## LEGISLATIVE BILL 326

### Approved by the Governor May 31, 1995

Introduced by Warner, 25

AN ACT relating to economic development; to provide for job training grants; to provide powers and duties for the Department of Economic Development; to provide an operative date; and to declare an emergency.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. For purposes of this act, job training grant means a grant from the Job Training Cash Fund or any nonfederal funding source within the Department of Economic Development awarded by the department.

Sec. 2. (1) A business applying for a job training grant shall submit a business plan to the Department of Economic Development which includes, but is not limited to:

(a) The number of jobs to be created or the number of existing positions that will be retrained;

(b) The nature of the business and the type of jobs to be created or positions to be retrained;

(c) The estimated wage levels of the jobs to be created or positions to be retrained; and

(d) A program schedule for the job training project.

(2) A business applying for a job training grant must demonstrate that the job training project to be conducted pursuant to the grant meets the following criteria:

(a) The wage level of the jobs created will meet the local prevailing average;

(b) The jobs created will diversify the local economy;

(c) The goods or services produced by the company will be export-oriented;

(d) Seventy-five percent of the jobs created will be full-time jobs; and

(e) The new jobs will be created within three calendar years.

Sec. 3. The Department of Economic Development shall not approve a job training grant which exceeds an average expenditure of five thousand dollars per job created if the proposed wage levels do not exceed thirty thousand dollars per year or which exceeds an average expenditure of ten thousand dollars per job if the proposed wage levels exceed thirty thousand dollars per year.

Sec. 4. A business which is awarded a job training grant shall provide annual performance reports to the Department of Economic Development and a final performance report upon the completion of the project.

Sec. 5. The Department of Economic Development shall monitor the progress of job training projects conducted pursuant to job training grants. As deemed necessary, the department may conduct a site audit of job training projects and review business records pertaining to the job training project.

Sec. 6. If a business which receives a job training grant creates fewer jobs than stated in the business plan, the business shall repay the job training grant as provided in this section. If less than fifty percent of the proposed jobs are created, one hundred percent of the grant shall be repaid. If fifty percent or more but less than seventy percent of the proposed jobs are created, fifty percent of the grant shall be repaid. If seventy percent or more but less than ninety percent of the proposed jobs are created, twenty-five percent of the grant shall be repaid. If ninety percent or more of the proposed jobs are created, no repayment is required.

Sec. 7. If a business relocates or abandons its site during the grant disbursement period, the disbursements made to the business shall be immediately due and payable to the Department of Economic Development. If a business is sold during the grant disbursement period, the disbursements made to the business shall be immediately due and payable to the department unless the purchaser agrees to carry out the terms and conditions of the business plan.

Sec. 8. The Department of Economic Development shall remit repayments of job training grants due to noncompliance to the State Treasurer for credit to the Job Training Cash Fund.

Sec. 9. The Department of Economic Development shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to govern the award and disbursement of job training grants.

Sec. 10.  This act becomes operative July 1, 1995.
Sec. 11.    Since  an  emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.