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LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 830

FINAL READING

Introduced by Harr, 8.

Read first time January 08, 2016

Committee: Business and Labor

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to employment law; to amend section 81-1328, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 48-604, Revised 2 3 Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2014; to redefine employment under 4 the Employment Security Law; to change provisions relating to vacation leave and to authorize payment for unused vacation leave 5 for state employees as prescribed; and to repeal the original 6 sections.
- 8 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 48-604, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

- 2 2014, is amended to read:
- 3 48-604 As used in the Employment Security Law, unless the context
- 4 otherwise requires, employment shall mean:
- 5 (1) Any service performed, including service in interstate commerce,
- 6 for wages under a contract of hire, written or oral, express or implied;
- 7 (2) The term employment shall include an individual's entire
- 8 service, performed within or both within and without this state if (a)
- 9 the service is localized in this state, (b) the service is not localized
- 10 in any state but some of the service is performed in this state and the
- 11 base of operations or, if there is no base of operations, then the place
- 12 from which such service is directed or controlled is in this state or the
- 13 base of operations or place from which such service is directed or
- 14 controlled is not in any state in which some part of the service is
- 15 performed but the individual's residence is in this state, (c) the
- 16 service shall be deemed to be localized within a state if (i) the service
- 17 is performed entirely within such state or (ii) the service is performed
- 18 both within and without such state, but the service performed without
- 19 such state is incidental to the individual's service within the state,
- 20 for example, is temporary or transitory in nature or consists of isolated
- 21 transactions;
- 22 (3) Services performed outside the state and services performed
- 23 outside the United States as follows:
- 24 (a) Services not covered under subdivision (2) of this section and
- 25 performed entirely without this state, with respect to no part of which
- 26 contributions are required under an unemployment compensation law of any
- 27 other state or of the federal government, shall be deemed to be
- 28 employment subject to the Employment Security Law if the commissioner
- 29 approves the election of the employer, for whom such services are
- 30 performed, that the entire service of such individual shall be deemed to
- 31 be employment subject to such law;

- 1 (b) Services of an individual wherever performed within the United
- 2 States or Canada if (i) such service is not covered under the employment
- 3 compensation law of any other state or Canada and (ii) the place from
- 4 which the service is directed or controlled is in this state;
- 5 (c)(i) Services of an individual who is a citizen of the United
- 6 States, performed outside the United States except in Canada in the
- 7 employ of an American employer, other than service which is deemed
- 8 employment under subdivisions (2) and (3)(a) and (b) of this section or
- 9 the parallel provisions of another state's law, if:
- 10 (A) The employer's principal place of business in the United States
- 11 is located in this state;
- 12 (B) The employer has no place of business in the United States, but
- 13 the employer is an individual who is a resident of this state; the
- 14 employer is a corporation or limited liability company which is organized
- under the laws of this state; or the employer is a partnership or a trust
- 16 and the number of the partners or trustees who are residents of this
- 17 state is greater than the number who are residents of any other state; or
- 18 (C) None of the criteria of subdivisions (A) and (B) of this
- 19 subdivision are met, but the employer has elected coverage in this state
- 20 or, the employer having failed to elect coverage in any state, the
- 21 individual has filed a claim for benefits based on such service under the
- 22 laws of this state.
- 23 (ii) American employer, for the purposes of this subdivision, shall
- 24 mean: (A) An individual who is a resident of the United States; (B) a
- 25 partnership if two-thirds or more of the partners are residents of the
- 26 United States; (C) a trust if all the trustees are residents of the
- 27 United States; or (D) a corporation or limited liability company
- 28 organized under the laws of the United States or of any state.
- 29 (iii) The term United States for the purpose of this section
- 30 includes the states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and
- 31 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

- 1 (4)(a) Service performed in the employ of this state or any political subdivision thereof or any instrumentality of any one or more 2 3 of the foregoing or any instrumentality which is wholly owned by this state and one or more other states or political subdivisions, or any 4 5 service performed in the employ of any instrumentality of this state or of any political subdivision thereof and one or more other states or 6 political subdivisions if such service is excluded from employment as 7 defined in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, as amended, solely by reason 8 of 26 U.S.C. 3306(c)(7), and is not otherwise excluded under this 9 10 section;
- (b) Service performed by an individual in the employ of a religious, 11 charitable, educational, or other organization, but only if the following 12 conditions are met: (i) The service is excluded from employment as 13 defined in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, as amended, solely by reason 14 of 26 U.S.C. 3306(c)(8), and is not otherwise excluded under this 15 16 section; and (ii) the organization had four or more individuals in employment for some portion of a day in each of twenty different weeks, 17 whether or not such weeks were consecutive, within either the current or 18 preceding calendar year, regardless of whether they were employed at the 19 20 same moment of time;
- (c)(i) Service performed by an individual in agricultural labor as 21 defined in subdivision (6)(a) of this section when such service is 22 23 performed for a person who during any calendar quarter in either the 24 current or preceding calendar year paid remuneration in cash of twenty 25 thousand dollars or more to individuals employed in agricultural labor, or for some portion of a day in each of twenty different calendar weeks, 26 whether or not such weeks were consecutive, in either the current or the 27 28 preceding calendar year, employed in agricultural labor ten or more individuals, regardless of whether they were employed at the same moment 29 of time. 30
- 31 (ii) For purposes of this subdivision:

1 (A) Any individual who is a member of a crew furnished by a crew 2 leader to perform services in agricultural labor for any other person shall be treated as an employee of such crew leader if such crew leader 3 4 holds a valid certificate of registration under the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.; 5 substantially all the members of such crew operate or maintain tractors, 6 mechanized harvesting or cropdusting equipment, or any other mechanized 7 equipment, which is provided by such crew leader; and such individual is 8 9 not an employee of such other person within the meaning of any other provisions of this section; 10

- (B) In case any individual who is furnished by a crew leader to 11 perform service in agricultural labor for any other person and who is not 12 treated as an employee of such crew leader under subdivision (A) of this 13 14 subdivision, such other person and not the crew leader shall be treated as the employer of such individual and such other person shall be treated 15 16 as having paid cash remuneration to such individual in an amount equal to the amount of cash remuneration paid to such individual by the crew 17 leader, either on his or her own behalf or on behalf of such other 18 person, for the service in agricultural labor performed for such other 19 person; and 20
- (C) The term crew leader shall mean an individual who furnishes individuals to perform service in agricultural labor for any other person, pays, either on his or her own behalf or on behalf of such other person, the individuals so furnished by him or her for the service in agricultural labor performed by them, and has not entered into a written agreement with such other person under which such individual is designated as an employee of such other person; and
- (d) Service performed by an individual in domestic service in a private home, local college club, or local chapter of a college fraternity or sorority if performed for a person who paid cash remuneration of one thousand dollars or more in the current calendar year

- 1 or the preceding calendar year to individuals employed in such domestic
- 2 service in any calendar quarter;
- 3 (5) Services performed by an individual for wages, including wages
- 4 received under a contract of hire, shall be deemed to be employment
- 5 unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the commissioner that (a) such
- 6 individual has been and will continue to be free from control or
- 7 direction over the performance of such services, both under his or her
- 8 contract of service and in fact, (b) such service is either outside the
- 9 usual course of the business for which such service is performed or such
- 10 service is performed outside of all the places of business of the
- 11 enterprise for which such service is performed, and (c) such individual
- 12 is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation,
- 13 profession, or business. The provisions of this subdivision are not
- 14 intended to be a codification of the common law and shall be considered
- 15 complete as written;
- 16 (6) The term employment shall not include:
- 17 (a) Agricultural labor, except as provided in subdivision (4)(c) of
- 18 this section, including all services performed:
- 19 (i) On a farm, in the employ of any employer, in connection with
- 20 cultivating the soil or in connection with raising or harvesting any
- 21 agricultural or horticultural commodity, including the raising, shearing,
- 22 feeding, caring for, training, and management of livestock, bees,
- 23 poultry, fur-bearing animals, and wildlife;
- 24 (ii) In the employ of the owner, tenant, or other operator of a
- 25 farm, in connection with the operation, management, conservation,
- 26 improvement, or maintenance of such farm and its tools and equipment or
- 27 in salvaging timber or clearing land of brush and other debris left by a
- 28 windstorm, if the major part of such service is performed on a farm;
- 29 (iii) In connection with the production or harvesting of any
- 30 commodity defined as an agricultural commodity in section 15(g) of the
- 31 federal Agricultural Marketing Act, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1141j, in

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- 1 connection with the operation or maintenance of ditches, canals,
- 2 reservoirs, or waterways, not owned or operated for profit, used
- 3 exclusively for supplying and storing water for farming purposes;
- 4 (iv)(A) In the employ of the operator of a farm in handling,
- 5 planting, drying, packing, packaging, processing, freezing, grading,
- 6 storing, or delivering to storage or to market or to a carrier for
- 7 transportation to market, in its unmanufactured state, any agricultural
- 8 or horticultural commodity, but only if such operator produced more than
- 9 one-half of the commodity with respect to which such service is
- 10 performed, or (B) in the employ of a group of operators of farms, or a
- 11 cooperative organization of which such operators are members, in the
- 12 performance of service described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision,
- 13 but only if such operators produced more than one-half of the commodity
- 14 with respect to which such service is performed. Subdivisions (A) and (B)
- of this subdivision shall not be deemed to be applicable with respect to
- 16 service performed in connection with commercial canning or commercial
- 17 freezing or in connection with any agricultural or horticultural
- 18 commodity after its delivery to a terminal market for distribution for
- 19 consumption; or
- 20 (v) On a farm operated for profit if such service is not in the
- 21 course of the employer's trade or business.
- 22 As used in this section, the term farm includes stock, dairy,
- 23 poultry, fruit, fur-bearing animal, and truck farms, plantations,
- 24 ranches, nurseries, ranges, greenhouses, or other similar structures used
- 25 primarily for the raising of agricultural or horticultural commodities,
- 26 and orchards;
- 27 (b) Domestic service, except as provided in subdivision (4)(d) of
- 28 this section, in a private home, local college club, or local chapter of
- 29 a college fraternity or sorority;
- 30 (c) Service not in the course of the employer's trade or business
- 31 performed in any calendar quarter by an employee, unless the cash

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remuneration paid for such service is fifty dollars or more and such 1 2 service is performed by an individual who is regularly employed by such 3 employer to perform such service and, for the purposes of this 4 subdivision, an individual shall be deemed to be regularly employed by an employer during a calendar quarter only if (i) on each of some twenty-5 four days during such quarter such individual performs for such employer 6 7 for some portion of the day service not in the course of the employer's trade or business, or (ii) such individual was regularly employed, as 8 9 determined under subdivision (i) of this subdivision, by such employer in 10 the performance of such service during the preceding calendar quarter;

- (d) Service performed by an individual in the employ of his or her son, daughter, or spouse and service performed by a child under the age of twenty-one in the employ of his or her father or mother;
- (e) Service performed in the employ of the United States Government 14 or an instrumentality of the United States immune under the Constitution 15 of the United States from the contributions imposed by sections 48-648 16 and 48-649, except that, to the extent that the Congress of the United 17 States shall permit states to require any instrumentalities of the United 18 19 States to make payments into an unemployment fund under a state unemployment compensation act, all of the Employment Security Law shall 20 be applicable to such instrumentalities and to services performed for 21 such instrumentalities in the same manner, to the same extent, and on the 22 23 same terms as to all other employers, individuals, and services, except 24 that if this state is not certified for any year by the Secretary of Labor of the United States under section 3304 of the Internal Revenue 25 Code as defined in section 49-801.01, the payments required of such 26 instrumentalities with respect to such year shall be refunded by the 27 commissioner from the fund in the same manner and within the same period 28 provided in section 48-660, with respect to contributions 29 erroneously collected; 30
 - (f) Service performed in the employ of this state or any political

- subdivision thereof or any instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing if such services are performed by an individual in the exercise
- 3 of his or her duties: (i) As an elected official; (ii) as a member of the
- 4 legislative body or a member of the judiciary of a state or political
- 5 subdivision thereof; (iii) as a member of the Army National Guard or Air
- 6 National Guard; (iv) as an employee serving on a temporary basis in case
- 7 of fire, storm, snow, earthquake, flood, or similar emergency; (v) in a
- 8 position which, under or pursuant to the state law, is designated a major
- 9 nontenured policymaking or advisory position, or a policymaking or
- 10 advisory position, the performance of the duties of which ordinarily does
- 11 not require more than eight hours per week; or $(\underline{v} \ vi)$ as an election
- official or election worker if the amount of remuneration received by the
- 13 individual during the calendar year for services as an election official
- or election worker is less than one thousand dollars;
- 15 (g) For the purposes of subdivisions (4)(a) and (4)(b) of this
- 16 section, service performed:
- 17 (i) In the employ of (A) a church or convention or association of
- 18 churches or (B) an organization which is operated primarily for religious
- 19 purposes and which is operated, supervised, controlled, or principally
- 20 supported by a church or convention or association of churches;
- 21 (ii) By a duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister of a
- 22 church in the exercise of his or her ministry or by a member of a
- 23 religious order in the exercise of the duties required by such order;
- 24 (iii) In a facility conducted for the purpose of carrying out a
- 25 program of rehabilitation for an individual whose earning capacity is
- 26 impaired by age or physical or mental deficiency or injury, or providing
- 27 remunerative work for the individuals who because of their impaired
- 28 physical or mental capacity cannot be readily absorbed in the competitive
- 29 labor market, by an individual receiving such rehabilitation or
- 30 remunerative work;
- 31 (iv) As part of an unemployment work relief or work-training program

1 assisted or financed in whole or in part by any federal agency or an

- 2 agency of a state or political subdivision thereof, by an individual
- 3 receiving such work relief or work training; or
- 4 (v) By an inmate of a custodial or penal institution;
- 5 (h) Service with respect to which unemployment compensation is
- 6 payable under an unemployment compensation system established by an act
- 7 of Congress;
- 8 (i) Service performed in any calendar quarter in the employ of any
- 9 organization exempt from income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal
- 10 Revenue Code as defined in section 49-801.01, other than an organization
- 11 described in section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in
- 12 section 49-801.01, or under section 521 thereof, if the remuneration for
- 13 such service is less than fifty dollars;
- 14 (j) Service performed in the employ of a school, college, or
- 15 university, if such service is performed (i) by a student who is
- 16 enrolled, regularly attending classes at, and working for such school,
- 17 college, or university pursuant to a financial assistance arrangement
- 18 with such school, college, or university or (ii) by the spouse of such
- 19 student, if such spouse is advised, at the time such spouse commences to
- 20 perform such service, that (A) the employment of such spouse to perform
- 21 such service is provided under a program to provide financial assistance
- 22 to such student by such school, college, or university and (B) such
- 23 employment will not be covered by any program of unemployment insurance;
- 24 (k) Service performed as a student nurse in the employ of a hospital
- 25 or nurses training school by an individual who is enrolled and is
- 26 regularly attending classes in a nurses training school chartered or
- 27 approved pursuant to state law; and service performed as an intern in the
- 28 employ of a hospital by an individual who has completed a four-year
- 29 course in a medical school chartered or approved pursuant to state law;
- 30 (1) Service performed by an individual as a real estate salesperson,
- 31 as an insurance agent, or as an insurance solicitor, if all such service

1 performed by such individual is performed for remuneration solely by way

- 2 of commission;
- 3 (m) Service performed by an individual under the age of eighteen in
- 4 the delivery or distribution of newspapers or shopping news, not
- 5 including delivery or distribution to any point for subsequent delivery
- 6 or distribution;
- 7 (n) Service performed by an individual in the sale, delivery, or
- 8 distribution of newspapers or magazines under a written contract in which
- 9 (i) the individual acknowledges that the individual performing the
- 10 service and the service are not covered and (ii) the newspapers and
- 11 magazines are sold by him or her at a fixed price with his or her
- 12 compensation being based on the retention of the excess of such price
- over the amount at which the newspapers or magazines are charged to him
- 14 or her, whether or not he or she is guaranteed a minimum amount of
- 15 compensation for such service, or is entitled to be credited with the
- 16 unsold newspapers or magazines turned back;
- 17 (o) Service performed by an individual who is enrolled at a
- 18 nonprofit or public educational institution which normally maintains a
- 19 regular faculty and curriculum and normally has a regularly organized
- 20 body of students in attendance at the place where its educational
- 21 activities are carried on, as a student in a full-time program, taken for
- 22 credit at such institution, which combines academic instruction with work
- 23 experience, if such service is an integral part of such program, and such
- 24 institution has so certified to the employer, except that this
- 25 subdivision shall not apply to service performed in a program established
- 26 for or on behalf of an employer or a group of employers;
- 27 (p) Service performed in the employ of a hospital, if such service
- 28 is performed by a patient of the hospital;
- 29 (q) Service performed for a motor carrier, as defined in 49 U.S.C.
- 30 13102 or section 75-302, as amended, by a lessor leasing one or more
- 31 motor vehicles driven by the lessor or one or more drivers provided by

- 1 the lessor under a lease, with the motor carrier as lessee, executed
- 2 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 376, Title 291, Chapter 3, as amended, of the
- 3 rules and regulations of the Public Service Commission, or the rules and
- 4 regulations of the Division of Motor Carrier Services. This shall not
- 5 preclude the determination of an employment relationship between the
- 6 lessor and any personnel provided by the lessor in the conduct of the
- 7 service performed for the lessee;
- 8 (r) Service performed by an individual for a business engaged in
- 9 compilation of marketing data bases if such service consists only of the
- 10 processing of data and is performed in the residence of the individual;
- 11 (s) Service performed by an individual as a volunteer research
- 12 subject who is paid on a per study basis for scientific, medical, or
- 13 drug-related testing for any organization other than one described in
- 14 section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in section
- 15 49-801.01 or any governmental entity;
- 16 (t) Service performed by a direct seller if:
- 17 (i) Such person is engaged in sales primarily in person and is:
- 18 (A) Engaged in the trade or business of selling or soliciting the
- 19 sale of consumer products or services to any buyer on a buy-sell basis or
- 20 a deposit-commission basis for resale, by the buyer or any other person,
- 21 in the home or otherwise than in a permanent retail establishment;
- 22 (B) Engaged in the trade or business of selling or soliciting the
- 23 sale of consumer products or services in the home or otherwise than in a
- 24 permanent retail establishment; or
- 25 (C) Engaged in the trade or business of the delivering or
- 26 distribution of newspapers or shopping news, including any services
- 27 directly related to such trade or business;
- 28 (ii) Substantially all the remuneration, whether or not paid in
- 29 cash, for the performance of the services described in subdivision (t)(i)
- 30 of this subdivision is directly related to sales or other output,
- 31 including the performance of services, rather than to the number of hours

- 1 worked; and
- 2 (iii) The services performed by the person are performed pursuant to
- 3 a written contract between such person and the person for whom the
- 4 services are performed and the contract provides that the person will not
- 5 be treated as an employee for federal and state tax purposes. Sales by a
- 6 person whose business is conducted primarily by telephone or any other
- 7 form of electronic sales or solicitation is not service performed by a
- 8 direct seller under this subdivision;
- 9 (u) Service performed by an individual who is a participant in the
- 10 National and Community Service State Grant Program, also known as
- 11 AmeriCorps, because a participant is not considered an employee of the
- organization receiving assistance under the national service laws through
- 13 which the participant is engaging in service pursuant to 42 U.S.C.
- 14 12511(30)(B); and
- 15 (v) Service performed at a penal or custodial institution by a
- 16 person committed to a penal or custodial institution;
- 17 (7) If the services performed during one-half or more of any pay
- 18 period by an individual for the person employing him or her constitute
- 19 employment, all the services of such individual for such period shall be
- 20 deemed to be employment, but if the services performed during more than
- 21 one-half of any such pay period by an individual for the person employing
- 22 him or her do not constitute employment, then none of the services of
- 23 such individual for such period shall be deemed to be employment. As used
- 24 in this subdivision, the term pay period means a period, of not more than
- 25 thirty-one consecutive days, for which a payment of remuneration is
- 26 ordinarily made to such individual by the person employing him or her.
- 27 This subdivision shall not be applicable with respect to services
- 28 performed in a pay period by an individual for the person employing him
- 29 or her when any of such service is excepted by subdivision (6)(h) of this
- 30 section; and
- 31 (8) Notwithstanding the foregoing exclusions from the definition of

- 1 employment, services shall be deemed to be in employment if with respect
- 2 to such services a tax is required to be paid under any federal law
- 3 imposing a tax against which credit may be taken for contributions
- 4 required to be paid into a state unemployment compensation fund or which
- 5 as a condition for full tax credit against the tax imposed by the Federal
- 6 Unemployment Tax Act, as amended, is required to be covered under the
- 7 Employment Security Law.
- 8 Sec. 2. Section 81-1328, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 9 amended to read:
- 10 81-1328 <u>(1) State employees shall, during each year of continuous</u>
- 11 employment, be entitled to ninety-six working hours of vacation leave
- 12 with full pay.
- 13 <u>(2)</u> State employees who complete five years of continuous employment
- 14 by the state shall be entitled to one hundred twenty hours of vacation
- 15 leave during their sixth year of employment and shall thereafter be
- 16 entitled to eight additional hours of vacation leave with full pay for
- 17 each additional year of continuous state employment up to a maximum of
- 18 two hundred hours of vacation leave a year. Vacation leave shall be
- 19 earned in accordance with the following schedule:
- During 1st year of continuous employment 96 hours per year
- 21 During 2nd year of continuous employment 96 hours per year
- 22 During 3rd year of continuous employment 96 hours per year
- 23 During 4th year of continuous employment 96 hours per year
- During 5th year of continuous employment 96 hours per year
- 25 During 6th year of continuous employment 120 hours per
- 26 year
- 27 During 7th year of continuous employment 128 hours per
- 28 year
- 29 During 8th year of continuous employment 136 hours per
- 30 year
- 31 During 9th year of continuous employment 144 hours per

- 1 year
- 2 During 10th year of continuous employment 152 hours per
- 3 year
- 4 During 11th year of continuous employment 160 hours per
- 5 year
- 6 During 12th year of continuous employment 168 hours per
- 7 year
- 8 During 13th year of continuous employment 176 hours per
- 9 year
- 10 During 14th year of continuous employment 184 hours per
- 11 year
- 12 During 15th year of continuous employment 192 hours per
- 13 year
- During 16th year of continuous employment 200 hours per
- 15 year
- 16 After 16th year of continuous employment 200 hours per
- 17 year
- 18 <u>(3) State employees</u> Employees who are regularly employed less than
- 19 forty hours a week shall be entitled to vacation leave proportionate to
- 20 their regular workweek. Any state employee who has been employed by the
- 21 Legislature or Legislative Council shall, for vacation leave entitlement
- 22 purposes, be credited with one continuous year of employment for each two
- 23 hundred sixty working days such state employee was employed by the
- 24 Legislature or Legislative Council.
- 25 (4) As used in this section, state employee shall mean any person or
- 26 officer employed by the state including the head of any department or
- 27 agency, except when such a head is a board or commission, and who works a
- 28 full-time or part-time schedule on an ongoing basis.
- 29 <u>(5)</u> For purposes of this section, <u>a state</u> an employee who has
- 30 terminated employment with the state for any reason other than
- 31 disciplinary and who returns to state employment within one year from the

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the Legislative Council.

1 date of termination shall have his or her service for vacation leave

- 2 entitlement computed by combining prior continuous service with current
- 3 continuous service disregarding the period of absence, except that \underline{a}
- 4 state an employee who has retired or voluntarily terminated in lieu of
- 5 retirement shall, if he or she returns to state employment, be considered
- 6 a new <u>state</u>employee for the purpose of vacation leave entitlement.
- 7 (6) The vacation leave account of each state employee shall be balanced as of 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on December 31 each 8 9 calendar year. Each state employee shall be entitled to have accumulated 10 as of such time the number of hours of vacation leave which he or she earned during that calendar year. Hours of vacation leave accumulated in 11 excess of that number shall be forfeited lost. Any state employee shall 12 13 be entitled to use any vacation time as soon as it has accrued. Any vacation time not used within one calendar year following the calendar 14 year during which the time accrued shall be forfeited lost. In special 15 16 and meritorious cases, when to limit the annual leave to the period 17 therein specified would work a peculiar hardship, such leave may be extended in the discretion of the Governor, or in situations involving 18
- (7) It is the responsibility of the head of an employing agency to 21 provide reasonable opportunity for a state employee to use rather than 22 forfeit accumulated vacation leave. If a state employee makes a 23 24 reasonable written request to use vacation leave before the leave must be 25 forfeited under this section and the employing agency denies the request, the employing agency shall pay the state employee the cash equivalent of 26 27 the amount of forfeited vacation leave that was requested and denied. 28 Such cash payment shall be made within thirty days after the requested and denied vacation leave is forfeited under this section. Such cash 29 payment shall be considered compensation for purposes of a state 30 31 employee's retirement benefit in a defined contribution or cash balance

employees of the Legislature, in the discretion of the Executive Board of

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- 1 benefit plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board but
- 2 <u>shall not be considered compensation for purposes of a state employee's</u>
- 3 retirement benefit in any other defined benefit plan administered by the
- 4 Public Employees Retirement Board. In determining whether a state
- 5 employee's request to use vacation leave is reasonable, the employing
- 6 agency shall consider the amount of vacation leave requested, the number
- 7 of days remaining prior to forfeiture during which the state employee may
- 8 take vacation leave, the amount of notice given to the employing agency
- 9 prior to the requested vacation leave, any effects on public safety, and
- 10 <u>other relevant factors. This subsection shall not apply to state</u>
- 11 <u>employees who are exempt from the State Personnel System pursuant to</u>
- 12 subdivisions (1)(q) and (h) of section 81-1316.
- 13 (8) Each <u>state</u> employee, upon retirement, dismissal, or voluntary
- 14 separation from state employment, shall be paid for unused accumulated
- 15 vacation leave. Upon the death of a state an employee, his or her
- 16 beneficiary shall be paid for unused accumulated vacation leave.
- 17 (9) A permanent state employee who is transferred from one agency to
- 18 another shall have his or her accrued vacation leave transferred to the
- 19 receiving agency.
- 20 <u>(10)</u> The Director of Personnel shall adopt and promulgate such rules
- 21 and regulations as are necessary to administer this section.
- 22 Sec. 3. Original section 81-1328, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 23 Nebraska, and section 48-604, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 24 2014, are repealed.