

E AND R AMENDMENTS TO LB 232

Introduced by Enrollment and Review Committee: McGill, 26,
Chairperson

1 1. Strike the original sections and all amendments
2 thereto and insert the following new sections:

3 Section 1. Section 81-12,126, Revised Statutes Cumulative
4 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

5 81-12,126 The purpose of the Building Entrepreneurial
6 Communities Act is to support economically depressed rural areas
7 of Nebraska in building entrepreneurial communities through grants
8 that will create community capacity to build and sustain programs
9 to generate and retain wealth in the community and region.
10 Specifically, the act will:

11 (1) Provide education and technical assistance to
12 energize small business development and entrepreneurship;

13 (2) Provide technical assistance to facilitate small
14 business transfer;

15 (3) Build community business capacity and leadership
16 programs;

17 (4) Generate opportunities that will attract and retain
18 young people and families;

19 (5) Provide education about philanthropy and
20 intergenerational transfer of wealth; and

21 (6) Build community endowments to support these
22 activities; and -

23 (7) Establish community initiatives to attract new

1 residents.

2 Sec. 2. Section 81-12,127, Revised Statutes Cumulative
3 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

4 81-12,127 (1) The Department of Economic Development,
5 with assistance provided by the Rural Development Commission, shall
6 establish and administer a grant process to provide grants to
7 ~~two or more municipalities, counties, unincorporated areas within~~
8 ~~a county,~~ local units of government or census tracts that are
9 collaborating on a project related to the purpose of the Building
10 Entrepreneurial Communities Act with priority given to projects
11 that best alleviate chronic economic distress. At least one of the
12 collaborating ~~municipalities, counties, unincorporated areas within~~
13 ~~a county,~~ local units of government or census tracts shall have
14 chronic economic distress as indicated by:

15 (a) An unemployment rate which exceeds the statewide
16 average unemployment rate;

17 (b) A per capita income below the statewide average per
18 capita income; or

19 (c) A population loss between the two most recent federal
20 decennial censuses.

21 (2) Grants shall not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars
22 per collaborative project. Grant recipients shall have two years
23 to expend the grant funds. No ~~municipality or county~~ local unit of
24 government shall receive funding for more than one project. Grant
25 recipients shall provide fifty cents of matching funds in cash for
26 each dollar of grant funds, except that in limited resource areas
27 the cash match requirement is twenty-five percent of grant funds.

1 ~~a dollar-for-dollar match in money for grant funds.~~ Grants shall
2 be awarded directly to one of the ~~municipalities or counties~~ local
3 units of government representing the collaborative project. The
4 department shall act as the fiduciary agent for the grants.

5 (3) Planning grants may be awarded to limited resource
6 areas in amounts not exceeding five thousand dollars for the
7 purpose of establishing collaborations and developing proposals for
8 submission under this section. There is no match requirement for
9 planning grants.

10 (4) For purposes of this section, limited resource areas
11 means areas that meet at least one of the following criteria:

12 (a) A per capita income below the statewide average per
13 capita income by at least twenty percent; or

14 (b) A population loss in the previous twenty years of at
15 least twenty percent.

16 Sec. 3. Original sections 81-12,126 and 81-12,127,
17 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2006, are repealed.

18 2. On page 1, line 3, after the semicolon insert "to
19 provide for community initiatives to attract new residents and
20 for planning grants;"; and in line 4 after the first "to" insert
21 "recipients of grants and".