative process.

Access & Distribution: The state divided funds equally between the state's three congressional districts.

Outcomes: Non-profits throughout the state should be aided in the recovery from COVID-19.

Health and Human Services Public Health and Safety Premium Pay:

Goals: Retain staff and fill vacancies.

Awareness: All facilities and central staff units affected by the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible to utilize premium pay available through ARPA.

Outcomes: Intention is to ensure staff are recruited and retained so services in a variety of programs and facilities may continue being provided.

Child Welfare Case Count and Provider Rates:

Goals: Ensure child welfare services are properly funded so family support and parenting time supervision services continue without interruption.

Awareness: Funds are used to offset programing costs to avoid disruption in services for all providers and individuals.

Outcomes: Intention is to ensure providers and individuals are receiving sufficient care in a timely manner without service interruption.

Correctional Facility Public Health and Safety Premium Pay:

Goals: For several years prior to April 4, 2020, NDCS was struggling with overcrowded prisons and understaffing at those facilities. This resulted in many staff members working extended overtime in order to maintain staff levels at the facilities. The resulting stress led to staff burnout and acerbated personnel turnover. COVID-19 compounded our efforts to maintain staffing. The goal of NDCS is to stop the constant churn of employees. These funds have helped to stabilize the workforce, reduce training costs, as well as overtime expenditures. Ultimately this leads to better safekeeping of incarcerated individuals as well as protecting the public.

Awareness: The Nebraska State Legislature apportioned the funding to NDCS. Legislative sessions were open to the public for hearings and questions.

Access & Distribution: Premium Pay is only awarded for actual hours worked. Leave time is not rewarded. This offers additional incentive to avoid excessive leave usage.

Outcomes: These funds have provided much needed relief to our staffing situation. We have been able to fill most vacancies in a short amount of time. Recruitment is at an all-time high, with individuals signing on from several states. We have kept our standards high throughout this time and believe we are well on our way to having not just a functional workforce, but a superior one.

State Colleges Facility & Equipment Upgrades:

Goals: To serve students and staff across all demographics. Peru State College is an open access institution. We serve a high percentage of students who are Pell-eligible or who come from underrepresented populations. Nearly 20% of Peru State students are from minority groups.

Awareness: State academic programs are promoted broadly, so there is no difference in awareness across groups for these services.

Access & Distribution: Peru does not anticipate any differences in levels of access to the benefits and services across groups. All students will be able to use the equipment purchased.

Outcomes: 1. Outcomes are designed to close equity groups in two ways. First, Peru State students, who often come from underrepresented groups. The instruments we will purchase will be used directly by undergraduate students. At other institutions, direct use of this equipment is usually restricted to graduate students. The addition of this equipment at Peru State would give

direct access to undergraduates. We will be providing direct, hands-on experiences for our undergraduate science and health majors. 2. Additionally, Peru State students are also part of the Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP), which provides a guaranteed seat at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in a health program upon completion of their requirements at the College. By meeting the educational needs of students in the RHOP program, this proposal also addresses health disparities. The stated purpose of the RHOP program is to “recruit and educate individuals from Rural Areas who intend to return to underserved Rural Areas to practice in their professional field.” The Peru and Wayne facility project will bring in reliable and safe drinking water to the Peru and Wayne State College campuses.

Community Engagement

State Colleges Facility & Equipment Upgrades:

1. As mentioned, Peru State students are also part of the Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP). UNMC, along with many other institutions, requires students to have certain pre-requisite courses before admission. These courses often include Organic Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Physics. The equipment listed here would be used in these courses. Additionally, students for some professional health programs are required to have a bachelor's degree. They will be taking courses using this equipment as they complete their degree. 2. Through regular meetings and interactions with UNMC officials about the RHOP, Peru State faculty and staff are able to gather feedback, in writing and orally, that allows the College to build capacity and prepare students to meet the changing needs of the health profession.

Labor Practices

No infrastructure projects have started.

Use of Evidence

Shovel-Ready Capital Projects: The Department of Economic Development will evaluate whether the nonprofits are able to continue to serve their communities across the state and whether their capital campaigns and projects started prior to covid will be able to be completed with the grants.

Health and Human Services Public Health and Safety Premium Pay: The program will monitor retention and hiring rates.

Child Welfare Case Count and Provider Rates: The program will monitor state ward counts and corresponding services provided.

State Colleges Facility & Equipment Upgrades: Evidence was confirmed based on recent projects on the Peru campus. Pipes were found with a dramatically smaller inside diameter than original designed pipe diameter restricting flow by at least half volume. In some cases only 50% of nominal pipe size.

Performance Report

Shovel-Ready Capital Projects: The Department of Economic Development will evaluate whether the nonprofits are able to continue to serve their communities across the state and whether their capital campaigns and projects started prior to covid will be able to be completed with the grants.

Health and Human Services Public Health and Safety Premium Pay: The program will utilize retention and hiring data.

Child Welfare Case Count and Provider Rates: The program will utilize state ward counts and corresponding services provided.

State Colleges Facility & Equipment Upgrades: KPI's for the Peru drinking water project have not been used as of yet due to performance of water lines have not failed. Typically these types of lines fail in two ways: Restricted water flow, or pipe bursts and impede water flow to buildings. Pre health program equipment - Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that demonstrate the goals are achieved include scores on a senior competency exam, oral exam, and rubric graded exam. It is anticipated student scores will increase on these measures after they use the equipment purchased. We will also track the number of students who use the equipment purchased with these funds.

PROJECT INVENTORY

Project 72652020: 072 Shovel Ready

Funding amount: \$100,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34, Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted

Project Overview

- The purpose of the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act (LB566) is to partner with the private sector by providing grants to qualified nonprofit organizations to assist such organizations with capital projects that have been delayed due to COVID-19 and that will provide a positive economic impact in the State of Nebraska. The project includes funding through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.
- Link to the website: <https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/business/shovel-ready-grants/>

Use of Evidence

- *The goal is to replace lost revenue to non-profits throughout the state impacted by COVID. These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.*

Performance Report

- *The Department of Economic Development will evaluate whether the nonprofits are able to continue to serve their communities across the state and whether their capital campaigns and projects started prior to covid will be able to be completed with the grants.*

Project 25110401: 025 Premium Pay

Funding amount: \$12,757,934

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1, Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

- Pursuant to LB 1014 Section 7, federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) appropriated to the DHHS will be used for premium pay increases which were implemented for essential workers. These project funds will be used during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
- Link to the website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Grants-and-Contract-Opportunities.aspx>

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to fund pay increases to retain staff and fill staff vacancies during the COVID-19 pandemic. The increases ensure that DHHS is competitive in pay in the future for positions that support public health and safety. These SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions. The program will monitor retention and hiring rates.

Performance Report

- Performance will be measured by retention and hiring data.

Project25110408: 025 Child Welfare Aid-State Ward Counts

Funding amount: \$25,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37, Economic Impact Assistance Other

Project Overview

- This project increases appropriation for child welfare case counts due to the pandemic and an increase to child welfare provider rates. The project includes funding through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.
- Link to the website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Grants-and-Contract-Opportunities.aspx>

Use of Evidence

- The goal is to increase rates for providers to increase services to child welfare cases so that the case counts can potentially decrease in the future. There is a current increase in child welfare cases that is going above current funding. Providers are experiencing a high turnover and requested the rate increases to stabilize the workforce. Once the workforce is more stable, providers say they can provide more services timely for child welfare cases. This could help to close cases in a timelier manner. These SLFRF funds are being used for evidence-based interventions. The program will monitor state ward counts and corresponding services provided.
- The full funding amount of the project is allocated towards evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- Performance will be measured by State ward counts and corresponding services provided.

Project460220982: 046 Public Health and Safety Premium Pay
Funding amount: \$20,395,464
Project Expenditure Category: 4.1, Public Sector Employees

Project Overview

- Project funds will be used for premium pay increases which were implemented for essential front-line workers in 24-hour facilities. These increases were made in an attempt to retain staff and fill staff vacancies during the COVID-19 pandemic. The increases ensure that the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) is competitive in pay in the future for positions that support public health and safety.
- *Link to the website:* <https://corrections.nebraska.gov/guidance-documents>

Use of Evidence

- For several years prior to April 4, 2020, NDCS was struggling with overcrowded prisons and understaffing at those facilities. This resulted in many staff members working extended overtime in order to maintain staff levels at the facilities. The resulting stress led to staff burnout and acerbated personnel turnover. COVID-19 compounded our efforts to maintain staffing. The goal of NDCS is to stop the constant churn of employees. These funds have helped to stabilize the workforce, reduce training costs, as well as overtime expenditures. Ultimately this leads to better safekeeping of incarcerated individuals as well as protecting the public. These SLFRF funds are not being used for evidence-based interventions.

Performance Report

- Performance will be measured by State ward counts and corresponding services provided.