LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 427

Introduced by Groene, 42; Davis, 43; Garrett, 3.

Read first time January 16, 2015

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to probation; to amend sections 25-2407 and
- 2 43-2,113, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 29-2259,
- 3 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014; to provide for state
- 4 payment of probation services; to harmonize provisions; to provide
- an operative date; to repeal the original sections; and to declare
- an emergency.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

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1 Section 1. Section 25-2407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

- 2 amended to read:
- 3 25-2407 Any person who serves as an interpreter for persons unable
- 4 to communicate the English language in court proceedings or probation
- 5 services as provided in subsection (5 6) of section 29-2259 shall meet
- 6 the standards adopted by the Supreme Court. Such standards shall require
- 7 that interpreters demonstrate the ability to interpret effectively,
- 8 accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any
- 9 necessary special vocabulary. A person appointed to interpret for deaf
- 10 and hard of hearing persons shall be a licensed interpreter as defined in
- 11 section 20-151 or, if a licensed interpreter is unavailable, an
- 12 interpreter licensed under the laws of another state.
- 13 Sec. 2. Section 29-2259, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 14 2014, is amended to read:
- 15 29-2259 (1) The salaries, actual and necessary expenses, and
- 16 expenses incident to the conduct and maintenance of the office shall be
- 17 paid by the state. Actual and necessary expenses shall be paid as
- 18 provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
- 19 (2) The salaries and actual and necessary travel expenses of the
- 20 probation service shall be paid by the state. Actual and necessary
- 21 expenses shall be paid as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.
- 22 (3) Except as provided in sections 29-2262 and 29-2262.04, the costs
- 23 of drug testing and equipment incident to the electronic surveillance of
- 24 individuals on probation shall be paid by the state.
- 25 (4) The state shall pay the cost for the probation offices and
- 26 <u>necessary facilities performing their official duties and the costs</u>
- 27 <u>incident to maintenance of such offices. Actual and necessary expenses</u>
- 28 shall be paid as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177 The expenses
- 29 incident to the conduct and maintenance of the principal office within
- 30 each probation district shall in the first instance be paid by the county
- 31 in which it is located, but such county shall be reimbursed for such

- 1 expenses by all other counties within the probation district to the
- 2 extent and in the proportions determined by the Supreme Court based upon
- 3 population, number of investigations, and probation cases handled or upon
- 4 such other basis as the Supreme Court deems fair and equitable.
- 5 (5) Each county shall provide office space and necessary facilities
- 6 for probation officers performing their official duties and shall bear
- 7 the costs incident to maintenance of such offices other than salaries,
- 8 travel expenses, and data processing and word processing hardware and
- 9 software that is provided on the state computer network.
- 10 $(\underline{5} \ \underline{6})$ The cost of interpreter services for deaf and hard of hearing
- 11 persons and for persons unable to communicate the English language shall
- 12 be paid by the state with money appropriated to the Supreme Court for
- 13 that purpose or from other funds, including grant money, made available
- 14 to the Supreme Court for such purpose. Interpreter services shall include
- 15 auxiliary aids for deaf and hard of hearing persons as defined in section
- 16 20-151 and interpreters to assist persons unable to communicate the
- 17 English language as defined in section 25-2402. Interpreter services
- 18 shall be provided under this section for the purposes of conducting a
- 19 presentence investigation and for ongoing supervision by a probation
- 20 officer of such persons placed on probation.
- 21 $(\underline{6} \ 7)$ The probation administrator shall prepare a budget and request
- 22 for appropriations for the office and shall submit such request to the
- 23 Supreme Court and with its approval to the appropriate authority in
- 24 accordance with law.
- 25 (7)(a) Prior to July 1, 2015, each county providing office space and
- 26 <u>necessary facilities for probation may negotiate lease arrangements with</u>
- 27 <u>the probation administrator within county-owned property.</u>
- 28 (b) At the close of business on June 30, 2015, the county shall
- 29 <u>cease the obligation of providing office and facilities to probation.</u>
- 30 Costs incident to the maintenance of such offices and facilities shall be
- 31 the responsibility of the state. At that time the state shall transfer

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- 1 any county-owned books, files, and similar records with regard to the
- 2 <u>probation function and all county-owned furniture, computers, and other</u>
- 3 <u>equipment and property used by the state to perform the probation</u>
- 4 function to the county.
- 5 Sec. 3. Section 43-2,113, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 6 amended to read:
- 7 43-2,113 (1) In counties where a separate juvenile court is
- 8 established, the county board of the county shall provide suitable rooms
- 9 and offices for the accommodation of the judge of the separate juvenile
- 10 court and the officers and employees appointed by such judge or by the
- 11 probation administrator pursuant to subsection (4) of section 29-2253.
- 12 Such separate juvenile court and the judge, officers, and employees of
- 13 such court shall have the same and exclusive jurisdiction, powers, and
- 14 duties that are prescribed in the Nebraska Juvenile Code, concurrent
- 15 jurisdiction under section 83-223, and such other jurisdiction, powers,
- 16 and duties as specifically provided by law.
- 17 (2) A juvenile court created in a separate juvenile court judicial
- 18 district or a county court sitting as a juvenile court in all other
- 19 counties shall have and exercise jurisdiction within such juvenile court
- 20 judicial district or county court judicial district with the county court
- 21 and district court in all matters arising under Chapter 42, article 3,
- 22 when the care, support, custody, or control of minor children under the
- 23 age of eighteen years is involved. Such cases shall be filed in the
- 24 county court and district court and may, with the consent of the juvenile
- 25 judge, be transferred to the docket of the separate juvenile court or
- 26 county court.
- 27 (3) All orders issued by a separate juvenile court or a county court
- 28 which provide for child support or spousal support as defined in section
- 29 42-347 shall be governed by sections 42-347 to 42-381 and 43-290 relating
- 30 to such support. Certified copies of such orders shall be filed by the
- 31 clerk of the separate juvenile or county court with the clerk of the

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- 1 district court who shall maintain a record as provided in subsection (4)
- 2 of section 42-364. There shall be no fee charged for the filing of such
- 3 certified copies.
- 4 Sec. 4. This act becomes operative on July 1, 2015.
- 5 Sec. 5. Original sections 25-2407 and 43-2,113, Reissue Revised
- 6 Statutes of Nebraska, and section 29-2259, Revised Statutes Cumulative
- 7 Supplement, 2014, are repealed.
- 8 Sec. 6. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
- 9 passed and approved according to law.