AMENDMENTS TO LB432

Introduced by Revenue.

- 1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
- 2 sections:
- 3 Section 1. Sections 1 to 9 of this act shall be known and may be
- 4 cited as the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act.
- 5 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act:
- 6 <u>(1) Cancer means:</u>
- 7 (a) A disease (i) caused by an uncontrolled division of abnormal
- 8 <u>cells in a part of the body or a malignant growth or tumor resulting from</u>
- 9 the division of abnormal cells and (ii) affecting the prostate, breast,
- 10 or lung or the lymphatic, hematological, digestive, urinary,
- 11 <u>neurological</u>, <u>or reproductive system</u>; <u>or</u>
- 12 (b) Melanoma; and
- 13 (2) Firefighter means:
- 14 (a) A firefighter or firefighter-paramedic who is a member of a paid
- 15 fire department of a municipality or a rural or suburban fire protection
- 16 distr<u>ict in this state, including a municipality having a home rule</u>
- 17 charter or a municipal authority created pursuant to a home rule charter
- 18 that has its own paid fire department;
- 19 (b) A firefighter or firefighter-paramedic who is a member of a paid
- 20 fire department of an airport authority; or
- 21 <u>(c) A volunteer firefighter who has been deemed an employee under</u>
- 22 <u>subdivision (3) of section 48-115.</u>
- Sec. 3. <u>Before any firefighter is entitled to benefits under the</u>
- 24 Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act, such firefighter shall (1) have
- 25 successfully passed a physical examination which failed to reveal any
- 26 evidence of cancer and (2) have served at least twelve consecutive months
- 27 as a firefighter at any fire station within the State of Nebraska. After

- 1 serving at least twelve consecutive months as a firefighter, the
- 2 firefighter shall be deemed to be in compliance with subdivision (2) of
- 3 this section even with a break in service, so long as such break does not
- 4 <u>exceed six months.</u>
- 5 Sec. 4. (1) Beginning on and after the operative date of this
- 6 <u>section</u>, any rural or suburban fire protection district, airport
- 7 authority, city, village, or nonprofit corporation may provide and
- 8 <u>maintain enhanced cancer benefits</u>. If such benefits are provided, they
- 9 shall include, at a minimum, the following:
- 10 <u>(a) A lump-sum benefit of twenty-five thousand dollars for each</u>
- 11 <u>diagnosis payable to a firefighter upon acceptable proof to the insurance</u>
- 12 carrier or other payor of a diagnosis by a board-certified physician in
- 13 the medical specialty appropriate for the type of cancer diagnosed that
- 14 there are one or more malignant tumors characterized by the
- 15 <u>uncontrollable and abnormal growth and spread of malignant cells with</u>
- 16 invasion of normal tissue, and that either:
- 17 <u>(i) There is metastasis and:</u>
- 18 (A) Surgery, radiotherapy, or chemotherapy is medically necessary;
- 19 <u>or</u>
- 20 (B) There is a tumor of the prostate, provided that it is treated
- 21 with radical prostatectomy or external beam therapy; or
- 22 <u>(ii) Such firefighter has terminal cancer, his or her life</u>
- 23 expectancy is twenty-four months or less from the date of diagnosis, and
- 24 he or she will not benefit from, or has exhausted, curative therapy;
- 25 (b) A lump-sum benefit of six thousand two hundred fifty dollars for
- 26 each diagnosis payable to a firefighter upon acceptable proof to the
- 27 insurance carrier or other payor of a diagnosis by a board-certified
- 28 physician in the medical specialty appropriate for the type of cancer
- 29 <u>involved that either:</u>
- 30 <u>(i) There is carcinoma in situ such that surgery, radiotherapy, or</u>
- 31 <u>chemotherapy has been determined to be medically necessary;</u>

1 (ii) There are malignant tumors which are treated by endoscopic

- 2 procedures alone; or
- 3 <u>(iii) There are malignant melanomas; and</u>
- 4 (c)(i) A monthly benefit of one thousand five hundred dollars
- 5 payable to a firefighter, of which the first payment shall be made six
- 6 months after total disability and submission of acceptable proof of such
- 7 disability to the insurance carrier or other payor that such disability
- 8 <u>is caused by cancer and that such cancer precludes the firefighter from</u>
- 9 serving as a firefighter. Such benefit shall continue for up to thirty-
- 10 <u>six consecutive monthly payments.</u>
- 11 (ii) Such monthly benefit shall be subordinate to any other benefit
- 12 <u>actually paid to the firefighter solely for such disability from any</u>
- 13 other source, not including private insurance purchased solely by the
- 14 <u>firefighter</u>, and shall be limited to the difference between the amount of
- 15 <u>such other pay benefit and the amount specified in this section.</u>
- 16 (iii) Any firefighter receiving such monthly benefit may be required
- 17 <u>to have his or her condition reevaluated. In the event any such</u>
- 18 reevaluation reveals that such person has regained the ability to perform
- 19 duties as a firefighter, then his or her monthly benefits shall cease the
- 20 <u>last day of the month of the reevaluation.</u>
- 21 <u>(iv) In the event that there is a subsequent reoccurrence of a</u>
- 22 <u>disability caused by cancer which precludes the firefighter from serving</u>
- 23 <u>as a firefighter, he or she shall be entitled to receive any remaining</u>
- 24 <u>monthly benefits</u>.
- 25 (2) A firefighter shall also be entitled to an additional payment of
- 26 <u>enhanced cancer death benefits in the amount of fifty thousand dollars</u>
- 27 payable to his or her beneficiary or, if no beneficiary is named, to such
- 28 firefighter's estate upon acceptable proof by a board-certified physician
- 29 <u>that such firefighter's death resulted from complications associated with</u>
- 30 <u>cancer</u>.
- 31 (3) A firefighter shall be ineligible for benefits under the

1 Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act if he or she is already provided paid

- 2 <u>firefighter cancer benefits pursuant to section 35-1001.</u>
- 3 Sec. 5. The combined total of all benefits received by any
- 4 firefighter pursuant to subdivisions (1)(a) and (b) of section 4 of this
- 5 act during his or her lifetime shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars.
- 6 Sec. 6. A firefighter shall remain eligible for benefits pursuant
- 7 to subdivisions (1)(a) and (b) and subsection (2) of section 4 of this
- 8 act for sixty months after the formal cessation of the firefighter's
- 9 status as a firefighter. The rural or suburban fire protection district,
- 10 airport authority, city, village, or nonprofit corporation for which such
- 11 <u>firefighter served shall be responsible for payment of all premiums or</u>
- 12 other costs associated with benefits that may be provided under
- 13 <u>subsections (1) and (2) of section 4 of this act throughout the duration</u>
- 14 <u>of the firefighter's coverage.</u>
- 15 Sec. 7. A rural or suburban fire protection district, airport
- 16 authority, city, village, or nonprofit corporation, if it provides
- 17 benefits pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) of section 4 of this act,
- 18 shall, no later than January 1, 2022, maintain proof of insurance
- 19 <u>coverage that meets the requirements of the Firefighter Cancer Benefits</u>
- 20 Act or shall maintain satisfactory proof of the ability to pay such
- 21 <u>compensation to ensure adequate coverage for all firefighters. Sufficient</u>
- 22 <u>documentation of satisfactory proof of the ability to pay such</u>
- 23 <u>compensation to ensure adequate coverage for all firefighters shall be</u>
- 24 required and shall comply with rules and regulations adopted and
- 25 promulgated by the State Fire Marshal. Such coverage shall remain in
- 26 effect until sixty months after the rural or suburban fire protection
- 27 <u>district</u>, <u>airport authority</u>, <u>city</u>, <u>village</u>, <u>or nonprofit corporation no</u>
- 28 longer has any firefighters who could qualify for benefits under the act.
- 29 Sec. 8. Any rural or suburban fire protection district, airport
- 30 <u>authority, city, village, or nonprofit corporation that has had a</u>
- 31 firefighter file a claim for or receive cancer benefits under the

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- 1 Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act shall report such claims filed, claims
- 2 paid, and types of claims to the State Fire Marshal. Beginning on
- 3 <u>December 1, 2023, the State Fire Marshal shall submit electronically an</u>
- 4 <u>annual report to the Legislature and Governor stating the number of</u>
- 5 <u>firefighters who have filed claims pursuant to the act and the number of</u>
- 6 firefighters who have received benefits under the act.
- 7 Sec. 9. The State Fire Marshal may adopt and promulgate rules and
- 8 regulations necessary to carry out the Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act.
- 9 Sec. 11. Section 77-2716, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 10 2020, is amended to read:
- 11 77-2716 (1) The following adjustments to federal adjusted gross
- 12 income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall
- 13 be made for interest or dividends received:
- 14 (a)(i) There shall be subtracted interest or dividends received by
- 15 the owner of obligations of the United States and its territories and
- 16 possessions or of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the
- 17 United States to the extent includable in gross income for federal income
- 18 tax purposes but exempt from state income taxes under the laws of the
- 19 United States; and
- 20 (ii) There shall be subtracted interest received by the owner of
- 21 obligations of the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions or
- 22 authorities which are Build America Bonds to the extent includable in
- 23 gross income for federal income tax purposes;
- 24 (b) There shall be subtracted that portion of the total dividends
- 25 and other income received from a regulated investment company which is
- 26 attributable to obligations described in subdivision (a) of this
- 27 subsection as reported to the recipient by the regulated investment
- 28 company;
- 29 (c) There shall be added interest or dividends received by the owner
- 30 of obligations of the District of Columbia, other states of the United
- 31 States, or their political subdivisions, authorities, commissions, or

- instrumentalities to the extent excluded in the computation of gross 1
- income for federal income tax purposes except that such interest or 2
- 3 dividends shall not be added if received by a corporation which is a
- regulated investment company; 4
- 5 (d) There shall be added that portion of the total dividends and
- 6 other income received from a regulated investment company which is
- 7 attributable to obligations described in subdivision (c) of this
- 8 subsection and excluded for federal income tax purposes as reported to
- 9 the recipient by the regulated investment company; and
- (e)(i) Any amount subtracted under this subsection shall be reduced 10
- 11 by any interest on indebtedness incurred to carry the obligations or
- 12 securities described in this subsection or the investment in the
- regulated investment company and by any expenses incurred in 13
- 14 production of interest or dividend income described in this subsection to
- 15 the extent that such expenses, including amortizable bond premiums, are
- deductible in determining federal taxable income. 16
- (ii) Any amount added under this subsection shall be reduced by any 17
- 18 expenses incurred in the production of such income to the extent
- disallowed in the computation of federal taxable income. 19
- 20 (2) There shall be allowed a net operating loss derived from or
- 21 connected with Nebraska sources computed under rules and regulations
- 22 adopted and promulgated by the Tax Commissioner consistent, to the extent
- 23 possible under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, with the laws of the
- 24 United States. For a resident individual, estate, or trust, the net
- operating loss computed on the federal income tax return shall be 25
- 26 by the modifications contained in this section.
- 27 nonresident individual, estate, or trust or for a partial-year resident
- individual, the net operating loss computed on the federal return shall 28
- 29 be adjusted by the modifications contained in this section and any
- 30 carryovers or carrybacks shall be limited to the portion of the loss
- derived from or connected with Nebraska sources. 31

- 1 (3) There shall be subtracted from federal adjusted gross income for 2 all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1987, the amount of 3 any state income tax refund to the extent such refund was deducted under 4 the Internal Revenue Code, was not allowed in the computation of the tax 5 due under the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, and is included in federal 6 adjusted gross income.
- (4) Federal adjusted gross income, or, for a fiduciary, federal taxable income shall be modified to exclude the portion of the income or loss received from a small business corporation with an election in effect under subchapter S of the Internal Revenue Code or from a limited liability company organized pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act that is not derived from or connected with Nebraska sources as determined in section 77-2734.01.
- (5) There shall be subtracted from federal adjusted gross income or,
 for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income dividends
 received or deemed to be received from corporations which are not subject
 to the Internal Revenue Code.
- (6) There shall be subtracted from federal taxable income a portion of the income earned by a corporation subject to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is actually taxed by a foreign country or one of its political subdivisions at a rate in excess of the maximum federal tax rate for corporations. The taxpayer may make the computation for each foreign country or for groups of foreign countries. The portion of the taxes that may be deducted shall be computed in the following manner:
- (a) The amount of federal taxable income from operations within a foreign taxing jurisdiction shall be reduced by the amount of taxes actually paid to the foreign jurisdiction that are not deductible solely because the foreign tax credit was elected on the federal income tax return;
- 30 (b) The amount of after-tax income shall be divided by one minus the 31 maximum tax rate for corporations in the Internal Revenue Code; and

- 1 (c) The result of the calculation in subdivision (b) of this
- 2 subsection shall be subtracted from the amount of federal taxable income
- 3 used in subdivision (a) of this subsection. The result of such
- 4 calculation, if greater than zero, shall be subtracted from federal
- 5 taxable income.
- 6 (7) Federal adjusted gross income shall be modified to exclude any
- 7 amount repaid by the taxpayer for which a reduction in federal tax is
- 8 allowed under section 1341(a)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 9 (8)(a) Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and
- 10 fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be reduced, to the extent
- 11 included, by income from interest, earnings, and state contributions
- 12 received from the Nebraska educational savings plan trust created in
- 13 sections 85-1801 to 85-1817 and any account established under the
- 14 achieving a better life experience program as provided in sections
- 15 77-1401 to 77-1409.
- 16 (b) Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations and
- 17 fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be reduced by any contributions
- 18 as a participant in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust or
- 19 contributions to an account established under the achieving a better life
- 20 experience program made for the benefit of a beneficiary as provided in
- 21 sections 77-1401 to 77-1409, to the extent not deducted for federal
- 22 income tax purposes, but not to exceed five thousand dollars per married
- 23 filing separate return or ten thousand dollars for any other return. With
- 24 respect to a qualified rollover within the meaning of section 529 of the
- 25 Internal Revenue Code from another state's plan, any interest, earnings,
- 26 and state contributions received from the other state's educational
- 27 savings plan which is qualified under section 529 of the code shall
- 28 qualify for the reduction provided in this subdivision. For contributions
- 29 by a custodian of a custodial account including rollovers from another
- 30 custodial account, the reduction shall only apply to funds added to the
- 31 custodial account after January 1, 2014.

- (c) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after 1 January 1, 2021, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, 2 3 federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced, to the extent included in the adjusted gross income of an individual, by the amount of any 4 5 contribution made by the individual's employer into an account under the 6 Nebraska educational savings plan trust owned by the individual, not to
- 7 exceed five thousand dollars per married filing separate return or ten
- 8 thousand dollars for any other return.
- Federal adjusted gross income or, for corporations 9 and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be increased by: 10
- 11 (i) The amount resulting from the cancellation of a participation 12 agreement refunded to the taxpayer as a participant in the Nebraska educational savings plan trust to the extent previously deducted under 13 14 subdivision (8)(b) of this section; and
- 15 (ii) The amount of any withdrawals by the owner of an account established under the achieving a better life experience program as 16 17 provided in sections 77-1401 to 77-1409 for nonqualified expenses to the extent previously deducted under subdivision (8)(b) of this section. 18
- (9)(a) For income tax returns filed after September 10, 2001, for 19 20 taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1, 2006, under 21 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross 22 income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall 23 be increased by eighty-five percent of any amount of any federal bonus depreciation received under the federal Job Creation and Worker 24 Assistance Act of 2002 or the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Act of 2003, 25 26 under section 168(k) or section 1400L of the Internal Revenue Code of 27 1986, as amended, for assets placed in service after September 10, 2001, and before December 31, 2005. 28
- 29 (b) For a partnership, limited liability company, cooperative, 30 including any cooperative exempt from income taxes under section 521 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, limited cooperative 31

- 1 association, subchapter S corporation, or joint venture, the increase
- 2 shall be distributed to the partners, members, shareholders, patrons, or
- 3 beneficiaries in the same manner as income is distributed for use against
- 4 their income tax liabilities.
- 5 (c) For a corporation with a unitary business having activity both
- 6 inside and outside the state, the increase shall be apportioned to
- 7 Nebraska in the same manner as income is apportioned to the state by
- 8 section 77-2734.05.
- 9 (d) The amount of bonus depreciation added to federal adjusted gross
- 10 income or, for corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income by
- 11 this subsection shall be subtracted in a later taxable year. Twenty
- 12 percent of the total amount of bonus depreciation added back by this
- 13 subsection for tax years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1,
- 14 2003, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, may be
- 15 subtracted in the first taxable year beginning or deemed to begin on or
- 16 after January 1, 2005, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as
- 17 amended, and twenty percent in each of the next four following taxable
- 18 years. Twenty percent of the total amount of bonus depreciation added
- 19 back by this subsection for tax years beginning or deemed to begin on or
- 20 after January 1, 2003, may be subtracted in the first taxable year
- 21 beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2006, under the
- 22 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and twenty percent in each of
- 23 the next four following taxable years.
- 24 (10) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 25 January 1, 2003, and before January 1, 2006, under the Internal Revenue
- 26 Code of 1986, as amended, federal adjusted gross income or, for
- 27 corporations and fiduciaries, federal taxable income shall be increased
- 28 by the amount of any capital investment that is expensed under section
- 29 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, that is in excess
- 30 of twenty-five thousand dollars that is allowed under the federal Jobs
- 31 and Growth Tax Act of 2003. Twenty percent of the total amount of

- 1 expensing added back by this subsection for tax years beginning or deemed
- 2 to begin on or after January 1, 2003, may be subtracted in the first
- 3 taxable year beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2006,
- 4 under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and twenty percent
- 5 in each of the next four following tax years.
- 6 (11)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before
- 7 January 1, 2018, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,
- 8 federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by contributions, up to
- 9 two thousand dollars per married filing jointly return or one thousand
- 10 dollars for any other return, and any investment earnings made as a
- 11 participant in the Nebraska long-term care savings plan under the Long-
- 12 Term Care Savings Plan Act, to the extent not deducted for federal income
- 13 tax purposes.
- 14 (b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin before January 1,
- 15 2018, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, federal
- 16 adjusted gross income shall be increased by the withdrawals made as a
- 17 participant in the Nebraska long-term care savings plan under the act by
- 18 a person who is not a qualified individual or for any reason other than
- 19 transfer of funds to a spouse, long-term care expenses, long-term care
- 20 insurance premiums, or death of the participant, including withdrawals
- 21 made by reason of cancellation of the participation agreement, to the
- 22 extent previously deducted as a contribution or as investment earnings.
- 23 (12) There shall be added to federal adjusted gross income for
- 24 individuals, estates, and trusts any amount taken as a credit for
- 25 franchise tax paid by a financial institution under sections 77-3801 to
- 26 77-3807 as allowed by subsection (5) of section 77-2715.07.
- 27 (13)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 28 January 1, 2015, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,
- 29 federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received as
- 30 benefits under the federal Social Security Act which are included in the
- 31 federal adjusted gross income if:

- 1 (i) For taxpayers filing a married filing joint return, federal
- 2 adjusted gross income is fifty-eight thousand dollars or less; or
- 3 (ii) For taxpayers filing any other return, federal adjusted gross
- 4 income is forty-three thousand dollars or less.
- 5 (b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 6 January 1, 2020, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the
- 7 Tax Commissioner shall adjust the dollar amounts provided in subdivisions
- 8 (13)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section by the same percentage used to adjust
- 9 individual income tax brackets under subsection (3) of section
- 10 77-2715.03.
- 11 (14)(a) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 12 January 1, 2015, and before January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue
- 13 Code of 1986, as amended, an individual may make a one-time election
- 14 within two calendar years after the date of his or her retirement from
- 15 the military to exclude income received as a military retirement benefit
- 16 by the individual to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income
- 17 and as provided in this subdivision. The individual may elect to exclude
- 18 forty percent of his or her military retirement benefit income for seven
- 19 consecutive taxable years beginning with the year in which the election
- 20 is made or may elect to exclude fifteen percent of his or her military
- 21 retirement benefit income for all taxable years beginning with the year
- 22 in which he or she turns sixty-seven years of age.
- 23 (b) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 24 January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, an
- 25 individual may exclude fifty percent of the military retirement benefit
- 26 income received by such individual to the extent included in federal
- 27 adjusted gross income.
- 28 (c) For purposes of this subsection, military retirement benefit
- 29 means retirement benefits that are periodic payments attributable to
- 30 service in the uniformed services of the United States for personal
- 31 services performed by an individual prior to his or her retirement.

- 1 (15) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 2 January 1, 2021, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,
- 3 federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received as
- 4 a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, to the extent such amount is included
- 5 in federal adjusted gross income.
- 6 (16) For taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after
- 7 January 1, 2022, under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,
- 8 <u>federal adjusted gross income shall be reduced by the amount received by</u>
- 9 or on behalf of a firefighter for cancer benefits under the Firefighter
- 10 <u>Cancer Benefits Act to the extent included in federal adjusted gross</u>
- 11 <u>income</u>.
- 12 Sec. 13. Section 85-1802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 13 2020, is amended to read:
- 14 85-1802 For purposes of sections 85-1801 to 85-1817:
- 15 (1) Administrative fund means the College Savings Plan
- 16 Administrative Fund created in section 85-1807;
- 17 (2) Beneficiary means the individual designated by a participation
- 18 agreement to benefit from advance payments of qualified higher education
- 19 expenses on behalf of the beneficiary;
- 20 (3) Benefits means the payment of qualified higher education
- 21 expenses on behalf of a beneficiary by the Nebraska educational savings
- 22 plan trust during the beneficiary's attendance at an eligible educational
- 23 institution;
- 24 (4) Eligible educational institution means an institution described
- 25 in 20 U.S.C. 1088 which is eligible to participate in a program under
- 26 Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965;
- 27 (5) Expense fund means the College Savings Plan Expense Fund created
- 28 in section 85-1807;
- 29 (6) Nebraska educational savings plan trust means the trust created
- 30 in section 85-1804;
- 31 (7) Nonqualified withdrawal refers to (a) a distribution from an

- 1 account to the extent it is not used to pay the qualified higher
- 2 education expenses of the beneficiary, (b) a qualified rollover permitted
- 3 by section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code where the funds are
- 4 transferred to a qualified tuition program sponsored by another state or
- 5 entity, or (c) a distribution from an account to pay the costs of
- 6 attending kindergarten through grade twelve;
- 7 (8) Participant or account owner means an individual, an
- 8 individual's legal representative, or any other legal entity authorized
- 9 to establish a savings account under section 529 of the Internal Revenue
- 10 Code who has entered into a participation agreement for the advance
- 11 payment of qualified higher education expenses on behalf of a
- 12 beneficiary. For purposes of section 77-2716, as to contributions by a
- 13 custodian to a custodial account established pursuant to the Nebraska
- 14 Uniform Transfers to Minors Act or similar law in another state, which
- 15 account has been established under a participation agreement, participant
- 16 includes the parent or guardian of a minor, which parent or guardian is
- 17 also the custodian of the account;
- 18 (9) Participation agreement means an agreement between a participant
- 19 and the Nebraska educational savings plan trust entered into under
- 20 sections 85-1801 to 85-1817;
- 21 (10) Program fund means the College Savings Plan Program Fund
- 22 created in section 85-1807;
- 23 (11) Qualified higher education expenses means the certified costs
- 24 of tuition and fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for (a)
- 25 enrollment or attendance at an eligible educational institution or (b)
- 26 for costs incurred on or after January 1, 2021, participation in an
- 27 apprenticeship program registered and certified with the United States
- 28 Secretary of Labor under 29 U.S.C. 50, as such section existed on January
- 29 <u>1, 2021</u>. Reasonable room and board expenses, based on the minimum amount
- 30 applicable for the eligible educational institution during the period of
- 31 enrollment, shall be included as qualified higher education expenses for

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- those students enrolled on at least a half-time basis. In the case of a 1
- 2 special needs beneficiary, expenses for special needs services incurred
- 3 in connection with enrollment or attendance at an eligible educational
- institution shall be included as qualified higher education expenses. 4
- 5 Expenses paid or incurred in 2009 or 2010 for the purchase of computer
- 6 technology or equipment or Internet access and related services, subject
- 7 to the limitations set forth in section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code,
- 8 shall be included as qualified higher education expenses. Qualified
- 9 higher education expenses does not include any amounts in excess of those
- allowed by section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code; 10
- 11 (12) Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code means such section of
- 12 the code and the regulations interpreting such section; and
- (13) Tuition and fees means the quarter or semester charges imposed 13
- 14 to attend an eligible educational institution.
- 15 Sec. 14. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of this act become
- operative on January 1, 2022. The other sections of this act become 16
- 17 operative on their effective date.
- Original section 77-2734.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of 18 Sec. 15.
- Nebraska, and sections 77-2715.07, 77-2716, and 85-1802, Revised Statutes 19
- Cumulative Supplement, 2020, are repealed. 20