

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE**

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)</b>				
	<b>FY 2022-23</b>		<b>FY 2023-24</b>	
	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	

**Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.**

This bill appropriates \$2 million to the Department of Health and Human Services in FY 2022 from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund. The funding would be used for financial assistance for the cost of heating and cooling for household eligible for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). One-half would be for customers of a metropolitan utility district and the other half to any public power district in a city of the metropolitan class. The bill has the emergency clause.

The funding is appropriated in the current fiscal year. It is assumed for purposes of this fiscal note that the funding would be expended over more than one year. This would be a separate state-only program and it is assumed to be supplemental to assistance currently provided to LIHEAP eligible household in the service area of the two utilities identified in the bill. A program specialist would be needed in the Department of Health and Human Services for the duration of the expenditures. The cost would be \$77,446 annually from General Funds.

The bill directs the use of a portion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding available under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). SLFRF funds must be committed by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

The following are the allowed uses of SLFRF funds:

- **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services up to the amount of revenue lost due to the pandemic
- **Respond to the far-reaching public health and negative economic impacts of the pandemic**, by supporting the health of communities, and helping households, small businesses, impacted industries, nonprofits, and the public sector recover from economic impacts
- **Provide premium pay for essential workers**, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors
- **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure**, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, to support vital wastewater and storm water infrastructure, and to expand affordable access to broadband internet

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>			
LB: 1002	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services	
REVIEWED BY: Ann Linneman	DATE: 2-8-2022	PHONE: (402) 471-4180	
COMMENTS: The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' assessment of fiscal impact appears reasonable. The maximum funding available under the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund is \$1.04 billion, of which only \$520 million is currently available. Appropriation of these funds must be balanced in aggregate in order to avoid over obligation. Technical Note: The language in LB 1002 does not provide the level of detail necessary to enact the appropriation intended.			

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) John Meals

Date Prepared 2-7-2022

Phone: (5) 471-6719

	<u>FY 2022-2023</u>		<u>FY 2023-2024</u>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
<b>GENERAL FUNDS</b>	\$77,446		\$77,446	
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>				
<b>FEDERAL FUNDS</b>				
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	\$77,446		\$77,446	

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

**Explanation of Estimate:**

LB1002 appropriates \$2,000,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) from the federal Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for Fiscal Year 2021-22. Language in the bill directs the funds to metropolitan cities in Nebraska. The only metropolitan city in Nebraska is Omaha. It is assumed that DHHS would disburse \$1,000,000 to Metropolitan Utilities District (MUD) and \$1,000,000 to Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) to provide financial assistance for the cost of heating and cooling the households of individuals eligible for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The ARPA funding must be obligated by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and these funds would not comingle with any other LIHEAP funds and would be considered a separate program. This bill contains an emergency clause that would take immediate effect if it was passed. A fiscal impact would result from the administrative costs of providing the additional financial assistance for LIHEAP eligible individuals served by MUD and OPPD. State General Funds would be required to administer these funds. An additional temporary program specialist would be required to create, administer and finalize all reporting for this program separate from LIHEAP.

**MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

**PERSONAL SERVICES:**

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2022-2023	2023-2024
	22-23	23-24	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
DHHS Program Specialist	1	1	\$47,540	\$47,540
Benefits.....			\$12,589	\$12,589
Operating.....			\$17,317	\$17,317
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital Improvements.....				
<b>TOTAL.....</b>			\$77,446	\$77,446