

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See below		See below	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB1068, if passed, will change provisions regarding the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN), which was established in 2009 with LB603 and is administered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). To help alleviate the behavioral health profession shortage in ninety-five percent of Nebraska’s counties, LB1068 would address immediate needs and implement long-term strategies to educate, recruit and retain behavioral health professionals.

Provisions of LB1068 would expand the number of medical residents, physician assistants, and/or psychiatric nurse practitioners from Nebraska-based education institutions who are able to participate in psychiatric training experiences. This bill would also increase the number of one-year doctoral-level psychology and mental health therapist internships in the state, which will also be placed in rural or underserved communities. Original statute allowed for a maximum of eight medical residents to be added by 2013, with two of those to be active in rural training each year. It also provided up to five one-year doctoral-level psychology internships in Nebraska. Starting in 2011, interdisciplinary behavioral health training sites were established, of which there are currently three. The passage of LB1068 would bring the maximum number of medical residents to ten, and would now include physicians and psychiatric nurse practitioners. Additionally, LB1068 would increase the number of related internships and practicums in the state, and would establish three more behavioral health training sites in regions currently missing a BHECN presence (Southeast, Southwest, and Northeast).

The expansion of access to behavioral health services in rural Nebraska, as described in LB1068, would result in the need for an increased General Fund appropriation to support the increase in General Fund expenditures. Current program definitions are outlined in sections 71-829 and 71-830; LB1068 amends those statutes.

According to the University, \$10 million would be expended to accomplish these expansions and are described as follows:

Description	FY2022-23	FY2023-24
59 positions, various titles, Salaries	\$3,663,000	\$3,663,000
Benefits	\$1,026,000	\$1,026,000
Operating	\$5,311,000	\$5,311,000
TOTAL	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000

The Fiscal Office has no basis to disagree with these estimates, but acknowledges testimony that current base funding is assumed to be \$2.4 million.

LB ⁽¹⁾ 1068, REVISION 2 Change provisions regarding the Behavioral Health Education Center administered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center **FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name:⁽²⁾ University of Nebraska System

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ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2022-23</u>		<u>FY 2023-24</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,000,000	0.00	10,000,000	0.00
CASH FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEDERAL FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OTHER FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL FUNDS	10,000,000	0.00	10,000,000	0.00

Explanation of Estimate:

LB1068, if passed, will change provisions regarding the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) administered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center. To help alleviate the behavioral health profession shortage in ninety-five percent of Nebraska’s counties, LB1068 would address immediate needs and implement long-term strategies to educate, recruit and retain behavioral health professionals. This bill will allow BHECN to establish and operate behavioral health workforce development centers in all areas of the state, expand paid training and internship opportunities, and expand BHECN’s workforce recruitment and retainment efforts.

Provisions of LB1068 would expand the number of medical residents, physician assistants, and/or psychiatric nurse practitioners from Nebraska-based education institutions who are able to participate in psychiatric training experiences. These trainees will be serving rural or other underserved areas of Nebraska for a minimum of three months each year. Additionally, LB1068 would increase the number of one-year doctoral-level psychology and mental health therapist internships or practicums in the state, which will also be placed in rural or underserved communities, helping to address workforce shortages across Nebraska.

LB1068 would allow BHECN to establish three more behavioral health training sites (currently there are three) in regions of the state which do not currently have a BHECN presence (Southeast, Southwest, and Northeast). This funding would allow BHECN to expand our operations at all six behavioral health training sites, including increased collaboration and training with regional behavioral health authorities, expanding outreach programs to high schools, community colleges, and undergraduate institutions to increase recruitment into the behavioral health field, and expanding current training on the integration of behavioral health into primary care and on telehealth techniques. Additionally, LB1068 would be used to expand current successful programming, such as rural behavioral health conferences, school-based mental health training, and intensive high school outreach programming. BHECN staffing, operations and research will expand correspondingly as well.

The fiscal note reflects the proposed \$10,000,000 from LB 1067.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>
	<u>22-23</u>	<u>23-24</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Various	59	59	3,663,000	3,663,000
	0	0		
Benefits.....			1,026,000	1,026,000
Operating.....			5,311,000	5,311,000
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			10,000,000	10,000,000