

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$577,081		\$574,288	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$577,081		\$574,288	

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

LB 928 aims to add Sections 3 and 4 to the Nebraska Correctional Health Cares Services Act.

Section 2 introduces an amendment to Section 83-4,157, specifying that the medical director is now required to collaborate with the mental health director in coordinating all mental health services.

Section 3 mandates the Director of Correctional Services to appoint a mental health director for the department. This individual must possess relevant mental health experience and hold a license from the State of Nebraska as a physician or mental health practitioner. Eligible professionals include psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, or licensed independent mental health practitioners.

Section 4, the Director of Correctional Services is tasked with assigning specific duties to the mental health director. These responsibilities include a broad range of activities aimed at enhancing the provision and coordination of mental and behavioral health care services within correctional facilities. Key duties include:

1. Collaborating with the medical director to ensure the integration and coordination of mental and behavioral health care services.
2. Recommending essential programs for mental and behavioral health to guarantee that inmates receive the necessary programming.
3. Working with community mental health providers to ensure that services within the facilities are maintained and that there is continuity of care for inmates reentering the community.
4. Ensuring that mental and behavioral health care services are accessible to inmates.
5. Overseeing the training and education of mental health care staff and other relevant department staff. This includes providing training designed to enable prompt and effective responses to the mental and behavioral health needs of inmates.

Expenditures:

The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) anticipates that the mental health director position would qualify for exemption from the state personnel system, as detailed in §81-1316 section (1)(w), thereby classifying it as a discretionary non-classified role.

NDCS identifies a psychiatrist as the ideal candidate for this position, projecting a fiscal impact of \$577,081 for the fiscal year 2024-25 and \$574,288 for 2025-26.

This estimation was derived by benchmarking against the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) medical officer's position, considering the unique combination of psychiatric expertise and managerial responsibilities required for the role. The calculation also reflects the challenges associated with the limited availability of qualified candidates. Furthermore, NDCS notes its experience with employing psychiatrists on a contractual basis at an approximate rate of \$260 per hour. These insights from the agency were all taken into consideration in their financial projections.

There is no basis to disagree with the estimates at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 928	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services	
REVIEWED BY:	Ann Linneman	DATE: 1-29-2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4180
COMMENTS: Concur with the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services' assessment of no fiscal impact.			

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 928	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Correctional Services	
REVIEWED BY:	Ann Linneman	DATE: 2-12-2024	PHONE: (402) 471-4180
COMMENTS: Concur with the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services' assessment of fiscal impact.			

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2024

LB⁽¹⁾ 928

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Lisa Stanton Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 01/16/2024 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ (402)479-5702

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$577,081		\$574,288	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>\$577,081</u>		<u>\$574,288</u>	

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 928 creates a Mental Health Director position and establishes duties of that position within the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

Assuming this Mental Health position would be exempt from the state personnel system under §81-1316 section (1)(w), it would be established as a discretionary non-classified position.

The ideal candidate for this position would be a psychiatrist, which would require an estimated cost of \$577,081. This amount includes \$434,000 for PSL, \$137,564 for benefits, and \$5,517 for other services and equipment.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Mental Health Director	1.0		\$434,000	\$434,000
Benefits.....			\$137,564	\$137,564
Operating.....			\$5,517	\$2,724
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			<u>\$577,081</u>	<u>\$574,288</u>

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) John Meals

Date Prepared 1-29-2024

Phone: (5) 471-6719

	<u>FY 2024-2025</u>		<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Health and Human Services.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

PERSONAL SERVICES:	POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2024-2025	2025-2026
		24-25	25-26	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....					
Operating.....					
Travel.....					
Capital Outlay.....					
Aid.....					
Capital Improvements.....					
TOTAL.....				\$0	\$0