

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 721

Introduced by Hilkemann, 4; Lowe, 37; Stinner, 48; Williams, 36.

Read first time January 05, 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 its prolonged effects highlight
4 the need to support students and future workers to emerge from the
5 pandemic with the education and skills required to fill high-demand
6 occupations in a changing economy; and

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

14 (2) There is hereby appropriated \$60,000,000 from Federal Funds for
15 FY2022-23 to the University of Nebraska for the establishment of a
16 facility for the University of Nebraska Medical Center Rural Health
17 Complex on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The
18 Federal Funds appropriated in this section are from the funds allocated
19 to the State of Nebraska from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal
20 Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,
21 Public Law 117-2, Subtitle M, Sec. 9901.

22 (3) The State Treasurer shall transfer the funds appropriated in
23 this section to the University of Nebraska as directed by the budget
24 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative
25 Services. The University of Nebraska shall report to the budget
26 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative
27 Services the receipt of twenty-five million dollars in private or other
28 funds for the purpose of establishing the facility prior to the budget
29 administrator of the budget division of the Department of Administrative
30 Services directing the State Treasurer to transfer the funds appropriated
31 in this section.

1 Sec. 2. There is hereby appropriated \$X,XXX,XXX from the General
2 Fund for FY2022-23, to the University of Nebraska for the academic
3 programs and operating budget of the University of Nebraska Medical
4 Center Rural Health Complex on the campus of the University of Nebraska
5 at Kearney.

6 Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
7 passed and approved according to law.