

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 527**

Introduced by Bolz, 29.

Read first time January 22, 2019

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to economic development; to amend section
- 2 48-622.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2018; to adopt
- 3 the Customized Job Training Act; and to repeal the original section.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be  
2 cited as the Customized Job Training Act.

3           Sec. 2. The Customized Job Training Act shall be administered by  
4 the Department of Economic Development to provide funds in the form of  
5 grants to employers for reimbursement of job training expenses as set  
6 forth in the act.

7           Sec. 3. The Customized Job Training Cash Fund is created. Funds in  
8 the Customized Job Training Cash Fund shall be used for (1) general  
9 administrative costs of awarding job training reimbursement grants under  
10 the Customized Job Training Act and (2) job training reimbursement  
11 grants. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested  
12 by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital  
13 Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act.

14           Sec. 4. (1) Employers applying for job training reimbursement  
15 grants under the Customized Job Training Act shall apply to the  
16 Department of Economic Development. The department shall provide job  
17 training reimbursement grants for job training programs for jobs that are  
18 net new jobs. The job training reimbursement grants shall be in  
19 proportion to the committed number of net new jobs created. The amount of  
20 each grant and number of grants awarded shall be determined by the  
21 department based upon available funding.

22           (2) The department shall create a job training reimbursement grant  
23 application, have authority to approve applications, and authorize the  
24 total amount of job training reimbursement grants expected to be awarded  
25 as a result of the training if the Director of Economic Development is  
26 satisfied that the plan in the application defines training that meets  
27 the eligibility requirements.

28           (3) The department shall submit an annual report electronically to  
29 the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature that includes the total  
30 number of job training reimbursement grants awarded, the total dollar  
31 amount of job training reimbursement grants awarded and to whom, the

1 total expenditures made in administering the Customized Job Training Act,  
2 the number of individuals trained, the average wage of net new jobs, and  
3 a summary of the training provided.

4       Sec. 5. (1) In order for an employer to apply for a job training  
5 reimbursement grant under the Customized Job Training Act:

6       (a) The jobs being trained for must be net new jobs; and

7       (b) The jobs being trained for must meet or exceed the Nebraska  
8 average annual wage.

9       (2) Training may be provided by:

10       (a) The community college system or any accredited postsecondary  
11 educational institution; or

12       (b) Any qualified training provider if the training results in:

13       (i) A national, state, or locally recognized certificate;

14       (ii) Preparation for a professional examination or licensure;

15       (iii) Endorsement for an existing credential or license; or

16       (iv) Development of recognized skill standards as defined by an  
17 industrial sector.

18       Sec. 6. An employer receiving a grant shall provide to the  
19 Department of Economic Development documentation:

20       (1) Showing the completion of the net new job training. The  
21 department may require reimbursement of any funds for training not  
22 meeting eligibility requirements.

23       (2) Showing that the employer has maintained or exceeded its current  
24 level of training expenditures.

25       Sec. 7. Section 48-622.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
26 2018, is amended to read:

27       48-622.01 (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury a  
28 special fund to be known as the State Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.  
29 All state unemployment insurance tax collected under sections 48-648 to  
30 48-661, less refunds, shall be paid into the fund, except that the first  
31 six hundredths of one percent collected shall be deposited in the

1 Customized Job Training Cash Fund. Such money shall be held in trust for  
2 payment of unemployment insurance benefits. Any money in the fund  
3 available for investment shall be invested by the state investment  
4 officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska  
5 State Funds Investment Act, except that interest earned on money in the  
6 fund shall be credited to the Nebraska Training and Support Cash Fund at  
7 the end of each calendar quarter.

8 (2) The commissioner shall have the authority to determine when and  
9 in what amounts withdrawals from the State Unemployment Insurance Trust  
10 Fund for payment of benefits are necessary. Amounts withdrawn for payment  
11 of benefits shall be immediately forwarded to the Secretary of the  
12 Treasury of the United States of America to the credit of the state's  
13 account in the Unemployment Trust Fund, any provision of law in this  
14 state relating to the deposit, administration, release, or disbursement  
15 of money in the possession or custody of this state to the contrary  
16 notwithstanding.

17 (3) If and when the state unemployment insurance tax ceases to exist  
18 as determined by the Governor, all money then in the State Unemployment  
19 Insurance Trust Fund less accrued interest shall be immediately  
20 transferred to the credit of the state's account in the Unemployment  
21 Trust Fund, any provision of law in this state relating to the deposit,  
22 administration, release, or disbursement of money in the possession or  
23 custody of this state to the contrary notwithstanding. The determination  
24 to eliminate the state unemployment insurance tax shall be based on the  
25 solvency of the state's account in the Unemployment Trust Fund and the  
26 need for training of Nebraska workers. Accrued interest in the State  
27 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund shall be credited to the Nebraska  
28 Training and Support Cash Fund.

29 Sec. 8. Original section 48-622.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative  
30 Supplement, 2018, is repealed.