

LEGISLATIVE BILL 947

Approved by the Governor April 12, 2010

Introduced by Avery, 28.

FOR AN ACT relating to the Community Development Block Grant Program; to amend sections 81-1201.04 and 81-1201.18, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to eliminate the Community Development Block Grant Program Advisory Committee; to transfer the duties of the committee to the Economic Development Commission; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal section 81-1201.08, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-1201.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1201.04 The commission shall consist of nine voting members appointed by the Governor. The chairperson of the commission shall be one of the appointed members and shall be chosen by the commission. Each congressional district in Nebraska shall be represented by three members, and the Governor shall solicit nominations for appointments to the commission from recognized economic development groups in Nebraska. The members of the commission shall be representative, to the extent possible, of the various geographic areas of the state and of both the urban and rural population. The director shall serve as an ad hoc nonvoting member of the commission. In appointing the members, the Governor shall seek to create a broad-based commission representative of the Nebraska economy. To achieve this objective the Governor shall appoint individuals from the following private industry sectors:

- (1) Production agriculture;
- (2) At least two individuals from manufacturing, one such individual shall represent a company with no more than seventy-five employees;
- (3) Transportation and logistics;
- (4) Travel and tourism;
- (5) Financial services and insurance;
- (6) Information technology and communications; and
- (7) Biotechnology; ~~and-~~
- (8) Community development.

The commission and department are encouraged to involve other essential groups in the work of the commission, including, but not limited to, the (a) University of Nebraska, (b) Department of Agriculture, (c) State Energy Office, (d) educational institutions, (e) Department of Labor, and (f) Nebraska Investment Finance Authority. No more than five voting members of the commission shall belong to the same political party.

The commission shall provide programmatic policy guidance and oversight to the Nebraska Manufacturing Extension Partnership and shall provide regular consultation to the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Sec. 2. Section 81-1201.18, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-1201.18 The department shall administer the Community Development Block Grant Program. In addition to the performance review requirements in section 81-1201.10, the department shall develop an ongoing program of monitoring the impact of grants on the communities receiving the grants. The monitoring program shall include, but not be limited to, the following information: (1) The status of the project for which such grant was awarded; (2) the grant amount; (3) the local government contribution; (4) the private financial contribution; (5) the goals and objectives of the grant; and (6) the impact of the grant relative to the goals and objectives of the grant. The department, in consultation with the ~~advisory committee,~~ commission, shall determine community development objectives, state priorities, and guidelines for the distribution of funds for community development projects within the Community Development Block Grant Program, which shall conform to the objectives as set forth in the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and which shall:

- (a) Include statistical community need factors as selected by the ~~committee,~~ commission; and
- (b) Require that grant applicants submit evidence of a community assessment process for the project, which assessment process the ~~committee~~ commission shall design. To the extent possible, the Community Development Block Grant funds shall be allocated on a need and competitive basis.

Sec. 3. Original sections 81-1201.04 and 81-1201.18, Reissue Revised

Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.

Sec. 4. The following section is outright repealed: Section 81-1201.08, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.