

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 534**

Introduced by Kauth, 31.

Read first time January 22, 2025

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to claims against the state; to appropriate
- 2 funds for the payment of certain claims; to provide for payment of
- 3 the claims; to authorize agencies to write off certain claims as
- 4 prescribed; and to declare an emergency.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1        **Section 1.** The following sum of money, or so much thereof as may be  
2 required, is hereby appropriated from the General Fund or from other  
3 funds as indicated in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for  
4 the payment of a state settlement, which has been settled by the Attorney  
5 General in the district court and which requires the approval of the  
6 Legislature for payment.

7        \$348,654.28 for Miscellaneous Claim Number 2025-00685, against the  
8 State of Nebraska, pay to Nebraska Press Advertising Service, 845 S  
9 Street, Lincoln, NE 68508-1266, out of the General Fund.

10       \$134,047.00 for Miscellaneous Claim Number 2025-00486, pay to  
11 Follett Corporation & its Subsidiaries, 3 Westbrook Corporate Center,  
12 Westchester, IL 60154, out of the General Fund.

13       The claim included in this section shall be paid through Program 536  
14 in Agency 65.

15       For informational purposes only, the appropriation contained in this  
16 section and fund source:

| <u>FUND SOURCE</u>    | <u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u>   | <u>\$482,700.28</u>  |
| <u>CASH FUND</u>      | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>REVOLVING FUND</u> | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>TOTAL</u>          | <u>\$482,700.28</u>  |

22       **Sec. 2.** The following sums of money, or so much thereof as may be  
23 required, are hereby appropriated from the General Fund or from other  
24 funds as indicated in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for  
25 the payment of indemnification claims which have been settled by the  
26 State Claims Board and approved by the district court, which have been  
27 settled by the Attorney General in the district court, or in which a  
28 court judgment has been entered and which require the approval of the  
29 Legislature for payment.

30       \$85,000.00 for Indemnification Claim Number CI 23-1587, pay to the  
31 Trust Account of Keating, O'Gara, Nedved & Peter, PC, LLO, on behalf of

1 Amy Eidenmiller, 200 South 21st Street, Suite 400, Lincoln, NE 68510, out  
2 of the General Fund.

3 \$162,500.00 for Indemnification Claim Number 7:22-CV-5002, pay to  
4 the Trust Account of Ramos Law, on behalf of Rachel Ritke, 10190 Bannock  
5 Street, Suite 200, Northglenn, CO 80260, out of the General Fund.

6 \$185,000.00 for Indemnification Claim Number CI 22-2662, pay to the  
7 Trust Account of Fiedler Law Office, on behalf of Gerald Krolikowski,  
8 17330 Wright Street, Suite 102, Omaha, NE 68130, out of the General Fund.

9 The claims included in this section shall be paid through Program  
10 592 in Agency 65.

11 For informational purposes only, the appropriation contained in this  
12 section and fund source:

| <u>FUND SOURCE</u>    | <u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u>   | <u>\$432,500.00</u>  |
| <u>CASH FUND</u>      | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>REVOLVING FUND</u> | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>TOTAL</u>          | <u>\$432,500.00</u>  |

18 **Sec. 3.** The following sums of money, or so much thereof as may be  
19 required, are hereby appropriated from the General Fund or from other  
20 funds as indicated in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for  
21 the payment of workers' compensation claims which have been settled by  
22 the Attorney General in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court or in  
23 which court judgments have been entered and which require the approval of  
24 the Legislature for payment.

25 \$275,000.00 for a workers' compensation claim, pay to the Trust  
26 Account of High & Younes, LLC, on behalf of Matthew Nicholas, 6919 Dodge  
27 Street, Omaha, NE 68132, out of the Workers' Compensation Claims  
28 Revolving Fund.

29 \$175,000.00 for a workers' compensation claim, pay to the Trust  
30 Account of Atwood Law, P.C., L.L.O., on behalf of Janice Myers, 575  
31 Fallbrook Boulevard Suite 206, Lincoln, NE 68521, out of the Workers'

1 Compensation Claims Revolving Fund.

2 \$215,000.00 for a workers' compensation claim, pay to the Trust  
3 Account of Attwood Law, P.C., L.L.O., on behalf of Jessica Bock, 575  
4 Fallbrook Boulevard Suite 206, Lincoln, NE 68521, out of the Workers'  
5 Compensation Claims Revolving Fund.

6 The claims included in this section shall be paid through Program  
7 593 in Agency 65.

8 For informational purposes only, the appropriations contained in  
9 this section and fund source:

| <u>FUND SOURCE</u>    | <u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u>   | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>CASH FUND</u>      | <u>\$-0-</u>         |
| <u>REVOLVING FUND</u> | <u>\$665,000.00</u>  |
| <u>TOTAL</u>          | <u>\$665,000.00</u>  |

15 **Sec. 4.** The following sums of money, or so much thereof as may be  
16 required, are hereby appropriated from the General Fund or from other  
17 funds as indicated in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for  
18 the payment of tort claims which have been settled by the State Claims  
19 Board and approved by the district court, which have been settled by the  
20 Attorney General in the district court, or in which a court judgment has  
21 been entered and which require the approval of the Legislature for  
22 payment.

23 \$10,894.24 for Claim Number 2025-00553, against the State of  
24 Nebraska, pay to Progressive Universal Insurance Company, PO Box 94639,  
25 Cleveland, OH 44101, out of the State Insurance Fund.

26 \$26,500.00 for Claim Number 2024-00213, against the State of  
27 Nebraska, pay to the Trust Account of Berry Law Firm, 6940 O Street,  
28 Suite 400, Lincoln, NE 68510, out of the State Insurance Fund.

29 \$16,250.00 for Claim Number 2023-22634, against the State of  
30 Nebraska, pay to the Trust Account of Hauptman, O'Brien, Wolf & Lathrop,  
31 PC, 1005 South 107th Avenue, Suite 200, Omaha, NE 68114, out of the State

1 Insurance Fund.

2 \$17,983.05 for Claim Number 2023-22442, against the State of  
3 Nebraska, pay to Traveler's Insurance Company, PO Box 660307, Dallas, TX  
4 75266-0307, out of the State Insurance Fund.

5 \$950,000.00 for Claim Number 2022-21941, against the State of  
6 Nebraska, pay to the Trust Account of Rembolt Ludtke, LLP, 3 Landmark  
7 Centre, 1128 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300, Lincoln, NE 68508, out of the State  
8 Insurance Fund.

9 \$375,000.00 for Claim Number 2021-21220, against the State of  
10 Nebraska, pay to the Trust Account of Friedman Law Offices, PC, LLO, 3800  
11 Normal Boulevard, Suite 200, PO Box 82009, Lincoln, NE 68501, out of the  
12 State Insurance Fund.

13 The claims included in this section shall be paid through Program  
14 594 in Agency 65.

15 For informational purposes only, the appropriations contained in  
16 this section and fund source:

| 17 <u>FUND SOURCE</u>    | <u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 18 <u>GENERAL FUND</u>   | <u>\$-0-</u>          |
| 19 <u>CASH FUND</u>      | <u>\$-0-</u>          |
| 20 <u>REVOLVING FUND</u> | <u>\$1,396,627.29</u> |
| 21 <u>TOTAL</u>          | <u>\$1,396,627.29</u> |

22 **Sec. 5.** The Director of Administrative Services is hereby  
23 authorized and directed to draw his or her warrants upon the funds in the  
24 state treasury enumerated in this act, in favor of the several  
25 beneficiaries named in this act for the amount set opposite their  
26 respective names, upon the presentation of proper vouchers therefor. The  
27 several amounts appropriated in this act shall be in full payment of any  
28 and all claims, rights, causes of action, damages, and demands of every  
29 character and kind owing by or against the State of Nebraska, its  
30 officers, agents, and employees, and their successors and assigns with  
31 respect to each of the beneficiaries respectively in whose favor the

1 appropriations are made. The director shall not deliver any warrant for  
2 any items appropriated in this act until a receipt and release in full,  
3 releasing the State of Nebraska, its officers, employees, and agents, and  
4 their successors and assigns, has been filed by each of the beneficiaries  
5 respectively. Upon presentation of the warrants, the State Treasurer is  
6 hereby directed to pay the same out of money in the General Fund or out  
7 of money in other funds indicated in this act not otherwise appropriated.

8 **Sec. 6.** The following requests were filed by state agencies seeking  
9 permission to write off certain accounts. The State Claims Board reviewed  
10 and approved the following requests:

11 \$14,983.58 for Request Number 2025-00572, made by the Department of  
12 Veterans' Affairs.

13 \$14,296.88 for Request Number 2025-00587, made by the Department of  
14 Motor Vehicles.

15 \$120,741.50 for Request Number 2025-00590, made by the Department of  
16 Transportation.

17 \$90,339.82 for Request Number 2025-00592, made by the Department of  
18 Labor.

19 \$49,591.34 for Request Number 2025-00593, made by the Nebraska  
20 Public Employees Retirement Systems.

21 \$53,256.46 for Request Number 2025-00600, made by the Department of  
22 Environment and Energy.

23 \$1,424,360.66 for Request Number 2025-00606, made by the Department  
24 of Health and Human Services.

25 **Sec. 7.** Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when  
26 passed and approved according to law.