

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE
NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

SUMMARY OF 2025 LEGISLATION

One Hundred Nineth Legislature

First Session

Committee Members

Senator Brian Hardin, Chairperson, District 48

Senator John Fredrickson, District 20

Senator Ben Hansen, District 16

Senator Beau Ballard, District 21

Senator Merv Riepe, District 12

Senator Dan Quick, District 35

Senator Glen Meyer, District 17

Committee Staff

John Duggar, Legal Counsel

Bryson Bartels, Research Analyst

Barb Dorn, Clerk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Health and Human Services Committee Bills.....1

Bills Enacted.....10

Select File Bills.....18

General File Bills.....19

Bills Held in Committee.....22

Bills Indefinitely Postponed.....31

Bills Withdrawn.....33

List of Interim Studies.....35

Detailed Index of Referred Bills and Resolutions.....37

LIST OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS REFERENCED TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

One Hundred Nineth Legislature, First Session

- LB 10** (Hughes) Change requirements relating to wholesale drug distributors and dispensing of certain prescription drugs
Passed into Law
- LB 13** (M. Cavanaugh) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment relating to child care
Select File
- LB 22** (Dungan) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for evidence-based nurse home-visitation services
Passed Into Law
- LB 27** (Ballard) Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act
Held in Committee
- LB 41** (Riepe) Change provisions relating to blood tests for pregnant women
Passed into Law
- LB 42** (Riepe) Provide for employment of nurse aides in intellectual and developmental disability facilities
Passed into Law
- LB 46** (McKinney) Establish a Restaurant Meals Program under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Held in Committee
- LB 48** (McKinney) Establish a Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program
Passed into Law
- 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 83 (Rountree) Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact

Amended into LB 148; Indefinitely Postponed

LB 84 (Rountree) Adopt the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact

Passed into Law

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

Indefinitely Postponed

LB 104 (Raybould) Adopt the Family Home Visitation Act

Amended into LB 22, Indefinitely Postponed

LB 110 (Hughes) Provide requirements for pelvic examinations

General File

LB 118 (Hardin) Change supervising authority for a pharmacist

Passed into Law

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

Amended into LB 332; Indefinitely Postponed

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 148 (Hansen) Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact and change requirements for licensure and reciprocity under the Dentistry Practice Act

Passed into Law

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

Held in Committee

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

Amended into LB 332; Indefinitely Postponed

LB 160 (Riepe) Change examination requirements for a license under the Barber Act

Passed into Law

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 192 (Quick) Change and eliminate provisions regarding eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and eliminate requirements for an evaluation and a report

Passed into Law

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

General File

LB 203 (Kauth) Change powers and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments

General File

- 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
Held in Committee
- LB 217** (Fredrickson) Require suicide awareness and prevention training for employees of child-placing agencies and child welfare workers
Passed into Law
- LB 239** (M. Cavanaugh) Change requirements relating to developmental disabilities funding priorities and eliminate a sunset date
Held in Committee
- LB 248** (Sanders) Exempt certain programs from child care licensing requirements
Passed into Law
- LB 255** (Quick) Provide for use of the Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Cash Fund for problem solving courts
Held in Committee
- LB 257** (Quick) Change licensure and scope of practice provisions regarding marriage and family therapy and occupational therapy and licensure requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act
Passed Into Law
- LB 274** (Hunt) Change requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act for liability insurance coverage and inspections and investigations
Amended into LB 257; Indefinitely Postponed
- LB 275** (Hunt) Require DHHS to screen state wards for social security benefit eligibility
Passed into Law
- LB 281** (Quick) Change provisions relating to the Board of Nursing and eliminate the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
Held in Committee; provisions included in LB 346
- 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
Held in Committee
- LB 310** (Hansen) Provide an exemption from newborn screening for certain diseases or conditions
Held in Committee
- LB 312** (Strommen) Include nurse anesthesia practice and dietitian nutrition practice under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act
Passed into Law
- LB 318** (Rountree) Require DHHS to file a Medicaid state plan amendment for incarcerated youth
Held in Committee
- LB 319** (Rountree) Change eligibility requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Governor Veto
- LB 332** (Hardin) Provide for assistant funeral directors; change scope of practice and regulatory provisions regarding funeral directing and embalming, hearing instrument specialists, and audiologists; change membership provisions for the Board of Pharmacy; change provisions regarding delegated dispensing permits and prescription refills; provide Medicaid coverage for psychology services; and establish the Rural Health Opportunity Program
Passed into Law
- 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
General File
- 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 376 (Health and Human Services Committee) Change and eliminate programs and services administered by DHHS; eliminate various reporting requirements; and change and eliminate powers and duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services, the Division of Children and Family Services, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Director of Motor Vehicles

Passed into Law

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

General File

LB 380 (Fredrickson) Change provisions regarding program integrity, ground emergency medical transport, and Medicaid mental health and substance use disorder services and provide duties for the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care

Passed into Law

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

Portions of Bill Amended into LB 380; Held in Committee

LB 382 (Meyer) Provide for the use of the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to reimburse designated area agencies on aging and state intent regarding appropriations

Passed into Law

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

Withdrawn

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

General File

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 454 (Quick) Change provisions relating to regional behavioral health authorities and the Behavioral Health Services Fund

Passed into Law

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

General 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 515 (Quick) Provide requirements for certain prescription refills

Amended into LB 332; Held in Committee

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

Amended into LB 376; Held in Committee

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

Amended into LB 312; Held in Committee

LB 554 (Riepe) Create the Nebraska Health Professions Commission

Held in Committee

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

Amended into LB 332; 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 577 (Dorn) Change licensure requirements for remote dispensing pharmacies and verification requirements for pharmacists

Withdrawn

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

Held in Committee

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

Amended into LB 380; Indefinitely Postponed

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

Amended into LB 257; Indefinitely Postponed

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

Portions Amended into LB 192; General File

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

General File

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

Amended into LB 332; Held in Committee

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

Held in Committee

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS ENACTED

LB 10 (Hughes) Change requirements relating to wholesale drug distributors and dispensing of certain prescription drugs

LB 10, as amended by Committee Amendment 12, exempts the Prescription Drug Donation Act from the federal Drug Supply Chain and Security Act by no longer requiring a wholesale drug distributor under the prescription drug donation program to maintain a paper or electronic pedigree.

In addition, DHHS may receive prescription drugs and supplies under this program and dispense these drugs under an emergency. Also, DHHS may receive and distribute these drugs to individuals impacted as a result of an emergency. An emergency clause is provided.

LB 22 (Dungan) Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment relating to child care

LB 22 amends Medicaid provisions to require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for evidenced-based nurse home visiting services. Also, this bill will use funds from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund for evidence-based nurse home visiting services.

Committee Amendment 102 to LB 22 strikes children younger than 3 years old and replaces it with children less than 6 months of age. Also, AM102 strikes the services through the Children's Health Insurance Program and limits it to those postpartum mothers and children (6 months and younger) enrolled in Medicaid.

AM258 by Senator Dungan prohibits the General Fund to be used to fund these services.

AM348 by Senator Raybould amends in LB 104. 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 41 (Riepe) Change provisions relating to blood tests for pregnant women

LB 41 addresses State requirements for testing pregnant women for syphilis and human immunodeficiency virus. Current law provides that all physicians and legally authorized obstetric practitioners within the state shall be required to conduct syphilis testing on pregnant patients during the initial examination. LB41 would require that in addition to testing for syphilis at the time of the initial examination, testing shall also be completed at the third trimester examination and at birth.

Committee Amendment 62 substitutes for the bill and provides that the phrase "cause to be taken" be replaced with "shall direct an authorized person to take". Additionally, the word "cause" has been replaced with the word "direct". The purpose of these changes is to provide clarity and remove any need of interpretation of the law by the medical provider. Further,

provisions are amended by striking current language that provides that a pregnant woman may give written consent that they do not wish to be tested for the human immunodeficiency virus. New language is added to clarify for both the provider and the patient that tests for syphilis and the human immunodeficiency virus infection are voluntary for the patient, the communication shall be clear and understandable, and the patient may decline testing verbally or in writing.

AM637 by Senator Riepe requires the syphilis tests to be paid from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund.

LB 42 (Riepe) Provide for employment of nurse aides in intellectual and developmental disability facilities.

LB 42 brings nurse aides working for service providers under the Medicaid comprehensive developmental disabilities act. It also changes the definition of Nurse Aide to include those employed by a service provider.

LB 48 (McKinney) Establish a Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program

LB 48 creates a family resource and juvenile assessment center pilot program in Nebraska cities of the metropolitan class. DHHS is required to establish a designation process and the process requirements are provided. Requirements for each center as well as funding and an evaluation are provided.

Committee Amendment 680 reduces the 4 centers for the pilot program to 2 centers. AM 680 removes the \$1 million funding from the Health and Human Services Cash Fund for 4 centers. The new language provides, subject to available funds, each designated center shall receive up to \$500,000 annually from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund. If such funds are not available, no General Funds shall be used. No more than 10% of funds appropriated for the Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program, up to \$100,000 per year, shall be used to administer the pilot program. AM 680 adds the Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program to the list of services under the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund.

AM1465 by Senator McKinney specifies that this pilot program terminates 5 years after the operative date of this act.

FA329 by Senator McKinney requires DHHS to designate the designation process instead of establishing it.

LB 84 (Rountree) Adopt the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact

LB 84 creates the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact. The Compact contains sections on the Purpose; Definitions; State Participation in the Compact; School Psychologist Participation in the Compact; Active Military Members or their Spouses; Discipline and Adverse Actions; Establishment of the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission; Facilitating Information Exchange; Rulemaking; Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement; Effective Date, Withdrawal, and Amendment; Construction and Severability; and

Consistent Effect and Conflict with Other State Laws. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of school psychology in educational or school settings, and in so doing to improve the availability of these services to the public.

LB 118 (Hardin) Change supervising authority for a pharmacist

LB 118 changes the number of pharmacy technicians and pharmacist interns supervised by a pharmacist from three people to four people.

AM179 by Senator Hardin requires any pharmacist supervising four pharmacy technicians or pharmacy interns, at least one person to be a certified pharmacy technician.

FA17 by Senator Hardin modifies AM179 to changes the term, pharmacy, to pharmacist.

LB 148 (Hansen) Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact and change requirements for licensure and reciprocity under the Dentistry Practice Act

LB 148 changes the examination requirements for a dental license by requiring an Integrated National Dental Board examination. The examination shall be required to be simulation-based or manikin-based. Also, the reciprocity requirement for a dental license is reduced from 3 years to 1 year.

AM391 by Senator Rountree amends in LB 83. 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 160 (Riepe) Change examination requirements for a license under the Barber Act

LB 160 changes the requirements for applicants that have failed the barber examination.

Committee Amendment 124 clarifies that the applicant is taking the examination the fourth time.

AM189 by Senator Riepe further modifies these requirements by allowing an applicant to demonstrate proficiency to waive course of study requirements.

AM264 by Senator Riepe allows an applicant who has complied with the course of study requirements to take the exam for the fifth time.

LB 192 (Quick) Change and eliminate provisions regarding eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and eliminate requirements for an evaluation and a report.

LB 192 eliminates the October 1, 2025 sunset date in which the gross income eligibility limit under SNAP and would return to the original amount prior to its increase. DHHS reporting and evaluation requirements are also removed.

AM1225 by Senator Anderson requires DHHS to not seek, apply for, accept, or renew a waiver of any SNAP work requirements unless required by federal law. The state's option to provide an exemption is allowed. DHHS may exercise its authority to participate in an employment and training program.

LB 217 (Fredrickson) Require suicide awareness and prevention training for employees of child-placing agencies and child welfare workers

LB 217 requires DHHS to develop suicide awareness and prevention training for child welfare staff, foster care providers and child-placing agencies incorporating evidence-based practices. Training requirements are provided.

AM1031 by Senator Fredrickson changes the mental health training requirements by striking 90 minutes of training and replacing it with current best practices. Also, the requirement for it be done annually thereafter is removed.

LB 248 (Sanders) Exempt certain programs from child care licensing requirements

LB 248 exempts a family child care provider on a military base from child care licensing.

LB 257 (Quick) Change licensure and scope of practice provisions regarding marriage and family therapy and occupational therapy and licensure requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act

LB 257 allows marriage and family therapists from another jurisdiction to be issued a Nebraska license or certificate if they have a valid license/certificate, completes the application process and has passed the Nebraska jurisprudence examination. DHHS, with the recommendation of the Board of Mental Health Practice, is required to issue the licenses/certificates.

AM850 by Senator Quick clarifies that the license is a mental health practitioner license or an independent mental health practitioner license.

AM866 by Senator Hansen incorporates LB 630, as amended, into LB 257. 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.

AM947 by Senator Hunt incorporates LB 274, as amended, into LB 257. This bill requires a child care licensee to continue to maintain the required level of liability insurance for any time period during which the child is in the care of such licensee. Also, AM947 provides that during every unannounced inspection of a licensee, the Department's inspector shall request and verify proof of current liability insurance coverage. If proof cannot be provided or if the coverage has lapsed, the licensee will have three business days to submit proof of coverage. Failure to do so will result in the suspension of the license. The license will be reinstated upon submission of appropriate insurance documentation to the Department.

LB 275 (Hunt) Require DHHS to screen state wards for social security benefits eligibility

LB 275 is required to screen all children for social security benefit eligibility within 60 days after the date the child enters its charge. If DHHS determines that a child may be eligible, it shall submit an application or appeal a denied application. DHHS is required to provide written notice to the child of all eligibility determinations (i.e. approval, denial, appeal outcomes). The written notice shall include information regarding the payment and benefit amount, DHHS trust accounts, unspent and conserved fund, access to benefit payments, and accounting records. Written notice to the juvenile court shall also include the total amount of benefit payment funds paid on behalf of the child beneficiary. When DHHS serves a representative payee for the child, it shall manage, use, and conserve the benefit payments consistent with federal and state law. On or before October 1, 2026, DHHS is required to create a publicly available form for child beneficiaries and adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry these sections of the bill.

AM1126 by Senator Hunt requires DHHS to seek to maximize federal Title-IV-E funding prior to utilizing General Funds for costs associated with the implementation of the bill.

LB 312 (Strommen) Include nurse anesthesia practice and dietitian nutrition practice under the Rural Health System and Professional Incentive Act

Under current law, health professions (i.e. physicians, dentist, mental health practitioners, physical therapists), under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act, are eligible for student loans or loan repayment. LB 312 adds nurse anesthetists to these health professions.

AM591 by Senator Riepe amends in LB 553. LB 553 provides for student loans to students in dietitian nutritionist practice programs and loan repayments for dietitian nutritionists.

LB 332 (Hardin) Provide for assistant funeral directors; change scope of practice and regulatory provisions regarding funeral directing and embalming, hearing instrument specialists, and audiologists; change membership provisions for the Board of Pharmacy; change provisions regarding delegated dispensing permits and prescription refills; provide Medicaid coverage for psychology services; and establish the Rural Health Opportunity Program.

LB 332 requires Medicaid coverage for psychology services provided by advanced level practitioners who have completed doctoral requirements and are being supervised by a licensed psychologist.

Committee Amendment 729 incorporates LB 697 as amended, LB 154, LB 555, and LB 515 as amended.

LB 697, as amended, increases the board's membership from five to eight by adding an additional pharmacist, a pharmacy technician, and an additional public representative. Also, this bill allows delegating dispensing permits to be dispensed if the drug/device is by a practitioner licensed in Nebraska working in affiliation with a public health clinic.

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 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.

LB 515, as amended, provides new requirements for emergency prescription refills. This bill allows a pharmacist who is unable to obtain refill authorization from the prescribing practitioner to dispense an emergency refill if failure to dispense will disrupt the patient's drug therapy, notice is provided to the patient and prescriber, refill is documented in the patient's record, the refill is not a controlled substance, and the refill is dispensed in person.

AM828 by Senator Hardin amends in LB 119. 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.

AM1154 by Senator Hardin provides further changes in LB 154 relating to cerumen removal by a licensed hearing instrument specialist, dispensing and fitting hearing instruments, sale of fitting instruments, course requirements and examinations.

LB 376 (Health and Human Services Committee) Change and eliminate programs and services administered by DHHS; eliminate various reporting requirements; and change and eliminate powers and duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services, the Division of Children and Family Services, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Director of Motor Vehicles

LB 376 is a DHHS bill that repeals and modifies legislative reporting requirements. These reports include the areas of dental hygienists, work and educational programs, licensure suspension involving child support, child support collections, behavioral health services at Hastings Regional Center, children's normalcy plans, Medicaid rules and regulations, change of Medicaid services, Medicaid program integrity, elemental formula program, NE Prenatal Plus Program, Medicaid administrative spending, Medicaid utilization, nursing students loans program, family support programs, self-sufficiency, ICF/DDs, disqualification of owning handguns, opioid treatment funds, radon measurement, children's blood level tests, newborn hearing tests, mental health first aid, credentialing of facilities, cancer registry, child welfare expenditures, transitional child care, YRTCs (Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center) population, YRTC room confinement, Office of NE Child Welfare Inspector General, and DD quality management and improvement plan.

In addition, LB 376 changes and eliminates programs involving medical support, special needs trusts, EMTs, child care grants, Bridge to Independence, county office space, county general assistance, AABD (Aged, Blind, Disabled), birth certificates, the Commodity Supplemental Food program, wholesale drug distributor fees, child welfare service areas, infectious disease,

spousal impoverishment, autism treatment, Aged and Disability Resource Centers, Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Work Fund, Palliative and Quality of Life Act, and Outpatient Surgical Procedures Act.

Finally, this bill makes changes to the Primary Care Investment Council and the Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council.

Committee Amendment 411 outright repeals provisions relating to the Stone Office Building at the Norfolk Regional Center (See LB 516).

AM1312 by Senator Arch eliminates and changes reports relating to EMS; child support involving the state disbursement unit, suspended licenses and new hires; elemental formula reimbursement; Medicaid involving contracts and managed care; DD involving quality management, family support, and reimbursement; Mental Health involving authorization requests, commitment records and First Aid Training; blood levels of children, the cancer registry; YRTCs and juvenile confinement; Child Welfare Expenditures and normalcy; prenatal plus; radon; Employment First, surgical information; dental services; nursing faculty student loans; credentialing of facilities; birth certificates; airborne diseases; paramedics; opioids, the 12 week abortion ban; and early hearing detection. Also, AM1312 eliminates county office mandates and the Stone Office Building at Norfolk Regional Center which no longer exists.

AM 1312 does not include the elimination and changes in programs and councils as found in the original bill and Committee Amendment 411.

LB 380 (Fredrickson) Change provisions regarding program integrity, ground emergency medical transport, and Medicaid mental health and substance abuse disorder services and provide duties for the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care

LB 380 provides Medicaid contractor requirements involving mental health and substance use disorder services. Also, this bill provides requirements regarding DHHS/Medicaid and Long Term Care Division monitoring of Medicaid contractors providing mental health and substance use disorder services.

Committee Amendment 728 consists of the amended version of LB 380 and the amended version of LB 381. LB 380, as amended by AM728, strikes the requirement that a contractor shall not reduce department-posted Medicaid rates.

LB 381, as amended by AM728, changes provisions relating to program integrity contractors. Specifically, LB 381, as amended, provides requirements for contractors when conducting a program integrity audit, investigation, or review. Any provision of a contract between a third-party payer and a provider or beneficiary that violates this bill is unenforceable and a contract may be on a contingent fee basis if it is in compliance with federal law. This amendment requires the payment or fee for identification of overpayments to be the same as that for identification of underpayments in any contract between DHHS and a program integrity contractor. Appeal procedures are provided. Definitions of fraud and fraud hotline tip are changed.

AM814 by Senator Bostar amends LB 610 to LB 380. LB 610 allows DHHS to seek any federal approvals for the implementation of the Ground Emergency Medical Transport Act (GEMT), eliminates the current requirements of submitting a state plan amendment, and allows DHHS to submit claims for federal financial participation.

LB 382 (Meyer) Provide for the use of the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to reimburse designated area agencies on aging and state intent regarding appropriations

LB 382 provides for a \$2 million appropriation from the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to reimburse area agencies on aging for actual costs.

LB 454 (Quick) Change provisions relating to regional behavioral health authorities and the Behavioral Health Services Fund

LB 454 changes the restrictions to the currently required competitive bidding process used for behavioral health services. A pilot project may be conducted. Also, the Behavioral Health Services Fund is expanded to housing assistance for low-income individuals with substance abuse disorder.

Committee Amendment 547 allows a provider engaged in providing services to provide new as well as existing services approved by DHHS and allows them to contract with a regional behavioral health authority if the enrolled provider meets the required standards. Also, the Committee Amendment 547 removes provisions which allowed the pilot project to be conducted one year with DHHS approval, prohibited the pilot project from being used for existing services, required outcomes approved by the regional behavioral health authority and allowed a successful pilot project to become a full service.

AM952 by Senator Quick strikes the contracting language in Committee Amendment 547. This amendment exempts behavioral health regions from the competitive bidding process when a behavioral health provider, with DHHS approval, provides new services or expands capacity of existing services if the provider meets DHHS's network enrollment standards, is enrolled as a network provider, and contracts with the region. The language relating to housing assistance remains.

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS ON SELECT FILE

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 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 applicably 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.

Pending AM1474 (Hansen) amends in provisions of LB 374 and LB 701

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS ON GENERAL FILE

LB 110 (Hughes) Provide requirements for pelvic examinations

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 strikes the original language and replaces it with a definition of intimate examination and a findings section. A health care provider is prohibited from performing an intimate examination on a patient who is anesthetized or unconscious in a hospital or medical clinic without prior written consent unless there is written consent, emergency, or a court order. Disciplinary actions are provided.

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

LB 202 would protect physicians and surgeons from discipline for expressing an opinion or providing medical advice that differs from medical consensus.

Committee Amendment 57 adds language that provides that 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.

LB 203 (Kauth) Change powers and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments

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 adds new language in which a community-wide directed health measure shall be subject to approval of the local board of health, shall expire 7 days after the date of issuance, and may be reauthorized subject to approval of the local board of health.

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

LB 365 requires that by January 1, 2026, the department must 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 to LB365 limits to scope of eligibility to pregnant and postpartum women, and focuses on frequent monitoring and streamlined data sharing.

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 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).

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 (Holdercroft) 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 28th day.

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

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. A case manager that is a contracted provider may be used for juveniles under DHHS care.

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS HELD IN COMMITTEE

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

LB 214 amends the current NE Safe Haven Act to allow the use of a newborn safety device at drop off locations. Requirements are provided for the device, staff at each location, and DHHS. Definitions are also provided as well as an appropriation for installation grants. Finally, this bill provides immunity from prosecution to those that surrender a child under this Act.

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

LB 304 eliminates the October 1, 2026 sunset date in transitional child care provisions. Also, the September 30, 2026 sunset date is eliminated for transitional child care funds through the Child Care and Development Block Grant.

Under current law, in determining ongoing eligibility in the federal Child Care Subsidy program, a family shall receive transitional child care assistance through the remainder of the family's eligibility period or until the family's income exceeds 85% of the state median income, whichever occurs first, if their income exceeds 185% of the federal poverty level before October 1, 2026 or 130% of the federal poverty level on and after October 1, 2026. When the family's eligibility 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 prior to October 1, 2026, or 185% of the federal poverty level on and after October 1, 2026.

LB 304 would allow families to continue to have their eligibility determined at the higher rate of the federal poverty level since the sunset date will be removed.

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 conversion 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 (Gureca) 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 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. A client family income schedule, using the federal poverty guidelines, shall be used to determine a care management client's voluntary contribution. For individuals who have family income below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, the mandate for paying for the cost of services is removed.

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**

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

LB 701 requires DHHS, no later than January 1, 2027, to reimburse a provider for doula services and establish a work group of stakeholders and experts to develop an implementation plan (training, certification). Membership of the work group is provided. This bill defines doula as a trained professional who provides emotional, physical, and informational support for individuals before, during, and after labor and birth. A doula is prohibited from performing clinical or medical tasks and shall diagnose or treat in any modality.

- **AM1474 to LB 676 (Hansen) pending; amends provisions of LB 701 into LB 676**

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED

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

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS WITHDRAWN

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.

BILL SUMMARIES: BILLS VETOED

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

LIST OF 2025 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE INTERIM STUDIES

One Hundred Nineth Legislature, First Session

| LR # | Introducer | One-Liner |
|-------------|-------------------|---|
| LR 210 | Hardin | Interim study to examine and compare how health information exchanges work in other states |
| LR 209 | Hardin | Interim study to examine the funding sources of skilled nursing facilities in Nebraska |
| LR 208 | Hardin | Interim study to examine the impact of mobile services on the delivery of health services |
| LR 237 | Wordekemper | Interim study to examine the data collection and reporting structure for emergency medical services data |
| LR 238 | Holdcroft | Interim study to determine the quality of patient services at abortion clinics in Nebraska and the nature and quality of state oversight of those clinics |
| LR 232 | Riepe | Interim study to examine regulatory restrictions and opportunities in medical education in order to strengthen the medical workforce in rural and other underserved areas in Nebraska |
| LR 180 | DeKay | Interim study to examine current and future availability and sustainability of nursing facility care for individuals in Nebraska |
| LR 231 | Riepe | Interim study to examine access to dental care and explore strategies to improve oral health in rural and other underserved areas in Nebraska |
| LR 245 | Spivey | Interim study to examine the feasibility, accessibility, and potential benefits of licensed freestanding birth centers in Nebraska |
| LR 219 | Frederickson | Interim study to examine nonopioid pharmacological treatment options in Medicaid |
| LR 220 | Frederickson | Interim study to examine the adequacy of funding and resources available to Level 3 Special Education Contractual Services for children |
| LR 221 | Frederickson | Interim study to examine the barriers to access to dental services in Nebraska |
| LR 197 | Kauth | Interim study to examine violence in behavioral health settings |
| LR 171 | McKinney | Interim study to examine the impact of the cliff effect on Nebraska families receiving public assistance |
| LR 227 | J. Cavanaugh | Interim study to examine the recommendations presented to the Legislative Mental Health Care Capacity Strategic Planning Committee |

| | | |
|--------|--------------|--|
| LR 145 | Kauth | Interim study to examine the effectiveness of hyperbaric oxygen therapy |
| LR 216 | M. Cavanaugh | Interim study to examine the current caseload of child welfare social workers working in the various districts across the state |
| LR 224 | Dungan | Interim study to examine the effectiveness of programs addressing health-related social needs which are unmet adverse social conditions that contribute to poor health, including food insecurity, unemployment, and housing stability |
| LR 191 | Hardin | Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee |

- **Listing based on priority**

**DETAILED INDEX OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
BILL AND RESOLUTIONS**

One Hundred Nineth Legislature, First Session

| Bill # | Introducer | One-Liner | Hearing Date | Status |
|---------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| LB 10 | Hughes | Change requirements relating to wholesale drug distributors and dispensing of certain prescription drugs | 1/22/25 | Passed |
| LB 13 | M. Cavanaugh | Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment relating to child care | 1/22/25 | Select File |
| LB 22 | Dungan | Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for evidence-based nurse home visitation services | 1/23/25 | Passed |
| LB 27 | Ballard | Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act | 1/22/25 | Referral |
| LB 41 | Riepe | Change provisions relating to blood tests for pregnant women | 1/23/25 | Passed |
| LB 42 | Riepe | Provide for employment of nurse aides in intellectual and developmental disability facilities | 1/23/25 | Passed |
| LB 46 | McKinney | Establish a Restaurant Meals Program under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program | 2/6/25 | Referral |
| LB 48 | McKinney | Establish a Family Resource and Juvenile Assessment Center Pilot Program | 3/12/25 | Passed |
| LB 61 | Storer | Require DHHS to file a Medicaid waiver amendment for memory care rates | 1/22/25 | Referral |
| LB 67 | Raybould | Adopt the Sexual Assault Emergency Care Act | 3/14/25 | Referral |
| LB 71 | DeBoer | Change requirements for child care reimbursement rates | 1/23/25 | Referral |
| LB 82 | Rountree | Adopt the Cosmetology Licensure Compact | 1/31/25 | Referral |
| LB 83 | Rountree | Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact | 1/30/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 148 |
| LB 84 | Rountree | Adopt the Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact | 1/30/25 | Passed |

| | | | | |
|--------|--------------|---|---------|---|
| LB 87 | Dorn | Provide for statewide support service provider program for deaf-blind persons | 1/31/25 | Referral |
| LB 95 | Frederickson | Provide for a pilot program under the federal Child Care Subsidy program | 2/12/25 | Referral |
| LB 96 | Dungan | Require DHHS to file certain 1115 waivers | 3/13/25 | Referral |
| LB 102 | Spivey | Change requirements relating to standard of need under the aide to dependent children program | 2/6/25 | Indefinitely Postponed |
| LB 104 | Raybould | Adopt the Family Home Visitation Act | 2/7/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 22 |
| LB 110 | Hughes | Provide requirements for pelvic examinations | 1/31/25 | General File |
| LB 118 | Hardin | Change supervising authority for a pharmacist | 1/29/25 | Passed |
| LB 119 | Hardin | Provide requirements for the Rural Health Opportunity Program and provide tuition waivers | 1/29/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 332 |
| LB 138 | Riepe | Change provisions relating to Medicaid pharmacy dispensing fees | 1/29/25 | Referral |
| LB 147 | Hansen | Change provisions relating to approval and regulation of adding fluoride to the water supply of certain political subdivisions | 3/12/25 | Referral |
| LB 148 | Hansen | Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact and change requirements for licensure and reciprocity under the Dentistry Practice Act | 1/30/25 | Passed |
| LB 153 | Guereca | Require DHHS to file a state plan amendment for postpartum coverage | 3/14/25 | Referral |
| LB 154 | Hardin | Change provisions relating to hearing instrument specialists | 2/5/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 332 |
| LB 160 | Riepe | Change examination requirements for a license under the Barber Act | 1/31/25 | Passed |
| LB 162 | Juarez | Adopt the Child Care Safety and Security Act | 1/29/25 | Referral |
| 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 | 2/12/25 | Referral |

| | | | | |
|--------|--------------|--|---------|---|
| LB 192 | Quick | Change and eliminate provisions regarding eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits and eliminate requirements for an evaluation and a report | 2/6/25 | Passed |
| LB 202 | Kauth | Exempt certain activities from disciplinary action under the Medicine and Surgery Practice Act | 3/5/25 | General File |
| LB 203 | Kauth | Change powers and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments | 2/7/25 | General File |
| LB 210 | Riepe | Provide for fees and assessments for participation and use of the prescription drug monitoring program and the designated health information exchange | 3/6/25 | Referral |
| LB 214 | Holdcroft | Provide for the use of newborn safety devices and procedures relating to surrendered newborn infants | 3/6/25 | Referral |
| LB 217 | Fredrickson | Require suicide awareness and prevention training for employees of child-placing agencies and child welfare workers | 2/12/25 | Passed |
| LB 239 | M. Cavanaugh | Change requirements relating to developmental disabilities funding priorities and eliminate a sunset date | 3/5/25 | Referral |
| LB 248 | Sanders | Exempt certain programs from child care licensing requirements | 2/5/25 | Passed |
| LB 255 | Quick | Provide for use of the Opioid Treatment Infrastructure Cash Fund for problem solving courts | 2/28/25 | Referral |
| LB 257 | Quick | Change licensure and scope of practice regarding marriage and family therapy and occupational therapy and licensure requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act | 2/7/25 | Passed |
| LB 274 | Hunt | Change requirements under the Child Care Licensing Act for liability insurance coverage and inspections and investigations | 2/5/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 257 |
| LB 275 | Hunt | Require DHHS to screen state wards for social security benefit eligibility | 2/28/25 | Passed |
| LB 281 | Quick | Change provisions relating to the Board of Nursing and eliminate the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses | 2/19/25 | Referral, Provisions in LB 346 |
| LB 283 | Spivey | Require DHHS to implement express lane eligibility | 3/13/25 | Referral |

| | | | | |
|--------|---------------|---|----------|--------------|
| LB 304 | DeBoer | Eliminate a sunset date for the federal Child Care Subsidy program | 2/6/25 | Referral |
| LB 310 | Hansen | Provide an exemption from newborn screening for certain diseases or conditions | 1/30/25 | Referral |
| LB 312 | Strommen | Include nurse anesthesia practice and dietitian nutrition practice under the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act | 2/7/25 | Passed |
| LB 318 | Rountree | Require DHHS to file a Medicaid state plan amendment for incarcerated youth | 3/13//25 | Referral |
| LB 319 | Rountree | Change eligibility requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program | 3/5/25 | Vetoed |
| LB 332 | Hardin | Provide for assistant funeral directors; change scope of practice and regulatory provisions regarding funeral directing and embalming, hearing instrument specialists, and audiologists; change membership provisions for the Board of Pharmacy; change provisions regarding delegated dispensing permits and prescription refills; provide Medicaid coverage for psychology services; and establish the Rural Health Opportunity Program | 2/19/25 | Passed |
| LB 339 | Hallstrom | Require DHHS to provide a report regarding the federal Child Care Subsidy program | 2/6/25 | Referral |
| LB 365 | Quick | Require Medicaid coverage of self-measure blood pressure monitoring services | 2/26/25 | General File |
| LB 367 | Hunt | Prohibit conversion therapy and provide for disciplinary sanctions and a deceptive trade practice | 3/19/25 | Referral |
| LB 374 | Hansen | Adopt the Licensed Midwives Practice Act | 2/5/25 | Referral |
| LB 376 | HHS Committee | Change and eliminate programs and services administered by DHHS; eliminate various reporting requirements; and change and eliminate duties of the Board of Emergency Medical Services, the Division of Children and Family Services, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Director of Motor Vehicles | 2/19/25 | Passed |
| LB 379 | Anderson | Change the maximum time limit for receipt of cash assistance under the Welfare Reform Act | 2/26/25 | General File |
| LB 380 | Fredrickson | Change provisions regarding program integrity, ground emergency medical transport, and Medicaid mental health and substance use disorder services and provide | | Passed |

| | | | | |
|--------|---------------|--|---------|--|
| | | duties for the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care | | |
| LB 381 | Fredrickson | Change Medicaid requirements relating to program integrity audits | 2/26/25 | Referral; provisions amended into LB 380 |
| LB 382 | Meyer | Provide for the use of the Medicaid Managed Care Excess Profit Fund to reimburse designated area agencies on aging and state intent regarding appropriations | 2/19/25 | Passed |
| LB 418 | Lonowski | Allow a non-licensed funeral director and embalmer to officiate at a funeral ceremony | NA | Withdrawn |
| LB 436 | HHS Committee | Change provisions of the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act | 2/20/25 | Referral |
| LB 437 | Riepe | Repeal the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act | 3/12/25 | General File |
| LB 442 | Spivey | Establish a state child care subsidy program | 3/14/25 | Referral |
| LB 446 | Guereca | Change provisions to release of health data and statistical research information | 2/27/25 | Referral |
| LB 454 | Quick | Change provisions relating to regional behavioral health authorities and the Behavioral Health Services Fund | 2/28/25 | Passed |
| 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 | 2/27/25 | General File |
| LB 481 | Ballard | Adopt the Foster Care Child Scholarships Act | 2/12/25 | Referral |
| LB 486 | Quick | Require DHHS to implement standards for reimbursement for certain service providers | 2/27/25 | Referral |
| LB 512 | Holdcroft | Adopt the Chemical Abortion Safety Protocol Act | 2/13/25 | General File |
| LB 516 | Quick | Eliminate provisions relating to counties maintaining office space for DHHS | 2/19/25 | Referral; Amended into LB 376 |
| LB 553 | Riepe | Change provisions of the Rural Health Systems and Professional Incentive Act | 2/28/25 | Referral; Amended into LB 312 |
| LB 569 | HHS Committee | Change duties of the Emergency Medical Services | 2/19/25 | Referral |
| LB 570 | J. Cavanaugh | Provide for scholarships for nursing students | 2/20/25 | Referral |

| | | | | |
|--------|----------|--|---------|---|
| LB 577 | Dorn | Change licensure requirements for remote dispensing pharmacies and verification requirements for pharmacists | NA | Withdrawn |
| LB 588 | Conrad | Require the maximum level of monthly assistance to be tied to the annual inflation factor for aid to dependent children | 3/13/25 | Referral |
| LB 603 | Ballard | Change provisions relating to care management units under the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act | 2/26/25 | Referral |
| LB 610 | Bostar | Change provisions relating to supplemental Medicaid reimbursement for ground emergency medical transport | 2/26/25 | Indefinitely Postponed, Amended into LB 380 |
| LB 630 | Hansen | Provide and change scope of practice requirements under the Occupational Therapy Practice Act | 3/6/25 | Indefinitely Postponed; Amended into LB 257 |
| LB 632 | Hansen | Require a health care facility to dispose of the remains of aborted unborn children | 3/6/25 | Select File |
| LB 655 | Murman | Provide for medical conscience-based objections | 2/21/25 | Referral |
| LB 656 | Anderson | Change work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program | 2/27/25 | General File; Portions Amended into LB 192 |
| 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 | 2/12/25 | General File |
| LB 676 | Hansen | Change and eliminate provisions relating to certified nurse midwives and provide for applicability of the Nebraska Hospital-Medical Liability Act | 2/20/25 | Select File |
| LB 697 | Strommen | Change requirements relating to compounding and delegated dispensing permits under the Pharmacy Practice Act | 2/21/25 | Referral; Amended into LB 332 |
| LB 701 | Spivey | Provide for reimbursement of doula services by DHHS | 2/28/25 | Referral |