

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 703

Introduced by Williams, 36.

Read first time January 05, 2022

Committee: Appropriations

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate federal
- 2 funds to the University of Nebraska; and to declare an emergency.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

2 (a) The COVID-19 public health emergency fundamentally changed how
3 the University of Nebraska operates and highlighted the need to support
4 students and future workers to emerge from the COVID-19 public health
5 emergency with the education and skills required to fill occupations that
6 are in high demand; and

7 (b) It is the policy of this state to respond to harmful economic
8 disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency by
9 promoting job skills training and developing the workforce infrastructure
10 by increasing (i) opportunities for academic programs across Nebraska,
11 (ii) research infrastructure and capacity for University of Nebraska
12 students and faculty, and (iii) employment opportunities for high-skilled
13 graduates and researchers in Nebraska.

14 (2) There is hereby appropriated \$25,000,000 from Federal Funds for
15 FY2022-23 to the University of Nebraska for the establishment of an
16 agricultural innovation facility for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
17 at the Nebraska Innovation Campus. The Federal Funds appropriated in this
18 section are from the funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the
19 federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal
20 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, Subtitle M, Sec.
21 9901.

22 (3) No funds appropriated in this section shall be expended unless
23 the University of Nebraska certifies to the budget administrator of the
24 budget division of the Department of Administrative Services the receipt
25 of matching funds in the amount of twenty-five million dollars from
26 private or other sources for the purpose of establishing the agricultural
27 innovation facility.

28 Sec. 2. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
29 passed and approved according to law.