

E AND R AMENDMENTS TO LB 386

Introduced by Larson, 40, Chairperson Enrollment and Review

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

3 Section 1. For purposes of sections 1 to 3 of this act:

4 (1) Department means the Department of Economic
5 Development;

6 (2) Distressed area means a municipality, county with a
7 population of fewer than one hundred thousand inhabitants according
8 to the most recent federal decennial census, unincorporated area
9 within a county, or census tract in Nebraska that (a) has an
10 unemployment rate which exceeds the statewide average unemployment
11 rate, (b) has a per capita income below the statewide average per
12 capita income, or (c) had a population decrease between the two
13 most recent federal decennial censuses;

14 (3) Eligible company has the same meaning as qualified
15 business in subsection (1) of section 77-5715;

16 (4) Intern means any person who is working in a
17 professional environment for a limited period of time to gain
18 sufficient practical work experience in a professional or technical
19 position to allow for career decisionmaking and to provide
20 the employer valuable skills to accelerate short-term business
21 objectives and who (a) is enrolled full time in a four-year
22 college or university in Nebraska and has achieved junior or senior
23 status by such institution's criteria, (b) is enrolled full time

1 in a two-year college in Nebraska and has successfully completed
2 a minimum of one-half of the total credit hours required for an
3 associate degree, or (c) having residency in Nebraska, is enrolled
4 full time in a four-year college or university in a state other
5 than Nebraska and has achieved junior or senior status by such
6 institution's criteria; and

7 (5) Internship means any internship that did not exist
8 before the operative date of this act.

9 Sec. 2. (1) The intent of sections 1 to 3 of this act
10 is to connect Nebraska students pursuing postsecondary degrees with
11 targeted industries in order to retain such students and attract
12 workers to Nebraska by assisting companies willing to provide paid
13 internships.

14 (2) An eligible company may apply to the department for a
15 job training grant to assist in the hiring of an intern if:

16 (a) The company certifies that the internship meets the
17 definition of internship in section 1 of this act;

18 (b) The internship pays at least the federal minimum
19 wage; and

20 (c) The intern will work a minimum of two hundred hours
21 in a twelve-week period but no more than one thousand hours in a
22 fifty-week period.

23 (3) The department may provide a job training grant of up
24 to the lesser of forty percent of the cost of the internship or
25 three thousand five hundred dollars, except that if the internship
26 is in a distressed area, the job training grant may be up to the
27 lesser of sixty percent of the cost of the internship or five

1 thousand dollars.

2 (4) An eligible company may apply for no more than two
3 job training grants for the same intern, shall not be awarded
4 more than five job training grants at any one location in any
5 twelve-month period, and shall not be awarded more than ten job
6 training grants total in any twelve-month period.

7 (5) An eligible company may allow an intern to
8 telecommute if the eligible company is located more than thirty
9 miles from the college or university in which the intern is
10 enrolled and if the college or university is in Nebraska.

11 (6) The department shall, to the extent possible, assure
12 that the distribution of job training grants under sections 1 to
13 3 of this act provides equitable access to the grants by all
14 geographic areas of the state.

15 (7) The department shall not allocate more than one
16 million five hundred thousand dollars in each of FY2011-12 and
17 FY2012-13 from the Job Training Cash Fund for purposes of this
18 section. The department may receive funds from public, private, or
19 other sources for purposes of this section.

20 Sec. 3. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and
21 regulations to govern the award and disbursement of job training
22 grants under section 2 of this act.

23 Sec. 4. Section 81-1201.21, Revised Statutes Cumulative
24 Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

25 81-1201.21 (1) There is hereby created the Job Training
26 Cash Fund. The fund shall be under the direction of the Department
27 of Economic Development. Money may be transferred to the fund

1 pursuant to subdivision (1)(b)(iv) of section 48-621 and from
2 the Cash Reserve Fund at the direction of the Legislature. The
3 department shall establish a subaccount for all money transferred
4 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Job Training Cash Fund on or
5 after July 1, 2005.

6 (2) The department shall use the Job Training Cash Fund
7 or the subaccount established in subsection (1) of this section (a)
8 to provide reimbursements for job training activities, including
9 employee assessment, preemployment training, on-the-job training,
10 training equipment costs, and other reasonable costs related to
11 helping industry and business locate or expand in Nebraska, ~~or~~
12 (b) to provide upgrade skills training of the existing labor force
13 necessary to adapt to new technology or the introduction of new
14 product lines, or (c) to provide job training grants pursuant to
15 section 2 of this act.

16 (3) The department shall establish a subaccount within
17 the fund to provide training grants for training employees and
18 potential employees of businesses that (a) employ twenty-five or
19 fewer employees on the application date, (b) employ, or train for
20 potential employment, residents of rural areas of Nebraska, or
21 (c) are located in or employ, or train for potential employment,
22 residents of high-poverty areas as defined in section 81-1203.
23 The department shall calculate the amount of prior year investment
24 income earnings accruing to the fund and allocate such amount
25 to the subaccount for training grants under this subsection. The
26 subaccount shall also be used as provided in the Teleworker Job
27 Creation Act.

1 (4) Any money in the fund available for investment
2 shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to
3 the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds
4 Investment Act.

5 Sec. 5. This act becomes operative on June 1, 2011.

6 Sec. 6. Original section 81-1201.21, Revised Statutes
7 Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is repealed.

8 Sec. 7. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
9 when passed and approved according to law.