

AMENDMENTS TO LB 684

Introduced by Banking, Commerce and Insurance

1           1. Strike original section 1 and insert the following new  
2 section:

3           Section 1. Section 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised Statutes  
4 of Nebraska, is amended to read:

5           81-1201.13 (1) The Travel and Tourism Division shall  
6 develop a program to provide promotional services and technical  
7 assistance to local governments and industry members and to ensure  
8 the protection and development of Nebraska's attraction resources.

9           (2) (a) The department shall have an advisory committee to  
10 provide regular consultation to the Travel and Tourism Division,  
11 which committee shall be named the Travel and Tourism Division  
12 Advisory Committee. Such advisory committee shall include, at a  
13 minimum, one representative from the Game and Parks Commission,  
14 one representative from the Nebraska Travel Association, one  
15 representative from the Nebraska Hotel and Motel Association,  
16 one representative from a tourism attraction that records at least  
17 two thousand out-of-state visitors per year, and one representative  
18 from the Nebraska Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.

19           (b) The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee  
20 shall develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote  
21 tourism in Nebraska. The advisory committee shall adopt policy  
22 criteria to be used in the development of the plan. The plan shall  
23 include:

1           (i) A review of the existing and potential sources of  
2 funding for tourism at the state and local levels;

3           (ii) A comprehensive inventory of local tourism boards,  
4 the structure of such boards, and their funding;

5           (iii) Criteria for local tourism boards in terms of  
6 appointments to such boards and for awarding grants by such boards  
7 at the local level to ensure local resources are used to achieve  
8 the greatest return;

9           (iv) An examination of other states' funding models for  
10 tourism;

11           (v) Marketing strategies for promoting tourism;

12           (vi) A proposal for creating new or expanding existing  
13 tourism capacity, which may include encouraging regional  
14 cooperation, collaboration, or privatization; and

15           (vii) Recommended legislation or funding requirements.

16           (c) The department may hire a consultant to assist the  
17 Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee in developing the  
18 statewide strategic plan. The department may accept, in trust, any  
19 gifts, devises, and bequests to be held and administered by the  
20 department for the purposes of hiring a consultant. The advisory  
21 committee shall prepare and present the statewide strategic plan to  
22 the Legislature by September 1, 2012.

23           (3) All advertising contracts awarded by the department  
24 concerning travel and tourism shall be based on competitive bids.  
25 Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking  
26 into consideration the best interests of the state, the quality  
27 of performance of the services rendered, the conformity with

1 specifications, the purposes for which required, and the time of  
2 completion, and with the consultation of the Travel and Tourism  
3 Division Advisory Committee. In determining the lowest responsible  
4 bidder, in addition to price, the following elements shall be  
5 given consideration: ~~(1)~~ (a) The ability, capacity, creativity,  
6 and skill of the bidder to perform the contract required; ~~(2)~~  
7 (b) the character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience,  
8 and efficiency of the bidder; ~~(3)~~ (c) whether the bidder can  
9 perform the contract within the time specified; ~~(4)~~ (d) the  
10 quality of performance of previous contracts; ~~(5)~~ (e) the previous  
11 and existing compliance by the bidder with laws relating to the  
12 contract; and ~~(6)~~ (f) such other information as may be secured  
13 having a bearing on the decision to award the contract. The  
14 department shall advertise for bids for the awarding of contracts  
15 concerning travel and tourism pursuant to sections 73-101 to  
16 73-105. At least thirty working days shall elapse between the time  
17 formal bids are advertised for and the time of their opening.  
18 Contracts shall be awarded within sixty working days after the  
19 bidding has been closed. Each person submitting a bid shall, by  
20 certified mail, be notified as to whom the contract was awarded.