

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 975

Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Ashford, 20; Cook, 13; Council, 11;
Mello, 5; White, 8.

Read first time January 19, 2010

Committee: Revenue

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Convention Center Facility Financing
2 Assistance Act; to amend section 13-2610, Revised
3 Statutes Supplement, 2009; to change provisions relating
4 to projects undertaken in areas with a high concentration
5 of poverty; and to repeal the original section.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 13-2610, Revised Statutes Supplement,
2 2009, is amended to read:

3 13-2610 (1) Upon the annual certification under section
4 13-2609, the State Treasurer shall transfer after the audit
5 the amount certified to the Convention Center Support Fund. The
6 Convention Center Support Fund is created. Any money in the fund
7 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment
8 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the
9 Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

10 (2) (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate
11 from the fund to any political subdivision for which an application
12 for state assistance under the Convention Center Facility Financing
13 Assistance Act has been approved an amount not to exceed (i)
14 seventy percent of the state sales tax revenue collected by
15 retailers and operators doing business at such facilities on sales
16 at such facilities, state sales tax revenue collected on primary
17 and secondary box office sales of admissions to such facilities,
18 and state sales tax revenue collected by associated hotels, (ii)
19 seventy-five million dollars for any one approved project, or (iii)
20 the total cost of acquiring, constructing, improving, or equipping
21 the eligible facility. State assistance shall not be used for an
22 operating subsidy or other ancillary facility.

23 (b) Ten percent of such funds appropriated to a city
24 of the metropolitan class under this subsection shall be equally
25 distributed to areas with a high concentration of poverty to (i)

1 showcase important historical aspects of such areas or areas within
2 close geographic proximity of the area with a high concentration
3 of poverty or (ii) assist with the reduction of street and gang
4 violence in such areas.

5 (c) Each area with a high concentration of poverty that
6 has been distributed funds under subdivision (b) of this subsection
7 shall establish a development fund and form a committee which shall
8 identify and research potential projects to be completed in the
9 area with a high concentration of poverty or in an area within
10 close geographic proximity of such area if the project would have
11 a significant or demonstrable impact on such area and make final
12 determinations on the use of state sales tax revenue received for
13 such projects.

14 (d) A committee formed in subdivision (c) of this
15 subsection shall include the following three members:

16 (i) The member of the city council whose district
17 includes a majority of the census tracts which each contain a
18 percentage of persons below the poverty line of greater than thirty
19 percent, as determined by the most recent federal decennial census,
20 within the area with a high concentration of poverty;

21 (ii) The commissioner of the county whose district
22 includes a majority of the census tracts which each contain a
23 percentage of persons below the poverty line of greater than thirty
24 percent, as determined by the most recent federal decennial census,
25 within the area with a high concentration of poverty; and

1 (iii) A resident of the area with a high concentration of
2 poverty, appointed by the other two members of the committee.

3 (e) A committee formed in subdivision (c) of this
4 subsection shall solicit project ideas from the public and shall
5 hold a public hearing in the area with a high concentration
6 of poverty. Notice of a proposed hearing shall be provided in
7 accordance with the procedures for notice of a public hearing
8 pursuant to section 18-2115. The committee shall research potential
9 projects ~~in its area~~ and make the final determination regarding the
10 annual distribution of funding to such projects.

11 (f) For purposes of this subsection, an area with a high
12 concentration of poverty means an area within the corporate limits
13 of a city of the metropolitan class consisting of one or more
14 contiguous census tracts, as determined by the most recent federal
15 decennial census, which contain a percentage of persons below the
16 poverty line of greater than thirty percent, and all census tracts
17 contiguous to such tract or tracts, as determined by the most
18 recent federal decennial census.

19 (3) State assistance to the political subdivision shall
20 no longer be available upon the retirement of the bonds issued
21 to acquire, construct, improve, or equip the facility or any
22 subsequent bonds that refunded the original issue or when state
23 assistance reaches the amount determined under subdivision (2)(a)
24 of this section, whichever comes first.

25 (4) The remaining thirty percent of state sales tax

1 revenue collected by retailers and operators doing business at such
2 facilities on sales at such facilities, state sales tax revenue
3 collected on primary and secondary box office sales of admissions
4 to such facilities, and state sales tax revenue collected by
5 associated hotels, shall be appropriated by the Legislature to the
6 Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Fund.

7 (5) Any municipality that has applied for and received a
8 grant of assistance under the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention
9 Center Financing Act may not receive state assistance under the
10 Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act.

11 Sec. 2. Original section 13-2610, Revised Statutes
12 Supplement, 2009, is repealed.