

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE  
NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

SUMMARY OF 2026 LEGISLATION

One Hundred Nineth Legislature  
Second Session

Committee Members

Senator Brian Hardin, Chairperson, District 48

Senator John Fredrickson, Vice-Chairperson, District 20

Senator Ben Hansen, District 16

Senator Merv Riepe, District 12

Senator Dan Quick, District 35

Senator Beau Ballard, District 21

Senator Glen Meyer, District 17

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*All bills that have been enacted into law were Indefinitely Postponed after Sine Die. The following bills were before Sine Die.*

## **LIST OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS REFERENCE TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

One Hundred Nineth Legislature, Second Session

### **2025 Carryover Bills:**

- LB 13** (M. Cavanaugh) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment relating to child care  
**Select File**
- LB 27** (Ballard) Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 46** (McKinney) Establish a Restaurant Meals Program under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 61** (Storer) Require DHHS to file a Medicaid waiver amendment for memory care rates  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 67** (Raybould) Adopt the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 71** (DeBoer) Change requirements for child care reimbursement rates  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 82** (Rountree) Adopt the Cosmetology Licensure Compact  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 87** (Dorn) Provide for a statewide support service provider program for deaf-blind persons  
**Held in Committee**

- LB 95** (Fredrickson) Provide for a pilot program under the federal Child Care Subsidy program  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 96** (Dungan) Require DHHS to file certain 1115 waivers  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 110** (Hughes) Provide requirements for pelvic examinations  
**Enacted into Law**
- LB 138** (Riepe) Change provisions relating to Medicaid pharmacy dispensing fees  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 147** (Hansen) Change provisions relating to approval and regulation of adding fluoride to the water supply of certain political subdivisions  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 153** (Guereca) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for postpartum coverage  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 162** (Juarez) Adopt the Child Care Safety and Security Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 181** (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for benefits under the Young Adult Bridge to Independence Act for young adults not lawfully present in the United States  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 202** (Kauth) Exempt certain activities from disciplinary action under the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act  
**Enacted into Law**
- LB 203** (Kauth) Change powers and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments  
**Enacted into Law**
- LB 210** (Riepe) Provide for fees and assessments for participation and use of the prescription drug monitoring program and the designated health information exchange  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 214** (Holdcroft) Provide for the use of newborn safety devices and procedures relating to surrendered newborn infants

**General File**

**LB 239** (M. Cavanaugh) Change requirements relating to developmental disabilities funding priorities and eliminate a sunset date

**Held in Committee**

**LB 255** (Quick) Provide for use of the Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Cash Fund for problem solving courts

**Held in Committee**

**LB 283** (Spivey) Require DHHS to implement express lane eligibility

**Held in Committee**

**LB 304** (DeBoer) Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 310** (Hansen) Provide an exemption from newborn screening for certain diseases or conditions

**Held in Committee**

**LB 318** (Rountree) Require DHHS to file a Medicaid state plan amendment for incarcerated youth

**Held in Committee**

**LB 339** (Hallstrom) Require DHHS to provide a report regarding the federal Child Care Subsidy program

**Held in Committee**

**LB 365** (Quick) Require Medicaid coverage of self-measure blood pressure monitoring services

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 367** (Hunt) Prohibit conversion therapy and provide for disciplinary sanctions and a deceptive trade practice

**Held in Committee**

**LB 374** (Hansen) Adopt the Licensed Midwives Practice Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 379** (Anderson) Change the maximum time limit for receipt of cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act

**General File**

- LB 436** (Health and Human Services Committee) Change provisions of the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 437** (Riepe) Repeal the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act  
**Enacted into Law**
- LB 442** (Spivey) Establish a state child care subsidy program  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 446** (Guereca) Change provisions to release of health data and statistical research information  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 463** (Ballard) Require school districts to develop a cardiac emergency response plan under the School Safety and Security Reporting Act and provide for grants for such plans from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund  
**Select File**
- LB 481** (Ballard) Adopt the Foster Care Child Scholarships Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 486** (Quick) Require DHHS to implement standards for reimbursement for certain service providers  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 512** (Holdcroft) Adopt the Chemical Abortion Safety Protocol Act  
**General File**
- LB 554** (Riepe) Create the Nebraska Health Professions Commission  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 569** (Health and Human Services Committee) Change duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 570** (J. Cavanaugh) Provide for scholarships for nursing students  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 588** (Conrad) Require the maximum level of monthly assistance to be tied to the annual inflation factor for aid to dependent children  
**Held in Committee**

**LB 603** (Ballard) Change provisions relating to care management units under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act

**General File; Amended into LB 867 and Passed into Law**

**LB 632** (Hansen) Require a health care facility to dispose of the remains of aborted unborn children

**Select File**

**LB 655** (Murman) Provide for medical conscience-based objections

**Held in Committee**

**LB 668** (Storer) Change provisions relating to the Adult Protective Services Central Registry, the central registry of child protection cases and child welfare case managers

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 676** (Hansen) Change and eliminate provisions relating to certified nurse midwives and provide for applicability of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act

**Select File**

**LB 701** (Spivey) Provide for reimbursement of doula services by DHHS

**General File; Amended into LB 958 and Enacted into Law**

**2026 Introduced Bills:**

**LB 720** (Quick) Create a temporary event license for body artists under the Uniform Credentialing Act

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 721** (Quick) Change provisions relating to eligibility for grants under the Intergenerational Care Facility Incentive Grant Program

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 722** (Quick) Provide for use of the Behavioral Health Services Fund for individuals with substance use disorder

**Enacted into Law**

- LB 723** (Quick) Provide for implementation of community engagement requirements under the Medical Assistance Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 724** (Quick) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a cost study of behavioral health care rates  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 732** (Kauth) Change provisions relating to the ability of a health care practitioner to provide cross-sex hormones and puberty blockers under the Let Them Grow Act  
**General File**
- LB 733** (Riepe) Change the name of the Division of Developmental Disabilities to the Division of Disability and Aging within the Department of Health and Human Services  
**Amended into LB 867 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 734** (Hunt) Change waiver of work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 735** (Rountree) Adopt the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact  
**Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 736** (Rountree) Adopt the Athletic Trainer Compact  
**Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 737** (Rountree) Require a joint public hearing to evaluate the progress of the Olmstead plan for individuals with disabilities  
**Enacted into Law**
- LB 740** (McKinney) Adopt the Housing First Supportive Services Act and require the Department of Health and Human Services to seek federal approval for Medicaid coverage  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 746** (Hardin) Eliminate obsolete provisions of the Population Health Information Act  
**Held in Committee**
- LB 773** (Dungan) Eliminate a sunset date and change provisions of the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program  
**General File; Amended into LB 958 and Enacted into Law**

- LB 775** (M. Cavanaugh) Create the Rural Health Transformation Program within the Department of Health and Human Services
- Withdrawn**
- LB 777** (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for eligibility and reporting requirements under the Medicaid program.
- Amended into LB 958 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 792** (Raybould) Eliminate an applicability provision of the Family Home Visitation Act
- Amended into LB 903 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 796** (DeKay) Change provisions relating to practice of pharmacy
- General File; Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 808** (Ibach) Create a child care licensing pilot program under the Child Care Licensing Act
- Held in Committee**
- LB 812** (Bostar) Provide requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services relating to Medicaid eligibility redeterminations and community engagement
- Held in Committee**
- LB 825** (Ballard) Require training on domestic abuse for mental health practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act
- General File; Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**
- LB 832** (Hansen) Extend the prohibition of the addition of long-term care services and supports to the Medicaid managed care program
- Held in Committee**
- LB 843** (Rountree) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program waiver for refugees and immigrants
- Held in Committee**
- LB 845** (Health and Human Services Committee) Eliminate, rename, and change provisions relating to committees and councils administered by the Department of Health and Human Services
- Amended into LB 867 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 860** (Bostar) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to create a program to provide behavioral health care services to individuals under twenty-one years of age

**Held in Committee**

**LB 866** (Ballard) Change distribution of the Nebraska Opioid Recovery Trust Fund, create a fund, and provide for drug detection activities

**Held in Committee**

**LB 867** (Health and Human Services Committee) Change provisions relating to special needs trusts, fingerprints under the Uniform Credentialing Act, child care grants, the Title IV-D Division Customer Service Unit, eligibility for young adults in the bridge to independence program, licensed and self-funded insurers under the Medical Assistance Act, Medicaid nursing facility rates, assistance to aged, blind, or disabled persons, and the state Commodity Supplemental Food program; provide for a money follows the person program for Medicaid benefits, a youth afterschool eligibility letter for child care employment, use of wholesale drug distributor license fees for the prescription drug monitoring program, and maintenance of epinephrine by certain schools; change provisions of and rename the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Support Act , the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council, the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health, the Division of Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Director of Developmental Disabilities; and eliminate provisions relating to divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care Advisory Committee on Aging, the Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Work Fund, and an obsolete Nurse Licensure Compact

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 887** (Hallstrom) Change provisions relating to pharmacists and transfer of prescriptions and eliminate a report under the Parkinson's Disease Registry Act

**Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 888** (Clouse) Change enforcement provisions for violations of the Nebraska Uniform Standards for Modular Housing Units Act, the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles, and certain rules, regulations, and orders

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 891** (Hansen) Change provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act relating to background checks, a complaint tracking system, and staff-to-child ratios

**Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 892** (Hansen) Change requirements relating to licensure of massage therapy establishments

**Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 903** Provide for referrals for home visitation services and for early intervention services and eliminate a provision relating to applicability of the Family Home Visitation Act

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 911** (Hardin) Provide requirements for licensed behavior analysts, certain child care licensing facilities, Medicaid behavior analysis services, and the Department of Health and Human Services

**Held in Committee**

**LB 912** (Health and Human Services Committee) Adopt the Community Health Worker Training Endorsement Act, the Athletic Trainer Compact, and the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact, change provisions relating to child care licensing and the practice of athletic training, respiratory care, massage therapy, medical radiography, nurse practitioners, pharmacy, and pharmacists, provide for liens for physical therapy services and automated pickup kiosks for certain prescription medication, and eliminate provisions relating to physician liability for physician assistants

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 913** (Guereca) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint a dementia services coordinator

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 914** (Hardin) Eliminate physician liability for negligence of physician assistants

**General File; Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 926** (Anderson) Change provisions relating to cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act and transitional assistance under the aid to dependent children program

**General File**

**LB 928** (von Gillern) Require notifications by the Department of Health and Human Services to fictive kin of a child who has been removed from the home

**Held in Committee**

**LB 929** (Fredrickson) Provide for managed care organizations to pay the deductible, cost sharing, or similar charges on behalf of Medicaid enrollees

**Governor's Veto**

**LB 933** (J. Cavanaugh) Provide immunity for health care practitioners under the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act

**Select File**

**LB 936** (Ballard) Provide for use of fluoroscopy by medical radiographers in collaboration with the nurse practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act

**General File; Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 942** (Riepe) Provide requirements for Medicaid reimbursement for emergency medical conditions and inpatient services

**Held in Committee**

**LB 944** (Dorn) Require direct reimbursement to certain facilities for hospice care services under the Medical Assistance Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 945** (Dorn) Change provisions relating to the use of the Hospital Quality Assurance and Access Assessment Fund

**Held in Committee**

**LB 949** (Ballard) Change provisions relating to prescription drug monitoring program, the statewide health information exchange, and the Health Information Technology Board

**Held in Committee**

**LB 955** (Hardin) Provide for practice agreements between pharmacists and physician assistants

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 958** (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for implementation of a home and community-based services waiver, retroactive coverage of certain benefits, and reimbursement of doula services and change reporting requirements under the Medical Assistance Act, change provisions relating to the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program, and provide limits for crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 959** (Riepe) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to create a youth afterschool credential and an adult eligibility passport under the Child Care Licensing Act

**General File; Amended into LB 867 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 970** (Guereca) Require the Department of Health and Human Service to submit a state plan amendment to include a program of early literacy promotion and intervention in well-child visits under the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services program

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1012** (Hansen) Provide for a lien for professional service rendered by a physical therapist

**General File, Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 1013** (Hansen) Change and eliminate provisions relating to the names of state institutions and requirements relating to gender at youth rehabilitation and treatment centers

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1016** (Raybould) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a demonstration project waiver for traditional healing services

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1033** (Spivey) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to make crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program

**General File; Amended into LB 958 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 1043** (Meyer) Include prescription antidepressants, antipsychotics, and anticonvulsants on the Medicaid preferred drug list

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1057** (Ballard) Redefine adult day service under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 1091** (Bostar) Provide requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services for long-term care clients with special needs under the Medicaid program

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 1132** (Fredrickson) Require the Department of Health and Human Services to file a state plan amendment for coverage of long-acting injectable and extended-release medications for certain individuals

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1144** (Hardin) Redefine a term and provide requirements for entities issuing health plans under the Medical Assistance Act

**Amended into LB 867 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 1194** (Storer) Adopt the Real Food Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1200** (Guereca) Require the industrial integrators to submit an annual disaster mitigation plan to the Department of Health and Human Services

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1211** (Riepe) Provide for requirements for automated medication systems operated by certain pharmacies under the Automated Medication Systems Act

**General File; Amended into LB 912 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 1212** (Riepe) Provide for licensure of internationally trained physicians under the Uniform Credentialing Act and change provisions of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act

**Enacted into Law**

**LB 1213** (McKinney) Adopt the Case Management Licensure Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1217** (Hardin) Authorize schools to maintain epinephrine for emergency first aid

**General File; Amended into LB 867 and Enacted into Law**

**LB 1221** (Ballard) Provide definitions relating to community engagement and work requirements under the Medical Assistance Act

**General File**

**LB 1233** (Hansen) Adopt the Developmental Disabilities Provider Excessive Training and Cost Reduction Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1234** (Hansen) Adopt the Freestanding Birth Center Act

**Held in Committee**

**LB 1239** (DeKay) Change provisions relating to management of long-term care facilities

**Withdrawn**

## **BILLS SUMMARIES: BILLS ENACTED**

### **LB 110 (Hughes) Provide requirements for intimate examinations of certain body parts**

LB110 proposes that a health care provider may not perform a pelvic examination on an unconscious or anesthetized patient without prior written consent, unless consent is given by an authorized decision-maker, it is needed for emergency care, or it is court-ordered for evidence collection. Violations are subject to professional discipline and patients must be notified in writing before discharge if such an exam occurs. Committee Amendment 63 provides a definition of “intimate examination,” legislative intent, findings and a penalty provision. Senator Hughes filed AM1756 to Committee Amendment 63 which clarifies the performance of an intimate examination. Committee Amendment 63 as well as AM1756 were adopted on General File. On Select File, Senator Hughes introduced AM2048 and FA 949. AM2048 strikes references to hospital or medical clinic and replaces with health care facility and clarifies that a health care provider be licensed by the Uniform Credentialing Act. FA949 strikes medical clinic and replaces it with health care facility. AM2048 and FA949 were adopted.

### **LB 202 (Kauth) Exempt certain activities from disciplinary action under the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act**

LB 202 protects physicians and surgeons from discipline for expressing an opinion or providing medical advice that differs from medical consensus. Committee Amendment 57 adds language in which the expression of an opinion by an applicant or licensee in a public or professional forum does not include the expression of an opinion offered in the course of the applicant's or licensee's practice, including providing services to a patient. Committee Amendment 57 was adopted on General File.

### **LB 203 (Kauth) Change powers and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments and provide requirements relating to community-wide directed health measures.**

LB 203 changes the powers and duties of local health directors. Provisions are changed relating to the approval process of a directed health measure. Definitions are provided for community-wide directed health measure and epidemiological link. Committee Amendment 611 requires a community-wide directed health measure to be subject to approval of the local board of health, expire seven days after the date of issuance, and may be reauthorized subject to approval of the local board of health. Senator Frederickson filed AM1781 which allows virtual conferencing for ratification of directed health measures. Committee Amendment 611 and AM1781 were adopted on General File.

### **LB 304 (DeBoer) Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program and state intent regarding funding.**

LB 304 eliminates the sunset dates for individuals receiving child care assistance and transitional child care assistance. Specifically, this bill removes the October 1, 2026 sunset date and

removes 135% of the federal poverty level after October 1, 2026 and allows child care assistance to families with incomes up to 185% of the federal poverty level with no sunset dates. In determining ongoing eligibility for the Child Care Subsidy Program, this bill also removes the October 1, 2026 sunset date and the 135% federal poverty level language after October 1, 2026. When the family's eligibility period ends, the family shall continue to be eligible for transitional child care assistance if the family's income is below 200% of the federal poverty level. The September 30, 2026 sunset date for Child Care and Development Block Grant funds to be used to pay for transitional child care is removed. Also, the October 1, 2026 sunset date regarding reimbursement of work-related child care expenses at 185% is removed.

Committee Amendment 2065 requires the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to be used to pay the eligibility costs and the requirement of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to an independent evaluation is removed. Committee 2065 was adopted on General File.

### **LB 365 (Quick) Require Medicaid coverage of self-measure blood pressure monitoring services**

LB365, by January 1, 2026, requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide Medicaid coverage and reimbursement for self-measured blood pressure monitoring services, including a validated device, properly sized cuffs, patient education, and data reporting to a health care provider for treatment planning. Committee Amendment 816 limits the scope of eligibility to pregnant and postpartum women, and focuses on frequent monitoring and streamlined data sharing. Senator Quick filed AM1711 changes the implementation date from January 1, 2026 to January 1, 2027. Committee AM816 and AM1711 were adopted on General File.

### **LB 437 (DeKay) Repeal the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act**

LB437 repeals the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act and enacts corresponding changes to the Nonprofit Hospital Sale Act.

Committee Amendment 659 narrows the scope of the Certificate of Need repeal to long-term care beds (nursing homes), while retaining the Certificate of Need requirements for rehabilitation beds (rehabilitation hospitals).

On General File, Senator Riepe filed AM1732. AM1732 struck the original sections and all amendments and extended the valid time period of a certificate of need from one year to three years. This amendment was adopted.

### **LB 668 (Storer) Change provisions relating to the Adult Protective Services Central Registry and the Child Protection and Family Safety Act**

LB 668 changes the notice provisions of the Adult Protective Services Central Registry and the central registry of child protection cases. The fee is raised for the central registry of child protection cases from three dollars to five dollars. A case manager that is a contracted provider may be used for juveniles under DHHS care. On General File, Senator Storer filed AM1723 which removes the section relating to contracted providers and creates a definition of a prevention case (ongoing child welfare services not required) and prevention services (community support services). AM1723 was adopted. On Select File, Senator Storer filed AM1808 which clarifies the definition of prevention services for community support services to

include, but not be limited to, mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services, in-home patient skill-based programs, and kinship navigator services.

**LB 720 (Quick) Create a temporary event license for body artists under the Uniform Credentialing Act**

LB 720 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to create and issue a temporary event license for an individual who is attending a body art event. An individual applying for an event license must hold a valid license from another state and shall submit documents to DHHS. DHHS may charge a fifty-dollar fee and is authorized to inspect a body art facility. Committee Amendment 1899 limits temporary event licenses to two in a twelve-month period, changes the application requirements of the sponsorship letter, adds the state of issuance and license number to the event license requirements and now requires DHHS to charge a fifty-dollar fee. Committee Amendment 1899 was adopted on General File.

**LB 721 (Quick) Change provisions relating to eligibility for grants under the Intergenerational Care Facility Incentive Grant Program**

LB721 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to accept applications from existing intergenerational care facilities for grant funding under the Intergenerational Care Facility Grant Program related to child care expansion costs. The bill also amends the eligibility criteria to explicitly include all nursing homes, both nonprofit and proprietary, thereby expanding access to the existing grant program. Committee Amendment 1786 adds a restriction prohibiting a facility from reapplying if it has previously received a grant under the program. Committee Amendment 1786 was adopted on General File.

**LB 722 (Quick) Provide for use of the Behavioral Health Services Fund for individuals with substance use disorder.**

LB 722 changes the definitions of “adult with serious mental illness”, and “landlord risk mitigation payment” and defines “substance use disorder”.

**LB 737 (Rountree) Require a joint public hearing to evaluate the progress of the Olmstead plan for individuals with disabilities**

LB737 requires, by October 1 of each year, the Health and Human Services Committee and the Urban Affairs Committee to hold a joint public hearing to review the state’s progress in implementing its Olmstead plan, which refers to the comprehensive strategic plan for providing services to qualified persons with disabilities in the most integrated community settings. The review must address key areas including housing, employment, education, community-based supports, and transportation, and may include consideration of potential legislative solutions. The committees are required to submit a report of their findings to the Clerk of the Legislature no later than December 31 of each year. On Select File, Senator Rountree filed AM2986 which does not require DHHS to provide both the Health and Human Services Committee and Urban Affairs Committee the report. AM2986 was adopted.

**LB 867 (Health and Human Services Committee) Change provisions relating to special needs trusts, fingerprints under the Uniform Credentialing Act, child care grants, the Title IV-D Division Customer Service Unit, eligibility for young adults in the bridge to**

**independence program, licensed and self-funded insurers under the Medical Assistance Act, medicaid nursing facility rates, assistance to aged, blind, or disabled persons, and the state Commodity Supplemental Food program; provide for a money follows the person program for medicaid benefits, a youth afterschool eligibility letter for child care employment, use of wholesale drug distributor license fees for the prescription drug monitoring program, and maintenance of epinephrine by certain schools; change provisions of and rename the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Support Act , the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council, the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health, the Division of Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Director of Developmental Disabilities; and eliminate provisions relating to divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care Advisory Committee on Aging, the Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Work Fund, and an obsolete Nurse Licensure Compact**

LB 867 changes and eliminates programs involving special needs trusts, child care grants, labor force requirements of child support offices, fingerprint requirements to all license applicants, Bridge to Independence eligibility requirements, subrogation and assignment rights of medical support rights, AABD (Aged, Blind, Disabled) eligibility requirements and state warrants, the Commodity Supplemental Food program, wholesale drug distributor fees, child welfare service areas, spousal impoverishment, nursing compacts, and the Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Work Fund.

Committee Amendment 2270 contains amended provisions of LB 845 and LB 733, and also, LB 1144 and LB 1013. In addition, the outright repeal of the spousal impoverishment program is reinstated.

LB 845 was introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee. As originally introduced, this bill combined the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council and the Long-Term Care Advisory Committee into one committee called the Aging, Alzheimer's, and Dementia Advisory Council. The Alternative Response Committee was eliminated and the name of the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services was changed to the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use Services. Committee Amendment 2270 reinstates the Alternative Response Committee.

LB 733 was introduced by Senator Riepe. As amended, this bill changes the name of the Division of Developmental Disabilities of DHHS to the Division of Disability and Aging of DHHS and harmonizes other statutes with this change.

LB 1144 was introduced by Senator Hardin. This bill expands the definition of a health plan to include a service benefit plan, managed care organization, pharmacy benefit manager, or another party that are legally responsible for the payment of a claim. New claim requirements are provided for an entity that issues a health plan.

LB 1013 was introduced by Senator Hansen. This bill allows the state to use youth rehabilitation and treatment center facilities to house either boys or girls, but not both simultaneously.

On General File, Senator Hardin filed AM2859, AM2555, AM2830, and AM2829, to Committee Amendment 2270 to LB 867.

AM2859 removed the provisions of LB 1013 while AM2555 clarified membership provisions of the newly formed Aging, Alzheimer's, and Dementia Advisory Council.

AM2830 contains the provisions of LB 1217. This amendment authorizes the State Department of Education to permit any accredited public or private school to maintain any form of FDA-approved epinephrine for emergency treatment of student allergic reactions.

AM2829 contains the amended provisions of LB 1143. This amendment permits deviation from the nursing facility rate earmark only by calculating the average weighted Medicaid nursing facility rate by dividing the projected total Medicaid nursing facility expenditures by the projected total nursing facility days for the prospective rate period. The number of projected days must be reported to the Legislature. Also, this amendment prevents the average weighted nursing facility daily rate from falling below the rate as of January 1, 2026 unless directed by the Legislature or in the event of a state of emergency declared by the Governor. Finally, this amendment requires DHHS to submit a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid to establish a money follows the person program by December 31, 2026.

Also, on General File, Senator Riepe filed AM2856 to Committee Amendment 2270. This amendment contains amended provisions of LB 959. AM2856 directs DHHS to establish a youth afterschool eligibility letter for 16 and 17-year-olds seeking employment in school-age child care programs or temporary nonresidential child care programs. A temporary nonresidential child care program is defined as one providing care for no more than twelve consecutive hours, not on a continuous or regularly scheduled basis, and in a location not ordinarily used as a licensed child care center.

AM2859, AM2555, AM2830, AM2829, and AM2856, to Committee Amendment 2270, were adopted as well as Committee Amendment 2270.

On Select File, Senator Hardin filed AM2972 and Senator Ballard filed AM2970 to LB 867 (E&R 165). Also, Senator DeBoer filed AM3044 and FA1140.

AM2972 contains the emergency clause as it relates to the reporting requirements in LB 1143.

AM2970 contains the provisions of LB 603. This amendment allows care management clients to contribute to the costs of receiving care management services. Individuals who have family income below 300% of the federal poverty level are no longer required to pay the costs of these services. A client family schedule is required to be used to determine the client's voluntary contribution.

AM3044 changes the special trust provisions in the original language in LB 867. Transfers by an individual 65 years of age or older in a special needs trust are required to comply with federal law in order to avoid a transfer penalty. Also, the membership of the Aging, Alzheimer's, and Dementia Advisory Council, found in LB 845, are changed from 17 voting members to 14 voting

members. FA1140 to AM3044 strikes the term “facilities” from long-term care as it relates to the membership requirements of the Aging, Alzheimer’s and Dementia Advisory Council.

AM2972, AM2970, AM3044, and FA1140 to AM3044, to LB 867 (E&R 165), were adopted.

**LB 888 (Clouse) Change enforcement provisions for violations of the Nebraska Uniform Standards for Modular Housing Units Act, the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles, and certain rules, regulations, and orders.**

LB 888 changes civil penalties assessed by the Public Service Commission for violations relating to modular housing, manufactured homes, and recreational vehicles. Civil penalties per violation of \$1000 are raised to \$3650, except that for any related series of violations, the maximum is raised from \$1 million to \$4,562,282. Also, definitions are provided for Consumer Price Index and CPI percentage difference. Consumer Price Index is defined as the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, CPI percentage difference is defined as the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for the month of October of the most previous year exceeds the Consumer Price Index for the month of October of the second-most recent previous year. Lastly, on August 1 of each year, the Public Service Commission shall adjust the maximum civil penalty by the CPI percentage difference. The adjusted amount shall be rounded to the nearest dollar.

**LB 903 (Storer) Provide for referrals for home visitation services and for early intervention services and eliminate a provision relating to the applicability of the Family Home Visitation Act.**

LB903 establishes a statutory referral pathway authorizing child welfare case managers to refer at-risk families with children two years of age or under to eligible home visitation services as provided in the Family Home Visitation Act. Upon such a referral, participating home visitation agencies may seek reimbursement for covered services under the federal Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). Committee Amendment 1869 expands existing referral authority by permitting a case manager, when appropriate, to refer families with a child age three or younger to early intervention services, in addition to home visitation services. Also, the committee amendment incorporates LB 792 into LB 903 by outright repealing section 68-2306 which provides that the Family Home Visitation Act does not apply to a program that provides a single home visit or infrequent visits.

**LB 912 (Hardin) Adopt the Community Health Worker Training Endorsement Act, the Athletic Trainer Compact, and the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact, change provisions relating to child care licensing and the practice of athletic training, respiratory care, massage therapy, medical radiography, nurse practitioners, pharmacy, and pharmacists, provide for liens for physical therapy services and automated pickup kiosks for certain prescription medication, and eliminate provisions relating to physician liability for physician assistants**

LB 912 creates the Community Health Worker Training Endorsement Act. This bill allows the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations for the

community health worker training program. Nothing in this act or completion of such training program shall be construed to create a licensure or certification. Legislative findings and definitions are provided.

Committee Amendment 2224 includes LB 912 as amended and incorporates LB 887 as amended, LB 735 as amended, LB 736 as amended, LB 892 as amended, and LB 891 as amended.

LB 912 as amended, strikes the date, December 31, 2026, on which DHHS may adopt rules and regulations and replaces it with July 1, 2027.

LB 887 was introduced by Senator Hallstrom. As amended, this bill changes laws governing the practice of pharmacy. The bill authorizes accredited pharmacy programs to determine the timing of the required jurisprudence examination for pharmacy students. It clarifies that the certified pharmacy technician requirement does not apply to pharmacist interns under the supervision of a pharmacist. Additionally, it allows valid prescriptions to be transferred between pharmacies more than once and removes outdated reporting requirements under the Parkinson's Disease Registry Act. As amended, the reporting requirements are reinstated.

LB 735 was introduced by Senator Rountree. This bill, as amended, adopts the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact, a multi-state licensing compact that allows licensed respiratory care therapists to practice across participating states. The purpose of the compact is to improve public access to respiratory therapy services while maintaining patient safety by streamlining licensure, supporting consistent care when patients or providers move, and promoting cooperation among states. The compact consists of thirteen sections: title and purpose; definitions; state participation in this compact; compact privileges; active military member or spouses; adverse actions; establishment of the Respiratory Care Interstate Commission; data system; rulemaking; oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement; effective date, withdrawal, and amendment; construction and severability; and consistent effect and conflict with other state laws. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member state.

LB 736 was introduced by Senator Rountree. This bill adopts the Athletic Trainer Compact. The goal is to improve public access to athletic training services and reduce unnecessary burdens. Member states seek to establish a regulatory framework which provides for a new multistate licensing program. The compact consists of fourteen sections: purpose; definitions; member state requirements; compact privileges; compact qualifying licenses; active military member or spouses; adverse actions; establishment and operation of the commission; data system; rulemaking; oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement; effective date, withdrawal, and amendment; construction and severability; and consistent effect and conflict with other state laws. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member state.

LB 892 was introduced by Senator Hansen. This bill, as amended, clarifies that no person shall engage in massage therapy practices in any location other than a licensed massage therapy

establishment except as permitted by Department of Health and Human Services rules and regulations.

LB891 was introduced by Senator Hansen. This bill, as amended, updates provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act. Specifically, the bill aligns state law with federal background check requirements, clarifies how self-reported licensing investigations appear on public records, allows certain eligible volunteers to be counted toward staff-to-child ratios under regulation, and prohibits political subdivisions from instituting residency requirements for a family child care home II.

On General File, Senator Hansen filed AM2423, Senator Riepe filed AM2464, and Senator Ballard filed AM2578, to Committee Amendment 2224.

AM2423 contains the provisions of LB 1012. This amendment authorizes a physical therapist to file a medical lien for damages awarded to injured persons. This bill amends Section 52-401 to allow a physical therapist to have a lien on any sum awarded the injured party whenever any person employs a physical therapist to perform professional services and such injured person claims damages from the party causing the injury. In order to prosecute such lien, it shall be necessary for such physical therapist to serve a written notice upon the person or corporation from whom damages are claimed. Lastly, a physical therapist claiming the lien shall not be liable for attorney's fees and costs incurred by the injured person.

AM2464 contains amended provisions of LB 1211. This amendment creates the automated pickup kiosk which is separate from an automated medication system. This amendment allows hospital pharmacies to dispense controlled substances through a kiosk located within the hospital or a hospital-operated facility, expands the policy and procedure requirement to include pharmacies, and broadens eligible kiosk locations beyond pharmacy-owned property to include hospitals, health clinics, health care practitioner facilities, and rural emergency hospitals where the pharmacy operates.

AM2578 contains provisions of LB 936. This amendment allows a medical radiographer to use fluoroscopy in collaboration with a nurse practitioner. In addition, education and training requirements are provided.

AM2423, AM2464 and AM2578 to Committee Amendment 2224 were adopted as well as Committee Amendment 2224.

On Select File, Senator DeKay filed AM2642, Senator Hardin filed AM2833, Senator Riepe filed AM2760, and Senator Ballard filed AM2923, to LB 912 (E&R 144)

AM2642 contains amended provisions of LB 796. This amendment provides that individuals employed by a facility where dispensed drugs and devices are delivered from a pharmacy to be picked up by a patient or caregiver, as requested by the patient, shall not be considered to be engaging in the practice of pharmacy if the drug or device has been prepaid by the patient or caregiver, the dispensing patient has offered patient counseling, and requirements relating to packaging, donation, destruction, and documentation are met. DHHS, with the recommendation of the State Board of Health, may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations.

AM2833 contains the provisions of LB 914. This amendment outright repeals Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 38-2053. This statute provides that any physician or physician groups utilizing physician assistants shall be liable for any negligent acts or omissions of physician assistants while acting under their supervision. As a result, this bill eliminates liability for any physician or physician groups utilizing physician assistants.

AM2760 relates to the provisions of LB 1211. This amendment clarifies licensure and fee provisions relating to pharmacists applying for an automated pickup kiosk.

AM2923 contains amended provisions of LB 825. This amendment requires training on domestic abuse for mental health practitioners and independent mental health practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act. Licensure requirements are provided for licensed practitioners and provisional license applicants. This amendment also requires training providers to submit all training materials to the Board of Mental Health Practice for approval.

AM2642, AM2833, AM2760, and AM2923, to LB 912 (E&R 144), were adopted.

**LB 913 (Guereca) Require DHHS to appoint a dementia services coordinator**

LB 913 requires DHHS to appoint a Dementia Services Coordinator by a date to be specified. The Coordinator serves as the primary point of contact connecting individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's and other dementia to services, resources, and support, while also collecting and monitoring statewide dementia data, evaluating service gaps, recommending coordination strategies across agencies, supporting development and implementation of the state dementia plan, recommending related policies and funding, developing dementia-specific training, and organizing community stakeholders toward proactive solutions. Committee Amendment 2383 strikes the non-specified deadline for the appointment of a Dementia Services Coordinator.

**LB 955 (Hardin) Provide for practice agreements between pharmacists and physician assistants.**

LB 955 clarifies that physician assistants can participate in collaborative practice agreements with pharmacists.

**LB 958 (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for implementation of a home and community-based services waiver, retroactive coverage of certain benefits, and reimbursement of doula services and change reporting requirements under the Medical Assistance Act, change provisions relating to the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program, and provide limits for crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program**

LB 958 prohibits the DHHS from submitting an application for a 1915(c) waiver or a state plan amendment relating to cost limits, service hours, or eligibility criteria. A new definition of nursing facility level of care is also provided.

Committee Amendment 2766 strikes the original provisions of LB 958 and requires DHHS ensure that all employees and contractors who administer or utilize assessment tools for waiver participants receive training in clinical interviewing techniques. Training and reporting

requirements are provided as well as definitions for assessment tool and clinical interviewing. Services authorized under a waiver shall be based upon individualized assessments of medical necessity, functional need, and health and safety requirements, as determined through the person-centered planning process in accordance with federal home and community-based services waiver regulations.

In addition, Committee Amendment 2766 contains amended provisions of LB 777 which was also introduced by Senator M. Cavanaugh. DHHS is required to provide the maximum amount of retroactive coverage for each medical assistance eligibility category as permitted by section 71112 of the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Public Law 119-21, as such section existed on January 1, 2026. Also, requirements are added to the DHHS annual Medicaid summary and analysis relating to community engagement, concurrent enrollment, and goods and services.

Committee Amendment 2766 was adopted on General File.

On Select File, Senator Spivey filed AM3119 and AM3128 and Senator Dungan filed AM2977, to LB 958.

AM3119 contains the provisions of LB 1033. This amendment obligates DHHS to make crisis assistance payments not to exceed \$800 per program year, and further authorizes the DHHS to approve payments in excess of that amount upon a finding of extenuating circumstances.

AM3128 contains the provisions of LB 701. This amendment requires DHHS to reimburse a provider for doula services and establish a work group of stakeholders and experts to develop an implementation plan. Requirements for the work group and legislative findings are provided as well as a definition of a doula. Doulas are required to have training, certification, or experience as determined by the implementation plan and are prohibited from performing clinical or medical tasks and diagnoses. It is the intent of the Legislature to fund these services from the vital statistics of the Health and Human Services Cash Fund.

AM2977 contains amended provisions of LB 773. This amendment eliminates the June 30, 2028 sunset on the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program and limits Medicaid reimbursement for breastfeeding support to a minimum of two sessions. Also, the DHHS reporting requirement is extended to 2034.

AM3119, AM3128, and AM2977, to LB 958, were adopted.

**LB 1091 (Bostar) Provide requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services for long-term care clients with special needs under the medical assistance program**

LB 1091 prohibits the DHHS from adding skilled nursing facility and nursing facility services for long-term care clients with special needs to the Medicaid managed care program. Definitions are provided for long-term care client with special needs and provider. These services must continue to be paid through fee-for-service Medicaid or another non-risk-based system, not through managed care. Providers cannot be required to enroll with a managed care organization just to serve this population. Managed care organizations may still coordinate non-nursing benefits or provide wraparound services for these clients, as long as they bear no financial risk

and exercise no utilization management over the provider. DHHS must implement all of this without increasing General Fund expenditures above what managed care would have cost, and must adopt rules and regulations and amend managed care contracts within six months after the bill's effective date.

Committee Amendment 2381 retains the core requirement that skilled nursing and nursing facility services for special needs long-term care clients be excluded from Medicaid managed care and reimbursed through fee-for-service or another authorized delivery system, but removes the requirement that such a system be non-risk-based. DHHS rulemaking obligation is changed from mandatory to discretionary. The six-month deadline to amend managed care contracts is retained.

### **LB 1212 (Riepe) Provide for licensure of internationally trained physicians under the Uniform Credentialing Act and change provisions of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act**

LB 1212 allows an internationally trained physician to practice medicine in the United States. The Department of Health and Human Services, with approval of the Board of Medicine and Surgery, shall issue a restricted license or limited license for no longer than three years to these physicians. This bill provides disciplinary actions under the Uniform Credentialing Act as well as the current appeal process under the Administrative Procedure Act. Definitions are also provided.

Committee Amendment 2477 adds the definitions of “assessment program” and “general competencies”, and redefines “health profession shortage area” and “internationally trained physician”. The definition of “provisional license” replaces the definition of “limited license” and the definition of “transitional license” replaces the definition of “restricted license”. Also, the committee amendment requires the participating health care entity (i.e. hospital or FQHC), for a provisional license, to conduct an initial formative needs assessment of the internationally trained physician’s competence. The participating health care entity shall use the assessment and evaluation program to ensure that the physician has engaged in a sufficient volume and breadth of cases to permit meaningful assessment. For a transitional license, the participating health care entity is required to submit a final assessment and evaluation report to the Board of Medicine and Surgery. In addition, DHHS may take disciplinary action against this type of license for an unsatisfactory assessment or evaluation submitted by the participating health care entity. Finally, an operative date of August 1, 2027 is added.

Committee Amendment 2477 was adopted on General File.

On Select File, Senator Riepe filed AM2937 and AM3028 to AM2937 which made technical changes to the participating health care entity, provisional licenses and unrestricted licenses. Both of these amendments were adopted.

Also, on Select File, Senator Lonowski filed AM2998. AM2998 contains the provisions of LB 899. AM2998 changes and eliminates provisions of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act relating to applying a seal to a document, nonresident certification holders, and licensure requirements. This amendment was adopted.

## **BILL SUMMARIES-GENERAL FILE**

### **2025 Carryover Bills:**

#### **LB 379 (Anderson) Change the maximum time limit for receipt of cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act**

LB379 substitutes the existing eligibility duration for cash assistance from a maximum of sixty (60) months to a maximum of twenty-four (24) months.

Committee Amendment 378 amends LB379 by revising the maximum eligibility duration for cash assistance from twenty-four (24) months to thirty-six (36) months.

#### **LB 214 (Holdcroft) Provide for the use of newborn safety devices and procedures relating to surrendered newborn infants**

LB 214 amends the current Newborn Safe Haven Act to allow the use of a newborn safety device at drop off locations. Requirements are provided for the newborn safety device, hospital staff, fire station staff, and the Department of Health and Human Services. Definitions are also provided as well as intent language for the Legislature to appropriate money for installation grants. Finally, this bill provides immunity from prosecution to those that surrender a child under this Act.

Committee Amendment 1665 provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to implement a pilot program that provides for installation of four newborn safety devices in the state. As part of the pilot program, one newborn safety device shall be located in the first congressional district, second congressional district, and two shall be located in the third congressional district. Also, legislative intent is provided that \$4000 will be appropriated to DHHS for awarding grants for the installation of these devices.

#### **LB 463 (Ballard) Require school districts to develop a cardiac emergency response plan under the School Safety and Security Reporting Act and provide for grants for such plans from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund**

LB 463 requires schools as well as state school security directors to develop a cardiac emergency response plan. Definitions are provided for a cardiac emergency response plan, a cardiac

emergency response team and automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Requirements are provided for DHHS and the State Department of Education. Grants are funded through the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund. Provisions relating to the School Safety and Security Fund are changed.

### **LB 512 (Holdcroft) Adopt the Chemical Abortion Safety Protocol Act**

LB 512 sets out requirements for physicians before they can provide an abortion-inducing drug. Also, physicians are required to schedule a follow-up visit with the woman who was provided this drug. In addition, physicians are required to file a report with DHHS regarding the follow-up visit. Definitions and a severability clause are provided.

Committee Amendment 519 changes the definitions of abortion-inducing drug and adverse event, removes language relating to the woman's blood type, and changes follow-up visit to no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> day.

### **LB 603 (Ballard) Change provisions relating to care management units under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act**

LB 603 allows care management clients to contribute to the costs of receiving care management services. Individuals who have family income below 300% of the federal poverty level are no longer required to pay the costs of these services. A client family schedule is required to be used to determine the client's voluntary contribution.

### **Provisions amended into LB 867**

### **LB 656 (Anderson) Change work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

LB 656 prohibits DHHS from requesting a work requirement waiver under SNAP, unless required by federal law. DHHS, under authority of a general work requirement (seeking work), is required to assign all individuals, ages 16 to 60, to an employment and training program with certain exceptions.

Committee Amendment 424 removes the specific exemptions to the employment and training program and replaces it with the language, "unless specifically exempted by federal regulations or law".

### **Provisions amended into LB 192**

### **LB 701 (Spivey) Provide for reimbursement of doula services by the Department of Health and Human Services.**

This bill requires DHHS to reimburse providers for doula services under the Medicaid program no later than January 1, 2027, funded by state dollars at rates to be determined by DHHS. The bill provides legislative findings that doula services reduce birthing costs and improve outcomes for mothers and infants, including lower cesarean rates, fewer complications, less pain medication, shorter labor, and higher infant Apgar scores. To implement the program, DHHS must convene a stakeholder work group by October 1, 2026, to develop an implementation plan

covering reimbursement rates and training and certification requirements. The work group must include representatives from the doula profession (30%), communities of color disproportionately impacted by poor birth outcomes (30%), rural Nebraska (10%), and individuals who have used doula services (10%), along with medical providers, public health professionals, tribal organizations, and community advocates. A doula is defined as a trained professional providing emotional, physical, and informational support before, during, and after labor and birth, including prenatal visits, delivery support, and postpartum resources. Doulas shall not perform clinical or medical tasks or diagnose or treat patients.

Committee Amendment 3067 changes the date to reimburse providers to January 1, 2029 and the implementation date to January 1, 2027. Also, this amendment provides legislative intent to fund the state reimbursement portion for doula services from the vital statistics of the Health and Human Services Cash Fund.

### **Provisions of LB 701 Amended into LB 958**

#### **2026 Bills:**

#### **LB 732 (Kauth) Change provisions relating to the ability of a health care practitioner to provide cross-sex hormones and puberty blockers under the Let Them Grow Act**

LB 732 changes provisions of the Let Them Grow Act. Expressly, LB 732 prohibits a health care practitioner from prescribing or providing to individuals, under the age of 19, cross-sex hormones or puberty-blocking drugs for the purpose of assisting with gender alteration. However, health care practitioners are exempt if the drugs are used to treat congenital defects, precocious puberty, disease, or physical injury, or if they complied with the current law on or before January 1, 2027. Also, telehealth is prohibited for these procedures. In addition, definitions are provided for disease and congenital defects and requirements are provided for courts and the Attorney General.

#### **LB 773 (Dungan) Eliminate a sunset date and change provisions of the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program**

LB 773 eliminates the Prenatal Plus Program's sunset date of June 30, 2028, making it permanent, and extends program services to eligible mothers through the sixtieth day of the postpartum period. The bill also requires a minimum of two breastfeeding support sessions for at-risk mothers served by the program and extends the Department of Health and Human Services' annual reporting requirement to the Legislature through 2034. Committee Amendment 2035 removes the provision that would have extended program services to eligible mothers through the sixtieth day of the postpartum period.

### **Provisions of LB 773 Amended into LB 958**

### **LB 796 (DeKay) Change provisions relating to pharmacy**

LB 796 amends the Pharmacy Practice Act by adding the words "any of the following" before the list of exclusions to the practice of pharmacy. Committee Amendment 2328 provides that individuals employed by a facility where dispensed drugs and devices are delivered from a pharmacy to be picked up by a patient or caregiver, as requested by the patient, shall not be considered to be engaging in the practice of pharmacy if the drug or device has been prepaid by the patient or caregiver, the dispensing patient has offered patient counseling, and requirements relating to packaging, donation, destruction, and documentation are met. DHHS, with the recommendation of the State Board of Health, may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations.

#### **Provisions of LB 796 Amended into LB 912**

### **LB 825 (Ballard) Require training of domestic abuse for mental health practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act**

LB 825 adds domestic abuse training requirements. For licensed practitioners, a minimum of 2 hours of continuing education in domestic abuse counseling is required every two years, delivered by a qualified instructor who has completed the base domestic abuse training required, has at least 3 years of experience working with domestic abuse victims or offenders, and has completed 40 additional hours of domestic abuse-related training. For provisional license applicants, 3 hours of domestic abuse training is required as a condition of licensure, covering topics relating to screening tools, high lethality or risk, documentation, referrals, impact on children, ethical practice, and planning. The bill has an operative date of January 1, 2027.

Committee Amendment 2443 adds "and licensed independent mental health practitioners" to the continuing education requirement found in section 2 of LB 825. Additionally, it sets September 1, 2027, as the beginning date for the domestic abuse training requirement applicable to provisional mental health practitioner license applicants. Lastly, it requires training providers to submit all training materials to the Board of Mental Health Practice for approval.

#### **Provisions of LB 825 Amended into LB 912**

### **LB 914 (Hardin) Eliminate physician liability for negligence of physician assistants**

LB 914 outright repeals Nebraska Revised Statutes, Section 38-2053. This statute provides that any physician or physician groups utilizing physician assistants shall be liable for any negligent acts or omissions of physician assistants while acting under their supervision. As a result, this bill eliminates liability for any physician or physician groups utilizing physician assistants.

#### **Provisions of LB 914 Amended into LB 912**

### **LB 926 (Anderson) Change provisions relating to cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act and transitional assistance under the aid to dependent children program**

LB 926 changes the maximum time limit for receipt of cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act from 60 months to 36 months. Also, this bill removes sections relating to reimbursement for work-related child care expenses and cash assistance involving loss of job and extreme hardship.

**LB 936 (Ballard) Provide for the use of fluoroscopy by medical radiographers in collaboration with nurse practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act**

LB 936 allows a medical radiographer to use fluoroscopy in collaboration with a nurse practitioner. In addition, education and training requirements are provided.

**Provisions of LB 936 Amended into LB 912**

**LB 959 (Riepe) Require DHHS to create a youth afterschool credential and an adult eligibility passport under the Child Care Licensing Act**

LB 959 establishes a credentialing system for youth and adult child care workers to standardize background checks and training and allow portability of qualifications across programs. DHHS is required to create a youth afterschool credential for 16 and 17-year-olds working in school-age or temporary child care programs. The credential requires background checks, registry checks, and a seven-hour orientation. The credential allows limited provisional work while checks are pending, valid for one year, and may be accepted by licensed programs as proof of meeting training and safety requirements. Also, DHHS is required to will an adult eligibility passport for anyone 18 or older, verifying that they've completed all required background checks and training for child care or youth programs. The passport is valid for one year, renewable annually, and shall be accepted by licensed programs as proof of meeting state requirements. Credentials may move between programs, and the passport can be updated if new background information arises. DHHS may have a fee to cover administrative costs.

Committee Amendment 2839 strikes the original provisions and directs DHHS to establish a youth afterschool eligibility letter for 16 and 17-year-olds seeking employment in school-age child care programs or temporary nonresidential child care programs. A temporary nonresidential child care program is defined as one providing care for no more than twelve consecutive hours, not on a continuous or regularly scheduled basis, and in a location not ordinarily used as a licensed child care center.

**Provisions of LB 959 Amended into LB 867**

**LB 1012 (Hansen) Provide for a lien for professional services rendered by a physical therapist**

LB 1012 authorizes a physical therapist to file a medical lien for damages awarded to injured persons. This bill amends Section 52-401 to allow a physical therapist to have a lien on any sum awarded the injured party whenever any person employs a physical therapist to perform professional services and such injured person claims damages from the party causing the injury. In order to prosecute such lien, it shall be necessary for such physical therapist to serve a written notice upon the person or corporation from whom damages are claimed. Lastly, a physical therapist claiming the lien shall not be liable for attorney's fees and costs incurred by the injured person.

**Provisions of LB 1012 Amended into LB 912**

**LB 1033 (Spivey) Require DHHS to make crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program**

LB 1033 obligates DHHS to make crisis assistance payments not to exceed \$800 per program year, and further authorizes the DHHS to approve payments in excess of that amount upon a finding of extenuating circumstances.

**Provisions of LB 1033 Amended into LB 958**

**LB 1211 (Riepe) Provide requirements for automated medication systems operated by certain pharmacies under the Automated Medication Systems Act**

LB 1211 allows pharmacies to operate automated medication dispensing machines on their own property, including exterior kiosk-style installations, but must obtain annual licensure, designate pharmacist oversight, comply with all standard dispensing and labeling requirements, offer pharmacist consultation, and are prohibited from dispensing controlled substances through these systems.

Committee Amendment 2202 creates the automated pickup kiosk which is separate from an automated medication system. The committee amendment allows hospital pharmacies to dispense controlled substances through a kiosk located within the hospital or a hospital-operated facility, expands the policy and procedure requirement to include pharmacies, and broadens eligible kiosk locations beyond pharmacy-owned property to include hospitals, health clinics, health care practitioner facilities, and rural emergency hospitals where the pharmacy operates.

**Provisions of LB 1211 Amended into LB 912**

**LB 1217 (Hardin) Authorize schools to maintain epinephrine for emergency first aid**

LB 1217 authorizes the State Department of Education to permit any accredited public or private school to maintain any form of FDA-approved epinephrine for emergency treatment of student allergic reactions.

**Provisions of LB 1217 Amended into LB 867**

**LB 1221 (Ballard) Provide definitions relating to community engagement and work requirements under the Medical Assistance Act**

LB1221 defines key terms DHHS shall use when determining whether a Medicaid recipient qualifies for a hardship exemption from community engagement or work requirements under the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act. An "extended period of time" means one or more overnight stays, two or more trips away from home, or any sustained absence that reasonably prevents someone from meeting their requirements. "Inpatient hospital services" means care provided to someone formally admitted to a hospital under a doctor's order, counted from the date of admission and including any related outpatient, observation, or follow-up care tied to that stay. "Outside of the individual's community" means travel outside the person's county of residence. "serious or complex medical condition" is defined as any condition listed under federal Medicaid regulations, including any condition for which Medicaid coverage is medically necessary.

Committee Amendment 1984 adds new language to specifically include end-stage renal disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis under the definition of a serious or complex medical condition.

## **BILL SUMMARIES-SELECT FILE:**

### **2025 Carryover Bills:**

#### **LB 13 (M. Cavanaugh) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment relating to child care**

LB 13 requires DHHS to modify its payment structure for child care providers participating in the federal Child Care Subsidy Program, shifting from an attendance-based reimbursement model to an enrollment-based model.

Committee Amendment 249 provides a deadline of no later than July 1, 2026.

AM516 by Senator M. Cavanaugh extends to deadline to August 1, 2026.

#### **LB 463 (Ballard) Require school districts to develop a cardiac emergency response plan under the School Safety and Security Reporting Act and provide for grants for such plans from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund**

LB 463 requires schools as well as state school security directors to develop a cardiac emergency response plan. Definitions are provided for a cardiac emergency response plan, a cardiac emergency response team and automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Requirements are provided for DHHS and the State Department of Education. Grants are funded through the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund. Provisions relating to the School Safety and Security Fund are changed.

#### **LB 632 (Hansen) Require a health care facility to dispose of the remains of aborted unborn children**

LB 632 requires the remains of an aborted child to be disposed by a health care facility by cremation, interment, or as directed by the Board of Health. Legislative purpose language is also provided.

Committee Amendment 616 provides that it shall be unlawful for a health care facility at which an elective abortion has been performed "and completed" to deposit or dispose of the remains of an aborted unborn child in a manner other than provided in this section.

#### **LB 676 (Hansen) Change and eliminate provisions relating to certified nurse midwives and provide for applicability of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act**

LB 676 changes provisions relating to the certified nurse midwives (CNMs) that are currently licensed under the APRN Act. This bill allows a CNM to provide health care services within the midwife's specialty area. Practice agreements are eliminated. CNMs are placed under the

definition of a health care provider so that the NE Hospital-Medical Liability Act (Excess Liability Act) applies. Committee Amendment 655 amends in LB 374 and LB 701.

## **2026 Bills:**

### **LB 933 (J. Cavanaugh) Provide immunity for health care practitioners under the Nebraska Cannabis Patient Protection Act**

LB 933 provides legal immunity for health care practitioners who recommend medical cannabis to patients. Specifically, a health care practitioner cannot be arrested, prosecuted, penalized, or denied any right or privilege, including civil penalties or professional disciplinary action by DHHS or any licensing board, solely for recommending cannabis or stating their professional opinion that a patient would benefit from cannabis to treat or alleviate a medical condition.

Committee Amendment 2192 to LB 933 retains the core protection from LB933 in that health care practitioners cannot face arrest, prosecution, or professional disciplinary action solely for recommending cannabis or stating a professional opinion that a patient may benefit from it medically. However, the amendment adds that immunity does not protect a practitioner from civil penalties or disciplinary action if they fail to properly evaluate a patient's medical condition or otherwise violate the standard of care.

On General File, Senator John Cavanaugh filed AM2602 to Committee Amendment 2192. AM2602 removed the language “failing to properly evaluate medical condition” and “violating physician patient standard of care from the subsection relating to civil penalties/disciplinary actions and replaced it with “for malpractice or professional negligence”. AM2602 was adopted as well as Committee Amendment 2192.

On Select File, Senator Kauth filed AM 2855 which adds language that the practitioner’s professional judgement must be based upon a preponderance of the current scientific evidence. Senator Hardin filed FA1187 to AM2855 which also requires the practitioner to be licensed in the state of Nebraska and complies with the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act and the written recommendation must be in compliance with the current rules and regulations of this Act. FA1187 to AM2855 and AM2855 were adopted.

## **BILL SUMMARIES-HELD IN COMMITTEE:**

### **2025 Carryover Bills:**

#### **LB 27 (Ballard) Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act**

LB 27 includes loan repayment programs for certain dentists who provide services to Medicaid patients in the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act. Dentists must comply with the loan repayment agreement with DHHS involving providing dental services to Medicaid patients, practicing dentistry in Nebraska and payment for educational debts. The amount of financial assistance for dentists pursuant to this act, is up to \$60,000 per recipient per year of full-time practice and up to a maximum of \$300,000 per recipient. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$1.5 million from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund for the purpose of making the loan repayments.

#### **LB 46 (McKinney) Establish a Restaurant Meals Program under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

LB 46 requires Nebraska to enroll in a SNAP Restaurant Meals Program (RMP). This would allow SNAP benefits to be used for meals at restaurants, contracted with the Department, sold at concessional prices. The program would only be available to homeless, elderly or disabled SNAP recipients and their spouses.

#### **LB 61 (Storer) Require DHHS to file a Medicaid waiver amendment for memory care rates**

LB 61 requires DHHS to submit an application to CMS to amend the home and community-based waiver for the aged and disabled to include a rate for memory care provided by an assisted-living facility. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate State General Fund dollars and federal dollars to be used to pay this daily rate.

#### **LB 67 (Raybould) Adopt the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act**

LB 67 requires hospitals to provide sexual assault survivors with medically accurate information on emergency contraception in a language they understand and offer a full course unless declined. All hospital personnel involved in such care must receive proper training, and hospitals must develop policies ensuring compliance with the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act, including handling moral or religious objections. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) reviews complaints about noncompliance, determines whether to investigate, and submits biennial reports to the Legislature on complaints, investigations, and disciplinary actions. If DHHS finds a violation, hospitals have 15 days to contest the findings or request a hearing; if no response is received, DHHS's decision is final. Noncompliant hospitals receive a written warning for the first violation and a \$1,000 fine per offense for subsequent violations, including each month of failed staff training or each survivor denied required emergency contraception services.

### **LB 71 (DeBoer) Change requirements for child care reimbursement rates**

LB 71 changes child care reimbursements by changing the rating under the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act from step three to step two. Under this bill, DHHS shall change these requirements to allow child care providers that have received a rating of step two or higher to be reimbursed at higher rates.

### **LB 82 (Rountree) Adopt the Cosmetology Licensure Compact**

LB 82 creates the Cosmetology Licensure Compact. The goal is to improve public access to cosmetology services and reduce unnecessary burdens. Member states seek to establish a regulatory framework which provides for a new multistate licensing program.

The Compact consists of 13 Articles: purpose; definitions; member state requirements; multistate license; reissuance of a multistate license by a new home state; authority of Compact Commission and member state licensing authorities; adverse actions; active duty military and their spouses; establishment and operation of the cosmetology licensure compact commission; data system; rulemaking; oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement; and effective date, withdrawal, and amendment.

The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh Member State.

### **LB 87 (Dorn) Provide for a statewide support service provider program for deaf-blind persons**

LB 87 requires the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired to develop a statewide support service provider program for deaf-blind persons that facilitates a transition from dependency to independent living and participation in society. The program shall include services relating to independent living; visual, situational, and environmental information; human guides; facilitation of casual conversations; and daily living activities. The commission may contract with a private provider or may offer the services directly through the program. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$100,000 from the General Fund to the commission for these services.

### **LB 95 (Fredrickson) Provide for a pilot program under the federal Child Care Subsidy program**

LB 95 requires DHHS to create a pilot program to provide child care assistance for the child care workforce as part of the federal Child Care Subsidy program. The pilot program shall begin on October 1, 2025 and terminate on September 30, 2028. Eligible households shall have a household income equal to or less than 185% of the state median income and have an applicant/household member listed in the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Record System. Eligible households receiving child care assistance shall remain eligible for 12 continuous months without a cost-share obligation if they maintain employment. DHHS is required to submit an annual report, through 2026 to 2028, that describes participation in the pilot program.

**LB 96 (Dungan) Require DHHS to file certain 1115 waivers**

LB 96 requires DHHS to submit Medicaid 1115 waivers: reentry demonstration opportunity waiver and health-related social needs demonstration waiver. The purpose of the waivers is to assist incarcerated populations with reentry into society and provide basic needs.

**LB 138 (Riepe) Change provisions relating to Medicaid pharmacy dispensing fees**

LB 138 requires reimbursement for pharmacy dispensing fees for independent pharmacies to be \$10.38 per prescription. For all other pharmacies, the reimbursement shall be paid per prescription based on the amount of prescriptions. Pharmacies, except for mail order pharmacies, within a 30 mile radius of another pharmacy shall be reimbursed at \$10.38 per prescription. DHHS is required to complete a cost-of-dispensing survey and a report to the Legislature regarding the adjustment of pharmacy dispensing fees.

**LB 147 (Hansen) Change provisions relating to approval and regulation of adding fluoride to the water supply of certain political subdivisions**

LB 147 removes the mandate that requires the addition of fluoride to water supplies. Any public or private entity that provides a water supply for human consumption may add fluoride in the amount and manner prescribed by DHHS rules and regulations.

**LB 153 (Guereca) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for postpartum coverage**

LB 153 requires DHHS, on or before October 1, 2025, to seek approval through a state plan amendment to the Children's Health Insurance Program to implement a health services initiative to provide postpartum coverage for at least 6 months for a mother whose child is covered under the unborn child option. The covered services shall be identical to the comprehensive postpartum covered services to a pregnant woman under Medicaid. DHHS may submit a state plan amendment to provide 12 months of postpartum coverage. It is the intent of the Legislature to use the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to fund these services.

**LB 162 (Juarez) Adopt the Child Care Safety and Security Act**

LB 162 creates the Child Care Safety and Security Fund for the Department of Education to award grants to child care centers for training and materials related to safety and reunification procedures. This bill creates the Child Care Safety and Security Fund and provides a reporting requirement for the NE Department of Education.

**LB 181 (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for benefits under the Young Adult Bridge to Independence Act for young adults not lawfully present in the United States**

LB 181 requires DHHS, on or before October 1, 2025, to submit a state plan amendment to CMS to provide Medicaid to young adults participating in the Bridge to Independence program, including adults less than 21 years old and who are not lawfully present in the United States.

**LB 210 (Riepe) Provide for fees and assessments for participation and use of the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) and the designated health information exchange (HIE)**

LB 210 creates an assessment process in which DHHS collects an assessment from the operators of the PDMP and HIEs and remits to the newly created Population Health Information Assessment Fund. Operators are allowed to charge health care facilities and health insurance plans and assess PDMP users. DHHS is required to impose fees on pharmacy benefit managers. This bill provides reporting requirements for DHHS involving managed care organizations and vital statistics data.

**LB 239 (M. Cavanaugh) Change requirements relating to developmental disabilities funding priorities and eliminate sunset date**

LB 239 changes the objective assessment process relating to residential settings, individual budgets, mediated review process, and redeterminations and requires it to be on the DHHS website. The individual or legal representative shall decide the entity that provides specialized services.

The DD (Developmental Disabled) funding priorities of the Medicaid Home and Community-based Services is changed to include family/household member in an immediate crisis, persons at risk for placement in juvenile detention centers, persons who have ever been placed under Probation, persons 18 years old instead of 21 years old, and persons who have departed the education system.

The June 30, 2026 sunset date is removed.

**LB 255 (Quick) Provide for use of the Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Cash Fund for problem solving courts**

LB 255 allows \$1 million from the Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Cash Fund to be appropriated to the Nebraska Supreme Court. This money will be used for problem solving courts to order medication-assisted treatment that involves the use of medication for substance use disorder treatment.

**LB 281 (Quick) Change provisions relating to the Board of Nursing and eliminate the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses**

LB 281 eliminates the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and transfers all its duties to the Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing is expanded by one additional public member and three additional advanced practice registered nurses

**Provisions of LB 281 are included in LB 346 (passed into law)**

**LB 283 (Spivey) Require DHHS to implement express lane eligibility**

LB 283 requires DHHS, no later than October 1, 2025, to submit a state plan amendment to CMS to implement express lane eligibility. The state plan amendment shall identify DHHS/Children and Family Services as the express lane agency and specify that the express lane option be used for eligibility determinations, redeterminations, and renewals. The effective date for the applications shall be January 1, 2026. DHHS is required to take all actions necessary to maximize federal financial participation to carry out this bill.

**LB 310 (Hansen) Provide an exemption from newborn screening for certain diseases or conditions**

LB 310 grants a parent or guardian the ability to opt out of newborn screening if the parent/guardian of such infant objects to the screening.

**LB 318 (Rountree) Require DHHS to file a Medicaid state plan amendment for incarcerated youth**

LB 318 requires DHHS to submit a state plan amendment for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to the federal Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to provide Medicaid/CHIP coverage for youth, ages 19 to 26.

**LB 339 (Hallstrom) Require DHHS to provide a report regarding the federal Child Care Subsidy program**

LB 339 requires DHHS, no later than February 1 of each year, to provide a summary report of claims reimbursed by licensed child care providers through the Child Care Subsidy program. The report shall include information relating to the number of paid day units and reimbursement.

**LB 367 (Hunt) Prohibit conversion therapy and provide for disciplinary sanctions and a deceptive trade practice**

LB 367 prohibits persons holding credentials for medicine and surgery, nursing, psychologist, mental health and pharmacy from providing conversion therapy to any individuals under 19 years of age. Disciplinary sanctions are provided as well as penalties under the Deceptive Trade Practices Act. This bill does not apply to clergy members or religious counselors acting in a pastoral and religious capacity. No state funds shall be expended for conversation therapy.

**LB 374 (Hansen) Adopt the Licensed Midwives Practice Act**

LB 374 creates a separate licensure category for midwives, certified professional midwives (CPMs), under the Uniform Credentialing Act (UCA). Currently, certified nurse midwives (CNMs) are licensed under the Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) Act. The Licensed Midwives Practice Act will be a separate act from the current Certified Nurse Midwifery Practice Act which is subject to the APRN.

LB 374 creates the Board of Licensed Midwives and gives it authority to adopt rules and regulations within this Act. New provisions are added regarding reciprocity, temporary licenses, and application requirements. Definitions are provided and current UCA provisions are harmonized with this new act.

**AM1474 to LB 676 (Hansen) pending; amends provisions of LB 374 into LB 676**

**LB 381 (Fredrickson) Change Medicaid requirements relating to program integrity audits**

LB 381 requires program integrity contractors to provide clear written justification to the provider for commencing an audit; review claims within one year instead of four (payment shall not be subject to adjustment after one year except if fraud); furnish any records request to a provider; schedule onsite audits with advance notice of not less than 10 days; not require any requested documentation following on an onsite audit sooner than 90 days; and provide a detailed written notification of an adverse determination. Insurance claims are excluded from the scope of review. No payment shall be recovered for overpayments past a year or based on a clerical error. Appeals for overpayments are changed. Definitions are provided for clerical error, credible allegation of fraud, fraud and fraud hotline.

**Provisions of LB 381 Amended into LB 380 (See LB 380 summary)**

**LB 436 (Health and Human Services Committee) Change provisions of the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act**

LB 436 changes provisions relating to the regulation of unregulated health professions and changes in scope of practice. This bill changes the change of scope criteria relating to unregulated practice, level of regulation, education and training, and qualification and competency of licensees. The application requirements for change of scope are changed. Changes are provided to the technical committee involving applications. Language relating to the Director of the Division of Public Health is modified.

**LB 442 (Spivey) Establish a state child care subsidy program**

LB 442 requires DHHS to administer a social services program that includes child care assistance. A payroll tax will be used to fund this program, not General Funds. Child care providers are required to make accommodations so that the household member is not a primary caregiver. DHHS is required to adopt a rate schedule to determine child care rates. Eligibility requirements are also provided.

**LB 446 (Gureeca) Change provisions to release of health data and statistical research information**

LB 446 adds quality improvement to DHHS forms relating to Vital Statistics. Also, this bill allows health data information to be released to statewide quality improvement initiatives and now requires DHHS to annually report this information.

**LB 481 (Ballard) Adopt the Foster Care Child Scholarships Act**

LB 481 requires DHHS to establish the Foster Child Scholarship Program to provide HOPE scholarship (financial grant-in-aid) to foster care students or biological sibling of foster child. An educational decision-maker (parent, guardian, foster care parent) shall qualify for a HOPE scholarship upon being accepted at a participating school. DHHS is required to annually notify educational decision-makers to increase awareness and may adopt rules and regulations to carry out this Act. DHHS is also required, on or before December 1, 2026, to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature relating to HOPE scholarships. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$200,000 from the General Fund to carry out this Act.

**LB 486 (Quick) Require DHHS to implement standards for reimbursement for certain service providers**

DHHS is required to use a standard reimbursement rate for DD (Developmental Disabilities), TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) and PAS (Personal Assistance Services) service providers based on the most recent Optumas report. Rebasing must be every 2 years.

**LB 515 (Quick) Provide requirements for certain prescription refills**

LB 515 allows pharmacists to dispense an emergency refill if they receive a refill request with no authorization and cannot readily obtain authorization. The pharmacist must obtain the prescription information from a label, record or common database. Also, the refill must not be a controlled substance, is a maintenance medication, and the interruption of therapy may produce undesirable consequences.

### **Provisions of LB 515 Amended into LB 332**

#### **LB 516 (Quick) Eliminate provisions relating to counties maintaining office space for DHHS**

LB 516 eliminates office space requirements relating to the Stone Office Building at the Norfolk Regional Center. This bill also eliminates current county office space requirements for the administration of public assistance programs and the current DHHS review process for reducing office space.

#### **LB 553 (Riepe) Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act**

LB 553 provides student loans to students in dietitian nutritionist practice programs and loans repayments for dietitian nutritionists.

### **Provisions of LB 553 Amended into LB 312**

#### **LB 554 (Riepe) Create the Nebraska Health Professions Commission**

LB 554 replaces the current technical review committee with the newly created NE Health Professions Commission. The current process involving the technical review committee is replaced by a new credentialing review process with the commission. Reporting requirements and an appropriation are provided.

#### **LB 555 (Riepe) Provide for assistant funeral directors under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act**

LB 555 creates regulation and oversight of assistant funeral directors, including their eligibility, supervision, permitted activities, and the responsibilities of licensed funeral directors under the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act.

### **Provisions of LB 555 Amended into LB 332**

#### **LB 569 (Health and Human Services Committee) Change duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services**

LB 569 changes the reporting duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This bill requires the EMS Board to submit an annual report to the Legislature containing aggregate data on emergency medical services in Nebraska. The report shall include call volume, organizational status, caregiver level of care, regional response times, patient demographics, nature of complaints, provider impressions, patient dispositions, the number of licensed providers, and comparative data with other states or national regions.

#### **LB 570 (J. Cavanaugh) Provide for scholarships for nursing students**

LB 570 requires DHHS to award scholarships to nursing students who intend to practice in Nebraska. A \$5 million appropriation is also provided.

#### **LB 588 (Conrad) Require the maximum level of monthly assistance to be tied to the annual inflation factor for aid to dependent children (ADC)**

LB 588 removes the current ADC maximum payment level of 55% of the standard of need and replaces it with tying it to the annual inflation factor

**LB 655 (Murman) Provide for medical conscience-based objections**

LB 655 provides that a health care provider/payor has the right to opt out of participation in, or payment for, any health care services if they have a conscience-based objections (based on religious, moral or ethnic belief). A health care provider/payor may not be discriminated against or suffer any adverse action for providing information regarding violations of this Act. A health care provider/payor may file a complaint with the Attorney General alleging violations of this Act and shall not be civilly liable for declining to participate in a health care service based on a conscience-based objection. Disciplinary action shall not be instituted against a health care provider's license because they have spoken or written about a health care service or policy.

**LB 697 (Strommen) Change requirements relating to compounding and delegated dispensing permits under the Pharmacy Practice Act**

LB697 would increase the board's membership from five to eight by adding an additional pharmacist, a pharmacy technician, and an additional public representative; authorize outsourcing facilities to compound drugs for office use; expand prescribing authority under a delegated dispensing permit to include affiliated practitioners not physically present at the clinic; and clarify compounding standards, permissible activities, and prohibitions on compounding certain drugs.

**Provisions of LB 697 Amended into LB 332**

**2026 Bills:**

**LB 723 (Quick) Provide for implementation of community engagement requirements under the Medical Assistance Act**

LB 723 requires DHHS to implement Medicaid community engagement requirements only as required by federal law. DHHS shall adopt the full scope of short-term hardship exemptions, adopt the broadest and most comprehensive definition of medically frail, accept a participant's verification, utilize all available data sources to assess compliance or exemption status and apply an income proxy to calculate work hours. Also, DHHS is required to implement community engagement requirements no earlier than the date required by federal law.

**LB 724 (Quick) Require DHHS to conduct a cost study of behavioral health care rates**

LB 724 requires DHHS to conduct a cost study of behavioral health rates in Nebraska. The requirements and timelines of this report are provided.

**LB 733 (Riepe) Change the name of the Division of Developmental Disabilities to the Division of Disability and Aging within DHHS**

LB 733 updates current statutes relating to DHHS by changing the name of the Division of Developmental Disabilities to the Division of Developmental Disabilities and Aging.

**Provisions Amended into LB 867 through Committee Amendment 2270**

**LB 734 (Hunt) Change work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

LB 734 requires DHHS to submit an application to USDA to waive work requirements from the federal SNAP law.

**LB 735 (Rountree) Adopt the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact**

LB 735 adopts the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact, a multi-state licensing compact that allows licensed respiratory care therapists to practice across participating states. The purpose of the compact is to improve public access to respiratory therapy services while maintaining patient safety by streamlining licensure, supporting consistent care when patients or providers move, and promoting cooperation among states. The compact consists of thirteen sections: title and purpose; definitions; state participation in this compact; compact privileges; active military member or spouses; adverse actions; establishment of the Respiratory Care Interstate Commission; data system; rulemaking; oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement; effective date, withdrawal, and amendment; construction and severability; and consistent effect and conflict with other state laws. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member state.

**Provisions of LB 735 Amended into LB 912 through Committee Amendment 2224**

**LB 736 (Rountree) Adopt the Athletic Trainer Compact**

LB 736 adopts the Athletic Trainer Compact. The goal is to improve public access to athletic training services and reduce unnecessary burdens. Member states seek to establish a regulatory framework which provides for a new multistate licensing program. The compact consists of fourteen sections: purpose; definitions; member state requirements; compact privileges; compact qualifying licenses; active military member or spouses; adverse actions; establishment and operation of the commission; data system; rulemaking; oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement; effective date, withdrawal, and amendment; construction and severability; and consistent effect and conflict with other state laws. The compact shall come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member state.

**Provisions of LB 736 Amended into LB 912 through Committee Amendment 2224**

**LB 740 (McKinney) Adopt the Housing First Supportive Services Act and require DHHS to seek federal approval for Medicaid coverage**

LB 740 creates the Housing First Supportive Services Act. This act requires DHHS to seek federal approval through a demonstration waiver or state plan amendment for supportive housing services. This bill creates DHHS duties relating to coordination with other entities, reporting,

adopting and promulgating rules/regulations. The Housing First Supportive Services Fund is created. Definitions and findings are also provided.

**LB 746 (Hardin) Eliminate obsolete provisions of the Population Health Information Act**

LB 746 eliminates obsolete dates relating the health information exchanges in the Population Health Information Act.

**LB 777 (M. Cavanaugh) Provide for eligibility and reporting requirements under the medical assistance program**

LB 777 requires DHHS to provide the maximum amount of retroactive coverage for each Medicaid eligibility category as permitted by federal law. Also, the status of community engagement requirements (i.e. applications, verification, enrollment, cost-sharing) are added to the DHHS Medicaid summary and analysis.

**Amended provisions of LB 777 Amended into LB 958 through Committee Amendment 2766.**

**LB 792 (Raybould) Eliminate an applicability provision of the Family Home Visitation Act**

LB 792 eliminates the provision that the Family Home Visitation Act does not apply to a program that provides a single home visit or infrequent home visits.

**Provisions of LB 792 Amended into LB 903**

**LB 808 Create a child care licensing pilot program under the Child Care Licensing Act**

LB 808 allows DHHS to enter into contacts with child care licensees and operate a pilot program in order to increase capacity of day care facilities. Licensure requirements in regulations may be waived. Licenses shall not be granted if the facility would endanger the health, safety, and welfare of a child. The pilot program is in effect for five years.

**LB 812 (Bostar) Provide requirements for DHHS relating to Medicaid eligibility redeterminations and community engagement**

LB 812 requires DHHS to redetermine Medicaid eligibility no more frequently than required by federal law and implement community engagement requirements no earlier than the date required by federal law. Compliance and verification requirements are provided as well as an emergency clause.

**LB 832 (Hansen) Extend the prohibition of the addition of long-term care services and supports to the Medicaid managed care program**

LB 832 changes the date when DHHS shall not add long-term care services to the Medicaid managed care program from 2023 to 2030.

Currently, until July 1, 2023, DHHS shall not add long-term care services and supports to the Medicaid managed care program. For purposes of this section, long-term care services and supports includes services of a skilled nursing facility, a nursing facility and an assisted living facility and home and community-based services.

**LB 843 (Rountree) Require DHHS to file a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) waiver for refugees and immigrants**

LB 843 requires DHHS, no later than October 1, 2026, and every October 1 thereafter, to submit a SNAP waiver to the U.S Department of Agriculture to waive SNAP eligibility changes for refugees and immigrants.

**LB 845 (Health and Human Services Committee) Eliminate, rename, and change provisions relating to committees and councils administered by DHHS**

LB 845 combines the Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council and the Long-Term Care Advisory Committee into one committee called the Aging, Alzheimer’s, and Dementia Advisory Council. The Alternative Response Committee is eliminated (reinstated by Committee Amendment 2270) and the name of the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services is changed to the State Advisory Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use Services.

**Amended Portions of LB 845 Amended Into LB 867**

**LB 860 (Bostar) Required DHHS to create a program to provide behavioral health care services to individuals under 21 years of age**

LB 860 requires DHHS to establish a program that provides services to individuals under 21 who are experiencing complex behavioral health care needs. Care management requirements are provided as well as a list of behavioral services. DHHS is authorized to adopt and promulgate rules/regs.

**LB 866 (Ballard) Change distribution of the Nebraska Opioid Recovery Trust Fund, create a fund, and provide for drug detection activities**

LB 866 creates the Drug Detection and Prevention Cash Fund to be used by the Attorney General to detect, prevent and respond to illegal fentanyl activity. Funds, determined by the Legislature, will be transferred from the Nebraska Opioid Recovery Trust Fund to this Cash Fund. No General Funds shall be used.

**LB 887 (Hallstrom) Change provisions relating to pharmacists and transfer of prescriptions and eliminate a report under the Parkinson’s Disease Registry Act**

LB 887 changes laws governing the practice of pharmacy. The bill authorizes accredited pharmacy programs to determine the timing of the required jurisprudence examination for

pharmacy students. It clarifies that the certified pharmacy technician requirement does not apply to pharmacist interns under the supervision of a pharmacist. Additionally, it allows valid prescriptions to be transferred between pharmacies more than once and removes outdated reporting requirements under the Parkinson's Disease Registry Act. As amended by Committee Amendment 2224, the reporting requirements are reinstated.

#### **Amended Portions of LB 887 Amended into LB 912**

#### **LB 891 (Hansen) Change provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act relating to background checks, a complaint tracking system, and staff-to-child ratios**

LB 891, as amended by Committee Amendment 2224, updates provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act. Specifically, the bill aligns state law with federal background check requirements, clarifies how self-reported licensing investigations appear on public records, allows certain eligible volunteers to be counted toward staff-to-child ratios under regulation, and prohibits political subdivisions from instituting residency requirements for a family child care home II.

#### **Amended Portions of LB 891 Amended into LB 912**

#### **LB 892 (Hansen) Change requirements relating to licensure of massage therapy establishments**

LB 892, as amended by Committee Amendment 2224, clarifies that no person shall engage in massage therapy practices in any location other than a licensed massage therapy establishment except as permitted by Department of Health and Human Services rules and regulations.

#### **LB 911 (Hardin) Provide requirements for licensed behavior analysts, certain care licensing facilities, Medicaid behavior analysis services, and DHHS**

LB 911 prohibits facilities, practices, or service locations to obtain a license as a child care program based solely that it provides applied behavior analysis, serves clients under 21 years of age during billable therapeutic sessions, and does not provide custodial care or recreational supervision outside the scope of the treatment plan. These facilities, practices, or service locations shall be subject to the Child Care Licensing Act. DHHS is required to establish clinical review protocols for applied behavior analysis services and adopt rules and regulations. Also, requirements are provided for remote-only clinical supervision and licensed behavior analysts.

#### **LB 928 (von Gillern) Require DHHS notifications to fictive kin of a child who has been removed from the home**

LB 928 requires DHHS to notify fictive kin when a child is removed from their home and adds fictive kin to the parties notified upon such removal. A definition of fictive kin is provided as well as sibling and Indian child.

**LB 942 (Riepe) Provide requirements for Medicaid reimbursement for emergency medical conditions and inpatient services**

LB 942 requires Medicaid reimbursement for Medicaid recipients for non-emergency care, inpatient care at a hospital if a prudent layperson would determine that the initial symptoms indicated that an emergency exists. DHHS and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) are prohibited from reducing Medicaid reimbursement based on their final diagnosis. Definitions are provided for an emergency medical condition and a prudent layperson. Medicaid reimbursement is appropriate if the physician expects the recipient's hospital care would last two consecutive midnights.

**LB 944 (Dorn) Require direct Medicaid reimbursement to certain facilities for hospice care services**

LB 944 requires DHHS to provide Medicaid reimbursement for hospice services for residents in a nursing facility. This reimbursement will be made directly to the hospital or intermediate facility.

**LB 945 (Dorn) Change provisions relating to the use of the Hospital Quality Assurance and Access Assessment Fund**

LB 945 requires the Hospital Quality Assurance and Access Assessment Fund to be used to provide funding for nonhospital providers in the Medicaid program, continuous program for children "and" the designated health information exchange. Current law uses the term, "or", for this funding.

**LB 949 (Ballard) Change provisions relating to the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP), the statewide health information exchange, and the Health Information Technology Board**

LB 949 strikes out the term, "statewide health information exchange" and replaces it with, "vendor" and requires DHHS to contract with a vendor pursuant to the State Procurement Act. Also, this bill requires PDMPs to make prescription drug information to the vendor, not the statewide health information exchange.

**LB 970 (Guereca) Require DHHS to submit a state plan amendment to include a program of early literacy promotion and intervention in well-child visits in the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services program**

LB 970 requires DHHS, on or before October 1, 2026, to submit a state plan amendment to include a program of early literacy promotion and intervention in well-child visits for children up to 5 years old under the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services program.

**LB 1013 (Hansen) Change and eliminate provisions relating to names of state institutions and requirements relating to gender at youth rehabilitation and treatment centers**

This bill allows the state to use youth rehabilitation and treatment center facilities to house either boys or girls, but not both simultaneously. The official names of the Hastings Regional Center and Youth Rehabilitation Treatment Center-Geneva are removed. LB 1013 was amended into LB 867 through Committee Amendment 2270, but removed by AM2859 on General File.

**LB 1016 (Raybould) Require DHHS to submit demonstration project waiver for traditional healing services**

LB 1016 requires DHHS to submit a demonstration project waiver to allow for Medicaid reimbursement of traditional healing services. If the waiver has not been submitted by July 1, 2026, DHHS must report to the Health and Human Services Committee for the reasons it has not been submitted. Legislative findings and the purpose are provided as well as a definition of traditional healing services. DHHS is also required to consult with tribal nations, adopt and promulgate rules/regulations and include an evaluation component.

**LB 1043 (Meyer) Include prescription antidepressants, antipsychotics and anticonvulsants on the Medicaid preferred drug list**

LB 1043 removes the exception that antidepressant, antipsychotic, and anticonvulsant prescription drugs shall be included on the preferred drug list.

**LB 1132 (Fredrickson) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for coverage of long-acting injectable and extended-release medications for certain individuals**

LB 1132 requires DHHS to submit a state plan amendment for providing coverage for long-acting injectable and extended-release medications for individuals with serious mental illness or substance use disorder.

**LB 1144 (Hardin) Redefine a term and provide requirements for Medicaid health plans**

LB 1144 expands the definition of a health plan to include a service benefit plan, managed care organization, pharmacy benefit manager, or another party that are legally responsible for the payment of a claim. New claim requirements are provided for an entity that issues a health plan.

**LB 1194 (Storer) Adopt the Real Food Act**

LB 1194 adopts the Real Food Act. This act creates dietary guidelines for public health promotion. Requirements are provided for DHHS, and other state agencies to educate residents on the importance of these guidelines as well as updating educational materials and partnering with local communities and health care providers. Legislative findings are provided as well as intent language.

**LB 1200 (Guereca) Require industrial integrators to submit an annual disaster mitigation plan to DHHS**

LB 1200 requires industrial integrators to develop an annual disaster plan for disaster events relating to an infectious outbreak. Definitions of disaster event or industrial integrator are provided as well as requirements of the plan.

**LB 1213 (McKinney) Adopt the Case Management Licensure Act**

LB 1213 requires the Foster Care Review Office to serve as the licensure and oversight authority under this new Act. The Foster Care Review Office may adopt rules and regulations, establish professional standards and operating procedures, investigate complaints, impose disciplinary actions and develop the appeal process. Also, this office is required to establish a formal process for reviewing complaints and licensure infractions, suspensions, and revocations. Reporting requirements and legislative findings are also provided.

**LB 1233 (Hansen) Adopt the Developmental Disabilities Provider Excessive Training and Cost Reduction Act**

LB 1233 changes DHHS requirements relating to physical restraint training. This Act shall apply to all training requirements for employees of providers. Also, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit DHHS from imposing costly training requirements on employees of providers.

**LB 1234 (Hansen) Adopt the Freestanding Birth Center Act**

LB 1234, in adopting the Freestanding Birth Center Act, creates freestanding birth centers (birth centers) that would be licensed to provide services for labor, birth, early postpartum and newborn care to patients with low-risk pregnancies outside the hospital setting. This bill provides the purpose/scope, definitions, licensing procedures, patient rights and responsibilities, health records, reporting, and closure of the center. This bill also allows for insurance coverage for birth centers.

## **BILL SUMMARIES-RESOLUTIONS:**

### **2025 Carryover Resolutions:**

None

### **2026 Resolutions:**

#### **LR 296 (Hallstrom) Urge the President of the U.S. and members of Congress to make permanent changes to the Child and Adult Programs**

This resolution, if adopted by the Legislature, would urge the U.S. President and U.S. Congress to make permanent changes to the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program to provide reimbursement to all family day care homes at Tier I rates and provide additional reimbursements for each meal and supplement provided. This resolution recognizes the importance of nutrition and the risks of inadequate nutrition, the essential role of high quality early care, the importance of the Child and Adult Care Food Care Program, the financial strain of early care and education programs, and the role of the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

**Adopted by the Legislature**

## **BILL SUMMARIES-INDEFINITELY POSTPONED:**

### **2025 Carryover Bills:**

#### **LB 83 (Rountree) Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact**

LB 83 proposes the adoption of the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact, allowing Nebraska to become a member state once at least seven states enact the Compact. Upon implementation, dentists and dental hygienists would be eligible for a multistate license, permitting practice in all Participating States. The bill also amends statutory language to require all professions mandated to undergo a criminal background check to complete the process as part of their application.

*LB 83 was amended into LB 148*

#### **LB 102 (Spivey) Change requirements relating to the standard of need under the aid to dependent children program**

LB 102 changes the ADC standard of need provisions. Specifically, standard of need provisions are changed regarding eligibility, amounts, adjustments, and calculation of benefit amount.

**LB 104 (Raybould) Adopt the Family Home Visitation Act**

LB 104 requires DHHS to limit funding for a home visitation program that includes periodic home visits to improve the health, well-being, and self-sufficiency of parents and their children. The program shall provide visits by nurses, social workers, and other early childhood and health professionals or trained and supervised lay workers. This bill also requires DHHS to create a website and submit a report.

*LB 104 was amended into LB 22*

**LB 119 (Hardin) Provide requirements for the Rural Health Opportunity Program and provide tuition waivers**

LB 119 requires a memorandum of understanding between the Nebraska State Colleges and the University of Nebraska to administer the Rural Health Opportunity Program. The purpose of this program is to encourage students to pursue health care professions in rural communities. Also, this program shall provide tuition waivers to eligible students. An appropriation is provided.

*LB 119 was amended into LB 332*

**LB 154 (Hardin) Change provisions relating to hearing instrument specialists**

LB 154 allows a licensed hearing instrument specialist to provide cerumen removal, provide tinnitus care, and dispense and fit hearing instruments. A licensed hearing instrument specialist is required to have an arrangement with a medical liaison. Examination and hearing assessment requirements are provided.

*LB 154 was amended into LB 332*

**LB 274 (Hunt) Change requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act for liability insurance coverage and inspections and investigations**

This bill raises the amount of required child care liability insurance. Also, this bill requires a licensee to maintain the required level of liability insurance for any time period during which a child is in care. Inspectors are required, at unannounced inspections, to request proof of liability insurance

*LB 274 was amended into LB 257*

**LB 610 (Bostar) Change provisions relating to supplemental Medicaid reimbursement for ground emergency medical transport**

LB 610 requires DHHS to seek any federal approvals for the implementation of the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act (GEMT) and eliminates the current requirements of submitting a state plan amendment.

*LB 610 was amended into LB 380*

**LB 630 (Hansen) Provide and change scope of practice requirements under the Occupational Therapy Practice Act**

LB 630 creates scope changes for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. New definitions are provided for various modalities, occupational therapy practice, supervision and occupational therapy assistants. Language relating to temporary licenses is also changed.

*LB 630 was amended into LB 257*

**2026 Bills:**

None

**BILL SUMMARIES-WITHDRAWN**

**2025 Carryover Bills**

**LB 418 (Lonowski) Allow a non-licensed funeral director and embalmer to officiate at a funeral ceremony**

LB 418 changes the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act to allow a non-licensed funeral director and embalmer to officiate at a funeral ceremony.

**LB 577 (Dorn) Change licensure requirements for remote dispensing pharmacies and verification requirements for pharmacists**

LB 577 allows verification when the pharmacist performing the verification of pharmacy technician data entry is located in a licensed pharmacy in Nebraska. Also, the pharmacy technician no longer needs to be certified.

**2026 Bills:**

**LB 775 (M. Cavanaugh) Create the Rural Health Transformation Program within DHHS**

LB 775 provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate federal funds from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the purposes of the Rural Health Transformation Program. Purpose language is also provided.

**LB 1239 (DeKay) Change provisions relating to long-term care facilities**

LB 1239 changes the term, “medications”, to “medication”.

**BILL SUMMARIES-VETOED:**

**2025 Carryover Bills:**

**LB 319 (Rountree) Change eligibility requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).**

LB 319, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 862, allows Nebraska to opt out of the federal provision disqualifying individuals with felony drug convictions from SNAP benefits, ensuring eligibility for those who have completed their sentence or are currently on parole, probation, or post-release supervision.

AM1176 by Senator Rountree requires a person with three or more felony convictions involving controlled substances to be eligible if they have completed a treatment program while the person was incarcerated, on probation, or on parole unless a health care provider determines that it is not required.

*Motion to Override Veto Failed*

**2026 Bills:**

**LB 929 (Fredrickson) Provide for managed care organizations to pay the deductible, cost sharing, or similar changes on behalf of Medicaid enrollees**

LB929 prohibits the DHHS from imposing deductibles, copayments, co-insurance, or similar cost-sharing charges on Medicaid recipients unless required by federal law. Where federal law does require such charges, DHHS may not implement them before October 1, 2028, and must do so in the least burdensome manner possible by setting amounts at the federal minimum, allowing managed care organizations to pay those charges on behalf of enrollees, and prohibiting providers from denying care to any enrollee who fails to pay a required charge. Committee Amendment 2991 removed the original provisions and requires DHHS to permit a managed care organization under the Medicaid program to pay the deductible, cost sharing, or similar charges on behalf of Medicaid enrollees as allowed under federal law.

*Motion to Override Veto Failed*

## **LIST OF 2026 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE INTERIM STUDIES**

One Hundred Nineth, Second Session

LR 425 (Hardin) Interim study to examine the rehabilitation and treatment of youth and their transition back to their communities

LR 426 (Hardin) Interim study to examine the evolving pattern of management of health information

LR 380 (Fredrickson) Interim study to identify the needs of youth moving and transitioning to and from a youth rehabilitation and treatment center, an adult correctional facility, or a residential treatment facility as proposed by LB867

LR 462 (Ballard) Interim study to examine a stair-stepping approach to public assistance eligibility

LR 381 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine the feasibility, effectiveness, and safeguards associated with implementing universal youth mental health screenings in public schools

LR 427 (Riepe) Interim study to review the performance and policies of managed care organizations in the medical assistance program

LR 481 (Bostar) Interim study to examine the fiscal and operational issues related to the addition of long-term care services and supports to the Medicaid managed care program

LR 478 (Ballard) Interim study to examine the governance and operational structure of Nebraska's prescription drug monitoring program, including its relationship with the health information exchange

LR 382 (Fredrickson) Interim study to examine issues related to play therapy access in Nebraska

LR 444 (Quick) Interim study to examine cost models and payment models for determining behavioral health service rates in Nebraska

LR 383 (Spivey) Interim study to examine the issue of maternal depression in Nebraska and potential statutory or administrative changes that may support maternal mental health in the state

LR 391 (Dungan) Interim study to examine the issue of diaper access for Nebraska families

LR 393 (Conrad) Interim study to examine the potential for providing universal child care at no cost to parents in Nebraska modeled after the New Mexico program

LR 404 (Rountree) Interim study to examine Nebraska statutes and the processes relating to the developmental disability and the aged and disabled waivers and the tools used to access developmental disabilities

LR 411 (Riepe) Interim study to examine barriers affecting access to health care in Nebraska, with a particular, but not exclusive, focus on rural areas with specific attention to the role of transportation, distance, and other social and economic factors that affect timely care

LR 423 (Rountree) Interim study to examine the issue of food insecurity for pregnant and postpartum women and their children in Nebraska

LR 390 (Hardin) Interim study to allow the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature to examine any health and human service issues within the jurisdiction of the committee that arise during the legislative interim period

**DETAILED INDEX OF 2026 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
COMMITTEE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

One Hundred Nineth Legislature, Second Session

<b>Bill #</b>	<b>Introducer</b>	<b>One-Liner</b>	<b>Hearing Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
720	Quick	Create a temporary event license for body artists under the Uniform Credentialing Act	1/1/26	Enacted into Law
721	Quick	Change provisions relating to eligibility for grants under the Intergenerational Care Facility Incentive Grant Program	1/22/26	Enacted into Law
722	Quick	Provide for use of Behavioral Health Services Fund for individuals with substance use disorder	1/30/26	Enacted into Law
723	Quick	Provide for community engagement requirements under the Medical Assistance Act	2/11/26	Held in Committee
724	Quick	Require DHHS to conduct a cost study of behavioral health care rates	2/4/26	Held in Committee
732	Kauth	Change provisions relating to the ability of a health care practitioner to provide cross-sex hormones and puberty blockers under the Let Them Grow Act	1/29/26	General File
733	Riepe	Change the name of the Division of Developmental Disabilities to the Division of Developmental Disabilities and Aging within DHHS	1/21/26	Held in Committee
734	Hunt	Change waiver of work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	2/26/26	Held in Committee
735	Rountree	Adopt the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact	1/22/26	Held in Committee
736	Rountree	Adopt the Athletic Trainer Compact	1/22/26	Held in Committee
737	Rountree	Require a joint public hearing to evaluate the progress of the Olmstead plan for individuals with disabilities	2/18/26	Enacted into Law

740	McKinney	Adopt the Housing First Supportive Services Act and require DHHS to seek federal approval for Medicaid coverage	2/20/26	Held in Committee
746	Hardin	Eliminate obsolete provisions of the Population Health Information Act	2/26/26	Held in Committee
773	Dungan	Eliminate a sunset date and change provisions of the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program	2/5/26	General File
775	M. Cavanaugh	Create the Rural Health Transformation Program within DHHS	None	Withdrawn
777	M. Cavanaugh	Provide for eligibility and reporting requirements under the Medicaid program	2/25/26	Held in Committee
792	Raybould	Eliminate an applicability provision of the Family Home Visitation Act	1/21/26	Held in Committee
796	DeKay	Change provisions relating to the practice pharmacy	2/26/26	General File
808	Ibach	Create a child care licensing pilot program under the Child Care Licensing Act	1/28/26	Held in Committee
812	Bostar	Provide DHHS requirements relating to Medicaid eligibility redeterminations and community engagement	2/4/26	Held in Committee
825	Ballard	Require training on domestic abuse for mental health practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act	1/21/26	General File
832	Hansen	Extend the prohibition of the addition of long-term care services and supports to the Medicaid managed care program	1/23/26	Held in Committee
843	Rountree	Require DHHS to file a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program waiver for refugees and immigrants	2/19/26	Held in Committee
845	HHS Committee	Eliminate, rename, and change provisions relating to committees and councils administered by DHHS	1/23/26	Held in Committee
860	Bostar	Require DHHS to create a program to provide behavioral health care services to individuals under 21 years old	1/30/26	Held in Committee
866	Ballard	Change distribution of the Nebraska Opioid Recovery Trust Fund, create a	1/30/26	Held in Committee

		fund, and provide for drug detection activities		
867	HHS Committee	Change programs relating to DHHS	1/23/26	Enacted into Law
887	Hallstrom	Change provisions relating to pharmacists and transfer of prescriptions and eliminate a report under the Parkinson's Disease Registry Act	1/22/26	Held in Committee
888	Clouse	Change enforcement provisions for violations of the Nebraska Uniform Standards for Modular Housing Units, the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles, and certain rules, regulations, and orders	2/6/26	Enacted into Law
891	Hansen	Change provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act relating to background checks, a complaint tracking system, and staff-to-child ratios	1/28/26	Held in Committee
892	Hansen	Change requirements relating to licensure of massage therapy establishments	1/21/26	Held in Committee
903	Storer	Provide for referrals for home visitation services and for early intervention services and eliminate a provision relating to applicability of the Family Home Visitation Act	1/28/26	Enacted into Law
911	Hardin	Provide requirements for licensed behavior analysts, certain child care licensing facilities, Medicaid behavior analysis services, and DHHS	2/4/26	Held in Committee
912	Hardin	Adopt the Community Health Worker Training Endorsement Act, the Athletic Trainer Compact, and the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact, change provisions relating to child care licensing and the practice of athletic training, respiratory care, massage therapy, medical radiography, nurse practitioners, pharmacy, and pharmacists, provide for liens for physical therapy services and automated pickup kiosks for certain prescription medication, and eliminate provisions relating to	1/30/26	Enacted into Law

		physician liability for physician assistants		
913	Guereca	Require DHHS to appoint a dementia services coordinator	1/23/26	Enacted into Law
914	Hardin	Eliminate physician liability for negligence of physician assistants	2/6/26	General File
926	Anderson	Change provisions relating to cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act and transitional assistance under the aid to dependent children program	2/5/26	General File
928	von Gillern	Require DHHS notifications to fictive kin of a child who has been removed from the home	1/28/26	Held in Committee
929	Frederickson	Provide for managed care organizations to pay the deductible, cost sharing, or similar charges on behalf of Medicaid enrollees	2/5/26	Vetoed by Governor
933	J. Cavanaugh	Provide immunity for health care practitioners under the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act	2/19/26	Select File
936	Ballard	Provide for the use of fluoroscopy by medical radiographers in collaboration with nurse practitioners under the Uniform Credentialing Act	1/28/26	General File
942	Riepe	Provide Medicaid reimbursement for emergency medical conditions and inpatient services	2/4/26	Held in Committee
944	Dorn	Require direct Medicaid reimbursement to certain facilities for hospice care services	2/19/26	Held in Committee
945	Dorn	Change provisions relating to the use of the Hospital Quality Assurance and Access Assessment Fund	2/4/26	Held in Committee
949	Ballard	Change provisions relating to the prescription drug monitoring program, the statewide health information exchange, and the Health Information Technology Board	2/25/26	Held in Committee
955	Hardin	Provide for practice agreements between pharmacists and physician assistants	2/6/26	Enacted into Law
958	M. Cavanaugh	Provide for implementation of a home and community-based services waiver, retroactive coverage of certain	2/26/26	Enacted into Law

		benefits, and reimbursement of doula services and change reporting requirements under the Medical Assistance Act, change provisions relating to the Nebraska Prenatal Plus Program, and provide limits for crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program		
959	Riepe	Require DHHS to create a youth afterschool credential and an adult eligibility passport under the Child Care Licensing Act	1/28/26	General File
970	Guereca	Require DHHS to submit a state plan amendment to include a program of early literacy promotion and intervention in well-child visits under the early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services program	2/20/26	Held in Committee
1012	Hansen	Provide for a lien for professional services rendered by a physical therapist	2/18/26	General File
1013	Hansen	Change and eliminate provisions relating to the names of state institutions and requirements relating to gender at youth rehabilitation and treatment centers	2/6/26	Held in Committee
1016	Raybould	Require DHHS to submit a demonstration project waiver for traditional healing services	2/16/26	Held in Committee
1033	Spivey	Require DHHS to make crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program	2/20/26	General File
1043	G. Meyer	Include prescription antidepressants, antipsychotics, and anticonvulsants on the Medicaid preferred drug list	2/5/26	Held in Committee
1057	Ballard	Redefine adult day service under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act	2/18/26	Enacted into Law
1091	Bostar	Provide DHHS requirements for long-term care clients with special needs under the Medicaid program	2/18/26	Enacted into Law
1132	Fredrickson	Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for coverage of long-	2/11/26	Held in Committee

		acting injectable and extended-release medications for certain individuals		
1144	Hardin	Redefine a term and provide requirements for entities issuing Medicaid health plans	2/11/26	Held in Committee
1194	Storer	Adopt the Real Food Act	2/11/26	Held in Committee
1200	Guereca	Require industrial integrators to submit annual disaster mitigation plan to DHHS	2/26/26	Held in Committee
1211	Riepe	Provide requirements for automated medication systems operated by certain pharmacies under the Automated Medication Systems Act	2/12/26	General File
1212	Riepe	Provide for licensure of internationally trained physicians under the Uniform Credentialing Act and change provisions of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act	2/11/26	Enacted into Law
1213	McKinney	Adopt the Case Management Licensure Act	2/20/26	Held in Committee
1217	Hardin	Authorize schools to maintain epinephrine for emergency first aid	2/19/26	General File
1221	Ballard	Provide definitions relating to community engagement and work requirements under the Medical Assistance Act	2/5/26	General File
1233	Hansen	Adopt the Developmental Disabilities Provider Excessive Training and Cost Reduction Act	2/18/26	Held in Committee
1234	Hansen	Adopt the Freestanding Birth Center Act	2/12/26	Held in Committee
1239	DeKay	Change provisions relating to management of long-term care facilities	None	Withdrawn
LR 296	Hallstrom	Urge the President of the U.S. and members of Congress to make permanent changes to the Child and Adult Food Programs	2/25/26	Adopted

