

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1125**

Introduced by Aguilar, 35.

Read first time January 19, 2022

Committee:

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

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

2           (a) Transportation, manufacturing, and related industries in  
3 Nebraska have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 public health  
4 emergency in rural areas;

5           (b) Supply chain disruptions and restrictions in getting  
6 manufactured goods from factories to consumers caused product shortages  
7 and price inflation for consumers;

8           (c) The primary reasons for the supply chain disruptions are due to  
9 (i) logistical bottlenecks caused by time and distance factors between  
10 raw materials, manufacturers, and consumers, (ii) the lack of access for  
11 manufacturers to rail facilities in Nebraska, (iii) mitigation efforts  
12 related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, (iv) the lack of  
13 production at manufacturing plants outside the state, and (v) delays in  
14 transportation networks due to public health policies implemented by  
15 local governments in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency;

16           (d) New railyard industrial access parks with spur access to main  
17 rail lines and local workers are needed to increase the efficiency of  
18 Nebraska's supply chain; and

19           (e) Recent price inflation for construction costs have hindered  
20 construction efforts to address the issues described in this subsection.

21           (2) There is hereby appropriated \$75,000,000 from Federal Funds for  
22 FY2022-23 to the Department of Economic Development for the purposes  
23 described in subsection (3) of this section. The Federal Funds  
24 appropriated in this section are from the funds allocated to the State of  
25 Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant  
26 to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2,  
27 Subtitle M, Sec. 9901.

28           (3)(a) The Department of Economic Development shall provide grants  
29 for new construction of industrial rail yards.

30           (b) Any award of a grant pursuant to this section shall be  
31 coordinated and administered by the Department of Economic Development in

1 compliance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

2 (c) The recipient of a grant pursuant to this section shall only  
3 spend the grant in compliance with the federal American Rescue Plan Act  
4 of 2021.

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