

Updated for the 2024 Legislative Session

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE**

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)</b>				
	<b>FY 2024-25</b>		<b>FY 2025-26</b>	
	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>
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.**

This bill creates the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission as an independent agency on the operative date of this act. The Volunteer Service Commission, ServeNebraska, is administratively under the Department of Health and Human Services. The bill gives the commission the ability to employ an executive director. The executive director is allowed to hire up to 15 full-time staff and expend funds for office space, furniture, equipment and other supplies. The bill assigns duties to the commission. The effective date of the act, as written, is July 1, 2023. The bill has the emergency clause.

Section 10 of the bill dictates that on the operative date of this act, all employees and all items of property, real and personal, including office furniture, fixtures, books, documents and records of the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission will become subject to the independent statutory agency. Section 11 of the bill indicates that any appropriation and salary limit provided for the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission within the Department of Health and Human Services will be null and void and any such amounts will be appropriated to the independent statutory agency for FY24. The amount of state appropriations DHHS indicates the Agency receives for the commission amounts to \$30,000 General Funds and \$1,446,989 Federal Funds annually. Such appropriations would be reduced from DHHS and added to the newly independent ServeNebraska agency.

ServeNebraska also indicates a total of \$106,900 in General Funds (which includes the \$30,000 appropriation and an additional \$76,900 in other state funds from DHHS which captures special projects and certain operational costs) and \$5.15 million in Federal Funds (multiple federal grants, including for Americorps programs, which are to be spent over a period of years) would need to follow the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission programing from DHHS to the newly independent agency. Note that the funding available and the appropriations do not match due to the funding being spent over multiple years.

ServeNebraska indicates the current annual expenditures for operations amounts to approximately \$800,000 annually. Expenses as an independent state agency may be more depending on factors including availability of physical space and technological costs. The Department of Administrative Services indicates a low estimate for additional annual costs to be \$12,988 per employee and a high estimate to be \$15,303 per employee. ServeNebraska employs approximately 8 FTEs therefore, using the figures provided by DAS in 2023, the low-end estimate to the new agency would be \$103,904 and the high-end would be \$122,424. This includes office space as well as technology fees and office fixtures. ServeNebraska utilizes work cell phones and does not utilize landlines therefore the technology costs may be overstated. The language of the bill indicates that office furniture and fixtures would accompany the program to the new agency therefore the anticipated actual cost in revolving funds by DAS is indeterminable at this time. The combined annual expenditures, \$800,000, plus the high-end operations cost estimate of \$122,424 would remain less (\$922,424) than the current annual appropriation DHHS would surrender to the new agency (\$1,476,989).

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

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Date Prepared 12-20-23

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	<u>FY 2024-2025</u>		<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
<b>GENERAL FUNDS</b>	(30,000)		(30,000)	
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>				
<b>FEDERAL FUNDS</b>	(1,446,989)		(1,446,989)	
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	(1,476,989)		(1,476,989)	

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

**Explanation of Estimate:**

LB 111 proposes to remove the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission, also known as ServeNebraska (ServeNE), from within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and create a separate statutory Agency for the commission. DHHS would return the current appropriated amounts of general, federal, and cash funds for ServeNE to the State.

**MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

PERSONAL SERVICES:	POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2024-2025	2025-2026
		24-25	25-26	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....					
Operating.....				(30,000)	(30,000)
Travel.....					
Capital Outlay.....					
Aid.....				(1,446,989)	(1,446,989)
Capital Improvements.....					
<b>TOTAL.....</b>				<b>(1,476,989)</b>	<b>(1,476,989)</b>