

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 772

Introduced by Hughes, 24; Dungan, 26.

Read first time January 18, 2023

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to children and families; to create the
- 2 Residential Youth Parenting Facility Grant Program; to define terms;
- 3 to provide powers and duties for the Division of Children and Family
- 4 Services of the Department of Health and Human Services; to state
- 5 intent regarding appropriations; and to declare an emergency.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section:

2 (a) Division means the Division of Children and Family Services of
3 the Department of Health and Human Services;

4 (b) Grant program means the Residential Youth Parenting Facility
5 Grant Program; and

6 (c) Residential child-caring agency has the same meaning as in
7 section 71-1926.

8 (2) The Residential Youth Parenting Facility Grant Program is
9 created. The purpose of the grant program is to make grants available for
10 construction of a facility for pregnant and parenting homeless youth, to
11 be located in a city of the primary class. The program shall be
12 administered by the division. The division shall develop eligibility
13 criteria for grants under this section.

14 (3) A licensed residential child-caring agency currently providing
15 street outreach services to homeless youth may apply to the division for
16 a grant in a form and manner prescribed by the division. The division
17 shall award such grant on a competitive basis beginning in fiscal year
18 2023-24, subject to available funds. The division shall award a grant to
19 a licensed residential child-caring agency based on a completed
20 application demonstrating plans for a facility to provide housing to
21 pregnant and parenting homeless youth.

22 (4) If the residential child-caring agency fails to build such
23 facility within forty-eight months after receiving the grant, the
24 residential child-caring agency shall return all grant funds to the
25 division. The division shall remit such funds to the State Treasurer for
26 credit to the Residential Youth Parenting Facility Fund.

27 (5) The Residential Youth Parenting Facility Fund is created. The
28 division shall use the fund to make grants under this section. The fund
29 shall consist of transfers made by the Legislature, funds returned under
30 subsection (4) of this section, and any gifts, grants, bequests, or
31 donations to the fund. Any money in the Residential Youth Parenting

1 Facility Fund available for investment shall be invested by the state
2 investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the
3 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any interest earned on the fund
4 shall be used for the grant program.

5 (6) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate two million
6 dollars from the General Fund for fiscal year 2023-24 to carry out this
7 section.

8 Sec. 2. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
9 passed and approved according to law.