

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1009

Approved by the Governor March 30, 2016

Introduced by Williams, 36; Fox, 7.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public health and safety; to amend sections 28-431, 28-1439.02, 28-1439.03, 87-301, and 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-101, 28-401, and 28-401.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015; to prohibit transactions involving certain lookalike substances; to provide a penalty; to define and redefine terms; to provide for the seizure of lookalike substances; to change provisions relating to seizure and forfeiture of property relating to violations of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act; to prohibit conduct related to transactions involving certain substances as a deceptive trade practice; to harmonize provisions; to provide severability; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 28-101, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is amended to read:

28-101 Sections 28-101 to ~~28-468, 28-470~~ to 28-1357, 28-1418.01, and 28-1429.03 and section 4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Criminal Code.

Sec. 2. Section 28-401, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is amended to read:

28-401 As used in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) Administer means to directly apply a controlled substance by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means to the body of a patient or research subject;

(2) Agent means an authorized person who acts on behalf of or at the direction of another person but does not include a common or contract carrier, public warehouse keeper, or employee of a carrier or warehouse keeper;

(3) Administration means the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States Department of Justice;

(4) Controlled substance means a drug, biological, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I to V of section 28-405. Controlled substance does not include distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, tobacco, or any nonnarcotic substance if such substance may, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., as such act existed on January 1, 2014, and the law of this state, be lawfully sold over the counter without a prescription;

(5) Counterfeit substance means a controlled substance which, or the container or labeling of which, without authorization, bears the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, number, or device, or any likeness thereof, of a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser other than the person or persons who in fact manufactured, distributed, or dispensed such substance and which thereby falsely purports or is represented to be the product of, or to have been distributed by, such other manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser;

(6) Department means the Department of Health and Human Services;

(7) Division of Drug Control means the personnel of the Nebraska State Patrol who are assigned to enforce the Uniform Controlled Substances Act;

(8) Dispense means to deliver a controlled substance to an ultimate user or a research subject pursuant to a medical order issued by a practitioner authorized to prescribe, including the packaging, labeling, or compounding necessary to prepare the controlled substance for such delivery;

(9) Distribute means to deliver other than by administering or dispensing a controlled substance;

(10) Prescribe means to issue a medical order;

(11) Drug means (a) articles recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, official National Formulary, or any supplement to any of them, (b) substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in human beings or animals, and (c) substances intended for use as a component of any article specified in subdivision (a) or (b) of this subdivision, but does not include devices or their components, parts, or accessories;

(12) Deliver or delivery means the actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another of a controlled substance, whether or not there is an agency relationship;

(13) Marijuana means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis, whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant or its seeds, but does not include the mature stalks of such plant, hashish, tetrahydrocannabinols extracted or isolated from the plant, fiber produced from such stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of such plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such mature stalks, the sterilized seed of such plant which is incapable of germination, or cannabidiol obtained

pursuant to sections 28-463 to 28-468. When the weight of marijuana is referred to in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, it means its weight at or about the time it is seized or otherwise comes into the possession of law enforcement authorities, whether cured or uncured at that time. When industrial hemp as defined in section 2-5701 is in the possession of a person as authorized under section 2-5701, it is not considered marijuana for purposes of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act;

(14) Manufacture means the production, preparation, propagation, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance, either directly or indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin, independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of its container. Manufacture does not include the preparation or compounding of a controlled substance by an individual for his or her own use, except for the preparation or compounding of components or ingredients used for or intended to be used for the manufacture of methamphetamine, or the preparation, compounding, conversion, packaging, or labeling of a controlled substance: (a) By a practitioner as an incident to his or her prescribing, administering, or dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of his or her professional practice; or (b) by a practitioner, or by his or her authorized agent under his or her supervision, for the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale;

(15) Narcotic drug means any of the following, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable origin, independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis: (a) Opium, opium poppy and poppy straw, coca leaves, and opiates; (b) a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, or preparation of opium, coca leaves, or opiates; or (c) a substance and any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, or preparation thereof which is chemically equivalent to or identical with any of the substances referred to in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this subdivision, except that the words narcotic drug as used in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act does not include decocainized coca leaves or extracts of coca leaves, which extracts do not contain cocaine or ecgonine, or isoquinoline alkaloids of opium;

(16) Opiate means any substance having an addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability similar to morphine or being capable of conversion into a drug having such addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining liability. Opiate does not include the dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-n methylmorphinan and its salts. Opiate includes its racemic and levorotatory forms;

(17) Opium poppy means the plant of the species *Papaver somniferum* L., except the seeds thereof;

(18) Poppy straw means all parts, except the seeds, of the opium poppy after mowing;

(19) Person means any corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company, or one or more persons;

(20) Practitioner means a physician, a physician assistant, a dentist, a veterinarian, a pharmacist, a podiatrist, an optometrist, a certified nurse midwife, a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a nurse practitioner, a scientific investigator, a pharmacy, a hospital, or any other person licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, prescribe, conduct research with respect to, or administer a controlled substance in the course of practice or research in this state, including an emergency medical service as defined in section 38-1207;

(21) Production includes the manufacture, planting, cultivation, or harvesting of a controlled substance;

(22) Immediate precursor means a substance which is the principal compound commonly used or produced primarily for use and which is an immediate chemical intermediary used or likely to be used in the manufacture of a controlled substance, the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail, or limit such manufacture;

(23) State means the State of Nebraska;

(24) Ultimate user means a person who lawfully possesses a controlled substance for his or her own use, for the use of a member of his or her household, or for administration to an animal owned by him or her or by a member of his or her household;

(25) Hospital has the same meaning as in section 71-419;

(26) Cooperating individual means any person, other than a commissioned law enforcement officer, who acts on behalf of, at the request of, or as agent for a law enforcement agency for the purpose of gathering or obtaining evidence of offenses punishable under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act;

(27) Hashish or concentrated cannabis means (a) the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from a plant of the genus *cannabis* or (b) any material, preparation, mixture, compound, or other substance which contains ten percent or more by weight of tetrahydrocannabinols. When resins extracted from industrial hemp as defined in section 2-5701 are in the possession of a person as authorized under section 2-5701, they are not considered hashish or concentrated cannabis for purposes of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act;

(28) Exceptionally hazardous drug means (a) a narcotic drug, (b) thiophene analog of phencyclidine, (c) phencyclidine, (d) amobarbital, (e) secobarbital, (f) pentobarbital, (g) amphetamine, or (h) methamphetamine;

(29) Imitation controlled substance means a substance which is not a controlled substance or controlled substance analogue but which, by way of

express or implied representations and consideration of other relevant factors including those specified in section 28-445, would lead a reasonable person to believe the substance is a controlled substance or controlled substance analogue. A placebo or registered investigational drug manufactured, distributed, possessed, or delivered in the ordinary course of practice or research by a health care professional shall not be deemed to be an imitation controlled substance;

(30)(a) Controlled substance analogue means a substance (i) the chemical structure of which is substantially similar to the chemical structure of a Schedule I or Schedule II controlled substance as provided in section 28-405 or (ii) which has a stimulant, depressant, analgesic, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, analgesic, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a Schedule I or Schedule II controlled substance as provided in section 28-405. A controlled substance analogue shall, to the extent intended for human consumption, be treated as a controlled substance under Schedule I of section 28-405 for purposes of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act; and

(b) Controlled substance analogue does not include (i) a controlled substance, (ii) any substance generally recognized as safe and effective within the meaning of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., as such act existed on January 1, 2014, (iii) any substance for which there is an approved new drug application, or (iv) with respect to a particular person, any substance if an exemption is in effect for investigational use for that person, under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 355, as such section existed on January 1, 2014, to the extent conduct with respect to such substance is pursuant to such exemption;

(31) Anabolic steroid means any drug or hormonal substance, chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone (other than estrogens, progestins, and corticosteroids), that promotes muscle growth and includes any controlled substance in Schedule III(d) of section 28-405. Anabolic steroid does not include any anabolic steroid which is expressly intended for administration through implants to cattle or other nonhuman species and has been approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for such administration, but if any person prescribes, dispenses, or distributes such a steroid for human use, such person shall be considered to have prescribed, dispensed, or distributed an anabolic steroid within the meaning of this subdivision;

(32) Chart order means an order for a controlled substance issued by a practitioner for a patient who is in the hospital where the chart is stored or for a patient receiving detoxification treatment or maintenance treatment pursuant to section 28-412. Chart order does not include a prescription;

(33) Medical order means a prescription, a chart order, or an order for pharmaceutical care issued by a practitioner;

(34) Prescription means an order for a controlled substance issued by a practitioner. Prescription does not include a chart order;

(35) Registrant means any person who has a controlled substances registration issued by the state or the administration;

(36) Reverse distributor means a person whose primary function is to act as an agent for a pharmacy, wholesaler, manufacturer, or other entity by receiving, inventorying, and managing the disposition of outdated, expired, or otherwise nonsaleable controlled substances;

(37) Signature means the name, word, or mark of a person written in his or her own hand with the intent to authenticate a writing or other form of communication or a digital signature which complies with section 86-611 or an electronic signature;

(38) Facsimile means a copy generated by a system that encodes a document or photograph into electrical signals, transmits those signals over telecommunications lines, and reconstructs the signals to create an exact duplicate of the original document at the receiving end;

(39) Electronic signature has the definition found in section 86-621;

(40) Electronic transmission means transmission of information in electronic form. Electronic transmission includes computer-to-computer transmission or computer-to-facsimile transmission;

(41) Long-term care facility means an intermediate care facility, an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities, a long-term care hospital, a mental health center, a nursing facility, or a skilled nursing facility, as such terms are defined in the Health Care Facility Licensure Act;

(42) Compounding has the same meaning as in section 38-2811; ~~and~~

(43) Cannabinoid receptor agonist shall mean any chemical compound or substance that, according to scientific or medical research, study, testing, or analysis, demonstrates the presence of binding activity at one or more of the CB1 or CB2 cell membrane receptors located within the human body; and -

(44) Lookalike substance means a product or substance, not specifically designated as a controlled substance in section 28-405, that is either portrayed in such a manner by a person to lead another person to reasonably believe that it produces effects on the human body that replicate, mimic, or are intended to simulate the effects produced by a controlled substance or that possesses one or more of the following indicia or characteristics:

(a) The packaging or labeling of the product or substance suggests that the user will achieve euphoria, hallucination, mood enhancement, stimulation, or another effect on the human body that replicates or mimics those produced by a controlled substance;

(b) The name or packaging of the product or substance uses images or labels suggesting that it is a controlled substance or produces effects on the human body that replicate or mimic those produced by a controlled substance;

(c) The product or substance is marketed or advertised for a particular use or purpose and the cost of the product or substance is disproportionately higher than other products or substances marketed or advertised for the same or similar use or purpose;

(d) The packaging or label on the product or substance contains words or markings that state or suggest that the product or substance is in compliance with state and federal laws regulating controlled substances;

(e) The owner or person in control of the product or substance uses evasive tactics or actions to avoid detection or inspection of the product or substance by law enforcement authorities;

(f) The owner or person in control of the product or substance makes a verbal or written statement suggesting or implying that the product or substance is a synthetic drug or that consumption of the product or substance will replicate or mimic effects on the human body to those effects commonly produced through use or consumption of a controlled substance;

(g) The owner or person in control of the product or substance makes a verbal or written statement to a prospective customer, buyer, or recipient of the product or substance implying that the product or substance may be resold for profit; or

(h) The product or substance contains a chemical or chemical compound that does not have a legitimate relationship to the use or purpose claimed by the seller, distributor, packer, or manufacturer of the product or substance or indicated by the product name, appearing on the product's packaging or label or depicted in advertisement of the product or substance.

Sec. 3. Section 28-401.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, is amended to read:

28-401.01 Sections 28-401 to 28-456.01 and ~~28-458 to 28-468,~~ and 28-470 and section 4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Uniform Controlled Substances Act.

Sec. 4. (1) A person shall not offer, display, market, advertise for sale, or sell a lookalike substance. A violation of this section shall be deemed to have occurred if a person knowingly offers, displays, markets, advertises for sale, or sells a lookalike substance and the packaging containing such substance bears a label or marking which:

(a) Is false, misleading, or incomplete;

(b) Does not specifically identify all chemicals or chemical compounds contained on or in the substance or product inside the packaging; or

(c) Does not specifically identify the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor of the product or substance contained inside the packaging.

(2) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class IV felony. The penalty for a violation of this section shall be in addition to any other applicable criminal offenses or penalties or civil remedies or penalties.

(3) This section shall not apply to lookalike substances intended solely for investigational use by experts qualified by scientific training and experience to investigate the safety of drugs if the drug is plainly labeled for investigational use only and the investigational use is authorized by state or federal law.

Sec. 5. Section 28-431, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-431 (1) The following shall be seized with or without a warrant by an officer of the Division of Drug Control or by any peace officer and the same shall be subject to forfeiture: (a) All controlled substances which have been manufactured, distributed, dispensed, acquired, or possessed in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act; (b) all raw materials, products, and equipment of any kind which are used, or intended for use, in manufacturing, compounding, processing, administering, delivering, importing, or exporting any controlled substance in violation of the act; (c) all lookalike substances; (d) all property which is used, or is intended for use, as a container for property described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this subsection; (e ~~d~~) all drug paraphernalia defined in section 28-439; (f ~~e~~) all books, records, and research, including, but not limited to, formulas, microfilm, tapes, and data, which are used, or intended for use, in violation of the act; (g ~~f~~) all conveyances including, but not limited to, aircraft, vehicles, or vessels which are used, or intended for use, in transporting any controlled substance with intent to manufacture, distribute, deliver, dispense, export, or import such controlled substance in violation of the act; and (h ~~g~~) all money used, or intended to be used, to facilitate a violation of the act.

(2) Any property described in subdivision (1)(g) (1)(f) of this section which is used, or intended for use, to transport any property described in subdivision (1)(a) or (b) of this section is hereby declared to be a common nuisance, and any peace officer having probable cause to believe that such property is so used, or intended for such use, shall make a search thereof with or without a warrant.

(3) All money that a law enforcement agency proves was furnished by such agency shall be returned to the agency. All property seized without a search warrant shall not be subject to a replevin action and: (a) All property described in subdivisions (1)(a) to (1)(f) (1)(e) of this section shall be kept by the property division of the law enforcement agency which employs the officer who seized such property for so long as it is needed as evidence in any

trial; and (b) when no longer required as evidence, all property described in subdivision ~~(1)(f)~~ ~~(1)(e)~~ of this section shall be disposed of on order of a court of record of this state in such manner as the court in its sound discretion shall direct, and all property described in subdivisions (1)(a), (b), (c), ~~and (d), and (e)~~ of this section, that has been used or is intended to be used in violation of the act, when no longer needed as evidence shall be destroyed by the law enforcement agency holding the same or turned over to the department for custody or destruction, except that a law enforcement agency may keep a small quantity of the property described in subdivisions (1)(a), (b), (c), ~~and (d), and (e)~~ of this section for training purposes or use in investigations. Any large quantity of property described in subdivisions (1)(a), (b), (c), ~~and (d), and (e)~~ of this section, whether seized under a search warrant or validly seized without a warrant, may be disposed of on order of a court of record of this state in such manner as the court in its sound discretion shall direct. Such an order may be given only after a proper laboratory examination and report of such property has been completed and after a hearing has been held by the court after notice to the defendant of the proposed disposition of the property. The findings in such court order as to the nature, kind, and quantity of the property so disposed of may be accepted as evidence at subsequent court proceedings in lieu of the property ordered destroyed by the court order.

(4) When any property described in subdivision ~~(1)(g) or (h)~~ ~~(1)(f) or (g)~~ of this section is seized, the person seizing the same shall cause to be filed, within ten days thereafter, in the district court of the county in which seizure was made, petition for disposition of such property. The proceedings shall be brought in the name of the state by the county attorney of the county in which such property was seized. The petition shall describe the property, state the name of the owner if known, allege the essential elements of the violation which is claimed to exist, and conclude with a prayer for disposition. The county attorney shall have a copy of the petition served upon the owner or any person having an interest in the property, if known, in person or by registered or certified mail at his or her last-known address. If the owner is unknown or there is a reasonable probability that there are unknown persons with interests in the property, the county attorney shall provide notice of the seizure and petition for disposition by publication once a week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of the seizure. At least five days shall elapse between each publication of notice.

At any time after seizure and prior to court disposition, the owner of record of such property may petition the district court of the county in which seizure was made to release such property, and the court shall order the release of the property upon a showing by the owner that he or she had no knowledge that such property was being used in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act.

Any person having an interest in the property proceeded against or any person against whom civil or criminal liability would exist if such property is in violation of the act may, within thirty days after seizure, appear and file an answer or demurrer to the petition. The answer or demurrer shall allege the claimant's interest in or liability involving such property. At least thirty but not more than ninety days after seizure, there shall be a hearing before the court. If the claimant proves by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she (a) has not used or intended to use the property to facilitate an offense in violation of the act, (b) has an interest in such property as owner or lienor or otherwise, acquired by him or her in good faith, and (c) at no time had any knowledge that such property was being or would be used in, or to facilitate, the violation of the act, the court shall order that such property or the value of the claimant's interest in such property be returned to the claimant. If there are no claims, if all claims are denied, or if the value of the property exceeds all claims granted and it is shown beyond a reasonable doubt that such property was used in violation of the act, the court shall order disposition of such property at such time as the property is no longer required as evidence in any criminal proceeding. The court may order that property described in subdivision ~~(1)(g)~~ ~~(1)(f)~~ of this section be sold or put to official use by the confiscating agency for a period of not more than one year and that when such property is no longer necessary for official use or at the end of two years, whichever comes first, such property shall be sold. Proceeds from the sale of the property and any money described in subdivision ~~(1)(h)~~ ~~(1)(g)~~ of this section shall be distributed pursuant to section 28-1439.02. Official use shall mean use directly in connection with enforcement of the act.

Any court costs and fees and storage and other proper expenses shall be charged against any person intervening as claimant or owner of the property unless such person shall establish his or her claim. If a sale is ordered, the officer holding the sale shall make a return to the court showing to whom the property was sold and for what price. This return together with the court order shall authorize the county clerk to issue a title to the purchaser of the property if such title is required under the laws of this state.

Sec. 6. Section 28-1439.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-1439.02 (1) The proceeds from any sale ordered pursuant to section 28-431, less legal costs, charges, and claims allowed, and any money forfeited pursuant to section 28-431 shall be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which the seizure was made. The county treasurer shall dispose of all such

proceeds from property forfeited pursuant to subdivision ~~(1)(g)~~ ~~(1)(f)~~ of section 28-431 and fifty percent of the money forfeited pursuant to subdivision ~~(1)(h)~~ ~~(1)(g)~~ of section 28-431 in the manner provided for disposition of fines, penalties, and license money under the Constitution of Nebraska. The county treasurer shall disburse the remaining fifty percent of the money forfeited pursuant to subdivision ~~(1)(h)~~ ~~(1)(g)~~ of section 28-431 to his or her respective County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund. Each county shall create a County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund.

(2) Money remitted to any county pursuant to section 77-4310.01 shall be credited by the county treasurer of such county to the County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund.

Sec. 7. Section 28-1439.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

28-1439.03 A County Drug Law Enforcement and Education Fund Board shall be created by each county of this state to administer its respective fund pursuant to section 28-1439.02. The board may authorize use of the fund for drug enforcement and drug education purposes, in its own or any other county, by village, city, county, or state law enforcement agencies.

The board shall consist of the county attorney and three representatives of law enforcement agencies who shall be appointed by the county attorney. One representative shall be from the county sheriff's office, one representative shall be from a city or village police department within the county, and one representative shall be from the Nebraska State Patrol. Terms shall be for two years, except that the initial term of the police department representative shall be for one year. The county attorney shall serve as chairperson.

If during any fiscal year the fund contains money forfeited pursuant to subdivision ~~(1)(h)~~ ~~(1)(g)~~ of section 28-431, the board shall meet at least once during such year and make an accounting of the expenditures of the fund. At the end of any fiscal year in which the fund has contained money, the board shall make a report summarizing the use of the fund during such year to the Auditor of Public Accounts, except that such report shall contain no information which would jeopardize an ongoing investigation. Such report shall indicate the amount of money placed in the fund, the amount of money disbursed, the number of cases opened and closed in which the fund was utilized, and the drug education activities for which money in the fund was utilized. The board may adopt and promulgate all rules and regulations necessary for the expenditures and accountability of such fund.

Sec. 8. Section 87-301, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

87-301 For purposes of the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) Access software provider means a provider of software, including client or server software, or enabling tools that do any one or more of the following: (a) Filter, screen, allow, or disallow content; (b) pick, choose, analyze, or digest content; or (c) transmit, receive, display, forward, cache, search, subset, organize, reorganize, or translate content;

(2) Appropriate inventory repurchase program means a program by which a plan or operation repurchases, upon request and upon commercially reasonable terms, when the salesperson's business relationship with the company ends, current and marketable inventory in the possession of the salesperson that was purchased by the salesperson for resale. Any such plan or operation shall clearly describe the program in its recruiting literature, sales manual, or contract with independent salespersons, including the disclosure of any inventory that is not eligible for repurchase under the program;

(3) Article means a product as distinguished from its trademark, label, or distinctive dress in packaging;

(4) Attorney General means the Attorney General of the State of Nebraska or the county attorney of any county with the consent and advice of the Attorney General;

(5) Cable operator means any person or group of persons (a) who provides cable service over a cable system and directly or through one or more affiliates owns a significant interest in such cable system or (b) who otherwise controls or is responsible for, through any arrangement, the management and operation of such a cable system;

(6) Certification mark means a mark used in connection with the goods or services of a person other than the certifier to indicate geographic origin, material, mode of manufacture, quality, accuracy, or other characteristics of the goods or services or to indicate that the work or labor on the goods or services was performed by members of a union or other organization;

(7) Collective mark means a mark used by members of a cooperative, association, or other collective group or organization to identify goods or services and distinguish them from those of others, or to indicate membership in the collective group or organization;

(8) Commercially reasonable terms means the repurchase of current and marketable inventory within twelve months from the date of purchase at not less than ninety percent of the original net cost, less appropriate setoffs and legal claims, if any;

(9) Compensation means a payment of any money, thing of value, or financial benefit;

(10) Consideration means anything of value, including the payment of cash or the purchase of goods, services, or intangible property. The term does not include the purchase of goods or services furnished at cost to be used in making sales and not for resale or time and effort spent in pursuit of sales or

recruiting activities;

(11) Covered file-sharing program means a computer program, application, or software that enables the computer on which such program, application, or software is installed to designate files as available for searching by and copying to one or more other computers, to transmit such designated files directly to one or more other computers, and to request the transmission of such designated files directly from one or more other computers. Covered file-sharing program does not mean a program, application, or software designed primarily to operate as a server that is accessible over the Internet using the Internet Domain Name System, to transmit or receive email messages, instant messaging, real-time audio or video communications, or real-time voice communications, or to provide network or computer security, network management, hosting and backup services, maintenance, diagnostics, technical support or repair, or to detect or prevent fraudulent activities;

(12) Current and marketable has its plain and ordinary meaning but excludes inventory that is no longer within its commercially reasonable use or shelf-life period, was clearly described to salespersons prior to purchase as seasonal, discontinued, or special promotion products not subject to the plan or operation's inventory repurchase program, or has been used or opened;

(13) Information content provider means any person or entity that is responsible, in whole or in part, for the creation or development of information provided through the Internet or any other interactive computer service;

(14) Interactive computer service means any information service, system, or access software provider that provides or enables computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the Internet and such systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions;

(15) Inventory includes both goods and services, including company-produced promotional materials, sales aids, and sales kits that the plan or operation requires independent salespersons to purchase;

(16) Inventory loading means that the plan or operation requires or encourages its independent salespersons to purchase inventory in an amount which exceeds that which the salesperson can expect to resell for ultimate consumption or to a consumer in a reasonable time period, or both;

(17) Investment means any acquisition, for a consideration other than personal services, of personal property, tangible or intangible, for profit or business purposes, and includes, without limitation, franchises, business opportunities, and services. It does not include real estate, securities registered under the Securities Act of Nebraska, or sales demonstration equipment and materials furnished at cost for use in making sales and not for resale;

(18) Mark means a word, a name, a symbol, a device, or any combination of a word, name, symbol, or device in any form or arrangement;

(19) Person means a natural person, a corporation, a government, ~~or~~ a governmental subdivision or agency, a business trust, an estate, a trust, a partnership, a joint venture, a limited liability company, an unincorporated association, a sole proprietorship, or two or more of any of such persons the ~~foregoing~~ having a joint or common interest, or any other legal or commercial entity;

(20) Pyramid promotional scheme means any plan or operation in which a participant gives consideration for the right to receive compensation that is derived primarily from the recruitment of other persons as participants in the plan or operation rather than from the sales of goods, services, or intangible property to participants or by participants to others. A limitation as to the number of persons who may participate, or the presence of additional conditions affecting eligibility, or upon payment of anything of value by a person whereby the person obtains any other property in addition to the right to receive consideration, does not change the identity of the scheme as a pyramid promotional scheme;

(21) Referral or chain referral sales or leases means any sales technique, plan, arrangement, or agreement whereby the seller or lessor gives or offers to give a rebate or discount or otherwise pays or offers to pay value to the buyer or lessee as an inducement for a sale or lease in consideration of the buyer or lessee giving to the seller or lessor the names of prospective buyers or lessees or otherwise aiding the seller or lessor in making a sale or lease to another person if the earning of the rebate, discount, or other value is contingent upon the occurrence of an event subsequent to the time the buyer or lessee agrees to buy or lease;

(22) Service mark means a mark used in the sale or advertising of services to identify the services of one person and distinguish them from the services of others;

(23) Substance means any lookalike substance as defined in section 28-401;

(24) ~~23~~ Telecommunications service means the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used;

(25) ~~24~~ Trademark means a any word, a name, a symbol, or a device, or any combination of a word, name, symbol, or device ~~thereof~~ adopted and used by a person to identify goods made or sold by such person and to distinguish such goods from goods made or sold by others;

(26) ~~25~~ Trade name means a word, ~~or~~ a name, or any combination of a word or name the ~~foregoing~~ in any form or arrangement used by a person to identify

such person's business, vocation, or occupation and distinguish such business, vocation, or occupation from the business, vocation, or occupation of others; and

(27 26) Use or promote the use of, for purposes of subdivision (a)(12) of section 87-302, means contrive, prepare, establish, plan, operate, advertise, or otherwise induce or attempt to induce another person to participate in a pyramid promotional scheme, including a pyramid promotional scheme run through the Internet, email, or other electronic communications.

Sec. 9. Section 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

87-302 (a) A person engages in a deceptive trade practice when, in the course of his or her business, vocation, or occupation, he or she:

- (1) Passes off goods or services as those of another;
- (2) Causes likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to the source, sponsorship, approval, or certification of goods or services;
- (3) Causes likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding as to affiliation, connection, or association with, or certification by, another;
- (4) Uses deceptive representations or designations of geographic origin in connection with goods or services;
- (5) Represents that goods or services have sponsorship, approval, characteristics, ingredients, uses, benefits, or quantities that they do not have or that a person has a sponsorship, approval, status, affiliation, or connection that he or she does not have;
- (6) Represents that goods are original or new if they are deteriorated, altered, reconditioned, reclaimed, used, or secondhand, except that sellers may repair damage to and make adjustments on or replace parts of otherwise new goods in an effort to place such goods in compliance with factory specifications;
- (7) Represents that goods or services are of a particular standard, quality, or grade, or that goods are of a particular style or model, if they are of another;
- (8) Disparages the goods, services, or business of another by false or misleading representation of fact;
- (9) Advertises goods or services with intent not to sell them as advertised or advertises the price in any manner calculated or tending to mislead or in any way deceive a person;
- (10) Advertises goods or services with intent not to supply reasonably expectable public demand, unless the advertisement discloses a limitation of quantity;
- (11) Makes false or misleading statements of fact concerning the reasons for, existence of, or amounts of price reductions;
- (12) Uses or promotes the use of or establishes, operates, or participates in a pyramid promotional scheme in connection with the solicitation of such scheme to members of the public. This subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit a plan or operation, or to define a plan or operation as a pyramid promotional scheme, based on the fact that participants in the plan or operation give consideration in return for the right to receive compensation based upon purchases of goods, services, or intangible property by participants for personal use, consumption, or resale so long as the plan or operation does not promote or induce inventory loading and the plan or operation implements an appropriate inventory repurchase program;
- (13) With respect to a sale or lease to a natural person of goods or services purchased or leased primarily for personal, family, household, or agricultural purposes, uses or employs any referral or chain referral sales technique, plan, arrangement, or agreement;
- (14) Knowingly makes a false or misleading statement in a privacy policy, published on the Internet or otherwise distributed or published, regarding the use of personal information submitted by members of the public;
- (15) Uses any scheme or device to defraud by means of:
 - (i) Obtaining money or property by knowingly false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises; or
 - (ii) Selling, distributing, supplying, furnishing, or procuring any property for the purpose of furthering such scheme;
- (16) Offers an unsolicited check, through the mail or by other means, to promote goods or services if the cashing or depositing of the check obligates the endorser or payee identified on the check to pay for goods or services. This subdivision does not apply to an extension of credit or an offer to lend money;
- (17) Mails or causes to be sent an unsolicited billing statement, invoice, or other document that appears to obligate the consumer to make a payment for services or merchandise he or she did not order;
- (18)(i) Installs, offers to install, or makes available for installation or download a covered file-sharing program on a computer not owned by such person without providing clear and conspicuous notice to the owner or authorized user of the computer that files on that computer will be made available to the public and without requiring intentional and affirmative activation of the file-sharing function of such covered file-sharing program by the owner or authorized user of the computer; or
 - (ii) Prevents reasonable efforts to block the installation, execution, or disabling of a covered file-sharing program; ~~or~~
- (19) Violates any provision of the Nebraska Foreclosure Protection Act;
or
- (20) In the manufacture, production, importation, distribution, promotion,

display for sale, offer for sale, attempt to sell, or sale of a substance:

(i) Makes a deceptive or misleading representation or designation, or omits material information, about a substance or fails to identify the contents of the package or the nature of the substance contained inside the package; or

(ii) Causes confusion or misunderstanding as to the effects a substance causes when ingested, injected, inhaled, or otherwise introduced into the human body.

A person shall be deemed to have committed a violation of the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act for each individually packaged product that is either manufactured, produced, imported, distributed, promoted, displayed for sale, offered for sale, attempted to sell, or sold in violation of this section. A violation under this subdivision shall be treated as a separate and distinct violation from any other offense arising out of acts alleged to have been committed while the person was in violation of this section.

(b) In order to prevail in an action under the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act, a complainant need not prove competition between the parties.

(c) This section does not affect unfair trade practices otherwise actionable at common law or under other statutes of this state.

Sec. 10. If any section in this act or any part of any section is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.

Sec. 11. Original sections 28-431, 28-1439.02, 28-1439.03, 87-301, and 87-302, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-101, 28-401, and 28-401.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2015, are repealed.

Sec. 12. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.