

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 684**

Introduced by Schilz, 47.

Read first time January 19, 2011

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to economic development; to amend section  
2 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to  
3 change provisions relating to an advisory committee for  
4 travel and tourism; and to repeal the original section.  
5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised Statutes  
2 of Nebraska, is amended to read:

3           81-1201.13 (1) The Travel and Tourism Division shall  
4 develop a program to provide promotional services and technical  
5 assistance to local governments and industry members and to ensure  
6 the protection and development of Nebraska's attraction resources.

7           (2)(a) The department shall have an advisory committee to  
8 provide regular consultation to the Travel and Tourism Division,  
9 which committee shall be named the Travel and Tourism Division  
10 Advisory Committee. Such advisory committee shall, at a minimum,  
11 include a representative from the Nebraska Travel Association, the  
12 Nebraska Hotel and Motel Association, the largest tourism attraction  
13 in the state, as determined by the department, and the largest  
14 convention facility in the state, as determined by the department.

15           (b) The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee  
16 shall develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote  
17 tourism in Nebraska. The advisory committee shall adopt policy  
18 criteria to be used in the development of the plan. The plan shall  
19 include:

20           (i) A review of the existing and potential sources of  
21 funding for tourism at the state and local levels;

22           (ii) A comprehensive inventory of local tourism boards,  
23 the structure of such boards, and their funding;

24           (iii) Criteria for local tourism boards in terms of  
25 appointments to such boards and for awarding grants by such boards at

1 the local level to ensure local resources are used to achieve the  
2 greatest return;

3 (iv) An examination of other states' funding models for  
4 tourism;

5 (v) Marketing strategies for promoting tourism;

6 (vi) A proposal for creating new or expanding existing  
7 tourism capacity, which may include encouraging regional cooperation,  
8 collaboration, or privatization; and

9 (vii) Recommended legislation or funding requirements.

10 (c) The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee  
11 shall prepare and present the statewide strategic plan to the  
12 Legislature by September 1, 2012.

13 (3) All advertising contracts awarded by the department  
14 concerning travel and tourism shall be based on competitive bids.  
15 Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking  
16 into consideration the best interests of the state, the quality of  
17 performance of the services rendered, the conformity with  
18 specifications, the purposes for which required, and the time of  
19 completion, and with the consultation of the Travel and Tourism  
20 Division Advisory Committee. In determining the lowest responsible  
21 bidder, in addition to price, the following elements shall be given  
22 consideration: ~~(1)~~ (a) The ability, capacity, creativity, and skill  
23 of the bidder to perform the contract required; ~~(2)~~ (b) the  
24 character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and  
25 efficiency of the bidder; ~~(3)~~ (c) whether the bidder can perform the

1 contract within the time specified; ~~(4)~~—(d) the quality of  
2 performance of previous contracts; ~~(5)~~—(e) the previous and existing  
3 compliance by the bidder with laws relating to the contract; and ~~(6)~~  
4 (f) such other information as may be secured having a bearing on the  
5 decision to award the contract. The department shall advertise for  
6 bids for the awarding of contracts concerning travel and tourism  
7 pursuant to sections 73-101 to 73-105. At least thirty working days  
8 shall elapse between the time formal bids are advertised for and the  
9 time of their opening. Contracts shall be awarded within sixty  
10 working days after the bidding has been closed. Each person  
11 submitting a bid shall, by certified mail, be notified as to whom the  
12 contract was awarded.

13                   Sec. 2. Original section 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised  
14 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.