

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE BILL 684
Final Reading

Introduced by Schilz, 47.

Read first time January 19, 2011

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to economic development; to amend section
2 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to
3 change provisions relating to an advisory committee for
4 travel and tourism; to authorize the Department of
5 Economic Development to hire a consultant as prescribed;
6 and to repeal the original section.
7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised Statutes
2 of Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 81-1201.13 (1) The Travel and Tourism Division shall
4 develop a program to provide promotional services and technical
5 assistance to local governments and industry members and to ensure
6 the protection and development of Nebraska's attraction resources.

7 (2)(a) The department shall have an advisory committee to
8 provide regular consultation to the Travel and Tourism Division,
9 which committee shall be named the Travel and Tourism Division
10 Advisory Committee. Such advisory committee shall include, at a
11 minimum, one representative from the Game and Parks Commission, one
12 representative from the Nebraska Travel Association, one
13 representative from the Nebraska Hotel and Motel Association, one
14 representative from a tourism attraction that records at least two
15 thousand out-of-state visitors per year, and one representative from
16 the Nebraska Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.

17 (b) The Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee
18 shall develop a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote
19 tourism in Nebraska. The advisory committee shall adopt policy
20 criteria to be used in the development of the plan. The plan shall
21 include:

22 (i) A review of the existing and potential sources of
23 funding for tourism at the state and local levels;

24 (ii) A comprehensive inventory of local tourism boards,
25 the structure of such boards, and their funding;

1 (iii) Criteria for local tourism boards in terms of
2 appointments to such boards and for awarding grants by such boards at
3 the local level to ensure local resources are used to achieve the
4 greatest return;

5 (iv) An examination of other states' funding models for
6 tourism;

7 (v) Marketing strategies for promoting tourism;

8 (vi) A proposal for creating new or expanding existing
9 tourism capacity, which may include encouraging regional cooperation,
10 collaboration, or privatization; and

11 (vii) Recommended legislation or funding requirements.

12 (c) The department may hire a consultant to assist the
13 Travel and Tourism Division Advisory Committee in developing the
14 statewide strategic plan. The department may accept, in trust, any
15 gifts, devises, and bequests to be held and administered by the
16 department for the purposes of hiring a consultant. The advisory
17 committee shall prepare and present the statewide strategic plan to
18 the Legislature by September 1, 2012.

19 (3) All advertising contracts awarded by the department
20 concerning travel and tourism shall be based on competitive bids.
21 Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking
22 into consideration the best interests of the state, the quality of
23 performance of the services rendered, the conformity with
24 specifications, the purposes for which required, and the time of
25 completion, and with the consultation of the Travel and Tourism

1 Division Advisory Committee. In determining the lowest responsible
2 bidder, in addition to price, the following elements shall be given
3 consideration: ~~(1)~~-(a) The ability, capacity, creativity, and skill
4 of the bidder to perform the contract required; ~~(2)~~-(b) the
5 character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and
6 efficiency of the bidder; ~~(3)~~-(c) whether the bidder can perform the
7 contract within the time specified; ~~(4)~~-(d) the quality of
8 performance of previous contracts; ~~(5)~~-(e) the previous and existing
9 compliance by the bidder with laws relating to the contract; and ~~(6)~~
10 (f) such other information as may be secured having a bearing on the
11 decision to award the contract. The department shall advertise for
12 bids for the awarding of contracts concerning travel and tourism
13 pursuant to sections 73-101 to 73-105. At least thirty working days
14 shall elapse between the time formal bids are advertised for and the
15 time of their opening. Contracts shall be awarded within sixty
16 working days after the bidding has been closed. Each person
17 submitting a bid shall, by certified mail, be notified as to whom the
18 contract was awarded.

19 Sec. 2. Original section 81-1201.13, Reissue Revised
20 Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.