LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 906

Introduced by Hansen, B., 16; Aguilar, 35; Albrecht, 17; Flood, 19; Friesen, 34; Gragert, 40; Groene, 42; Lowe, 37; Murman, 38; Sanders, 45; Slama, 1.

Read first time January 07, 2022

Committee: Health and Human Services

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public health; to provide duties for the
- 2 Department of Health and Human Services; to require employers to
- 3 provide for a vaccine exemption; to define terms; and to declare an
- 4 emergency.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- 1 Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section:
- 2 (a) Department means the Department of Health and Human Services;
- 3 (b)(i) Employer means a person engaged in an industry who has twenty

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- 4 or more employees for each working day in each of twenty or more calendar
- 5 weeks in the current or preceding calendar year;
- 6 (ii) Employer includes any party whose business is financed in whole
- 7 or in part under the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Act regardless
- 8 of the number of employees and includes the State of Nebraska,
- 9 governmental agencies, and political subdivisions;
- 10 (iii) Employer includes any agent or person acting for or in the
- 11 <u>interest</u>, <u>directly</u> or <u>indirectly</u>, of an entity <u>described</u> in <u>subdivision</u>
- 12 (1)(a) or (b) of this section; and
- 13 (iv) Employer does not include (A) the United States, a corporation
- 14 wholly owned by the government of the United States, or an Indian tribe
- 15 or (B) a bona fide private membership club, other than a labor
- 16 organization, which is exempt from taxation under section 501(c) of the
- 17 Internal Revenue Code; and
- 18 (c) Vaccine exemption form means the form created by the department
- 19 <u>under subsection (2) of this section.</u>
- 20 (2) The department shall develop a vaccine exemption form for an
- 21 individual to claim an exemption under this section. The department shall
- 22 make the form available on the department's website. The form shall
- 23 require the individual to declare that the individual refuses to receive
- 24 the vaccine because of the individual's strong moral, ethical, or
- 25 philosophical belief or conviction.
- 26 <u>(3) An employer that requires applicants or employees to be</u>
- 27 <u>vaccinated shall allow for an exemption to such requirement based on an</u>
- 28 applicant's or employee's strong moral, ethical, or philosophical belief
- 29 or conviction.
- 30 (4) An employer may require an employee granted an exemption under
- 31 this section to:

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1 (a) Be periodically tested, at the employer's expense, for infection

- 2 or illness; and
- 3 (b) Wear or use personal protective equipment provided by the
- 4 <u>employer</u>.
- 5 (5) To claim the exemption provided for in this section, an employee
- 6 shall fill out and sign the vaccine exemption form and submit such form
- 7 <u>to the employer.</u>
- 8 Sec. 2. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
- 9 passed and approved according to law.