

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1044

Introduced by Hilkemann, 4.

Read first time January 18, 2022

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public health and welfare; to adopt the
- 2 Care Team Innovation Grant Pilot Project Act; and to state intent
- 3 regarding funding.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 7 of this act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the Care Team Innovation Grant Pilot Project Act.

3 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Care Team Innovation Grant Pilot
4 Project Act:

5 (1) Department means the Department of Health and Human Services;
6 and

7 (2) Hospital means a health care facility licensed as a hospital
8 pursuant to the Health Care Facility Licensure Act.

9 Sec. 3. The Legislature finds that:

10 (1) One of the early lessons learned from the COVID-19 health care
11 emergency was the importance of cross-training care staff in health care
12 facilities to work outside of the specialty for which the staff held a
13 credential to cover care needs, regardless of the department of the
14 health care facility or the care setting;

15 (2) The ability to recruit, train, retain, and support health care
16 workers in hospitals and other health care facilities will be shaped by
17 several trends transforming health care;

18 (3) Care delivery will never be the same as new models of care are
19 emerging; and

20 (4) Hospitals and other health care facilities are exploring new
21 inpatient care delivery team models that utilize each health care
22 professional to practice at the top of the individual's credential.

23 Sec. 4. The department shall establish a timeline and competitive
24 application process for grants for innovation in delivery of health care
25 by hospitals.

26 Sec. 5. The applications received under section 4 of this act shall
27 be prioritized and awarded by the ability to improve the health care
28 workforce in Nebraska.

29 Sec. 6. Any recipient of a grant under the Care Team Innovation
30 Grant Pilot Project Act shall report the results of the expenditure of
31 the grant to the department by December 31, 2024. The department shall

1 share the results with other health care facilities.

2 Sec. 7. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate
3 \$2,000,000 from Federal Funds for FY2022-23 to the department, for
4 Program 262, to provide grants to hospitals pursuant to the Care Team
5 Innovation Grant Pilot Project Act. The Federal Funds to be appropriated
6 in this section are from the funds allocated to the State of Nebraska
7 from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the
8 federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, Subtitle M,
9 Sec. 9901.