

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1068**

Introduced by Adams, 24.

Read first time January 18, 2012

Committee:

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to special education; to create and provide  
2 duties for the Medicaid in the Public Schools Task Force;  
3 to provide duties; to provide a termination date; and to  
4 declare an emergency.  
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. The Medicaid in the Public Schools Task Force  
2 is created. Members of the task force shall be appointed on or before  
3 May 1, 2012, and shall include:

4           (1) The chairperson of the Education Committee of the  
5 Legislature and one other member of the committee, appointed by the  
6 Executive Board of the Legislative Council;

7           (2) The chairperson of the Health and Human Services  
8 Committee of the Legislature and one other member of the committee,  
9 appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council;

10          (3) The chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of  
11 the Legislature and one other member of the committee, appointed by  
12 the Executive Board of the Legislative Council;

13          (4) Two representatives of the State Department of  
14 Education who work with special education, including one  
15 representative who works specifically with special education funding;

16          (5) Two representatives of the Department of Health and  
17 Human Services, including one representative who works specifically  
18 with medicaid reimbursements for special education services;

19          (6) One representative of a consortium of school  
20 districts that submits administrative claims for medicaid  
21 reimbursement and that has at least one member that is a Class IV or  
22 Class V school district;

23          (7) One representative of a consortium of school  
24 districts that submits administrative claims for medicaid  
25 reimbursement and that has at least one member that is a school

1 district with fewer than three hundred ninety students;

2 (8) One school board member or school administrator  
3 representing a district with more than nine hundred students;

4 (9) One school board member or school administrator  
5 representing a district with more than three hundred ninety students  
6 and fewer than nine hundred students; and

7 (10) In addition to the member appointed pursuant to  
8 subdivision (7) of this section, one school board member or school  
9 administrator representing a district with fewer than three hundred  
10 ninety students.

11 The members listed in subdivision (4) of this section  
12 shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Education. The members  
13 listed in subdivisions (5) through (10) of this section shall be  
14 appointed by the Governor.

15 The chairperson of the Education Committee of the  
16 Legislature shall be the chairperson of the task force and shall call  
17 the initial and subsequent meetings of the task force. Members of the  
18 task force shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary  
19 expenses incurred in carrying out their duties as members of the task  
20 force as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. The Education  
21 Committee of the Legislature, the Health and Human Services Committee  
22 of the Legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services, and  
23 the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall provide research and  
24 administrative support for the task force. For budgetary purposes  
25 only, the task force shall be within the Legislative Council.

1           The task force shall terminate on December 31, 2012.

2           Sec. 2. The Medicaid in the Public Schools Task Force  
3 shall examine:

4           (1) The efficiency and effectiveness of the current  
5 systems for seeking medicaid reimbursements from the federal  
6 government for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech  
7 therapy, and administrative claims; and

8           (2) The feasibility of expanding the special education  
9 services for which medicaid reimbursements from the federal  
10 government are sought.

11           In response to such examination, the task force shall  
12 make any recommendations it determines to be appropriate and shall  
13 report such recommendations to the Education Committee of the  
14 Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Governor on or  
15 before December 31, 2012.

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