

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 157**

Introduced by Cook, 13.

Read first time January 14, 2013

Committee:

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to state intent relating to
- 2 support of dental services.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

2           (1) One hundred and eight million American adults and  
3 children lack dental insurance, more than twice as many as lack  
4 medical insurance;

5           (2) Vulnerable populations, including low-income  
6 families, members of racial and ethnic minority groups, and the  
7 uninsured and rural residents, experience more unmet oral health care  
8 needs than other groups and suffer greater losses to their overall  
9 health and quality of life as a result;

10           (3) Community health centers are a significant provider  
11 of oral health care for the nation's medically underserved, including  
12 low-income uninsured, as well as in Nebraska; and

13           (4) Investing in dental health services saves health care  
14 dollars in the long term, particularly when providing preventive care  
15 to children.

16           Sec. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to include in  
17 the appropriation to Agency No. 25, Program No. 502, for FY2013-14  
18 \$900,000 General Funds and for FY2014-15 \$900,000 General Funds, to  
19 expand dental services to uninsured low-income Nebraskans, for the  
20 six community health centers funded through Federal Program 330,  
21 Public Law 104-299, the Health Centers Consolidation Act of 1996.  
22 Each of the following centers is to receive \$150,000: Charles Drew  
23 Health Center, One World Community Health Center, Good Neighbor  
24 Community Health Center, Panhandle Community Health Center, Norfolk  
25 Community Health Center, and People's Health Center.