

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1054

Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

Read first time January 18, 2022

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate federal
- 2 funds to the University of Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

2 (a) The COVID-19 public health emergency fundamentally changed how
3 the University of Nebraska operates and the prolonged effects of the
4 public health emergency highlight the need to support students and future
5 workers to emerge from the public health emergency with the education and
6 skills required to fill high-demand occupations in the changing economy;
7 and

8 (b) It is the policy of this state to respond to harmful economic
9 disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency by
10 developing talent and the workforce infrastructure by increasing (i)
11 opportunities for high-demand academic programs across Nebraska, (ii)
12 research infrastructure and capacity for University of Nebraska students
13 and faculty to facilitate new discoveries, and (iii) employment
14 opportunities for high-skilled graduates and researchers in Nebraska.

15 (2) There is hereby appropriated \$16,000,000 from Federal Funds for
16 FY2022-23 to the University of Nebraska for the purposes described in
17 subsection (3) of this section. The Federal Funds appropriated in this
18 section are from the funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the
19 federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal
20 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, Subtitle M, Sec.
21 9901.

22 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the University of
23 Nebraska provide the funds appropriated in this section to the University
24 of Nebraska at Omaha to modernize academic research laboratories and
25 equipment for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences to
26 support work in the Department of Biomechanics and for the Health and
27 Kinesiology Research, Engagement, and Community Hub initiative.

28 Sec. 2. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
29 passed and approved according to law.