LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 301

Introduced by Ibach, 44; Juarez, 5.

Read first time January 15, 2025

Committee: Judiciary

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to immigration; to amend sections 4-109, 2 48-628.04, 79-915, 79-9,118, 4-110, 4-113, 81-1401, 3 81-2016, 84-1307, and 84-1504, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 4 and sections 4-108, 4-111, 4-112, 23-2306, and 24-703.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to define terms; to allow 5 6 eligible aliens to receive law enforcement officer training and 7 certification; to authorize such eligible aliens and dependents to receive public benefits arising from or relating to employment as a 8 9 law enforcement officer; to allow such persons to participate in retirement programs for such law enforcement positions; to change 10 provisions relating to certain documentation; to eliminate obsolete 11 12 provisions; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original 13 sections.

14 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 4-109, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 2 amended to read:
- 3 4-109 For purposes of sections 1 to 6 of this act: 4-108 to 4-113,
- 4 (1) Approved identification document means:
- 5 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 6 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 7 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 8 <u>certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United</u>
- 9 States;
- 10 <u>(d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States</u>
- 11 Department of State;
- 12 (e) A United States passport;
- 13 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 14 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 15 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 16 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 17 document;
- 18 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services employment
- 19 <u>authorization document, such as a Form I-766 or Form I-688B;</u>
- 20 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 21 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 22 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 23 <u>Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration</u>
- 24 Services that (i) grants employment authorization in the United States or
- 25 (ii) is approved by the Public Employees Retirement Board;
- 26 <u>(2) Eligible alien means an individual authorized for employment</u>
- 27 pursuant to 8 C.F.R. 274a.12, as such regulation existed on January 1,
- 28 2025, or who was so authorized at the time of employment;
- 29 <u>(3) Law enforcement officer has the same meaning as in section</u>
- 30 81-1401; and
- 31 (4) Public public benefits means any grant, contract, loan,

- 1 professional license, commercial license, welfare benefit, health payment
- 2 or financial assistance benefit, disability benefit, public or assisted
- 3 housing benefit, postsecondary education benefit involving direct payment
- 4 of financial assistance, food assistance benefit, or unemployment benefit
- 5 or any other similar benefit provided by or for which payments or
- 6 assistance are provided to an individual, a household, or a family
- 7 eligibility unit by an agency of the United States, the State of
- 8 Nebraska, or a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska.
- 9 Sec. 2. Section 4-108, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024,
- 10 is amended to read:
- 11 4-108 (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section and
- 12 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, unless exempted from
- 13 verification under section <u>3 of this act</u> 4-110 or pursuant to federal
- 14 law, a no state agency or political subdivision of the State of Nebraska:
- 15 <u>(a) Shall not shall provide public benefits to a person not lawfully</u>
- 16 present in the United States; and -
- 17 <u>(b) Shall</u> (2) Except as provided in section 4-110 or if exempted by
- 18 federal law, every agency or political subdivision of the State of
- 19 Nebraska shall verify the lawful presence in the United States of any
- 20 person who has applied for public benefits administered by such state an
- 21 agency or a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska.
- 22 (2) This section shall be enforced without regard to race, religion,
- 23 gender, ethnicity, or national origin.
- 24 (3)(a) An eligible alien employed as, or training to become, a law
- 25 enforcement officer is entitled to any public benefits arising from or
- 26 <u>relating to such employment or training.</u>
- 27 <u>(b) Such public benefits include:</u>
- 28 (i) Retirement benefits, including pursuant to the County Employees
- 29 <u>Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the Police</u>
- 30 Officers Retirement Act, and the State Employees Retirement Act;
- 31 (ii) Benefits under the Employment Security Law;

- 1 (iii) Deferred compensation under section 84-1504;
- 2 (iv) Scholarships or financial aid for education, including pursuant
- 3 to the First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act; and
- 4 (v) Any other public benefit arising from or relating to such
- 5 employment or training, such that an eligible alien employed as, or
- 6 training to become, a law enforcement officer shall have access to the
- 7 same benefits that are available to any other person employed as or
- 8 training to become a law enforcement officer.
- 9 <u>(c) Any public benefits made available to family members or</u>
- 10 <u>dependents of persons employed as, or training to become, law enforcement</u>
- 11 officers, shall also be made available to family members or dependents of
- 12 <u>eligible aliens employed as, or training to become, law enforcement</u>
- 13 officers, without regard to the lawful presence of such family members or
- 14 <u>dependents</u>.
- 15 (d) The Legislature enacts this section pursuant to the authority
- provided in 8 U.S.C. 1621(d), as such section existed on January 1, 2025.
- 17 (e) This subsection shall not be construed to:
- 18 (i) Redefine or alter what programs constitute a public benefit; or
- 19 (ii) Limit or eliminate a person's eligibility for any public
- 20 benefit as such eligibility existed prior to the effective date of this
- 21 <u>act.</u>
- (4)(a) No employee of a state agency or political subdivision of
- 23 the State of Nebraska shall be authorized to participate in any
- 24 retirement system, including, but not limited to, the systems provided
- 25 for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the County Employees
- 26 Retirement Act, the Judges Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol
- 27 Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, and the State
- 28 Employees Retirement Act, unless the employee is (i) a United States
- 29 citizen, (ii) or is lawfully present in the United States, or (iii) an
- 30 <u>eligible alien employed as a law enforcement officer</u>.
- 31 (b) The employing state agency or political subdivision of the State

- 1 of Nebraska and the employee shall maintain at least one approved
- 2 <u>identification document</u> of the following documents which shall be
- 3 unexpired, if applicable to the particular document, to demonstrate such
- 4 United States citizenship, or lawful presence, or eligibility in the
- 5 United States as of the employee's date of hire. The state agency,
- 6 <u>political subdivision, or employee shall</u> and produce any such document so
- 7 maintained upon request of the Public Employees Retirement Board or the
- 8 Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 9 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 10 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 11 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 12 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 13 States;
- 14 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 15 Department of State;
- 16 (e) A United States passport;
- 17 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 18 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 19 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 20 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 21 document;
- 22 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 23 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 24 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 25 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 26 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 27 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 28 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 29 approved by the Public Employees Retirement Board.
- 30 Sec. 3. Section 4-110, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 31 amended to read:

01 LB301 5 2025

1 4-110 (1) Verification of lawful presence in the United States

- 2 pursuant to section 2 of this act 4-108 is not required for:
- 3 $\frac{(a)}{(a)}$ Any purpose for which lawful presence in the United States
- 4 is not restricted by law, ordinance, or regulation;
- (b) (2) Assistance for health care services and products, not
- 6 related to an organ transplant procedure, that are necessary for the
- 7 treatment of an emergency medical condition, including emergency labor
- 8 and delivery, manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient
- 9 severity, including severe pain, such that the absence of immediate
- 10 medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in (i) (a)
- 11 placing the patient's health in serious jeopardy, (ii) serious
- impairment to bodily functions, or (iii) (c) serious dysfunction of any
- 13 bodily organ or part;
- 14 (c) (3) Short-term, noncash, in-kind emergency disaster relief;
- 15 (d) (4) Public health assistance for immunizations with respect to
- 16 diseases and for testing and treatment of symptoms of communicable
- 17 diseases, whether or not such symptoms are caused by a communicable
- 18 disease; or
- 19 (e) (5) Programs, services, or assistance necessary for the
- 20 protection of life or safety, such as soup kitchens, crisis counseling
- 21 and intervention, and short-term shelter, which (i) (a) deliver in-kind
- 22 services at the community level, including those which deliver such
- 23 services through public or private, nonprofit agencies and (ii) (b) do
- 24 not condition the provision of assistance, the amount of assistance
- 25 provided, or the cost of assistance provided on the income or resources
- 26 of the recipient.
- 27 <u>(2)</u> The Legislature finds that unborn children do not have
- 28 immigration status and therefor are not within the scope of section 2 of
- 29 this act 4-108. Prenatal care services available pursuant to sections
- 30 68-915 and 68-972 to unborn children, whose eligibility is independent of
- 31 the mother's eligibility status, shall not be deemed to be tied to the

01 LB301 5 2025

1 immigration status of the mother and therefor are not included in the

- 2 restrictions imposed by section 2 of this act 4-108.
- 3 Sec. 4. Section 4-111, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024,
- 4 is amended to read:
- 5 4-111 (1)(a) (1) Verification of lawful presence in the United
- 6 States pursuant to section 2 of this act 4-108 requires, in addition to
- 7 any requirements imposed by section 2 of this act 4-108, that the
- 8 applicant for public benefits attest in a format prescribed by the
- 9 Department of Administrative Services that such applicant is a United
- 10 States citizen or is lawfully present in the United States.
- 11 (b) In addition to any requirements imposed by section 2 of this
- 12 act, an individual applying for public benefits described in subsection
- 13 (3) of section 2 of this act shall attest in a format prescribed by the
- 14 Department of Administrative Services that such applicant is an eligible
- 15 <u>alien and is employed as, or training to become, a law enforcement</u>
- 16 officer.
- 17 (2) A state agency or political subdivision of the State of Nebraska
- 18 may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations or procedures for the
- 19 electronic filing of the attestation required under subsection (1) of
- 20 this section if such attestation is substantially similar to the format
- 21 prescribed by the Department of Administrative Services.
- 22 (3)(a) The Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the
- 23 State of Nebraska to make full use of the skills and talents in the state
- 24 by ensuring that a person who is work-authorized is able to obtain a
- 25 professional or commercial license and practice his or her profession.
- 26 (b) For purposes of a professional or commercial license, the
- 27 Legislature finds that a person not described in $\underline{\text{subdivision } (1)(a)}$
- 28 subsection (1) of this section who submits (i) an unexpired employment
- 29 authorization document issued by the United States Department of Homeland
- 30 Security, Form I-766, and (ii) documentation issued by the United States
- 31 Department of Homeland Security, the United States Citizenship and

- 1 Immigration Services, or any other federal agency, such as one of the
- 2 types of Form I-797 used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 3 Services, demonstrating that such person is described in section 202(c)
- 4 (2)(B)(i) through (x) of the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law
- 5 109-13, has demonstrated lawful presence pursuant to section 2 of this
- 6 <u>act</u> 4-108 and is eligible to obtain such license. Such license shall be
- 7 valid only for the period of time during which such person's employment
- 8 authorization document is valid. Nothing in this subsection shall affect
- 9 the requirements to obtain a professional or commercial license that are
- 10 unrelated to the lawful presence requirements demonstrated pursuant to
- 11 this subsection.
- 12 (c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to grant
- 13 eligibility for any public benefits other than obtaining a professional
- 14 or commercial license.
- 15 (d) Any person who has complied with the requirements of this
- 16 subsection shall have his or her employment authorization document
- 17 verified through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements
- 18 Program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or
- 19 an equivalent program designated by the United States Department of
- 20 Homeland Security.
- 21 (e) The Legislature enacts this subsection pursuant to the authority
- 22 provided in 8 U.S.C. 1621(d), as such section existed on January 1, 2016.
- 23 Sec. 5. Section 4-112, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024,
- 24 is amended to read:
- 25 4-112 (1) For any applicant who is not a United States citizen but
- 26 who has attested that such applicant is lawfully present in the United
- 27 States or is an eligible alien as provided in section 4 of this act
- 28 4-111, eligibility for public benefits shall be verified through the
- 29 Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program operated by the
- 30 United States Department of Homeland Security or an equivalent program
- 31 designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

- 1 (2) Until such verification of eligibility is made, such attestation
- 2 may be presumed to be proof of lawful presence for purposes of sections $\underline{1}$
- 3 to 6 of this act 4-108 to 4-113 unless such verification is required
- 4 before providing the public benefit under another provision of state or
- 5 federal law.
- 6 Sec. 6. Section 4-113, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 7 amended to read:
- 8 4-113 Each state agency which administers any program of public
- 9 benefits shall provide an annual report not later than January 31 for the
- 10 prior year to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature with respect
- 11 to compliance with sections $\frac{1}{1}$ to $\frac{6}{1}$ of this act $\frac{4-108}{100}$ to $\frac{4-113}{100}$. The report
- 12 submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature shall be submitted
- 13 electronically. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the
- 14 total number of applicants for benefits and the number of applicants
- 15 rejected pursuant to such sections.
- Sec. 7. Section 23-2306, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 17 2024, is amended to read:
- 18 23-2306 (1) The membership of the retirement system shall be
- 19 composed of all persons who are or were employed by member counties and
- 20 who maintain an account balance with the retirement system.
- 21 (2) The following employees of member counties are authorized to
- 22 participate in the retirement system: (a) All permanent full-time
- 23 employees who have attained the age of eighteen years shall begin
- 24 participation in the retirement system upon employment and full-time
- 25 elected officials shall begin participation in the retirement system upon
- 26 taking office, (b) all permanent part-time employees who have attained
- 27 the age of eighteen years may exercise the option to begin participation
- 28 in the retirement system within the first thirty days of employment, and
- 29 (c) all part-time elected officials may exercise the option to begin
- 30 participation in the retirement system within thirty days after taking
- 31 office. An employee who exercises the option to begin participation in

- 1 the retirement system shall remain in the system until termination or
- 2 retirement, regardless of any change of status as a permanent or
- 3 temporary employee.
- 4 (3)(a) (3) No employee of a member county shall be authorized to
- 5 participate in the retirement system provided for in the County Employees
- 6 Retirement Act unless the employee is (i) a United States citizen, (ii)
- 7 or is lawfully present in the United States, or (iii) an eligible alien
- 8 <u>employed as a law enforcement officer, as such terms are defined in</u>
- 9 <u>section 1 of this act</u>.
- 10 (b) The employing member county and the employee shall maintain at
- 11 least one approved identification document, as defined in section 1 of
- 12 this act, of the following documents which shall be unexpired, if
- 13 applicable to the particular document, to demonstrate such United States
- 14 citizenship, or lawful presence, or eligibility in the United States as
- of the employee's date of hire. The county or employee shall and produce
- 16 any such document so maintained upon request of the retirement board or
- 17 the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 18 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 19 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 20 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 21 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 22 States;
- 23 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 24 Department of State;
- 25 (e) A United States passport;
- 26 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 27 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 28 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 29 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 30 document;
- 31 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment

- 1 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 2 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 3 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 4 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 5 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 6 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 7 approved by the retirement board.
- 8 (4)(a) The board may determine that a governmental entity currently
- 9 participating in the retirement system no longer qualifies, in whole or
- 10 in part, under section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code as a
- 11 participating employer in a governmental plan.
- 12 (b)(i) To aid governmental entities in their business decisionmaking
- 13 process, any governmental entity currently participating in the
- 14 retirement system contemplating a business transaction that may result in
- 15 such entity no longer qualifying, in whole or in part, under section
- 16 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code may notify the board in writing as
- 17 soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than one hundred eighty days
- 18 before the transaction is to occur.
- 19 (ii) The board when timely notified shall, as soon as is reasonably
- 20 practicable, obtain from its contracted actuary the cost of any actuarial
- 21 study necessary to determine the potential funding obligation. The board
- 22 shall notify the entity of such cost.
- 23 (iii) If such entity pays the board's contracted actuary pursuant to
- 24 subdivision (4)(c)(vi) of this section for any actuarial study necessary
- 25 to determine the potential funding obligation, the board shall, as soon
- 26 as reasonably practicable following its receipt of the actuarial study,
- 27 (A) determine whether the entity's contemplated business transaction will
- 28 cause the entity to no longer qualify under section 414(d) of the
- 29 Internal Revenue Code, (B) determine whether the contemplated business
- 30 transaction constitutes a plan termination by the entity, (C) determine
- 31 the potential funding obligation, (D) determine the administrative costs

- 1 that will be incurred by the board or the Nebraska Public Employees
- 2 Retirement Systems in connection with the entity's removal from the
- 3 retirement system, and (E) notify the entity of such determinations.
- 4 (iv) Failure to timely notify the board pursuant to subdivision (4)
- 5 (b)(i) of this section may result in the entity being treated as though
- 6 the board made a decision pursuant to subdivision (4)(a) of this section.
- 7 (c) If the board makes a determination pursuant to subdivision (4)
- 8 (a) of this section, or if the entity engages in the contemplated
- 9 business transaction reviewed under subdivision (4)(b) of this section
- 10 that results in the entity no longer qualifying under section 414(d) of
- 11 the Internal Revenue Code:
- 12 (i) The board shall notify the entity that it no longer qualifies
- 13 under section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code within ten business
- 14 days after the determination;
- 15 (ii) The affected plan members shall be immediately considered fully
- 16 vested;
- 17 (iii) The affected plan members shall become inactive within ninety
- 18 days after the board's determination;
- 19 (iv) The entity shall pay to the County Employees Retirement Fund an
- 20 amount equal to any funding obligation;
- 21 (v) The entity shall pay to the County Employees Cash Balance
- 22 Retirement Expense Fund an amount equal to any administrative costs
- 23 incurred by the board or the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems
- 24 in connection with the entity's removal from the retirement system; and
- 25 (vi) The entity shall pay directly to the board's contracted actuary
- 26 an amount equal to the cost of any actuarial study necessary to aid the
- 27 board in determining the amount of such funding obligation, if not
- 28 previously paid.
- 29 (d) For purposes of this subsection:
- 30 (i) Business transaction means a merger; consolidation; sale of
- 31 assets, equipment, or facilities; termination of a division, department,

1 section, or subgroup of the entity; or any other business transaction that results in termination of some or all of the entity's workforce; and 2 3 Funding obligation means the financial liability of the retirement system to provide benefits for the affected plan members 4 5 incurred by the retirement system due to the entity's business transaction calculated using the methodology and assumptions recommended 6 by the board's contracted actuary and approved by the board. The 7 methodology and assumptions used must be structured in a way that ensures 8 the entity is financially liable for all the costs of the entity's 9 business transaction, and the retirement system is not financially liable 10 for any of the cost of the entity's business transaction. 11

- (e) The board may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this subsection including, but not limited to, the methods of notifying the board of pending business transactions, the acceptable methods of payment, and the timing of such payment.
- 16 (5) Within the first one hundred eighty days of employment, a fulltime employee may apply to the board for vesting credit for years of 17 participation in another Nebraska governmental plan, as defined by 18 section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. During the years of 19 participation in the other Nebraska governmental plan, the employee must 20 have been a full-time employee, as defined in the Nebraska governmental 21 plan in which the credit was earned. The board may adopt and promulgate 22 23 rules and regulations governing the assessment and granting of vesting 24 credit.
- 25 (6) Any employee who qualifies for membership in the retirement 26 system pursuant to this section may not be disqualified from membership 27 in the retirement system solely because such employee also maintains 28 separate employment which qualifies the employee for membership in 29 another public retirement system, nor may membership in this retirement 30 system disqualify such an employee from membership in another public 31 retirement system solely by reason of separate employment which qualifies

- 1 such employee for membership in this retirement system.
- 2 (7) A full-time or part-time employee of a city, village, or
- 3 township who becomes a county employee pursuant to a merger of services
- 4 shall receive vesting credit for his or her years of participation in a
- 5 Nebraska governmental plan, as defined by section 414(d) of the Internal
- 6 Revenue Code, of the city, village, or township.
- 7 (8) A full-time or part-time employee of a city, village, fire
- 8 protection district, or township who becomes a municipal county employee
- 9 shall receive credit for his or her years of employment with the city,
- 10 village, fire protection district, or township for purposes of the
- 11 vesting provisions of this section.
- 12 (9) A full-time or part-time employee of the state who becomes a
- 13 county employee pursuant to transfer of assessment function to a county
- 14 shall not be deemed to have experienced a termination of employment and
- shall receive vesting credit for his or her years of participation in the
- 16 State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska.
- 17 (10) Counties shall ensure that employees authorized to participate
- in the retirement system pursuant to this section shall enroll and make
- 19 required contributions to the retirement system immediately upon becoming
- 20 an employee. Information necessary to determine membership in the
- 21 retirement system shall be provided by the employer.
- 22 Sec. 8. Section 24-703.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 23 2024, is amended to read:
- 24 24-703.01 No judge shall be authorized to participate in the
- 25 retirement system provided for in the Judges Retirement Act unless the
- 26 judge is a United States citizen or is lawfully present in the United
- 27 States. The court and the judge shall maintain at least one approved
- 28 identification document, as defined in section 1 of this act, of the
- 29 following documents which shall be unexpired, if applicable to the
- 30 particular document, to demonstrate such United States citizenship or
- 31 lawful presence in the United States as of the judge's date of hire. The

- 1 <u>court or judge shall</u> and produce any such document so maintained upon
- 2 request of the board or the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement
- 3 Systems. ÷
- 4 (1) A state-issued driver's license;
- 5 (2) A state-issued identification card;
- 6 (3) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 7 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 8 States;
- 9 (4) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 10 Department of State;
- 11 (5) A United States passport;
- 12 (6) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 13 (7) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 14 (8) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 15 (9) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 16 document;
- 17 (10) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 18 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 19 (11) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 20 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 21 (12) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 22 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 23 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 24 approved by the board.
- 25 Sec. 9. Section 48-628.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 26 amended to read:
- 27 48-628.04 (1) An individual shall be disqualified for unemployment
- 28 benefits for any week if the services upon which such benefits are based
- 29 are performed by an alien. This section shall apply unless such alien:
- 30 (a) Is an individual who was lawfully admitted for permanent
- 31 residence at the time such services were performed;

1 (b) Was lawfully present for purposes of performing such services;

- 2 or
- 3 (c) Was an eligible alien and was employed as a law enforcement
- 4 officer, as such terms are defined in section 1 of this act; or
- 5 (d) (c) Was permanently residing in the United States under color of
- 6 law at the time such services were performed, including an alien who was
- 7 lawfully present in the United States as a result of the application of
- 8 section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C.
- 9 1182(d)(5).
- 10 (2) Any data or information required of individuals applying for
- 11 benefits to determine whether benefits are not payable to them because of
- 12 their alien status shall be uniformly required from all applicants for
- 13 benefits. In the case of an individual whose application for benefits
- 14 would otherwise be approved, no determination that benefits to such
- 15 individual are not payable because of his or her alien status shall be
- 16 made except upon a preponderance of the evidence.
- 17 Sec. 10. Section 79-915, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 18 amended to read:
- 19 79-915 (1) Persons residing outside of the United States and engaged
- 20 temporarily as school employees in the State of Nebraska shall not become
- 21 members of the retirement system.
- 22 (2) No school employee shall be authorized to participate in the
- 23 retirement system provided for in the School Employees Retirement Act
- 24 unless the employee is a United States citizen or is lawfully present in
- 25 the United States. The employing public school and the school employee
- 26 shall maintain at least one approved identification document, as defined
- 27 <u>in section 1 of this act,</u> of the following documents which shall be
- 28 unexpired, if applicable to the particular document, to demonstrate such
- 29 United States citizenship or lawful presence in the United States as of
- 30 the employee's date of hire. The school or employee shall and produce any
- 31 such document so maintained upon request of the retirement board or the

- 1 Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 2 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 3 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 4 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 5 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 6 States;
- 7 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 8 Department of State;
- 9 (e) A United States passport;
- 10 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 11 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 12 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 13 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 14 document;
- 15 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 16 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 17 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 18 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 19 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 20 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 21 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 22 approved by the retirement board.
- 23 (3)(a) The board may determine that a governmental entity currently
- 24 participating in the retirement system no longer qualifies, in whole or
- 25 in part, under section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code as a
- 26 participating employer in a governmental plan.
- 27 (b)(i) To aid governmental entities in their business decisionmaking
- 28 process, any governmental entity currently participating in the
- 29 retirement system contemplating a business transaction that may result in
- 30 such entity no longer qualifying, in whole or in part, under section
- 31 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code may notify the board in writing as

- 1 soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than one hundred eighty days
- 2 before the transaction is to occur.
- 3 (ii) The board when timely notified shall, as soon as is reasonably
- 4 practicable, obtain from its contracted actuary the cost of any actuarial
- 5 study necessary to determine the potential funding obligation. The board
- 6 will notify the entity of such cost.
- 7 (iii) If such entity pays the board's contracted actuary pursuant to
- 8 subdivision (3)(c)(vi) of this section for any actuarial study necessary
- 9 to determine the potential funding obligation, the board shall, as soon
- 10 as reasonably practicable following its receipt of the actuarial study,
- 11 (A) determine whether the entity's contemplated business transaction will
- 12 cause the entity to no longer qualify under section 414(d) of the
- 13 Internal Revenue Code, (B) determine whether the contemplated business
- 14 transaction constitutes a plan termination by the entity, (C) determine
- 15 the potential funding obligation, (D) determine the administrative costs
- 16 that will be incurred by the board or the Nebraska Public Employees
- 17 Retirement Systems in connection with the entity's removal from the
- 18 retirement system, and (E) notify the entity of such determinations.
- (iv) Failure to timely notify the board pursuant to subdivision (3)
- 20 (b)(i) of this section may result in the entity being treated as though
- 21 the board made a decision pursuant to subdivision (3)(a) of this section.
- 22 (c) If the board makes a determination pursuant to subdivision (3)
- 23 (a) of this section, or if the entity engages in the contemplated
- 24 business transaction reviewed under subdivision (3)(b) of this section
- 25 that results in the entity no longer qualifying under section 414(d) of
- 26 the Internal Revenue Code:
- 27 (i) The board shall notify the entity that it no longer qualifies
- 28 under section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code within ten business
- 29 days after the determination;
- 30 (ii) The affected plan members shall be immediately considered fully
- 31 vested;

- 1 (iii) The affected plan members shall become inactive within ninety
- 2 days after the board's determination;
- 3 (iv) The entity shall pay to the School Retirement Fund an amount
- 4 equal to any funding obligation;
- 5 (v) The entity shall pay to the Expense Fund an amount equal to any
- 6 administrative costs incurred by the board or the Nebraska Public
- 7 Employees Retirement Systems in connection with the entity's removal from
- 8 the retirement system; and
- 9 (vi) The entity shall pay directly to the board's contracted actuary
- 10 an amount equal to the cost of any actuarial study necessary to aid the
- 11 board in determining the amount of such funding obligation, if not
- 12 previously paid.
- 13 (d) For purposes of this subsection:
- 14 (i) Business transaction means a merger; consolidation; sale of
- 15 assets, equipment, or facilities; termination of a division, department,
- 16 section, or subgroup of the entity; or any other business transaction
- 17 that results in termination of some or all of the entity's workforce; and
- 18 (ii) Funding obligation means the financial liability of the
- 19 retirement system to provide benefits for the affected plan members
- 20 incurred by the retirement system due to the entity's business
- 21 transaction calculated using the methodology and assumptions recommended
- 22 by the board's contracted actuary and approved by the board. The
- 23 methodology and assumptions used must be structured in a way that ensures
- 24 the entity is financially liable for all the costs of the entity's
- 25 business transaction, and the retirement system is not financially liable
- 26 for any of the cost of the entity's business transaction.
- 27 (e) The board may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to
- 28 carry out this subsection including, but not limited to, the methods of
- 29 notifying the board of pending business transactions, the acceptable
- 30 methods of payment, and the timing of such payment.
- 31 Sec. 11. Section 79-9,118, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 1 amended to read:
- 2 79-9,118 No employee shall be authorized to participate in the
- 3 retirement system unless the employee is a United States citizen or is
- 4 lawfully present in the United States. The employing public school and
- 5 the school employee shall maintain at least one approved identification
- 6 <u>document</u>, as <u>defined</u> in <u>section 1 of this act</u>, of the following documents
- 7 which shall be unexpired, if applicable to the particular document, to
- 8 demonstrate such United States citizenship or lawful presence in the
- 9 United States as of the employee's date of hire. The school or employee
- 10 <u>shall</u> , and, beginning September 1, 2024, produce any such document so
- 11 maintained upon request of the retirement board or the Nebraska Public
- 12 Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 13 (1) A state-issued driver's license;
- 14 (2) A state-issued identification card;
- 15 (3) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 16 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 17 States;
- 18 (4) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 19 Department of State;
- 20 (5) A United States passport;
- 21 (6) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 22 (7) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 23 (8) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 24 (9) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 25 document;
- 26 (10) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 27 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 28 (11) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 29 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 30 (12) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 31 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration

- 1 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 2 approved (a) until September 1, 2024, by the board of trustees and (b)
- 3 beginning September 1, 2024, by the retirement board.
- 4 Sec. 12. Section 81-1401, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 5 amended to read:
- 6 81-1401 For purposes of sections 81-1401 to 81-1414.19, unless the
- 7 context otherwise requires:
- 8 (1) Class I railroad means a rail carrier classified as Class I
- 9 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 1201 1-1;
- 10 (2) Commission means the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and
- 11 Criminal Justice;
- 12 (3) Council means the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council;
- 13 (4) Director means the director of the Nebraska Law Enforcement
- 14 Training Center;
- 15 (5) Eligible alien has the same meaning as in section 1 of this act;
- 16 (6) (5) Felony means a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term
- 17 of more than one year or a crime committed outside of Nebraska which
- 18 would be punishable by imprisonment for a term of more than one year if
- 19 committed in Nebraska;
- 20 (7) (6) Handgun means any firearm with a barrel less than sixteen
- 21 inches in length or any firearm designed to be held and fired by the use
- 22 of a single hand;
- 23 (8) (7) Law enforcement agency means the police department or the
- 24 town marshal in incorporated municipalities, the office of sheriff in
- 25 unincorporated areas, the Nebraska State Patrol, and Class I railroad
- 26 police departments;
- 27 (9)(a) (8)(a) Law enforcement officer means any person who has
- 28 successfully completed an entry-level law enforcement certification from
- 29 a training academy and who is responsible for the prevention or detection
- 30 of crime or the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of the
- 31 state or any political subdivision of the state for more than one hundred

1 hours per year and is authorized by law to make arrests and includes, but

- 2 is not limited to:
- 3 (i) A full-time or part-time member of the Nebraska State Patrol;
- 4 (ii) A county sheriff;
- 5 (iii) A full-time or part-time employee of a county sheriff's
- 6 office;
- 7 (iv) A full-time or part-time employee of a municipal or village
- 8 police agency;
- 9 (v) A full-time or part-time Game and Parks Commission conservation
- 10 officer;
- 11 (vi) A full-time or part-time deputy state sheriff;
- 12 (vii) A full-time employee of an organized and paid fire department
- 13 of any city of the metropolitan class who is an authorized arson
- 14 investigator and whose duties consist of determining the cause, origin,
- 15 and circumstances of fires or explosions while on duty in the course of
- 16 an investigation;
- 17 (viii) A member of a law enforcement reserve force appointed in
- 18 accordance with section 81-1438; or
- 19 (ix) A full-time Class I railroad police officer;
- 20 (b) Law enforcement officer includes a noncertified conditional
- 21 officer;
- 22 (c) Law enforcement officer does not include employees of the
- 23 Department of Correctional Services, probation officers under the
- 24 Nebraska Probation System, parole officers appointed by the Director of
- 25 Supervision and Services of the Division of Parole Supervision, or
- 26 employees of the Department of Revenue under section 77-366; and
- 27 (d) Except for a noncertified conditional officer, a law enforcement
- 28 officer shall possess a valid law enforcement officer certificate or
- 29 diploma, as established by the council, in order to be vested with the
- 30 authority of this section;
- 31 (10) (9) Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence has the same meaning

- 1 as in section 28-1206;
- 2 (11) (10) Noncertified conditional officer means a person appointed
- 3 pursuant to subsection (6) of section 81-1414;
- 4 (12) (11) Serious misconduct means improper or illegal actions taken
- 5 by a law enforcement officer that have a rational connection with the
- 6 person's fitness or capacity to serve as a law enforcement officer and
- 7 includes, but is not limited to:
- 8 (a) Conviction of a felony or misdemeanor crime of domestic
- 9 violence;
- 10 (b) Fabrication of evidence;
- 11 (c) Repeated substantiated allegations of the use of excessive
- 12 force;
- 13 (d) Acceptance of a bribe;
- 14 (e) Commission of fraud or perjury; or
- 15 (f) Sexual assault;
- 16 (13) (12) Training academy means:
- 17 (a) The training center; or
- 18 (b) Another council-approved law enforcement training facility
- 19 which:
- 20 (i) Offers certification training that meets or exceeds the
- 21 certification training curriculum of the training center; and
- 22 (ii) Is operated and maintained by a law enforcement agency or by
- 23 multiple law enforcement agencies pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation
- 24 Act;
- 25 (14) (13) Training center means the Nebraska Law Enforcement
- 26 Training Center; and
- 27 (15) (14) Training school means a public or private institution of
- 28 higher education, including the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska
- 29 state colleges, and the community colleges of this state, that offers
- 30 training in a council-approved pre-certification course.
- 31 Sec. 13. Section 81-1410, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 1 amended to read:
- 2 81-1410 (1) The council shall adopt and promulgate rules and
- 3 regulations governing the minimum admission requirements for all training
- 4 academies. Until the rules and regulations become effective, the
- 5 admission requirements existing on July 13, 2000, pertaining to the
- 6 training center shall be applicable to all training academies, except the
- 7 Nebraska State Patrol. The rules and regulations shall establish
- 8 admission criteria which shall include, but not be limited to, (a)
- 9 physical, mental, and emotional fitness and (b) disclosure of any
- 10 criminal history. The council may also adopt a priority system for
- 11 admission to the training center and the other training academies
- 12 conducting certification training for officers not employed by that
- 13 training academy's agency.
- 14 (2) The council may admit an applicant to any training academy for
- 15 entry-level law enforcement certification when the applicant meets the
- 16 following minimum criteria:
- 17 (a) The applicant <u>(i)</u> is or will be a citizen of the United States
- 18 prior to the completion of certification or (ii) is an eligible alien;
- 19 (b) The applicant will reach the age of twenty-one years prior to
- 20 the completion of the training;
- 21 (c) The applicant has been fingerprinted and a search has been made
- 22 of local, state, and national fingerprint files for disclosure of any
- 23 criminal record and the results furnished to the training center;
- 24 (d) The applicant has a valid motor vehicle operator's or
- 25 chauffeur's license;
- 26 (e) The applicant has vision correctable to 20/30 and has no
- 27 evidence of an irreversible disease which will affect the person's sight;
- 28 (f) The applicant has been pardoned or has never been convicted by
- 29 any state or the United States of a crime punishable by imprisonment in a
- 30 penitentiary for a term of one year or more or by any foreign government
- 31 of a crime which would be punishable by imprisonment for a term of one

- 1 year or more if committed in Nebraska or has had a conviction for such an
- 2 offense overturned or reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- 3 (g) The applicant possesses good character as determined by a
- 4 thorough background investigation;
- 5 (h) The applicant (i)(A) is a high school graduate or (B) possesses
- 6 a general educational development certificate and (ii) is able to read,
- 7 write, and understand the English language at the eleventh grade level;
- 8 (i) The applicant has not been convicted of driving while
- 9 intoxicated in the two years immediately preceding admission; and
- 10 (j) The applicant has been examined by a licensed physician one year
- 11 or less prior to admission and has been certified by the physician to
- 12 have met the physical requirements, as determined by the council,
- 13 necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of a law enforcement officer
- 14 and successfully complete the requirements for training.
- 15 (3) In all cases in which it is necessary to acquire documents or
- 16 other information to determine whether or not an applicant meets any of
- 17 the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, such copies or other
- information shall be supplied by the applicant at his or her own expense.
- 19 Sec. 14. Section 81-2016, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 81-2016 (1) Every member of the Nebraska State Patrol who was
- 22 employed by the State of Nebraska as such, on September 7, 1947, and
- 23 every person employed as a member of such patrol thereafter, shall be a
- 24 member of the system, except for those members of the Nebraska State
- 25 Patrol who elected pursuant to section 60-1304 to remain members of the
- 26 State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska.
- 27 (2)(a) (2) No employee shall be authorized to participate in the
- 28 retirement system provided for in the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement
- 29 Act unless the employee is (i) a United States citizen, (ii) or is
- 30 lawfully present in the United States, or (iii) an eligible alien
- 31 <u>employed as a law enforcement officer, as such terms are defined in</u>

- 1 section 1 of this act.
- 2 (b) The employing state agency and the employee shall maintain at
- 3 least one approved identification document, as defined in section 1 of
- 4 this act, of the following documents which shall be unexpired, if
- 5 applicable to the particular document, to demonstrate such United States
- 6 citizenship, or lawful presence, or eligibility in the United States as
- 7 of the employee's date of hire. The state agency or employee shall and
- 8 produce any such document so maintained upon request of the board or the
- 9 Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 10 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 11 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 12 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 13 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 14 States;
- 15 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 16 Department of State;
- 17 (e) A United States passport;
- 18 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 19 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 20 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 21 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 22 document;
- 23 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 24 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 25 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 26 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 27 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 28 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 29 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 30 approved by the board.
- 31 (3) Within the first one hundred eighty days of employment, a member

- 1 may apply to the board for eligibility and vesting credit for years of
- 2 participation in another Nebraska governmental plan, as defined by
- 3 section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. During the years of
- 4 participation in the other Nebraska governmental plan, the employee must
- 5 have been a full-time employee, as defined in the Nebraska governmental
- 6 plan in which the credit was earned.
- 7 (4) Any officer who qualifies for membership pursuant to subsection
- 8 (1) of this section may not be disqualified from membership in the
- 9 retirement system solely because such officer also maintains separate
- 10 employment which qualifies the officer for membership in another public
- 11 retirement system, nor may membership in this retirement system
- 12 disqualify such an officer from membership in another public retirement
- 13 system solely by reason of separate employment which qualifies such
- 14 officer for membership in this retirement system.
- 15 (5) Information necessary to determine membership shall be provided
- 16 by the Nebraska State Patrol.
- 17 (6) The board may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations
- 18 governing the assessment and granting of eligibility and vesting credit.
- 19 Sec. 15. Section 84-1307, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 20 amended to read:
- 21 84-1307 (1) The membership of the retirement system shall be
- 22 composed of all persons who are or were employed by the State of Nebraska
- 23 and who maintain an account balance with the retirement system.
- 24 (2) The following employees of the State of Nebraska are authorized
- 25 to participate in the retirement system: (a) All permanent full-time
- 26 employees who have attained the age of eighteen years shall begin
- 27 participation in the retirement system upon employment; and (b) all
- 28 permanent part-time employees who have attained the age of eighteen years
- 29 may exercise the option to begin participation in the retirement system
- 30 within the first thirty days of employment. An employee who exercises the
- 31 option to begin participation in the retirement system pursuant to this

- 1 section shall remain in the retirement system until his or her
- 2 termination of employment or retirement, regardless of any change of
- 3 status as a permanent or temporary employee.
- 4 (3)(a) (3) No employee shall be authorized to participate in the
- 5 retirement system provided for in the State Employees Retirement Act
- 6 unless the employee is (i) a United States citizen, (ii) or is lawfully
- 7 present in the United States, or (iii) an eligible alien employed as a
- 8 <u>law enforcement officer, as such terms are defined in section 1 of this</u>
- 9 act.
- 10 (b) The employing state agency and the employee shall maintain at
- 11 least one approved identification document, as defined in section 1 of
- 12 this act, of the following documents which shall be unexpired, if
- 13 applicable to the particular document, to demonstrate such United States
- 14 citizenship, or lawful presence, or eligibility in the United States as
- of the employee's date of hire. The state agency or employee shall and
- 16 produce any such document so maintained upon request of the retirement
- 17 board or the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems. ÷
- 18 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 19 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 20 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 21 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 22 States;
- 23 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 24 Department of State;
- 25 (e) A United States passport;
- 26 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 27 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 28 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 29 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 30 document;
- 31 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment

- 1 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 2 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 3 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 4 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 5 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 6 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 7 approved by the retirement board.
- 8 (4) For purposes of this section, (a) permanent full-time employees
- 9 includes employees of the Legislature or Legislative Council who work
- 10 one-half or more of the regularly scheduled hours during each pay period
- of the legislative session and (b) permanent part-time employees includes
- 12 employees of the Legislature or Legislative Council who work less than
- 13 one-half of the regularly scheduled hours during each pay period of the
- 14 legislative session.
- 15 (5)(a) Within the first one hundred eighty days of employment, a
- 16 full-time employee may apply to the board for vesting credit for years of
- 17 participation in another Nebraska governmental plan, as defined by
- 18 section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code. During the years of
- 19 participation in the other Nebraska governmental plan, the employee must
- 20 have been a full-time employee, as defined in the Nebraska governmental
- 21 plan in which the credit was earned. The board may adopt and promulgate
- 22 rules and regulations governing the assessment and granting of vesting
- 23 credit.
- 24 (b) If the contributory retirement plan or contract let pursuant to
- 25 section 48-609, as such section existed prior to January 1, 2018, is
- 26 terminated, employees of the Department of Labor who are active
- 27 participants in such contributory retirement plan or contract on the date
- 28 of termination of such plan or contract shall be granted vesting credit
- 29 for their years of participation in such plan or contract.
- 30 (6) Any employee who qualifies for membership in the retirement
- 31 system pursuant to this section may not be disqualified for membership in

- 1 the retirement system solely because such employee also maintains
- 2 separate employment which qualifies the employee for membership in
- 3 another public retirement system, nor may membership in this retirement
- 4 system disqualify such an employee from membership in another public
- 5 retirement system solely by reason of separate employment which qualifies
- 6 such employee for membership in this retirement system.
- 7 (7) State agencies shall ensure that employees authorized to
- 8 participate in the retirement system pursuant to this section shall
- 9 enroll and make required contributions to the retirement system
- 10 immediately upon becoming an employee. Information necessary to determine
- 11 membership in the retirement system shall be provided by the employer.
- 12 Sec. 16. Section 84-1504, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 13 amended to read:
- 14 84-1504 (1) The Public Employees Retirement Board, on behalf of the
- 15 state, may contract with any individual to defer a portion of such
- 16 individual's compensation or with the Legislative Council to defer any
- 17 other amount that the Legislative Council agrees to credit to an
- 18 individual's account pursuant to section 457 of the Internal Revenue
- 19 Code.
- 20 (2) The compensation to be deferred at the election of the
- 21 individual and any other amount credited on behalf of such individual by
- 22 the Legislative Council shall not exceed the total compensation to be
- 23 received by the individual from the employer or exceed the limits
- 24 established by the Internal Revenue Code for such a plan.
- 25 (3) The deferred compensation program shall serve in addition to but
- 26 not be a part of any existing retirement or pension system provided for
- 27 state or county employees or any other benefit program.
- 28 (4) Any compensation deferred at the election of the individual
- 29 under such a deferred compensation plan shall continue to be included as
- 30 regular compensation for the purpose of computing the retirement,
- 31 pension, or social security contributions made or benefits earned by any

- 1 employee.
- 2 (5) Any sum so deferred shall not be included in the computation of 3 any federal or state taxes withheld on behalf of any such individual.
- 4 (6) The state, the board, the state investment officer, the agency,
- 5 or the county shall not be responsible for any investment results entered
- 6 into by the individual in the deferred compensation agreement.
- 7 (7) Nothing in this section shall in any way limit, restrict, alter,
- 8 amend, invalidate, or nullify any deferred compensation plan previously
- 9 instituted by any instrumentality or agency of the State of Nebraska, and
- 10 any such plan is hereby authorized and approved.
- 11 (8)(a) (8) No employee of the state or any political subdivision of
- 12 the state shall be authorized to participate in a deferred compensation
- 13 plan unless the employee is (i) a United States citizen, (ii) or is
- 14 lawfully present in the United States, or (iii) an eligible alien
- 15 <u>employed as a law enforcement officer, as such terms are defined in</u>
- 16 section 1 of this act.
- 17 (b) The employing state agency or political subdivision of the State
- 18 of Nebraska and the employee shall maintain at least one approved
- 19 identification document, as defined in section 1 of this act, of the
- 20 following documents which shall be unexpired, if applicable to the
- 21 particular document, to demonstrate such United States citizenship, or
- 22 lawful presence, or eligibility in the United States as of the employee's
- 23 date of hire. The state agency, political subdivision, or employee shall
- 24 and produce any such document so maintained upon request of the Public
- 25 Employees Retirement Board or the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement
- 26 Systems. ÷
- 27 (a) A state-issued driver's license;
- 28 (b) A state-issued identification card;
- 29 (c) A certified copy of a birth certificate or delayed birth
- 30 certificate issued in any state, territory, or possession of the United
- 31 States;

- 1 (d) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
- 2 Department of State;
- 3 (e) A United States passport;
- 4 (f) A foreign passport with a United States visa;
- 5 (g) A United States Certificate of Naturalization;
- 6 (h) A United States Certificate of Citizenship;
- 7 (i) A tribal certificate of Native American blood or similar
- 8 document;
- 9 (j) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment
- 10 Authorization Document, Form I-766;
- 11 (k) A United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Permanent
- 12 Resident Card, Form I-551; or
- 13 (1) Any other document issued by the United States Department of
- 14 Homeland Security or the United States Citizenship and Immigration
- 15 Services granting employment authorization in the United States and
- 16 approved by the Public Employees Retirement Board.
- 17 (9) For purposes of this section, individual means (a) any state
- 18 employee, whether employed on a permanent or temporary basis, full-time
- 19 or part-time, (b) a person under contract providing services to the state
- 20 who is not employed by the University of Nebraska or any of the state
- 21 colleges or community colleges and who has entered into a contract with
- 22 the state to have compensation deferred prior to August 28, 1999, and (c)
- 23 any county employee designated as a permanent part-time or full-time
- 24 employee or elected official whose employer does not offer a deferred
- 25 compensation plan and who has entered into an agreement pursuant to
- 26 section 48-1401.
- 27 **Sec. 17.** Original sections 4-109, 4-110, 4-113, 48-628.04, 79-915,
- 28 79-9,118, 81-1401, 81-1410, 81-2016, 84-1307, and 84-1504, Reissue
- 29 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 4-108, 4-111, 4-112, 23-2306,
- 30 and 24-703.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, are
- 31 repealed.