

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 182

Introduced By: Kruse, 13; Avery, 28; Harms, 48; Kopplin, 3; Lathrop, 12; McDonald, 41; McGill, 26; Nantkes, 46; Nelson, 6; Pahls, 31; Stuthman, 22; Wightman, 36

Read first time: January 9, 2007

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to public transportation; to amend sections
2 13-1209 and 39-1365.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of
3 Nebraska; to provide limitations on state grants; to provide
4 a duty to report; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the
5 original sections.

6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 13-1209, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 13-1209. (1) A public transportation assistance program is
4 hereby established to provide state assistance for the operation of
5 public transportation systems.

6 (2) Any municipality, county, transit authority, or
7 qualified public-purpose organization shall be eligible to receive
8 financial assistance for the eligible operating costs of a public
9 transportation system, whether the applicant directly operates such
10 system or contracts for its operation. A qualified public-purpose
11 organization shall not be eligible for financial assistance under the
12 Nebraska Public Transportation Act if such organization is currently
13 receiving state funds for a program which includes transportation
14 services and such funding and services would be duplicated by the act.
15 Eligible operating costs shall include those expenses incurred in the
16 operation of a public transportation system which exceed the amount of
17 operating revenue and which are not otherwise eligible for
18 reimbursement from any available federal programs other than those
19 administered by the United States Department of the Treasury.

20 (3) The state grant to an applicant shall not exceed fifty
21 percent of the eligible operating costs of the public transportation
22 system as provided for in subsection (2) of this section. The amount
23 of state funds shall be matched by an equal amount of local funds in
24 support of operating costs.

25 (4) The state grant to an applicant in any year, as a
26 percentage of the amount requested, shall not exceed the funding
27 percentage. Funding percentage means the total amount appropriated

1 for state grants divided by the total amount of needs of the public
2 transportation assistance program reported pursuant to subdivision
3 (2)(f) of section 39-1365.02.

4 Sec. 2. Section 39-1365.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of
5 Nebraska, is amended to read:

6 39-1365.02. (1) The Department of Roads shall apply for and
7 make maximum use of available federal funding, including discretionary
8 funding, on all highway construction projects which are eligible for
9 such assistance.

10 (2) The Department of Roads shall transmit to the
11 Legislature, by December 1 of each year, a report on the needs of the
12 state highway system and the department's planning procedures. Such
13 report shall include:

14 (a) The criteria by which highway needs are determined;

15 (b) The standards established for each classification of
16 highways;

17 (c) An assessment of current and projected needs of the
18 state highway system, such needs to be defined by category of
19 improvement required to bring each segment up to standards. Projected
20 fund availability shall not be a consideration by which needs are
21 determined;

22 (d) Criteria and data, including factors enumerated in
23 section 39-1365.01, upon which decisions may be made on possible
24 special priority highways for commercial growth; ~~and~~

25 (e) A review of the department's procedure for selection of
26 projects for the annual construction program, the five-year planning
27 program, and extended planning programs; and -

1 (f) The needs of the public transportation assistance
2 program administered pursuant to sections 13-1209 to 13-1212, as well
3 as recommendations for funding projects under the program.

4 Sec. 3. Original sections 13-1209 and 39-1365.02, Reissue
5 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.