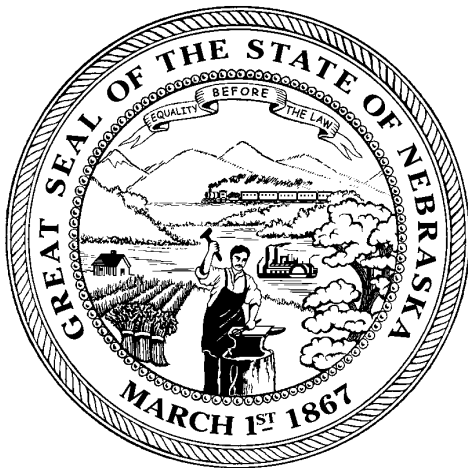


**INTERIM
STUDY
RESOLUTIONS**

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

2015



03-02-01-2015

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2015**

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INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS**Numerical List**

- LR22 Interim study to monitor medical care transformation in Nebraska including the health care delivery process of patient-centered medical home
Health and Human Services
- LR32 Provide the Executive Board appoint a special committee to be known as the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee
- LR33 Provide the Executive Board a special committee to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee
- LR34 Provide the Executive Board reappoint the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee
- LR38 Interim study to examine statutes governing prisons and parole to ensure the Board of Parole is independent from the Dept. of Correctional Services
Judiciary
- LR39 Interim study to examine certain acts to ensure the evaluation procedures regarding potentially mentally ill and dangerous inmates and potentially dangerous sex offenders are clear and consistent
Judiciary
- LR52 Interim study to examine the Child and Maternal Death Review Act
Health and Human Services
- LR152 Interim study to examine the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act
Urban Affairs
- LR154 Interim study regarding the authority of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and its role in decisions regarding the disposal of salt wastewater into dry wells
Natural Resources

- LR155 Interim study to examine current and potential economic development tools available to municipalities in Nebraska
Urban Affairs
- LR156 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee
Urban Affairs
- LR159 Interim study to examine issues surrounding handicapped parking
Urban Affairs
- LR174 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Energy Code
Urban Affairs
- LR181 Interim study to examine how to build Nebraska's workforce, especially in high-need areas, and support personal responsibility and professional growth for all Nebraskans
Health and Human Services
- LR182 Interim study to investigate and make recommendations regarding what can be done to provide Nebraska consumers the necessary information to enable them to make informed decisions as to which health care plan to purchase
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR185 Interim study to examine issues faced by Nebraska's licensed mental health practitioners, doctoral-level graduate students, nurses, and psychiatrists
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- LR186 Interim study to examine state services available to victims of human trafficking in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR196 Interim study to examine current state statutes governing population thresholds for Nebraska counties
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR198 Interim study to examine how the state can assist individuals who are blind or who have other disabilities to achieve personal independence through gainful employment
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR200 Interim study to examine the history and development of the Nebraska Innovation Campus at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Appropriations

- LR211 Interim study to examine synthetic recreational drugs that are marketed and sold as incense
Judiciary
- LR212 Interim study to examine the utilization of authority given to various state commodity development programs to make expenditures for the purpose of influencing federal legislation
Agriculture
- LR213 Interim study to examine development of a reference manual for the state commodity promotion programs and other federal commodity programs that are significant to Nebraska agriculture
Agriculture
- LR214 Interim study to review the information in the Dairy Growth and Development Study Report
Agriculture
- LR215 Interim study to examine implementation of the recommendations of a report produced as a result of LR309, 2013, relating to the feasibility of creating a buffer strip program
Agriculture
- LR216 Interim study to examine implementation of recommendations of LR309, 2013, investigating whether alternative models for compensating specialty or sensitive crop growers incurring herbicide drift are feasible
Agriculture
- LR217 Interim study to complete the work of LR309, 2013, investigating ways to avoid and mitigate conflicts arising from herbicide and drift damage to sensitive crops
Agriculture
- LR218 Interim study to examine the utility of the in-store transfer method by producers and grain warehouses as an option to meet direct delivery obligations
Agriculture
- LR222 Interim study to examine issues relating to family and medical leave
Business and Labor
- LR223 Interim study to examine strategies and ideas to ensure more adults have the education and skills needed to fill positions for in demand industries in Nebraska
Education

- LR227 Interim study to examine opportunities to train Nebraska's youth for the workforce while addressing both educational and workforce needs
Business and Labor
- LR228 Interim study to examine the Commission of Industrial Relations
Business and Labor
- LR229 Interim study to examine Nebraska's unemployment insurance laws and unemployment insurance program
Business and Labor
- LR230 Interim study to examine pensions provided for firefighters from cities of the first class
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR231 Interim study to examine the effectiveness of the prescription drug monitoring program currently housed within the Nebraska Health Information Initiative
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- LR232 Interim study to examine the process by which a person changes his or her name
Judiciary
- LR233 Interim study to examine payday loans and other short-term lending practices where high interest rates are charged and collected from customers
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR239 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in Nebraska
Business and Labor
- LR240 Interim study to examine state law governing cities of the first class in Chapter 16 of the Nebraska statutes
Urban Affairs
- LR242 Interim study to examine the interplay between developmental disability and child welfare services to ensure proper treatment and protection of the rights of state wards
Health and Human Services
- LR243 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR244 Interim study to examine the salaries of all judges in Nebraska, including the history of adjusting these salaries
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- LR247 Interim study to examine the process of eliminating the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
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- LR248 Interim study to examine the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act and its implementation in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR249 Interim study to examine the use of seclusion in public and private schools for children with behavioral issues or special needs
Education
- LR250 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee
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- LR252 Interim study to examine court costs and fees in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR254 Interim study to examine public charitable corporations in Nebraska
Executive Board
- LR255 Interim study to investigate issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee
Education
- LR256 Interim study to examine the history and development of the Peter Kiewit Institute to include the University of Nebraska-Omaha College of Information Science and Technology and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Engineering
Appropriations
- LR257 Interim study to examine how to create a sustainable and adequate stream of state funds to local public health departments to ensure the departments are able to meet their core responsibilities and functions
Appropriations

- LR258 Interim study to determine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be amended
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR259 Interim study to examine Nebraska's current programming regarding home visitation for early childhood education and development and assess the feasibility of expansion to universal statewide programming
Health and Human Services
- LR260 Interim study to examine feasibility of developing tax-preferential zones on college and university campuses for the strategic development of new start-up businesses and expanding the commercialization of joint public/private research ventures
Revenue
- LR261 Interim study to examine implementing the use of body cameras for state and local law enforcement in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR262 Interim study to examine creation of a separate program within the budget of the Dept. of Health and Human Services for long-term care expenditures made from all funding sources
Appropriations
- LR263 Interim study to examine possible changes to the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR265 Interim study to examine minor traffic violation, adult, and juvenile pretrial diversion programs authorized by counties and municipalities
Judiciary
- LR266 Interim study to examine state law as it relates to weight limits for a single axle and a group of axles and the maximum load limits for motor vehicles carrying agricultural products or commodities
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR269 Interim study to examine the aerial and aviation safety concerns of structures over fifty feet in height on which an antenna, sensor, camera, or other equipment is mounted
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR270 Interim study to review the fee structure of the Nebraska Brand Committee
Agriculture

- LR271 Interim study to examine the positive and negative effects of education funding if Nebraska chooses not to accept federal funds that are tied to federal mandates
Education
- LR272 Interim study to examine the Niobrara Council and its current statutory authority outlined in the Niobrara Scenic River Act
Natural Resources
- LR273 Interim study to examine the current practices of municipalities using tax increment financing under the Community Development Law
Urban Affairs
- LR274 Interim study to examine the feasibility of using pay for success financing in Nebraska
Appropriations
- LR275 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the affordability, delivery, and taxation of child care in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR276 Interim study to examine bullying by and against students and youth
Judiciary
- LR277 Interim study to examine workforce development that will support growth and retention of youth talent and startup businesses in the areas of technology, computer sciences, and related fields
Business and Labor
- LR278 Interim study to examine existing resources and the need for additional tools for municipalities to further encourage revitalization of neighborhoods
Urban Affairs
- LR279 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee
Judiciary
- LR280 Interim study to examine municipal bankruptcy
Urban Affairs
- LR281 Interim study to review issues concerning the dates on which the fiscal year for Nebraska's public schools begin and end
Education
- LR282 Interim study to examine the reasons for the higher cost of juvenile services under the Office of Probation Administration
Appropriations

- LR283 Interim study to examine potential state policy and funding improvements to address unique educational needs of low-achieving students in poverty and students with limited English proficiency
Education
- LR284 Interim study to examine potential modifications to the laws governing learning communities
Education
- LR285 Interim study to examine class size in Nebraska's public schools
Education
- LR286 Interim study to examine the effectiveness of civil forfeiture under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act
Judiciary
- LR287 Interim study to examine craft breweries and whether brewpubs and microbreweries should be licensed as craft breweries or should have separate licenses
General Affairs
- LR288 Interim study to examine the statutory relationship between cities of the second class and villages and the public libraries within their jurisdictions
General Affairs
- LR289 Interim study to examine the current alcohol policies of the University of Nebraska system
General Affairs
- LR290 Interim study to examine how public libraries are archiving newspapers
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- LR292 Interim study to examine issues relating to public assistance programs for relative or kinship caregivers
Health and Human Services
- LR293 Interim study to examine the funding distribution for the community college areas
Education
- LR294 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- LR295 Interim study to examine how to improve behavioral health and mental health services in Nebraska in order to prevent crime and reduce costs associated with the incarceration of people who have heightened behavioral and mental health needs
Judiciary
- LR296 Interim study to examine the financing of Nebraska's child welfare system
Appropriations
- LR297 Interim study to examine career technical education in Nebraska
Business and Labor
- LR298 Interim study to examine issues to improve the emergency medical services system in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR299 Interim study to examine the opportunity gap in third grade reading scores
Education
- LR300 Interim study to examine the out-of-state placements of Nebraska children
Health and Human Services
- LR301 Interim study to examine the practice of "double dipping" which occurs when public employees retire with a public pension and become reemployed by the same or different public employer and earn a second public pension benefit
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR302 Interim study to examine whether imposition of a sales or income tax upon the sale of agricultural land may provide funding for a targeted property tax relief fund for agricultural property owners
Revenue
- LR303 Interim study to examine issues raised in LB501, 2015, addressing the appropriate use of legislative audio or video materials produced by a public television or public radio broadcasting station
Executive Board
- LR304 Interim study to examine and assess the behavioral health needs of children and youth in Nebraska and the resources available to meet those needs
Health and Human Services
- LR305 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee
Appropriations

- LR306 Interim study to examine ways in which medicaid expansion could be implemented in Nebraska under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for medical assistance for newly eligible individuals
Health and Human Services
- LR307 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
General Affairs
- LR308 Interim study to examine issues regarding the growth of Nebraska's agricultural-related economy
Revenue
- LR309 Interim study to examine the personal income tax rates in Nebraska
Revenue
- LR310 Interim study to examine services provided by community paramedics
Health and Human Services
- LR311 Interim study to examine Second Chances, the operating while intoxicated jail diversion program in Iowa, to determine whether the program would be workable in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR312 Interim study to examine ways to improve and fund child behavioral health programming in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR313 Interim study to examine the process utilized by the Dept. of Roads in the design and construction of the Nebraska expressway system
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR314 Interim study to examine issues relating to the use of restraint and seclusion techniques in Nebraska schools
Education
- LR315 Interim study to examine the contractual relationship between craft breweries and distributors
General Affairs
- LR316 Interim study to examine Nebraska withdrawing from the Master Settlement Agreement and increasing its tobacco excise tax to approximate the Master Settlement Agreement payment
Revenue

- LR317 Interim study to review the Nebraska Rules of the Road and provisions which establish maximum weight limits
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR318 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive study of Nebraska's state and local roads system
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR319 Interim study to examine certain issues under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR320 Interim study to examine the membership, role, and duties of the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council
Judiciary
- LR321 Interim study to examine the potential growth for tourism in Nebraska and to develop funding recommendations for designated Nebraska tourism sites
Appropriations
- LR322 Interim study to examine the potential for the expansion of fruit and produce gleaning in Nebraska
Agriculture
- LR323 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the N-CORPE augmentation project
Natural Resources
- LR324 Interim study to analyze the ability of employers or associations to enter into contracts with an agent or broker for compensation to be paid to the agent or broker for the sale of a health benefit plan
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR325 Interim study to examine the current method of using adjusted property valuation as the primary measurement of local resources in Nebraska's public education funding formula
Revenue
- LR326 Interim study to examine the procedure for and use of like-kind exchanges under section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code and their impact on the taxable value of agricultural and horticultural land
Revenue
- LR327 Interim study to examine the procedures and categories used by county assessors to classify types of land for valuation and taxation purposes
Revenue

- LR328 Interim study to examine options for implementing a "circuit breaker" tax credit to protect agricultural property owners from a property tax overload
Revenue
- LR329 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of the state and local sales and use taxes
Revenue
- LR330 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of real and personal property taxes
Revenue
- LR331 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of Nebraska individual and corporate income taxes
Revenue
- LR332 Interim study to examine the tax revenues for public schools
Revenue
- LR333 Interim study to examine methods to improve government efficiency
Appropriations
- LR334 Interim study to examine the integral link between achievement and risky health behaviors
Education
- LR335 Interim study to examine the most recent report published by the Presidential Commission on Election Administration
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR336 Interim study to examine the appropriation of funds to the State Department of Education to implement mentor teacher programs
Appropriations
- LR337 Interim study to examine issues surrounding distracted driving due to texting or using a hand-held device while operating a motor vehicle
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR339 Interim study to examine the current statutory requirements governing the removal of roadside vegetation
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR344 Interim study to examine the financing of public education and to develop recommendations for improving school funding in Nebraska
Education

REFERENCING AND STUDY PROCESS

Rule 4, Section 3

As a general practice, the Executive Board will refer interim study resolutions to the appropriate committees based upon subject-matter jurisdiction.

The Executive Board may, on its own behalf, conduct interim studies or create select interim committees to do so. Depending upon the availability of staff resources, subject-matter jurisdiction, and legislator interest, the Executive Board may establish a select committee to undertake the study.

The Executive Board shall retain its traditional prerogatives to consider and refer study proposals arising from extraordinary circumstances after the deadlines.

Legislative rules require study resolutions be prioritized by the chairperson of the committee to which they are referred, and a report on those priorities shall be filed with the Clerk.

Rule 4, Section 3(g) of the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature requires that on or before December 1 of each year, each standing and select interim committee file a report on the disposition of the study resolutions referred to them.

(The following referral list reflects the committee prioritization of the resolutions referred to them.)

INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE REFERRALS**Committee Priority Designations**

Agriculture: Johnson (C), Kolterman (VC), Bloomfield, Chambers, Harr, B., Larson, Riepe, Schilz

- LR212 Interim study to examine the utilization of authority given to various state commodity development programs to make expenditures for the purpose of influencing federal legislation
Agriculture
- LR214 Interim study to review the information in the Dairy Growth and Development Study Report
Agriculture
- LR217 Interim study to complete the work of LR309, 2013, investigating ways to avoid and mitigate conflicts arising from herbicide and drift damage to sensitive crops
Agriculture
- LR270 Interim study to review the fee structure of the Nebraska Brand Committee
Agriculture
- LR213 Interim study to examine development of a reference manual for the state commodity promotion programs and other federal commodity programs that are significant to Nebraska agriculture
Agriculture
- LR215 Interim study to examine implementation of the recommendations of a report produced as a result of LR309, 2013, relating to the feasibility of creating a buffer strip program
Agriculture
- LR218 Interim study to examine the utility of the in-store transfer method by producers and grain warehouses as an option to meet direct delivery obligations
Agriculture
- LR216 Interim study to examine implementation of recommendations of LR309, 2013, investigating whether alternative models for compensating specialty or sensitive crop growers incurring herbicide drift are feasible
Agriculture
- LR322 Interim study to examine the potential for the expansion of fruit and produce gleaning in Nebraska
Agriculture

Appropriations: Mello (C), Hilkemann (VC), Bolz, Haar, K., Kintner, Kuehn, Nordquist, Stinner, Watermeier

- LR200 Interim study to examine the history and development of the Nebraska Innovation Campus at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Appropriations
- LR282 Interim study to examine the reasons for the higher cost of juvenile services under the Office of Probation Administration
Appropriations
- LR262 Interim study to examine creation of a separate program within the budget of the Dept. of Health and Human Services for long-term care expenditures made from all funding sources
Appropriations
- LR257 Interim study to examine how to create a sustainable and adequate stream of state funds to local public health departments to ensure the departments are able to meet their core responsibilities and functions
Appropriations
- LR256 Interim study to examine the history and development of the Peter Kiewit Institute to include the University of Nebraska-Omaha College of Information Science and Technology and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Engineering
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- LR296 Interim study to examine the financing of Nebraska's child welfare system
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- LR333 Interim study to examine methods to improve government efficiency
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- LR336 Interim study to examine the appropriation of funds to the State Department of Education to implement mentor teacher programs
Appropriations
- LR321 Interim study to examine the potential growth for tourism in Nebraska and to develop funding recommendations for designated Nebraska tourism sites
Appropriations
- LR274 Interim study to examine the feasibility of using pay for success financing in Nebraska
Appropriations

LR305 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee
Appropriations

Banking, Commerce and Insurance: Scheer (C), Williams (VC), Campbell, Craighead, Gloor, Howard, Lindstrom, Schumacher

LR258 Interim study to determine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be amended
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR263 Interim study to examine possible changes to the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR324 Interim study to analyze the ability of employers or associations to enter into contracts with an agent or broker for compensation to be paid to the agent or broker for the sale of a health benefit plan
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR233 Interim study to examine payday loans and other short-term lending practices where high interest rates are charged and collected from customers
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR182 Interim study to investigate and make recommendations regarding what can be done to provide Nebraska consumers the necessary information to enable them to make informed decisions as to which health care plan to purchase
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Business and Labor: Harr, B. (C), Bloomfield (VC), Chambers, Crawford, Ebke, Johnson, McCollister

LR239 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in Nebraska
Business and Labor

LR297 Interim study to examine career technical education in Nebraska
Business and Labor

LR222 Interim study to examine issues relating to family and medical leave
Business and Labor

- LR277 Interim study to examine workforce development that will support growth and retention of youth talent and startup businesses in the areas of technology, computer sciences, and related fields
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- LR227 Interim study to examine opportunities to train Nebraska's youth for the workforce while addressing both educational and workforce needs
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- LR228 Interim study to examine the Commission of Industrial Relations
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- LR229 Interim study to examine Nebraska's unemployment insurance laws and unemployment insurance program
Business and Labor
- LR245 Interim study to review reimbursement rates for ambulatory surgical centers and outpatient hospitals with respect to workers' compensation services in Nebraska
Business and Labor
- LR246 Interim study to analyze the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation in workers' compensation cases in Nebraska
Business and Labor

Education: Sullivan (C), Kolowski (VC), Baker, Cook, Groene, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Schnoor

- LR344 Interim study to examine the financing of public education and to develop recommendations for improving school funding in Nebraska
Education
- LR283 Interim study to examine potential state policy and funding improvements to address unique educational needs of low-achieving students in poverty and students with limited English proficiency
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- LR284 Interim study to examine potential modifications to the laws governing learning communities
Education
- LR293 Interim study to examine the funding distribution for the community college areas
Education

- LR299 Interim study to examine the opportunity gap in third grade reading scores
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- LR255 Interim study to investigate issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee
Education
- LR285 Interim study to examine class size in Nebraska's public schools
Education
- LR334 Interim study to examine the integral link between achievement and risky health behaviors
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- LR314 Interim study to examine issues relating to the use of restraint and seclusion techniques in Nebraska schools
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- LR249 Interim study to examine the use of seclusion in public and private schools for children with behavioral issues or special needs
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- LR223 Interim study to examine strategies and ideas to ensure more adults have the education and skills needed to fill positions for in demand industries in Nebraska
Education
- LR281 Interim study to review issues concerning the dates on which the fiscal year for Nebraska's public schools begin and end
Education
- LR271 Interim study to examine the positive and negative effects of education funding if Nebraska chooses not to accept federal funds that are tied to federal mandates
Education

Executive Board: Krist (C), Watermeier (VC), Campbell, Chambers, Coash, Hadley, Hughes, Larson, Murante, Mello (nonvoting ex officio)

- LR303 Interim study to examine issues raised in LB501, 2015, addressing the appropriate use of legislative audio or video materials produced by a public television or public radio broadcasting station
Executive Board
- LR254 Interim study to examine public charitable corporations in Nebraska
Executive Board

General Affairs: Larson (C), Coash (VC), Hansen, Hughes, Kolterman, Krist, Riepe, Schilz

- LR287 Interim study to examine craft breweries and whether brewpubs and microbreweries should be licensed as craft breweries or should have separate licenses
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- LR315 Interim study to examine the contractual relationship between craft breweries and distributors
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- LR288 Interim study to examine the statutory relationship between cities of the second class and villages and the public libraries within their jurisdictions
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- LR290 Interim study to examine how public libraries are archiving newspapers
General Affairs
- LR307 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
General Affairs

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs: Murante (C), Garrett (VC), Bloomfield, Craighead, Groene, Hansen, Larson, McCoy

- LR294 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR198 Interim study to examine how the state can assist individuals who are blind or who have other disabilities to achieve personal independence through gainful employment
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR335 Interim study to examine the most recent report published by the Presidential Commission on Election Administration
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR196 Interim study to examine current state statutes governing population thresholds for Nebraska counties
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

LR269 Interim study to examine the aerial and aviation safety concerns of structures over fifty feet in height on which an antenna, sensor, camera, or other equipment is mounted
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Health and Human Services: Campbell (C), Howard (VC), Baker, Cook, Crawford, Kolterman, Riepe

LR306 Interim study to examine ways in which medicaid expansion could be implemented in Nebraska under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for medical assistance for newly eligible individuals
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LR52 Interim study to examine the Child and Maternal Death Review Act
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- LR185 Interim study to examine issues faced by Nebraska's licensed mental health practitioners, doctoral-level graduate students, nurses, and psychiatrists
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- LR181 Interim study to examine how to build Nebraska's workforce, especially in high-need areas, and support personal responsibility and professional growth for all Nebraskans
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- LR298 Interim study to examine issues to improve the emergency medical services system in Nebraska
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- LR310 Interim study to examine services provided by community paramedics
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- LR312 Interim study to examine ways to improve and fund child behavioral health programming in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR291 Interim study to examine stroke systems of care
Health and Human Services
- LR250 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee
Health and Human Services

Judiciary: Seiler (C), Coash (VC), Chambers, Ebke, Krist, Morfeld, Pansing Brooks, Williams

- LR295 Interim study to examine how to improve behavioral health and mental health services in Nebraska in order to prevent crime and reduce costs associated with the incarceration of people who have heightened behavioral and mental health needs
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- LR38 Interim study to examine statutes governing prisons and parole to ensure the Board of Parole is independent from the Dept. of Correctional Services
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- LR211 Interim study to examine synthetic recreational drugs that are marketed and sold as incense
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- LR320 Interim study to examine the membership, role, and duties of the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council
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- LR244 Interim study to examine the salaries of all judges in Nebraska, including the history of adjusting these salaries
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- LR276 Interim study to examine bullying by and against students and youth
Judiciary
- LR261 Interim study to examine implementing the use of body cameras for state and local law enforcement in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR232 Interim study to examine the process by which a person changes his or her name
Judiciary

Natural Resources: Schilz (C), Friesen (VC), Hughes, Johnson, Kolowski, Lindstrom, McCollister, Schnoor

- LR154 Interim study regarding the authority of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and its role in decisions regarding the disposal of salt wastewater into dry wells
Natural Resources
- LR247 Interim study to examine the process of eliminating the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
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- LR272 Interim study to examine the Niobrara Council and its current statutory authority outlined in the Niobrara Scenic River Act
Natural Resources
- LR323 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the N-CORPE augmentation project
Natural Resources

Nebraska Retirement Systems: Nordquist (C), Davis (VC), Groene, Kolowski, Kolterman, Mello

- LR243 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems

LR301 Interim study to examine the practice of "double dipping" which occurs when public employees retire with a public pension and become reemployed by the same or different public employer and earn a second public pension benefit
Nebraska Retirement Systems

LR230 Interim study to examine pensions provided for firefighters from cities of the first class
Nebraska Retirement Systems

Revenue: Gloor (C), Schumacher (VC), Brasch, Davis, Harr, B., Scheer, Smith, Sullivan

LR332 Interim study to examine the tax revenues for public schools
Revenue

LR309 Interim study to examine the personal income tax rates in Nebraska
Revenue

LR316 Interim study to examine Nebraska withdrawing from the Master Settlement Agreement and increasing its tobacco excise tax to approximate the Master Settlement Agreement payment
Revenue

LR302 Interim study to examine whether imposition of a sales or income tax upon the sale of agricultural land may provide funding for a targeted property tax relief fund for agricultural property owners
Revenue

LR260 Interim study to examine feasibility of developing tax-preferential zones on college and university campuses for the strategic development of new start-up businesses and expanding the commercialization of joint public/private research ventures
Revenue

LR328 Interim study to examine options for implementing a "circuit breaker" tax credit to protect agricultural property owners from a property tax overload
Revenue

LR327 Interim study to examine the procedures and categories used by county assessors to classify types of land for valuation and taxation purposes
Revenue

- LR326 Interim study to examine the procedure for and use of like-kind exchanges under section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code and their impact on the taxable value of agricultural and horticultural land
Revenue
- LR308 Interim study to examine issues regarding the growth of Nebraska's agricultural-related economy
Revenue
- LR325 Interim study to examine the current method of using adjusted property valuation as the primary measurement of local resources in Nebraska's public education funding formula
Revenue
- LR329 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of the state and local sales and use taxes
Revenue
- LR330 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of real and personal property taxes
Revenue
- LR331 Interim study to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of Nebraska individual and corporate income taxes
Revenue

Transportation and Telecommunications: Smith (C), Brasch (VC), Davis, Friesen, Garrett, McCoy, Murante, Seiler

- LR318 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive study of Nebraska's state and local roads system
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR317 Interim study to review the Nebraska Rules of the Road and provisions which establish maximum weight limits
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR313 Interim study to examine the process utilized by the Dept. of Roads in the design and construction of the Nebraska expressway system
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR319 Interim study to examine certain issues under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR339 Interim study to examine the current statutory requirements governing the removal of roadside vegetation
Transportation and Telecommunications

LR266 Interim study to examine state law as it relates to weight limits for a single axle and a group of axles and the maximum load limits for motor vehicles carrying agricultural products or commodities
Transportation and Telecommunications

LR337 Interim study to examine issues surrounding distracted driving due to texting or using a hand-held device while operating a motor vehicle
Transportation and Telecommunications

Urban Affairs: Crawford (C), McCollister (VC), Coash, Ebke, Hansen, Hughes, Krist

LR155 Interim study to examine current and potential economic development tools available to municipalities in Nebraska
Urban Affairs

LR174 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Energy Code
Urban Affairs

LR152 Interim study to examine the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act
Urban Affairs

LR278 Interim study to examine existing resources and the need for additional tools for municipalities to further encourage revitalization of neighborhoods
Urban Affairs

LR273 Interim study to examine the current practices of municipalities using tax increment financing under the Community Development Law
Urban Affairs

LR159 Interim study to examine issues surrounding handicapped parking
Urban Affairs

LR280 Interim study to examine municipal bankruptcy
Urban Affairs

LR240 Interim study to examine state law governing cities of the first class in Chapter 16 of the Nebraska statutes
Urban Affairs

LR156 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee
Urban Affairs

**RESOLUTIONS CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED
DURING THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
CALLING FOR STUDIES BY SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee: Coash (C), Baker (VC), Bolz, Davis, Harr, B., Hilkemann, Johnson

LR32 Provide the Executive Board appoint a special committee to be known as the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature

ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee: Howard (C), McCollister (VC), Craighead, Crawford, Hansen, Riepe, Stinner

LR33 Provide the Executive Board appoint a special committee to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature

Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee: Seiler (C), Pansing Brooks (VC), Bolz, Chambers, Coash, Ebke, Krist, Mello, Morfeld, Schumacher, Williams

LR34 Provide the Executive Board reappoint the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature

INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 22. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: Patient-centered medical home is a health care delivery process that is transforming today's medical care to a coordinated, patient-centered method of delivering health care. This care is provided in primary and certain specialty care clinics and is coordinated with other medical, dental, and behavioral health services, public health entities, and other community-based support services. The aim of patient-centered medical home is to improve patient experience and individual health outcomes while improving population health and containing health care costs.

This systemwide transformation necessitates the cooperation and collaboration of health care providers, insurers, and administrators, federal and state governmental entities, along with self-insured businesses as purchasers of health care and health insurance, among others.

It is the purpose of this interim study for the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature to monitor this medical care transformation in Nebraska and the progress of the participation agreement to recognize and reform payment structures to support patient-centered medical home and to provide a legislative forum for discussion and collaboration among the many stakeholders of this health care industry and health insurance transformation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 32. Introduced by Krist, 10.

WHEREAS, the One Hundredth Legislature, Second Session, 2008, adopted Legislative Resolution 283 to establish the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. The committee was then reauthorized by the One Hundred First Legislature, First Session, 2009, in Legislative Resolution 11, by the One Hundred Second Legislature, First Session, 2011, in Legislative Resolution 47, by the One Hundred Second Legislature, Second Session, 2012, in Legislative Resolution 365, and by the One Hundred Third Legislature, First Session, 2013, in Legislative Resolution 20. The committee was authorized to study the quality of care and related staffing issues at the Beatrice State Developmental Center, investigate the placement and quality of care statewide for the developmentally disabled in Nebraska, and determine how and why such services to the developmentally disabled were permitted to

decline to the level documented in the United States Department of Justice report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature hereby calls for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to meet forthwith and appoint a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. The committee shall consist of seven members of the Legislature appointed by the executive board. The executive board shall appoint the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the committee. The executive board is hereby authorized to provide the committee with a legal counsel, committee clerk, and other staff as required by the committee from existing legislative staff. The executive board is also authorized to hire outside legal counsel, consultants, and investigators as required by the committee. The committee shall be an investigative committee and is hereby authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas as is deemed necessary by the committee.

2. The Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature shall provide oversight to ensure that the terms of the United States Department of Justice Consent Decree and the recommendations from the Report of the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee dated December 15, 2008, are implemented in a timely fashion.

3. The Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature is hereby authorized to continue to study the quality of care and related staffing issues at the Beatrice State Developmental Center. The committee shall also continue to investigate the placement and quality of care statewide for the developmentally disabled in Nebraska, including the determination of whether adequate funding and capacity exists for persons to be served in the community, options for service provisions for current residents of the Beatrice State Developmental Center at other twenty-four-hour care facilities in the state, and the staffing practices at twenty-four-hour care facilities and the relationship of those practices to the quality of care provided to the developmentally disabled. The committee shall also review the processes of how the Division of Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Health and Human Services determines eligibility for services for individuals who are in need of services, as well as the processes utilized by the division to determine when individuals who have received services by the division are no longer eligible for such services.

4. The Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature shall issue a report with its findings as the circumstances warrant.

5. The Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature is hereby authorized to continue its work until the beginning of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 33. Introduced by Krist, 10.

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) began to develop the ACCESSNebraska system. ACCESSNebraska is a system that is intended to efficiently determine public assistance eligibility and provide service delivery. Since the implementation of this system, the Legislature has conducted several hearings on bills and resolutions related to ACCESSNebraska. In these hearings, the realities and problems faced by clients navigating the ACCESSNebraska system were revealed, including long call wait times, lost documentation, erroneous public assistance decisions, and a general difficulty for clients to get the assistance they needed in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the One Hundred Third Legislature, Second Session, adopted Legislative Resolution 400, which created the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature to study the ACCESSNebraska system; and

WHEREAS, on December 15, 2014, the committee issued a report and recommendations related to ACCESSNebraska. The committee found the ACCESSNebraska system has been and continues to be plagued with problems. The committee also found ACCESSNebraska front-line workers have not been given the proper tools to complete daunting work loads; and

WHEREAS, the committee recommended among other things that the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee be continued to provide ongoing oversight for the ACCESSNebraska system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature hereby calls for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to meet forthwith and appoint a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. The committee shall consist of seven members of the Legislature appointed by the Executive Board. The committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from the membership of the committee. The Executive Board is hereby authorized to provide the committee with a legal counsel, committee clerk, and other staff as required by the committee from existing legislative staff. The Executive Board is also authorized to hire outside legal counsel, consultants, and investigators as required by the committee. The committee shall be an investigative committee and is hereby authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas as is deemed necessary by the committee.

2. The ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature is hereby authorized to study the adequacy of staffing and training of DHHS employees working within the ACCESSNebraska system, including the number of employees for local offices, the number of employees for call centers and document imaging centers, the type and amount of training received, the education levels and years of experience of employees, client access to employees, and the need for and availability of dedicated caseworkers for clients. The scope of the committee's

investigation shall include, but not be limited to, the adequacy of technology used within the ACCESSNebraska system, including telephone systems, computer software, case management, information technology, and use of and access to databases to allow for data matching. The committee shall also investigate the effectiveness of processes and structures used by the ACCESSNebraska system, including system design, management structure, and system goals. The committee shall also investigate the need for new or additional data collection to determine system effectiveness. The committee shall analyze the experiences of clients and their family members and examine customer service experience, access to benefits, and responses to changing family needs. The committee shall utilize existing studies and reports and legislation developed to address the current conditions. The committee shall not be limited to such studies, reports, or legislation. The committee shall issue a report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2015. The report to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 34. Introduced by Krist, 10; Bolz, 29; Chambers, 11; Mello, 5; Schumacher, 22; Seiler, 33.

WHEREAS, the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature was created in LR424, One Hundred Third Legislature, Second Session; and

WHEREAS, the committee, having completed its work and issued its report on December 15, 2014, discovered additional problems within the Department of Correctional Services during the course of its LR424 study; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that further study and oversight of the department is necessary in order to prevent additional mistakes and to correct inadequate department procedures and policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature hereby calls for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to meet forthwith and reappoint the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. The committee shall consist of seven members of the Legislature appointed by the Executive Board. The committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from the membership of the committee. The Executive Board is hereby authorized to provide the committee with a legal counsel, committee clerk, and other staff as required by the committee from existing legislative staff. The Executive Board is also authorized to hire outside legal counsel, consultants, and investigators as required by the committee. The committee shall be an investigative committee and is hereby authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas as deemed necessary by the committee.

2. That the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature is hereby authorized to study the following with respect to the Department of Correctional Services:

- (a) The adequacy of programs designed to rehabilitate inmates;

- (b) The funding history of programs designed to rehabilitate inmates;
- (c) The availability of mental health care and the policies and procedures in place to ensure that inmates receive appropriate mental health care or confinement through the civil commitment process;
- (d) The policies relating to the solitary confinement, segregation, or other isolation of inmates;
- (e) The transition of inmates from incarceration to the community at large;
- (f) The administration of good time laws;
- (g) Any evaluation or study made of the department's policies and practices, whether or not any recommendations were adopted as a result of the evaluation or study, and the reasons if any recommendations were not adopted; and
- (h) Whether or not an office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System should be created for oversight of the department.

3. That the committee shall issue a report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2015.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 38. Introduced by Seiler, 33; Bolz, 29; Chambers, 11; Krist, 10; Mello, 5; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the statutes governing prisons and parole to ensure that the Board of Parole is independent from the Department of Correctional Services. Such a review was recommended by the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature in its report released on December 15, 2014. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) Harmonizing and potentially amending certain statutes to ensure clarity and consistency of definitions and procedures; and
- (2) Recommending consolidation and reorganization of statutory provisions concerning jail, prison, probation, parole, and other aspects of the criminal justice system to the Revisor of Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

- 1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 39. Introduced by Seiler, 33; Bolz, 29; Chambers, 11; Krist, 10; Mello, 5; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act, the Sex Offender Commitment Act, and the Nebraska Treatment and Corrections Act in order to ensure that the evaluation procedures regarding potentially mentally ill and dangerous

inmates and potentially dangerous sex offenders are clear and consistent. Such a review was recommended by the Legislative Performance Audit Committee in its report released on November 17, 2014, entitled "Nebraska Department of Correctional Services: Disciplinary Process, Programs, and Commitment Processes." This interim study shall include the following issues:

- (1) Harmonizing and potentially amending certain statutes to ensure clarity and consistency of the definitions and procedures;
- (2) Examining whether the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act would benefit from the more formal notification processes as contained in the Sex Offender Commitment Act; and
- (3) Potentially clarifying definitions to ensure that any differences are intentional and desired.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 52. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Child and Maternal Death Review Act. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The history of the State Child and Maternal Death Review Team;
- (2) The timeliness of the review of maternal and child deaths;
- (3) The resources needed by the Department of Health and Human Services to carry out the purposes of the Child and Maternal Death Review Act; and
- (4) The practices in other states reviewing child and maternal deaths that could be adopted in Nebraska to identify trends, reduce the number of preventable deaths, and provide usable information to the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 152. Introduced by Crawford, 45; Coash, 27; Larson, 40; Schnoor, 15; Sullivan, 41; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act, commonly referred to as (Laws 1991, LB840). The issues addressed by this interim study shall include but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the history behind the passage of LB 840 and the corresponding amendments to Article XIII, section 2, of the Nebraska Constitution;

(2) A review of the eligible uses of LB 840 funds as limited by current statutory definitions;

(3) A review of potential additional uses of LB 840 funds that could be added to current statutory definitions; and

(4) An examination of the process used to amend an existing LB 840 plan and whether such amendment requires voter approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 154. Introduced by Stinner, 48; Davis; 43, Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: LB512 was introduced in the 2015 legislative session because of citizen concerns about an application filed with the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission regarding the approval of a salt wastewater injection well in Sioux County.

A Colorado company has proposed to inject salt wastewater used in oil and gas production into a dry oil well which has the potential to be the largest disposal well in the state, with as many as 80 trucks hauling over 10,000 barrels of wastewater to the disposal site daily. The wastewater would come from Nebraska, Wyoming, and Colorado and could contain chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, also known as "fracking".

The concerns and questions raised by citizens about the proposal include (a) whether the disposal of such wastewater in a subterranean region in Nebraska may trigger earthquakes, (b) the long-term costs of monitoring such wells and how the clean-up would be financed if damage were done, (c) the possibility of contamination of water used for human consumption, irrigation, and the watering of livestock, and (d) if the heavy truck traffic will damage Nebraska's roadways and pose a highway safety problem.

The purpose of this resolution is to investigate and make recommendations regarding the authority of the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and its role in decisions regarding the disposal of salt wastewater into dry wells. The study shall address what can be done to

protect the environment, the surface and underground water supply, and public safety. The study should make recommendations if further regulation is deemed necessary and examine the funding needed and possible funding sources for such additional regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 155. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Crawford, 45, Chairperson; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Hansen, 26; Hughes, 44; Krist, 10; McCollister, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine current and potential economic development tools available to municipalities in Nebraska. The issues addressed by this study shall include but not be limited to:

(1) A brief review of current economic development tools available to municipalities, including tax-increment financing (TIF) and the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act (Laws 1991, LB840);

(2) A review of potential additional economic development tools which could be made available to municipalities, including a review of economic development tools currently available to municipalities in other states; and

(3) An examination of provisions in the Nebraska Constitution, including the uniformity and proportionality clause in Article VIII, section 1, that limits the ability of the Legislature to authorize municipal economic development tools that are commonly available in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 156. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Crawford, 45, Chairperson; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Hansen, 26; Hughes, 44; Krist, 10; McCollister, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 159. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding handicapped parking. The issues addressed by this study shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of current handicapped parking statutes in sections 18-1736 through 18-1741.07 of the Nebraska statutes;
- (2) A review of handicapped parking statutes in other states;
- (3) A review of handicapped parking requirements in the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and related federal regulations; and
- (4) A review of handicapped parking policies in state-owned buildings, including the State Capitol building.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 174. Introduced by Crawford, 45; Cook, 13; Haar, K., 21; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska Energy Code. The issues addressed by this study shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the current Nebraska Energy Code that is adopted by reference, the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC);
- (2) A review of the 2012 and 2015 editions of the IECC and whether either edition should be adopted as the Nebraska Energy Code;
- (3) An examination of the interaction between the Nebraska Energy Code and the state building code;
- (4) An examination of the role of political subdivisions and the Nebraska Energy Office in ensuring compliance with the Nebraska Energy Code; and
- (5) An examination of the potential role that updating the Nebraska Energy Code could play in helping Nebraska find a more cost-effective way to meet future federal regulations adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under section 111(d) of the federal Clean Air Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 181. Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how to build Nebraska's workforce, especially in high-need areas, and support personal responsibility and professional growth for all Nebraskans. A first step in accomplishing this purpose is to identify and, if applicable, propose changes to state policies that serve as barriers to full-time employment. Some Nebraskans are forced to continue dependency on state-funded benefits rather than risk losing these supports if their work hours or income levels exceed the limits for these programs. While these programs fill an important need for families across the state, there may be improvements that can be made in order to enable workers to stay and grow within the workforce.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

(1) Examining current state-funded financial assistance programs offered by the Department of Health and Human Services, including medicaid and other joint federal and state programs in which the state has discretion in setting limitations;

(2) Examining similar programs in other states; and

(3) Identifying potential improvements that can be made to current programs that would benefit Nebraska employers and employees, expand the available workforce in high-need areas, and contribute to the economic growth of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 182. Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: LB531 was introduced in 2015 because of concerns regarding Nebraskans' lack of sufficient information when deciding which type of health insurance plan to purchase. Cost-sharing obligations, including deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, and excluded out-of-pocket expenses may be significantly greater than the total premiums paid for a health benefit plan. Often Nebraskans are choosing health benefit plans based solely on

premiums and a summary description of benefits without complete and accurate information about their own cost-sharing responsibilities under plans with differing premiums. The information currently presented on differing premiums may lead to an erroneous impression about which plan places the greater burden on the household budget. Nebraskans may be significantly disadvantaged by spending scarce resources on premiums for a benefit plan that fails to protect the household from the cost of medical care in a time of need. Several groups have tried to prevent such harm to consumers by creating tools and Internet-based calculators that reveal a more complete picture of the costs and benefits to consumers of competing health plans. Individuals may lack the time and expertise to find the relevant information themselves to make the best plan selection based on their household's medical and financial situation.

The purpose of this resolution is to investigate and make recommendations regarding what can be done to provide Nebraska consumers the necessary information to enable them to make informed decisions as to which health care plan to purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 185. Introduced by Crawford, 45; Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues faced by Nebraska's behavioral health workforce, particularly licensed mental health practitioners, doctoral-level graduate students, nurses, and psychiatrists. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) What changes, if any, are needed to increase the number of licensed behavioral health providers in Nebraska;

(2) Ways to assist provisionally licensed behavioral health providers in obtaining their credentials;

(3) The barriers, if any, for obtaining approval from medicaid and Magellan Health Services for the billing for behavioral health services; and

(4) A review of policies in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 186. Introduced by Morfeld, 46; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Krist, 10; Pansing Brooks, 28; Scheer, 19; Seiler, 33; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study state services available to victims of human trafficking in Nebraska and shall include a comprehensive list of state services currently available for victims of human trafficking and a list of recommended state services that are currently unavailable to these victims.

The study shall consider best practices in other states and include recommendations of national experts, victim advocates, law enforcement, medical professionals, legal parties, the courts, and treatment providers to create a comprehensive approach to serving these victims.

The study shall also assess Nebraska's implementation of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act relating to identifying and protecting at-risk children and youth, investigating collaborative and multidisciplinary models for identifying and protecting victims, and expanding and leveraging existing services for victims of domestic violence and other similar populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 196. Introduced by Hansen, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study current state statutes governing population thresholds for Nebraska counties. The study should specifically examine the public policy ramifications of increasing various statutory population thresholds for counties having three hundred thousand or more inhabitants. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The policy decisions which resulted in exemptions from certain population thresholds for counties;
- (2) The policy considerations for classifying counties based on population;
- (3) The projected population of Nebraska counties at the time of the upcoming 2020 United States Census; and
- (4) Whether legislation is needed to update current state statutes governing population thresholds for counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 198. Introduced by Krist, 10.

PURPOSE: The unemployment rate among persons with disabilities in Nebraska is extraordinarily high relative to that of the general population. Nebraska should develop and adopt policies that encourage job opportunities for persons with disabilities. Jobs provided by public agencies offer another option to help persons with disabilities become more self-sufficient. Such jobs also provide a real advantage for these individuals because they are earning wages and paying taxes rather than being recipients of public assistance programs such as medicaid.

State Use programs are modeled after the federal AbilityOne program. Forty-six states currently have State Use programs but only twenty-four states have a strong program currently in operation. State Use programs create meaningful employment opportunities for one of the most vulnerable segments of our population while continuing to provide them with the support and services they need to succeed. Just last year, seventeen State Use programs across the country employed 39,500 individuals with disabilities who worked almost 20 million hours and earned \$176 million in wages. Almost \$700 million of their products and services were sold to state government departments and agencies, as well as to local county and city governments, school districts, and universities.

The purpose of this resolution is to study how the state can assist individuals who are blind or who have other disabilities to achieve maximum personal independence through useful, productive, and gainful employment and ensure an extended and constant market for their commodities and services, thereby enhancing their dignity and capacity for self-support through meaningful employment. The study shall bring together all parties in Nebraska who are interested in encouraging employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and examine State Use programs in other states to develop recommendations for how Nebraska could move forward with a State Use program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 200. Introduced by Mello, 5; Bolz, 29; Haar, K., 21; Hilkemann, 4; Kintner, 2; Kuehn, 38; Nordquist, 7; Stinner, 48; Watermeier, 1; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the history and development of the Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC) at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. The University of Nebraska indicates that to move the NIC forward, additional state financial support will be required in terms of both operations and facility construction. The study of the NIC shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The history of funding, both public and private;
- (2) The governance structure and management systems;
- (3) The business development plans and recruitment efforts;
- (4) The branding and marketing strategies;
- (5) The partnerships with private corporations, government agencies, and other academic institutions;
- (6) University of Nebraska commercialization activities;
- (7) The competitiveness of lease rates;
- (8) The utilization of space;
- (9) The current availability of other sources of funds for expansion including federal and private funding;
- (10) An investigation of successful university research park and technology commercialization programs across the nation;
- (11) The development of successful strategies for the future including economic development opportunities, workforce development opportunities, and incentive strategies; and
- (12) The development of measurable outcomes to evaluate progress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 211. Introduced by McCoy, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study synthetic recreational drugs that are marketed and sold as incense. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Examining new approaches to ban and control access to these drugs;
- (2) How to raise awareness of these drugs with the general population;
- (3) Reviewing current penalties in state law relating to these drugs;

(4) Examining the medical outcomes of users of synthetic recreational drugs, particularly those users who overdose on these drugs; and

(5) Working with school districts to determine how best to communicate with students about the dangers of synthetic recreational drugs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 212. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the utilization of authority given to various state commodity development programs to make expenditures for the purpose of influencing federal legislation.

The goals of this study include:

(1) Developing an understanding of the types of federal legislative issues and appropriations that are germane to the role and mission of the state commodity promotion programs; and

(2) Gathering information regarding the extent and manner in which state programs participate in the federal legislative process and the nature and amount of expenditures for that purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 213. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study development of a reference manual for the state commodity promotion programs, the federal beef, pork, and soybean programs, and any other federal commodity programs that are significant to Nebraska agriculture. It is the goal of this study to identify and describe key structural elements of such programs and to provide a graphic and narrative description and comparison of these program elements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 214. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: In accordance with LB 941 enacted in 2014, the Department of Agriculture produced the Dairy Growth and Development Study Report. The purpose of this resolution is to review the information in the Dairy Growth and Development Study Report and to study the following:

- (1) Developing options to implement key recommendations of the report;
- (2) Supporting public and private efforts to promote growth of the state's dairy industry; and
- (3) Exploring interventions available to state government to stimulate private investment in dairy production and processing in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 215. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study implementation of the recommendations of the interim study report produced as a result of LR 309 (2013). The report recommended that the Agriculture Committee explore the value and feasibility of creating a program modeled after the buffer strip program created by the Buffer Strip Act to enlist landowners in the vicinity of specialty or sensitive crops experiencing frequent herbicide drift damage to adopt drift or volatility avoidance and integrated management practices. It is intended that the study will also examine the potential for such a program to access and coordinate with federal funding initiatives to restore and enhance butterfly and pollinator habitat in agricultural settings through the federal Conservation Reserve Program and other federal initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 216. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study implementation of a specific study recommendation of the interim study report produced as a result of LR 309 (2013). The report recommended that the Agriculture Committee investigate whether alternative models for compensating specialty or sensitive crop growers incurring herbicide drift damages are feasible and practical and whether the models would improve upon existing means for compensating specialty or sensitive crop growers for losses due to herbicide drift incidents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 217. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study resolution is to complete the work of the LR 309 interim study conducted in 2013 to investigate ways to avoid and mitigate conflicts arising from herbicide and drift damage to sensitive crops. The study shall seek to incorporate information gathered from related interim studies and finalize recommendations for the consideration of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 218. Introduced by Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The Grain Warehouse Act creates an in-store transfer to document the establishment of a post-direct delivery storage position in favor of producers and other grain owners as a means of satisfaction of a direct delivery obligation of the warehouse licensee to a producer or other grain owner. The in-store transfer method was created by LB 439 (Laws 2005).

The purpose of this resolution is to examine the utility of the in-store transfer method by producers and grain warehouses as an option to meet direct delivery obligations. The goal of this study is to gain an understanding of the extent to which in-store transfers are used in direct delivery transactions, the constraints of their use, and the extent to which producers

and warehouses are aware of such transfers. The study shall further examine the extent to which the producer community is aware of the marketing risks and different statutory provisions governing producer recourse to security and other protections that apply in direct delivery transactions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 222. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues related to family and medical leave. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The current availability of paid and unpaid family and medical leave in Nebraska;
- (2) Policies in other states that establish or encourage paid family and medical leave;
- (3) The costs of state family and medical leave policies;
- (4) The interaction between state family and medical leave policies and private insurance options;
- (5) The availability of paid sick leave in Nebraska;
- (6) The consequences of paid family and medical leave policies for families and employers;
- (7) The consequences of paid sick leave for families and employers; and
- (8) The interaction between paid sick leave and paid family and medical leave policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 223. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study strategies and ideas to ensure more adults have the education and skills needed to fill positions for in demand industries in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The population of adult learners who complete adult basic education who move on to postsecondary education and those who do not;

(2) The barriers adult learners face to moving on to postsecondary education and remedies to those barriers;

(3) The best practices utilized in other states to ensure more adult learners complete postsecondary education or training; and

(4) The fields or sectors of employment that are facing employee shortages and ways to ensure adults have the education and skills needed to fill jobs in those fields or sectors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 227. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: Youth apprenticeships integrate school-based and work-based learning to instruct high school students in employability and occupational skills through local industries. Youth apprenticeships are school-to-work programs that coordinate high school student learning and training in the classroom and at a worksite using business-developed, state standardized worksite skills. These programs provide employers the opportunity to shape the quality of their local workforce, benefiting the local community, while also having direct access to a group of skilled workers to help grow their business. These programs also benefit students as they develop skills in industries including, but not limited to, manufacturing, finance, engineering, information technology, and health care.

The purpose of this resolution is to examine opportunities to train Nebraska's youth for the workforce while addressing both educational and workforce needs. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Current labor market information to identify occupational demands;

(2) Agencies, schools, community colleges, or employers that may offer a youth apprenticeship program;

(3) Similar programs in other states; and

(4) Federal and state labor laws to ensure compliance with child labor laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 228. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Commission of Industrial Relations and the current statutory requirements outlined in the Industrial Relations Act. The study shall include an examination of issues such as whether the act should be clarified regarding comparable wages, conditions of employment, or other related issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 229. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's unemployment insurance laws and unemployment insurance program as governed by the Employment Security Law and related statutes. The study shall include an examination of issues such as unemployment laws and benefits in other states, federal unemployment compensation programs, and other related issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 230. Introduced by Davis, 43; Baker, 30; Gloor, 35; Hughes, 44; Kolowski, 31; Kolterman, 24; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7; Schnoor, 15; Schumacher, 22; Stinner, 48; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study pensions provided for firefighters from cities of the first class.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 231. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the effectiveness of the prescription drug monitoring program currently housed within the Nebraska Health Information Initiative. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to:

1. How the current program functions as well as the capabilities and limitations of the health information exchange model as it currently exists;
2. Current usage of the program by providers and how to increase utilization to ensure statewide coverage;
3. The benefits and limitations of transitioning to a stand-alone prescription drug monitoring system;
4. Funding options, additional funding sources, and projected sustainability of funding for both the current program and a proposed stand-alone system;
5. Technological improvements or changes that would allow for interstate sharing of data with other state prescription drug monitoring programs; and
6. A review of Nebraska statutes to determine changes needed to address the ability for patients to opt out of the system, mandatory reporting by providers, and inclusion of information relating to all payors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 232. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the process by which a person changes his or her name, including the administrative name change procedure within the Nebraska court system, and the practice of adopting a name by which he or she wishes to be known without intent to defraud. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Why Nebraska only provides that a woman may change her surname upon marriage or divorce without following the administrative name change procedure;
- (2) Ensuring that a person's last name is not automatically changed upon marriage and that neither party to the marriage be required to change his or her name, while also ensuring that either party be given equal opportunity to change his or her name upon marriage without participating in the administrative name change procedure;

(3) A review of name change processes in other states and their effect on the issuance of state identification cards and drivers' licenses; and

(4) A review of Nebraska statutes to determine if changes are necessary to address the name change process and, if changes are necessary, how such changes can be made to keep Nebraska in compliance with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005 when issuing state identification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 233. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study payday loans and other short-term lending practices where high interest rates are charged and collected from customers. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) What efforts have been undertaken in other states to address similar practices in which higher-than-average interest rates were charged to customers;

(2) How these lending practices may affect a segment of Nebraska's population that is vulnerable to such practices;

(3) A review of payday lending statutes in other states and their effect on the practice of payday lending; and

(4) A review of Nebraska statutes to determine if changes are necessary to address such lending practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 239. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the issues surrounding the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in Nebraska. The WIOA was signed into law on July 22, 2014. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. WIOA supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998

and amends the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Wagner-Peyser Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. WIOA takes effect on July 1, 2015, with the United States Department of Labor issuing guidance on the timeframes for implementation and proposed regulations reflecting the changes in WIOA.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Increasing the focus on serving the most vulnerable workers;
- (2) Expanding education and training options;
- (3) Helping disadvantaged and unemployed adults and youth earn income while they learn;
- (4) Aligning planning and accountability policies across core programs;
- (5) Improving opportunities to the existing workforce development and adult education systems;
- (6) Implementing recommendations from the United States Department of Labor on both required and optional programs; and
- (7) Increasing the effectiveness of WIOA programs as an economic development tool.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 240. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Crawford, 45, Chairperson; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Hansen, 26; Hughes, 44; Krist, 10; McCollister, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine state law governing cities of the first class in Chapter 16 of Nebraska statutes. The goal of the study is to update and modernize the statutes governing cities of the first class through the elimination of obsolete, antiquated, and duplicate statutory language.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 242. Introduced by Coash, 27; Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the interplay between developmental disability and child welfare services to ensure proper treatment and protection of the rights of state wards.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) A comparison of licensing standards for foster homes and group homes for child welfare placements with the licensing standards for group homes and extended family homes for persons with developmental disabilities;

(2) The alignment of systems to best serve children and families with complex needs, especially children whose needs are not met with a single program; and

(3) The funding mechanisms available to provide permanency for youth with developmental disabilities in the child welfare system, including the possibility of a dual agency or a blended rate for individuals or families providing a permanent placement for such children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 243. Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Nordquist, 7, Chairperson; Davis, 43; Kolowski, 31; Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, and the Nebraska Judges Retirement System. The study may also examine the Class V school employees retirement system administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act.

The study will examine issues relating to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and administration of each retirement system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 244. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the salaries of all judges in Nebraska, including the history of adjusting these salaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 245. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to analyze and review reimbursement rates for ambulatory surgical centers and outpatient hospitals with respect to workers' compensation services in Nebraska. The intent of this study is to determine the effectiveness of current billing and reimbursement methods and to examine the potential benefits of adding such services to existing fee schedules for other medical service providers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 246. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to analyze the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation in workers' compensation cases in Nebraska. One of the main goals of the workers' compensation system is to return injured employees to work in a timely manner. The intent of this study is to determine the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation by examining the outcomes of those in the system who receive such rehabilitation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 247. Introduced by Haar, K., 21; Baker, 30; Kolowski, 31; Nordquist, 7; Pansing Brooks, 28; Stinner, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the process of eliminating the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (NOGCC). The study shall include an examination of the current statutory duties of the NOGCC and whether other agencies or political subdivisions could assume the duties of the NOGCC.

The study shall include an examination of the following:

- (1) The history and current role of the NOGCC;
- (2) The statutory and regulatory duties currently under the jurisdiction of the NOGCC that could be better conducted by the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Natural Resources, the Public Service Commission, natural resource districts, counties, or other appropriate agencies or political subdivisions;
- (3) Appropriate protections needed for landowners and local political subdivisions;
- (4) Appropriate protections needed for Nebraska's natural resources with particular emphasis on creating the highest standard for protection of groundwater;
- (5) The funding and financial assurance needed in order to protect the interests of taxpayers;
- (6) The statutes, rules, and regulations governing the NOGCC in comparison with the relevant statutes, rules, and regulations of other agencies and political subdivisions;
- (7) The statutes, rules, and regulations governing the NOGCC in comparison with those of other states with an emphasis on developing best practices for the State of Nebraska;
- (8) The appropriate public hearing process needed to ensure that the people of the State of Nebraska have an open and meaningful way to have input into the process; and
- (9) Any other issues necessary or appropriate for a complete and full examination of this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 248. Introduced by Campbell, 25; Scheer, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (Act) and its implementation in Nebraska. The Act was passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Obama on September 29, 2014. The Act includes provisions to protect children and youth at risk of sex trafficking, support normalcy for children in foster care, improve adoption incentives, and extend family connection grants. The Act includes, among other things, provisions requiring states to:

(1) Develop and implement policies and procedures to identify, collect, and report data to determine appropriate services for children or youth in the placement, care, or supervision of the state who are victims of sex trafficking or at risk of becoming sex trafficking victims;

(2) Develop and implement plans for expeditiously locating and responding to any child missing from foster care, and determine the primary factors that contributed to the child's running away as well as the child's experiences while absent from foster care;

(3) Calculate and report on any savings resulting from the phase-out of income eligibility requirements for adoption assistance and how the savings were used;

(4) Support normalcy by instituting a reasonable and prudent parent standard to allow foster children and other youth to participate in developmentally appropriate or age-appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities;

(5) Eliminate Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) as a permanency goal for children under the age of 16 and add additional case plan and review requirements for older youth who have a permanency goal of APPLA;

(6) Consult with youth in foster care who are age 14 or older in the development of their own case plan and allow them to select two trusted adults to be part of their permanency planning team; and

(7) Give youth a list of their rights while in foster care regarding education, health, visitation, court participation, and the right to stay safe and avoid exploitation.

The study shall examine the status of the implementation of the Act in Nebraska, including changes to the Department of Health and Human Services' state plan, policies, and procedures and whether any changes should be made to current state law in accordance with the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 249. Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the use of seclusion in public and private schools for children with behavioral issues or special needs. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of current state and local policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in public and private schools regarding the use of seclusion for students;

(2) A review of current state and local policies, procedures, rules, and regulations in public and private schools regarding the training and supervision of staff who use seclusion and work with students with behavioral issues or special needs;

(3) A review of best practices on the use of seclusion in public and private schools developed and adopted at the local, state, or national level; and

(4) Any data compiled by the State Department of Education on the use of seclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 250. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 252. Introduced by Judiciary Committee: Seiler, 33, Chairperson; Chambers, 11; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Krist, 10; Morfeld, 46; Pansing Brooks, 28; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study court costs and fees in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 254. Introduced by Coash, 27; Hughes, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine public charitable corporations in Nebraska. The study will include a review of the history, as well as the financing, assets, ownership, management, maintenance, and structure of public charitable corporations. The study shall also investigate and make recommendations regarding the authority of the Legislature over the personnel, buildings, utilities, and grounds of public charitable corporations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the Executive Board shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 255. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: To investigate and review matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the Education Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 256. Introduced by Mello, 5; Bolz, 29; Haar, K., 21; Hilkemann, 4; Kintner, 2; Nordquist, 7; Stinner, 48; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the history and development of the Peter Kiewit Institute (PKI) to include the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) College of Information Science and Technology and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) College of Engineering. The University of Nebraska indicates that to move PKI forward, additional state

financial support will be required in terms of both operations and facility development. The study of PKI shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The history of public and private funding;
- (2) The organizational structure and management;
- (3) Past and present strategic planning efforts;
- (4) Plans for the expansion of UNO's College of Information Science and Technology and UNL's College of Engineering in education, research, and outreach;
- (5) Plans for facility development and space utilization;
- (6) The partnerships with private corporations, government agencies, and other academic institutions;
- (7) The availability of other sources of funds for expansion including federal and private funding; and
- (8) The development of measurable outcomes to evaluate progress.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 257. Introduced by Kuehn, 38; Haar, K., 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how to create a sustainable and adequate stream of state funds to local public health departments to ensure the departments are able to meet their core responsibilities and functions as set forth in statute. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The history of the formation and funding of local public health departments;
- (2) An examination of current and future public health threats;
- (3) An examination of health care cost containment strategies that can slow the growth of overall health care spending by instituting strategic chronic disease management programs and prevention strategies;
- (4) A review of public health readiness and current public health detection programs and prevention efforts;
- (5) A review of the public health core functions and essential services set forth in section 71-1628.04 of the Nebraska statutes and the necessary revenue streams available to fulfill such functions and services;
- (6) Identifying additional health-related funding streams that have a nexus with public health programming;
- (7) A strategic plan for investments in local public health departments to properly equip them to respond to a critical public health crisis within their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature by December 15, 2015.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 258. Introduced by Johnson, 23; Scheer, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be amended. The study shall include an examination of issues raised during consideration by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of LB 139 (Laws 2015) regarding what persons and activities should be subject to the requirements of the act.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall consider the input of interested individuals, public officials, and such entities as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 259. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: Early childhood education is increasingly being recognized throughout the country as critical for the development of children's health, education, and civic responsibilities. A child's first experiences and relationships set the stage for the learning and literacy that lead to achievement in school and beyond as documented by an ever expanding body of research from a range of disciplines including neuroscience, behavioral research, program evaluation, and economic analysis. For children born into low-income families, early interventions such as voluntary home visiting can help mitigate risks and build parenting skills and significantly improve a child's chances of growing up healthy and prepared to succeed. Economists have found that, over time, well-designed and well-implemented home visiting programs can return up to \$5.70 per taxpayer dollar invested by reducing societal costs associated with poor health and academic failure.

The purpose of this study is to examine Nebraska's current programming regarding home visitation for early childhood education and development

and assess the feasibility of expansion to universal statewide programming. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Existing home visitation statutes;
- (2) The clarity of purpose and expectations surrounding current home visitation programs;
- (3) Successful evidence-based home visitation models;
- (4) Existing and potential mechanisms for tracking funds expended in home visitation programs;
- (5) The effectiveness of current programming by examining goals and outcome evaluation procedures;
- (6) The populations targeted for program assistance to assess the at-risk communities and high-risk populations that have access to services; and
- (7) Funding mechanisms and levels to determine the adequate investment necessary to reach all eligible families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 260. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the feasibility of developing tax-preferential zones on college and university campuses for the strategic development of new start-up businesses and expanding the commercialization of joint public/private research ventures. Tax-preferential zones have been proven to benefit higher education institutions by providing students with internship and employment opportunities while providing intellectual access to start-up businesses, showcasing innovative business and technology developments advanced by the institution, and giving academic faculty real world access to partner with the private sector to develop their ideas.

The issues examined by this study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Options for governance structure and management systems;
- (2) Proven and effective tax incentives for the attraction of high-growth and early-stage businesses;
- (3) The types of businesses that best fit the intent and goals envisioned in tax-preferential zones;
- (4) Similar public/private partnerships in place in other states; and
- (5) Other public/private partnership models used with the goal of integrating higher education research, faculty, and students with high technology and other start-up businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 261. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: Cameras designed to be worn on the body are the latest in a string of technological advances that can help capture encounters between law enforcement and citizens. The use of body cameras has potential benefits including increased transparency, improved officer and citizen behavior, expedited resolution of complaints and lawsuits, and the facilitation of evidence collection. However, there are also concerns about the use of body cameras including concerns related to citizen and officer privacy, officer health and safety, the need for training and policies governing camera use, managing the large amount of video data, and the financial resources needed to use the technology.

This study will examine the issues of implementing the use of body cameras for state and local law enforcement in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The current use of body cameras by law enforcement agencies in Nebraska;
- (2) The potential costs for equipping law enforcement agencies with body cameras, employing appropriate information technology personnel, purchasing software, and other items necessary to support body camera use;
- (3) The potential funding sources to support body camera use including federal, state, local, and other potential funds;
- (4) The policies regarding the use of body cameras in other states and best practices including, but not limited to, the types of interactions to be recorded, when cameras should be turned on, who has access to video recordings, and how long videos should be stored; and
- (5) The potential issues surrounding personal privacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 262. Introduced by Bolz, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the creation of a separate program within the budget of the Department of Health and Human

Services for long-term care expenditures made from all funding sources. The department currently uses the long-term care numbers in building the overall agency budget. Assigning long-term care expenditures under a separate program may better serve the appropriations process as well as consumer, provider, and advocacy interests. Currently, members of the public involved in the appropriations process are limited in their ability to understand and track the public funds involved for long-term care because such funds are not broken out for this significant portion of the department's budget. The Governor has said that accountability begins with transparency, and the purpose of this study is to increase the transparency of the appropriations process regarding long-term care expenditures made by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) What expenditures are appropriate for inclusion as line-items under a separate program for state-supported long-term care services;
- (2) How various long-term care services should be classified for inclusion in a long-term care program in the biennial budget; and
- (3) How the results and efficacy of various expenditures for long-term care services may be more easily assessed from the information included under a long-term care program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 263. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study possible changes to the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act as enacted by LB 749 (Laws 2014) to replace the Business Corporation Act. LB 749 contained an operative date of January 1, 2016. However, LB 157 (Laws 2015) delayed the operative date of the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act to January 1, 2017, in order to afford an additional interim and legislative session during which amendments can be considered before such act becomes operative.

In order to carry out the purposes of this resolution, the committee shall consider the input of interested persons, including the practicing bar, as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 265. Introduced by Davis, 43; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Groene, 42; Kolowski, 31; Kolterman, 24; Krist, 10; Mello, 5; Morfeld, 46; Pansing Brooks, 28; Seiler, 33; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine minor traffic violation, adult, and juvenile pretrial diversion programs authorized by counties and municipalities. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The pretrial diversion programs authorized by counties and municipalities and the approved private pretrial diversion program providers;

(2) The costs for participation in pretrial diversion programs and the additional fees assessed by counties and municipalities including court costs;

(3) The delivery of court costs collected by the court system for credit to appropriate funds;

(4) The utilization of fees collected by counties and municipalities;

(5) The treatment of indigent persons and uncollectible costs and fees; and

(6) The feasibility of establishing a central reporting system of all pretrial diversion programs including the assessment, collection, and utilization of program costs and fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 266. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine state law as it pertains to weight limits for a single axle and a group of axles and the maximum load limits for motor vehicles, semitrailers, trailers, farm tractors, and implements of husbandry carrying agricultural products or commodities. The study shall also examine the exemptions to maximum load limits and permissible loads by permit, as well as the height, width, and length limits for motor vehicles, semitrailers, trailers, farm tractors, and implements of husbandry carrying agricultural products or commodities.

Agricultural producers utilize a variety of vehicles of varying sizes and weights to haul agricultural products and commodities. These vehicles,

when manufactured, may be constructed in such a way that the vehicle alone exceeds applicable statutory limitations on size and weight. At the same time, technological advances have also improved to minimize the impact of these vehicles on roads despite exceeding statutory size and weight limits.

The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall conduct an interim study to invite testimony from agricultural commodity organizations, state and local government representatives, and other necessary stakeholders and to review all issues involved with the current use of vehicles hauling or carrying agricultural products or commodities and the practicality of adopting different size and weight limits for such vehicles. The interim study shall also consider any public safety concerns relating to the safe and practical operation of these vehicles by adoption of different size and weight limits, including, but not limited to, speed and distance limitations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 269. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the aerial and aviation safety concerns of structures over fifty feet in height that are either self-standing or supported by guy wires and ground anchors and have accessory facilities on which an antenna, sensor, camera, or other equipment is mounted.

This study shall examine such towers that are located outside the corporate limits of a city or village and which are not:

- (1) Towers or poles that support electric utility transmission or distribution lines;
- (2) Facilities licensed by the Federal Communications Commission;
- (3) Any structures supporting telecommunications equipment, including microwave relay facilities and towers erected for the purpose of providing commercial mobile radio service or commercial mobile data service as defined in 47 C.F.R. 20.3, but not including towers or poles used for providing private mobile radio services;
- (4) Wind-powered electrical generators with a rotor blade radius greater than six feet;
- (5) Street lights erected or maintained by the Department of Roads; and
- (6) Structures located fifty feet or less from a house, barn, electric utility substation, or in the curtilage of a farmstead.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 270. Introduced by Schilz, 47; Davis, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive study and review of the fee structure of the Nebraska Brand Committee which includes, but is not limited to, per head inspection fees, surcharge fees, recording fees, grazing permit fees, registered feedlot fees, registered dairy fees, and other fees. The study shall examine the history and appropriateness of the current fee structure including:

- (1) The rationale behind the current fee structure;
- (2) The functions and services provided for the fees assessed to different segments of the beef industry;
- (3) The last time the fee structure was updated; and
- (4) A comparison of Nebraska's brand inspection fee structure with other states.

The study shall also examine possible statutory changes of the fee structure and the rationale for any proposed changes as well as technological upgrades and other innovations to assist the Nebraska Brand Committee in modernizing services. The committee may solicit comments, suggestions, and recommendations from appropriate stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 271. Introduced by Kintner, 2.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine and identify the positive and negative effects of education funding if Nebraska chooses not to accept federal funds that are tied to federal mandates which reduce flexibility in the administration of education in Nebraska's school districts. Over the last several decades, school districts have experienced ever increasing involvement by the federal government in the education of students in our elementary and secondary schools through mandates tied to federal education dollars. This study shall examine the effects of this trend and whether there are fiscal or other benefits of increased flexibility and freedom gained by refusing to accept federal funds which outweigh the monetary benefits of accepting federal education money.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, identifying and categorizing:

- (1) All federal funds received by Nebraska to support school districts;
- (2) What specific mandates are connected with any such funds;
- (3) The positive and negative fiscal impacts and other effects of refusing such money; and
- (4) Any recommendations from the findings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 272. Introduced by Haar, K., 21; Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Niobrara Council and its current statutory authority outlined in the Niobrara Scenic River Act. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The qualifications needed to serve on the council;
- (2) The process of appointing council members;
- (3) The authority of the council to act;
- (4) The boundaries over which the council has jurisdiction; and
- (5) Other issues related to the council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 273. Introduced by Davis, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the current practices of municipalities using tax increment financing (TIF) under the Community Development Law. The issues examined by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Whether municipalities are consistently conducting the cost-benefit analysis required under section 18-2113 of the Nebraska statutes;
- (2) What factors municipalities are using to determine whether projects authorized under the Community Development Law are meeting the test in section 18-2116 of the Nebraska statutes;

(3) Whether municipalities are accurately applying the definitions of substandard and blighted areas as described in section 18-2103 of the Nebraska statutes for purposes of declaring an area as such;

(4) The prevalence of TIF being utilized by municipalities as a development tool for building housing subdivisions or other private development projects;

(5) Whether the current requirement that municipalities give notice to the other taxing entities whose property tax receipts would be affected by a potential project allows for sufficient input and cooperation among the taxing authorities;

(6) Whether impacted local governments or other taxing entities should have more participation in the TIF approval process;

(7) Whether the local presence of TIF projects adversely affects the property tax receipts of other local taxing entities, such as school districts, community colleges, and natural resources districts;

(8) Whether municipalities are paying off bonds in a timely manner and using any excess TIF funds appropriately;

(9) How prevalently TIF is being used in conjunction or concurrently with other tax-supported economic development incentives; and

(10) A determination of any changes that should be made to the Community Development Law to address any inadequacies or inconsistencies in these areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 274. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the feasibility of using pay for success financing in Nebraska. Since 2011, states around the country have begun implementing new financing strategies for programs known as social impact bonds. This approach to funding programs allows government entities to pay for services only after the intended results have been achieved. Public-private partnerships are created through private investment to fund government programs. Investors are paid an interest rate upon completion and certification of successful results.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The use of pay for success financing by other states and political subdivisions;

(2) Areas of state government in Nebraska that may benefit from the use of pay-for-success financing as a funding mechanism including early

childhood education, public health, juvenile justice, and reduction of inmate recidivism;

(3) The specifics of pay for success financing contracts including mechanisms to measure and evaluate results, identify appropriate funding sources, and determine appropriate interest rates to attract successful private organizations and funds; and

(4) The negative effects of pay for success financing including potential bureaucratic growth, complexities of measuring results, the potential to exclude new providers and innovative programs, and the inability and lack of willingness of local private entities to enter into pay for success contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 275. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding the affordability, delivery, and taxation of child care in Nebraska. The high cost of child care can be a crippling burden for families with young children. The average cost of care for an infant in a Nebraska child care center is over \$9,000 per year or nearly 47% of the income for a single parent at the federal poverty level. Child care and early education is a labor intensive industry which leads to high costs for families, despite the fact that child care workers are among the lowest paid professionals nationwide. In addition, child care providers incur high costs to provide high-quality child care and comply with necessary regulations. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The effectiveness of the current child care tax credit and how it compares with other states;

(2) State child care subsidies;

(3) The history of tax policies that assist families with children in acquiring child care;

(4) Public policy options to address child care affordability;

(5) The current state of the child care workforce in Nebraska including pay, benefits, supply, and demand; and

(6) Demographic and workforce trends that may impact the cost of child care in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 276. Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Morfeld, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study bullying by and against students and youth. Bullying is a form of violence among students and youth that is common at schools, at playgrounds, on buses, at extracurricular activities, and in neighborhoods. Current anti-bullying protections fail to adequately address bullying, leaving young persons especially vulnerable to harassment based on characteristics such as race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, and physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Society has evolved in such a way that communication technologies provide an unprecedented arsenal of bullying weapons, commonly referred to as cyberbullying. Bullying in and out of educational settings is a pervasive problem that can have negative consequences for the educational climate and for the right of students to learn in a safe environment without fear. Bullying can have negative lifelong consequences, both for students and youth who bully and for their targets.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, defining bullying, including cyberbullying, identifying populations that may be most impacted by bullying, identifying measures for preventing bullying, ascertaining age-appropriate discipline methods or penalties, conducting a thorough review of state and federal policies, and making recommendations for legislation to ensure that students and youth have the opportunity to learn and thrive in safe environments.

The committee may consider input from interested persons including the Nebraska State Bar Association, law enforcement, educators, and other stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 277. Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Morfeld, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine workforce development that will support the growth and retention of youth talent and startup businesses in the areas of new technology, computer sciences, and related fields in the State of Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Workforce development and job creation through public and private partnerships;

(2) Current educational tools available for students interested in technology and business;

(3) Recommendations from existing businesses on the educational needs relating to the areas of new technology, computer sciences, and related startup businesses;

(4) Development of existing business competitions, code camps, and startup weekends in the state;

(5) Recommendations on capital and noncapital resources needed to improve the startup culture;

(6) Development of startup technology companies leading to "Silicon Prairie" branding; and

(7) Current policies that may restrict the growth of startup businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 278. Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

PURPOSE: Nebraska is a state with a rich history and is the home to several municipalities with significant older and historic neighborhoods in decline. Some municipalities have been encouraging neighborhood revitalization through zoning activities, neighborhood plans, and studies. The purpose of this resolution is to examine the existing resources and the need for additional tools for municipalities to further encourage revitalization of neighborhoods. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Approaches to maximize neighborhood revitalization benefits for businesses, residents, and the larger community;

(2) The need for financial incentives to encourage business investments in declining neighborhoods;

(3) The prospect for additional incentives to encourage home ownership of rehabilitated older buildings; and

(4) The possibility of establishing collaboration between state and local government entities as well as between public and private entities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 279. Introduced by Seiler, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 280. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study municipal bankruptcy. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the following:

(1) The petitions filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nebraska including whether such petitions were filed by municipalities or other political subdivisions;

(2) The fiscal health of Nebraska municipalities compared with the fiscal health of municipalities in other states;

(3) Bond ratings and interest rates received on municipal bonds by Nebraska's municipalities; and

(4) The financial interests in a municipal bankruptcy filing including continuation of municipal services and pensions and other retirement and health care benefits owed to current and former municipal employers, bondholders, and other creditors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 281. Introduced by McCollister, 20; Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine and review issues concerning the dates on which the fiscal year for Nebraska's public schools begin and end. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) School districts' abilities to predict their annual budget;
- (2) School districts' abilities to plan for potential budget shortfalls prior to the start of the academic year;
- (3) Counties' abilities to certify property taxes for school districts;
- (4) Factors the State Department of Education must take into consideration for certifying school district state aid;
- (5) The history and reasoning for adopting different cycles for the fiscal year and the academic year; and
- (6) Such other relevant matters relating to this subject as may be appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 282. Introduced by Mello, 5; Haar, K., 21; Hilkemann, 4; Kuehn, 38; Nordquist, 7; Stinner, 48; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: LB 561 (Laws 2013) moved juvenile services from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Office of Probation Administration. At the time, it was estimated there could be significant cost savings but that has not been the case. The Office of Probation Administration has requested deficit appropriations in both the 2014 and 2015 legislative sessions for juvenile services. This study will examine the reasons for the higher cost of juvenile services under the Office of Probation Administration. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) The cost differences for specific services;
- (2) The difference in services provided by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Probation Administration to the juvenile justice population;
- (3) The differences between the pilot projects and full implementation;
- (4) The differences in reimbursement methods; and
- (5) The outcome of meetings with medicaid and child welfare staff, the medicaid managed care contractor, and probation personnel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 283. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study potential state policy and funding improvements to address the unique educational needs of low-achieving students in poverty and students with limited English proficiency.

The study committee shall consult with the State Board of Education's student achievement coordinator and superintendents from a variety of school districts during the course of the study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 284. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study potential modifications to the laws governing learning communities. The study shall focus on developing legislation to ensure that community, educational, and school district issues will continue to be addressed cooperatively across boundary lines to positively impact the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of education available to students in all parts of a learning community. The study shall build upon the report prepared by the school superintendents of the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties and submitted to the Education Committee of the Legislature in December 2015. Furthermore, the learning community coordinating councils and advisory committees established pursuant to section 79-2104.01 of the Nebraska statutes may jointly make additional recommendations which expand the conversation beyond educational entities to include counties, cities, and other community interests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 285. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study class size in Nebraska's public schools. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) An analysis of data compiled by the State Department of Education relating to teachers and students assigned to classrooms across the state;
- (2) The identification of specific issues leading to overcrowded classrooms;
- (3) An examination of class size as it relates to students dealing with issues of poverty, special needs, English language deficiencies, and other needs;
- (4) A review of research regarding class size as a factor impacting student achievement;
- (5) The best practices in Nebraska and other states to reduce class size; and
- (6) Any legislation needed to incentivize best class size practices.

In order to carry out the purposes of this resolution, the committee shall consider input of interested persons including teachers, administrators, school board members, the State Department of Education, and experts on effective education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 286. Introduced by Garrett, 3; Coash, 27; Ebke, 32; Krist, 10; Pansing Brooks, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the effectiveness of civil forfeiture under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) How the process of civil forfeiture currently works under the act;
- (2) The current use of civil forfeiture;
- (3) The types of civil forfeitures made and whether the forfeitures accompany criminal prosecutions;
- (4) How funds seized by civil forfeitures are being expended;
- (5) How reporting of, and accountability for, civil forfeitures is currently being conducted;
- (6) Whether indigent property owners should be allowed to obtain court appointed counsel in civil forfeiture cases;
- (7) Whether the act should be changed to shift the burden of proof to the government;
- (8) A review of the act to determine whether changes are needed to reform or eliminate civil forfeiture; and
- (9) An investigation of reform of civil forfeiture laws in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 287. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study craft breweries and whether brewpubs and microbreweries should be licensed as craft breweries or should have separate licenses. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The types of businesses that currently qualify for a Class L craft brewery license under section 53-123.14 of the Nebraska statutes;
- (2) How Nebraska's craft brewery licenses compare to those in other states and the federal government's classification of similar businesses; and
- (3) How the current classification and any proposed changes to the classification impacts the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's ability to regulate Class L licensees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 288. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the statutory relationship between cities of the second class and villages and the public libraries within their jurisdictions. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The administration of public libraries and their budgetary process;
- (2) The current statutory structure outlined in sections 51-201 to 51-220 of the Nebraska statutes; and
- (3) Possible alternatives to the statutory structure outlined in sections 51-201 to 51-220 of the Nebraska statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 289. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the current alcohol policies of the University of Nebraska system. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The University of Nebraska system's current policies regarding alcohol on its campuses;
- (2) Policies of state universities in other states regarding alcohol on campus and the subsequent impact of those policies; and
- (3) Whether the University of Nebraska system's alcohol policies should be changed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 290. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how public libraries are archiving newspapers. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The best practices for preserving Nebraska newspapers;
- (2) Whether there should be a statewide standard for the digitization of Nebraska newspapers;
- (3) The role libraries and the Nebraska State Historical Society should have in the digitization of Nebraska newspapers; and
- (4) Who maintains proprietary ownership of the news content.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 291. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study stroke systems of care. The rapid identification, diagnosis, and treatment of strokes can save the lives of stroke patients, and in some cases can reverse neurological damage such as paralysis and speech and language impairments, leaving stroke patients with few or no detrimental neurological effects.

Despite significant advances in diagnosis, treatment, and prevention, strokes are the fifth leading cause of death and the leading cause of disability. With the aging of the population, the number of persons who have strokes is projected to increase. Forecasting by the American Heart Association predicts stroke prevalence to increase by 24.9% between 2010 and 2030.

The cost of treating strokes continues to increase. In Nebraska, total hospital charges for strokes increased by over \$54 million between 2001 and 2010, with an average charge of \$31,100 per stroke hospitalization in 2010. Nationally, direct medical costs for strokes are expected to increase by 238% from \$28.3 billion in 2010 to \$95.6 billion by 2030.

A fragmented and disorganized delivery system prohibits patients from receiving acute treatment. An effective system is needed in our communities in order to treat stroke patients in a timely manner and to improve the overall outcomes of these patients. Creation and enhancement of stroke systems of care provides patients the highest quality care while ensuring seamless transitions along the care continuum.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Designating comprehensive stroke centers, primary stroke centers, and acute stroke-ready hospitals;
- (2) Adoption and distribution of a nationally recognized stroke triage assessment tool;
- (3) Establishment of pre-hospital protocols and related assessment, treatment, and transport of patients by licensed emergency medical service (EMS) providers in the state;
- (4) Training for EMS and public safety answering points personnel on assessment and treatment of stroke patients;
- (5) The costs and logistics of implementing and maintaining a statewide stroke database to improve quality of care; and
- (6) Coverage for the cost of health services provided through medicine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 292. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues related to public assistance programs for relative or kinship caregivers who provide full-time care for minor children through the formal child welfare system or through an informal arrangement. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The use and availability of public assistance programs for relative or kinship caregivers inside and outside the formal child welfare system;
- (2) Financial barriers that prevent otherwise suitable adults from becoming relative or kinship caregivers;
- (3) Policies in other states that encourage and support kinship caregiving through access to public assistance programs, especially for the purpose of preventing future or continued involvement in the child welfare system; and
- (4) The interaction between public assistance program access and the availability of stable and loving homes for children with caregivers who are not their parents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 293. Introduced by Morfeld, 46; Baker, 30; Cook, 13; Kolowski, 31; Pansing Brooks, 28; Sullivan, 41; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to thoroughly examine the funding distribution for the community college areas. The current funding distribution has been considered a short-term solution. The presidents of the six community college areas have agreed that the funding distribution needs to be analyzed and have pledged their time and effort to recommend changes in the funding distribution to ensure a viable statewide community college education is available to all Nebraskans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature by December 1, 2015.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 294. Introduced by Murante, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 295. Introduced by Bolz, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how to improve behavioral health and mental health services in Nebraska in order to prevent crime and reduce costs associated with the incarceration of people who have heightened behavioral and mental health needs. Behavioral and mental health treatment is an important part of Nebraska's public safety and health care systems. The Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee created by the Legislature with passage of LR424 in 2014 noted that a more exhaustive examination of the availability of mental health care in Nebraska must be undertaken by the Legislature. Specifically, this study shall examine the availability of behavioral and mental health services as an essential public safety strategy.

The issues examined in this study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) The relationship between the availability of behavioral and mental health services and criminal activity;

(2) An examination of crimes committed by, and incarceration rates of, people with behavioral and mental health diagnoses^{13/4}

(3) The demand for public behavioral and mental health services in relation to the supply of such services through the behavioral health regions and the medicaid program, including supply and demand (a) by region, (b) for those with a criminal charge related to their behavioral or mental health status, and (c) for juvenile justice; and

(4) Reviewing best practices from other states and other strategies to address needs.

The study committee is encouraged to work with the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature to examine the issues involved in this study and, if and when appropriate, hold joint hearings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 296. Introduced by Bolz, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the financing of Nebraska's child welfare system. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Nebraska's utilization of federal funding to support child welfare services such as medicaid, the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, and Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act;

(2) How Nebraska can more effectively use federal funds to allow state child welfare dollars to fill in funding gaps and implement approaches to improve outcomes for children and families;

(3) The status of funding within Nebraska's Title IV-E demonstration project;

(4) The use of state funds appropriated for child welfare services as part of Budget Program 354 and how Nebraska can increase transparency and accountability in this program and others that utilize state dollars to fund child welfare;

(5) The savings Nebraska has captured as a result of the federal government decoupling adoption assistance and aid to families with dependent children income standards as part of the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008; and

(6) How Nebraska is reinvesting those savings in post-adoption and post-guardianship services or reunification services required by federal law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 297. Introduced by Mello, 5; Haar, K., 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study career technical education (CTE) in Nebraska. When employers are given surveys on concerns of the business climate, they routinely rank the need for a highly skilled workforce as one of their top concerns. CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. CTE prepares these students for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies and makes academic content accessible in a hands-on context. In addition, the high school graduation rate for CTE students is about 15% higher than the national average.

This study shall examine CTE programs and the feasibility and potential benefits of their expansion in Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Successful CTE pilot programs in other states;
- (2) Expanding CTE programs at various educational levels including secondary education and the transition to postsecondary study;
- (3) The impact that CTE has on preparing the emerging workforce for high demand jobs and existing unfilled jobs in Nebraska;
- (4) An analysis of existing federal, state, local, and philanthropic funding sources for CTE programs in Nebraska; and
- (5) How existing CTE programs may be integrated into the process of implementing the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 298. Introduced by Watermeier, 1; Davis, 43; Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues to improve the emergency medical services system in Nebraska.

Residents, workers, and visitors in rural, suburban, and nonurban areas rely, almost exclusively, on volunteer providers of emergency medical services. Volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical services personnel have provided emergency medical services to their local communities for over a century at only a fraction of the cost to the taxpayers which would have resulted from implementing a system of paid fire departments and paid emergency medical services. Many cities, villages, and rural areas cannot afford the cost of maintaining their current level of emergency medical services without the presence of a local pool of committed and dedicated volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical services personnel.

Nebraska communities which rely on volunteers to provide emergency medical services are faced with numerous economic and demographic trends and conditions which make the recruitment and retention of qualified volunteers increasingly difficult. As a consequence, some volunteer departments are trying to cope with declining rosters of active volunteers. However, recruiting people to volunteer their time to serve as volunteer emergency medical services personnel is very difficult because there are extensive educational requirements including at least 160 hours of classroom time plus independent study time. Upon completion of the classwork lasting at least six months, an emergency medical services candidate must pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical

Technicians exam in order to obtain a credential to serve as an emergency medical services provider. Many candidates fail to pass the exam making recruitment and retention efforts that much more difficult in Nebraska.

Nebraska must ensure that volunteer providers of emergency medical services and volunteer firefighters are given the support they need in order to continue to provide emergency medical services in the communities they serve. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The number of volunteer providers of emergency medical services in Nebraska over the past 15 years;
- (2) The current delivery and possible improvement of emergency medical services instruction and training to volunteer emergency medical service candidates in Nebraska;
- (3) Barriers which limit the passage of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians exam by those being tested;
- (4) The efforts which have been undertaken in other states to address the education, training, testing, and certification of volunteer providers of emergency medical services;
- (5) The cost of emergency medical services apparatus and equipment used by providers of emergency medical services, as well as the costs of training and the sources of funds available to pay for such costs;
- (6) The composition of the Board of Emergency Medical Services and the possible expansion of the board in an effort to make sure there is an adequate representation of volunteers; and
- (7) Steps to improve the emergency medical services system in Nebraska in consultation with the Board of Emergency Medical Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 299. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the opportunity gap in 3rd grade reading scores. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Data compiled by the State Department of Education relating to 3rd grade reading scores across the state;
- (2) Third grade reading scores as they relate to students dealing with poverty, special needs, English language deficiencies, and other obstacles;
- (3) Research regarding 3rd grade reading scores as a factor in graduation rates and juvenile delinquency;
- (4) The best practices in Nebraska and other states and countries to increase 3rd grade reading scores;

(5) Developing performance goals for increasing 3rd grade reading scores and lessening opportunity gaps; and

(6) Any legislation needed to incentivize best practices to achieve reading success for all students in 3rd grade.

In order to carry out this study, the committee shall develop a team of interested persons including students, teachers, parents, administrators, school board members, the State Department of Education, child welfare advocates, and experts on effective education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 300. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the out-of-state placements of Nebraska children pursuant to section 43-247 of the Nebraska statutes. During FY2014, the Foster Care Review Office found there were 381 children in out-of-state placements with 25% in relative placements, 28% in group homes, and 42% in treatment placements. For the first quarter of 2015, the Office of Probation Administration reported 158 youth in out-of-state placements with 3% in relative placements, 39% in group homes, and 51% in treatment placements. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The types of out-of-state congregate care placements where Nebraska children are or have been placed, including group homes, treatment facilities, staff secure facilities, or other institutional care;

(2) The rates of such placements and the lengths of stay;

(3) Whether the level of care needed and the placements are appropriate;

(4) The reasons why children are not placed in Nebraska;

(5) The role of medicaid and other funding sources in paying for out-of-state placements;

(6) Family input and preference regarding the placement of children in out-of-state or instate placements; and

(7) The possibility of utilizing geographically closer placements or strengthening Nebraska's provider system to allow instate treatment or placement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 301. Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Nordquist, 7, Chairperson; Davis, 43; Groene, 42; Kolowski, 31; Kolterman, 24; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the practice of "double dipping" which occurs when public employees retire with a public pension and become reemployed by the same or a different public employer and earn a second public pension benefit. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the frequency of double dipping, the cost, if any, to public retirement systems, and possible mechanisms to limit or eliminate the practice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 302. Introduced by Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine whether imposition of a sales or income tax upon the sale of agricultural land may provide funding for a targeted property tax relief fund for agricultural property owners and whether there are any more viable alternatives to meaningfully address the agricultural property tax situation. The issues to be considered by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The dramatic increase in the price, and thus the valuation, of agricultural land in the past decade and the failure to offset the increase with a decrease in the levy which has resulted in significant increases in the property tax burden on agricultural land and corresponding increases in local spending commitments;

(2) Whether significant relief from the increased property tax burden on agricultural property can only come from a severe downturn in the price of agricultural land or from large increases in income or sales taxes which already are high;

(3) The variability of agricultural income due to weather, grain or livestock prices, and other economic factors which can from time to time cause shortfalls in available cash and acute difficulty in paying agricultural property taxes;

(4) How the dramatic increase in the price of agricultural land causes very large amounts of income to be transferred, often to out-of-state heirs at the time of the sale of agricultural land; and

(5) Why there is currently no sales tax collected at the time of the sale of agricultural land and, in cases where the owner is deceased, no income tax collected on very large amounts of income.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 303. Introduced by Krist, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues raised in LB501 (2015). LB501 was introduced to address the appropriate use of legislative audio or video materials produced by a public television or public radio broadcasting station.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The Legislature's partnership with Nebraska Educational Telecommunications (NET), including a review of NET's appropriate use policy to ensure that the use of legislative audio or video content does not jeopardize NET's Federal Communications Commission license;

(2) Whether statutory restrictions are needed to address the use of audio or video created and owned by public entities for campaign or commercial purposes;

(3) First Amendment issues related to restricted use; and

(4) Archiving and displaying audio and video streams, including file size and compression, formatting, and file management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the board shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 304. Introduced by Campbell, 25; Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and assess the behavioral health needs of children and youth in Nebraska and the resources available to meet those needs. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Nebraska's system of care strategic plan;

(2) Behavioral health programs and services available to children and youth through the State Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the behavioral health regions;

(3) Funding sources for assessment, treatment, and community support; and

(4) Model policies and programs used by school districts or other groups to ensure that children's behavioral health needs are met.

The study committee is encouraged to work with the Education Committee of the Legislature to examine the issues involved in this study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 305. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: To investigate and review matters and issues which are within the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 306. Introduced by McCollister, 20; Campbell, 25; Cook, 13; Craighead, 6; Crawford, 45; Gloor, 35; Hilkmann, 4; Howard, 9; Krist, 10; Kuehn, 38; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7; Scheer, 19; Stinner, 48; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the various ways in which medicaid expansion could be implemented in Nebraska under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for medical assistance for newly eligible individuals described under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the federal Social Security Act, as amended. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Plans adopted by other states to expand medicaid eligibility to newly eligible individuals, including comparing plan elements and actual or projected impacts on health plan enrollment, health outcomes, and state budgets;

(2) Options for incorporating innovative practices to reform and improve the quality of health care services in Nebraska;

(3) Possible demonstration projects or waivers for which Nebraska could apply under section 1115 of the federal Social Security Act; and

(4) Existing areas of flexibility in Nebraska's medicaid and health care policies that provide opportunities for lowered costs and improved health outcomes without a demonstration project or waiver.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 307. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the issues within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 308. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine issues regarding the growth of Nebraska's agricultural-related economy in order to determine what actions can be taken to spur population growth and the expansion of businesses in rural communities throughout Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) A review of past studies and reports related to the growth of Nebraska's agricultural-related economy and rural economic development programs;

(2) The delivery and effectiveness of rural economic development programs in Nebraska;

(3) Policies in Nebraska and other states that partner urban areas with more rural areas; and

(4) Policies in Nebraska and other states that promote job creation in rural communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 309. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the personal income tax rates in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The history of personal income tax rates, including deductions allowed;
- (2) The fiscal impact of past changes of personal income tax rates and related deductions; and
- (3) Options for improving Nebraska's personal income tax rates and any related fiscal impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 310. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the services provided by community paramedics including the ability of community paramedics to provide additional services in order to deliver unique health care services in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 311. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine Second Chances, the operating while intoxicated jail diversion program in Iowa, in order to

determine whether the program would be workable and successful in Nebraska. The program in Iowa is a weekend diversion program that is an alternative to jail for people convicted of a first offense of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Under the law in Iowa, a person convicted of first offense operating while intoxicated is sentenced to serve a minimum of two days of drinking drivers education training. The program is administered by community colleges and private entities and the costs of the program are charged to the individual.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 312. Introduced by Harr, B., 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine ways to improve and fund child behavioral health programming in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 313. Introduced by Scheer, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the process utilized by the Department of Roads in the design and construction of the Nebraska expressway system, specifically the design and standards utilized in the replacement of bridges along the route of highways designated, but not yet constructed, as a four lane expressway. The study shall examine and determine the cost-effectiveness of the department replacing existing two lane bridges with bridges sufficient to meet existing expressway standards when it is necessary to replace a bridge on a designated expressway route.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 314. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The use of restraint and seclusion techniques in American schools is substantial nationwide. Allegations of severe injury and the death of students resulting from the use of restraints and seclusion in schools have been well-documented. Students are often restrained as a disciplinary measure even when the student's behavior appeared not to be aggressive. Students continue to be restrained or secluded without prior parental consent and cases have been identified where schools and staff ignored explicit parental instructions not to use restraint or seclusion.

The use of restraint and seclusion presents significant risks to the health and safety of students. Children are subjected to restraint or seclusion at higher rates than adults and are also at greater risk of injury from the use of restraint or seclusion. Many students subjected to restraint or seclusion have been physically injured, traumatized, or died as a result. Children with disabilities are at particular risk of being restrained or secluded. Students with disabilities are also disproportionately subject to the use of restraint or seclusion.

There are no federal laws which govern the use of restraint and seclusion for schools in the United States. Consequently, states are left to regulate the use of restraint and seclusion. The resulting patchwork of state legislation and regulation of the use of restraint and seclusion in schools is an uneven and confusing array of protections that still give wide latitude to school staff in responding to student behavior with aversive techniques like restraints and seclusion. Nebraska lacks specific state laws or regulations governing the use of restraints and seclusion in Nebraska schools. Consequently, there is little uniformity in the regulation of restraint and seclusion in Nebraska.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Existing regulatory and statutory mechanisms that allow or circumscribe the use of restraint or seclusion in Nebraska schools;
- (2) Data collection techniques used by schools to report incidences of the use of restraint or seclusion, to whom incidences are reported, and how those reports are catalogued;
- (3) The incidence of the use of restraint or seclusion in Nebraska schools and the extent and duration of the restraint or seclusion used on students, especially those with disabilities; and
- (4) Nebraska school policies and procedures on the use of restraint or seclusion, including, but not limited to, when these practices are prescribed and for what purpose, the school staff authorized to use them, the training school staff receive regarding the use of these techniques, and the extent to which parents or legal guardians are notified when such techniques are used.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 315. Introduced by Schilz, 47; Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the contractual relationship between craft breweries and distributors. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The three-tier system and the contractual relationship between beer manufacturers and distributors under Chapter 53, article 2, of the Nebraska statutes;
- (2) The intent and underlying policy behind the franchise laws under Chapter 53, article 2, of the Nebraska statutes; and
- (3) Whether there should be changes to allow craft beer manufacturers more flexibility when entering and exiting distribution contracts under section 53-218 of the Nebraska statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 316. Introduced by Lindstrom, 18; Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: In 1998, Nebraska joined the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) and enacted related statutes contained in Chapter 69, article 27, of the Nebraska statutes. Under the MSA, participating tobacco product manufacturers agreed to restrictions on certain marketing practices and agreed to make payments into a fund which is distributed to the states to enforce the MSA and investigate and litigate potential violations of state tobacco laws.

Currently the MSA payment is \$6.36 per carton. The most recent figures show the MSA allocation received by Nebraska in FY2013-14 was \$37.5 million. Currently the Nebraska tobacco excise tax is \$6.40 per carton. That excise tax generated \$55.5 million in FY2013-14. Since the excise tax and MSA payment are roughly equivalent, it would seem that the excise tax generated and the MSA allocation received should be roughly equivalent. However, Nebraska's MSA allocation is approximately only two-thirds of the amount generated by the excise tax. It appears that Nebraska residents are paying significantly more into the MSA than Nebraska is receiving back. Since most of the other restrictions agreed to by tobacco product

manufacturers in the MSA have been incorporated into federal or state law, this study shall examine Nebraska withdrawing from the MSA and increasing its excise tax to approximate the MSA payment. In this way, an additional \$15-\$20 million per year could be generated for Nebraska without increasing the amount paid by Nebraska residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 317. Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review the Nebraska Rules of the Road and examine those provisions which establish maximum weight limits for vehicles operated upon public roads.

The study shall specifically examine existing axle and overall vehicle weight limits for registered motor vehicles, equipment, machinery, and implements of husbandry utilized in farm and ranch operations.

The study shall also review the appropriateness of existing penalties for operating overweight vehicles on a public road and the penalties for the damage to, or the destruction of, a bridge by vehicles that exceed authorized weight limitations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 318. Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive study of Nebraska's state and local roads system, including current and potential funding sources dedicated to highways, roads, and bridges. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following subjects:

(1) A review of the needs of the state highway system, including preservation of the current system, rural and urban needs, bridge conditions, and proposals to accelerate the completion of the state expressway system;

(2) A review of the needs of county and municipal roads, including bridge needs and the allocation of state funding to counties and municipalities;

(3) A review of current statutory restrictions on the use of roads funding allocated to counties and municipalities and the need to provide for further restrictions on the allowed expenditures of such funding;

(4) An examination of the sustainability of current funding sources dedicated to state and local highways;

(5) An examination of alternative or expanded highway funding sources and practices including, but not limited to, vehicle fees, vehicle miles traveled fees, non-motor vehicle related revenue sources, highway bonding, vehicle tolling, and the utilization of design-build projects and public-private partnership programs. The examination of the feasibility of authorizing the use of public-private partnership programs shall include the feasibility of using this method for three pending projects: (a) The south Lincoln beltway; (b) the east Lincoln beltway; and (c) the completion of the four lane expansion of Highway 275; and

(6) The existing management structure and overall efficiency of the Department of Roads and any statutory changes required to increase productivity and the financial efficiency of the department in project development, design, and delivery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 319. Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the following issues under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission:

(1) The administration of Enhanced Wireless 911 service and proposals to implement next-generation 911 services;

(2) Policy options and the role of legislation in promoting the availability and adoption of affordable broadband internet services in all regions of the state;

(3) The regulation and oversight of transportation service provided by transportation network companies; and

(4) The manner of the imposition and collection of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund surcharge upon prepaid wireless telecommunications services.

The committee shall seek the input of the public, the Public Service Commission, and service providers in conducting this study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 320. Introduced by Murante, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the membership, role, and duties of the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council. It is important that the council represent all aspects and membership of law enforcement officers statewide. Law enforcement officers have different duties and experiences based upon rank, role, and location across Nebraska. The study shall also review the membership, role, and duties of law enforcement oversight councils in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 321. Introduced by Morfeld, 46; Stinner, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the potential growth for tourism in Nebraska and to develop funding recommendations for designated Nebraska tourism sites. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The criteria by which to designate specific tourism sites or specifically identify three to six existing tourism sites, or potential tourism sites, that have the ability to attract national and international visitors;

(2) The amount of funding necessary to properly develop tourism sites as a source of economic development;

(3) The guidelines that should be used for developing these tourism sites;

(4) Efforts and strategies in similarly situated states in funding specific tourism sites that lead to economic development; and

(5) The role of political subdivisions in the promotion and development of tourism sites.

The study committee shall develop a scoring model, matrix, or other criteria relative to comparing the economic impact of each proposed project. A proposed project should obtain a minimum economic impact score or ranking to be considered. Projects that are ranked the highest in economic development and impact should receive deference over other lower ranked projects. The study committee may collaborate with the Nebraska Tourism Commission to carry out this study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 322. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the potential for the expansion of fruit and produce gleaning in Nebraska. Gleaning is the act of collecting post-harvest crops from farmers' fields and orchards after the crops have been commercially harvested and it is not economically feasible to harvest further. Gleaning can also occur at farmer's markets when unsold fruit and produce remains. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Data compiled by the Department of Agriculture relating to the number of fruit and produce producers in Nebraska;

(2) The estimated amount of edible crop left in the field or that does not make it to market;

(3) Research regarding gleaning as an effective tool in providing fresh fruit and produce to food deserts and reducing food waste;

(4) Research regarding the environmental impact of food waste that is placed into landfills;

(5) The best practices in Nebraska, other states, and countries to increase opportunities for gleaning;

(6) Developing performance goals for increasing gleaning opportunities in Nebraska; and

(7) Any legislation needed to incentivize the use of best practices by producers to support gleaning opportunities and help reduce hunger in both rural and urban communities.

The study committee shall work with interested persons including farmers and other producers, food pantries, gleaning organizations, the Department of Agriculture, and other experts on fruit and produce production and harvesting data, effective gleaning practices, and current food waste reduction best practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 323. Introduced by Groene, 42; Ebke, 32.

PURPOSE: Agriculture is one of the most important drivers of the state's economy and irrigation is essential to the ability of most producers to raise crops in Nebraska. Nebraska irrigates 8.3 million acres which is more irrigated farmland than in any other state according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Because ground water is essential to irrigation agriculture, it is important to understand ground water depletion and the complex effects that ground water pumping has on stream base flow as well as the timing of ground water pumping and the response of hydrologically connected streams.

Augmentation projects have been utilized in the Republican and Platte Rivers to offset excessive depletions to the stream flow from hydrologically connected ground water withdrawals. Nebraska has two options to meet its obligation under the Republican River Compact. Nebraska can either reduce beneficial consumptive use, or increase the water supply in the basin. Nebraska has elected to import more water from the Platte River to meet river flow obligations. Specifically, the Nebraska Cooperative Republican Platte Enhancement project (N-CORPE) is a joint effort of four natural resources districts designed in part to assist in complying with the Republican River Compact. The project consists of 19,500 acres in Lincoln County. Over 15,000 irrigated acres have been retired and approximately 65,000 acre feet of water made available annually to be piped into the Republican and Platte Rivers. Water can be banked when not immediately needed so that it will be available in future years. The cost of the N-CORPE project has been paid for by producers in the area and the project has produced some controversy.

The purpose of this resolution is to examine the issues surrounding the N-CORPE augmentation project and to give local producers an opportunity to hear and to be heard on the subject of augmentation. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The long-term consequences of annual ground water pumping from N-CORPE for purposes of compliance with the Republican River Compact and the Twin Platte Natural Resources District Integrated Management Plan and how the effects of the pumping are determined;
- (2) The potential for banking water from the N-CORPE project when banking is determined to be appropriate and how the decision to bank water is determined;
- (3) Which entity is responsible for enforcement, reporting, and oversight of augmentation projects;
- (4) How information about the project and the consequences to streamflow, compliance with the compact, and the tax base are disseminated to producers, taxpayers, and the general public;
- (5) What impact augmentation will have on long-term sustainability including the ability of future generations of producers to remain in agriculture and be able to irrigate;
- (6) Whether augmentation is causing unintended harm to other landowners, producers, agencies, counties, or other political subdivisions; and

(7) What are the long-term consequences of augmentation projects on property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 324. Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to analyze the ability of, and methods for, employers or associations to enter into contracts, agreements, or other arrangements with an agent or a broker for compensation to be paid to the agent or broker for the sale of a health benefit plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 325. Introduced by Davis, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the current method of using adjusted property valuation as the primary measurement of local resources in Nebraska's public education funding formula. The study shall examine the impact of this method on the state's reliance on property taxes.

This study may include, but shall not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) The degree to which the current measurement of resources, primarily the value of real property, accurately reflects a community's and an individual's ability to contribute to local public school funding;

(2) The concentration of real property and income in different parts of the state and in urban and rural public school districts;

(3) Methods used to measure local resources in other states, such as the utilization of local sales and income tax as a component to determine school aid;

(4) The impact of creating a local income surtax and including it in the local resources calculation and the extent to which this may improve the ability to contribute to local public school funding; and

(5) The impact of reducing state aid valuation for agricultural land to a smaller percentage of its actual value without affecting the taxable valuation of such land.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 326. Introduced by Davis, 43; Friesen, 34; Hughes, 44; Larson, 40; Schilz, 47; Schnoor, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the procedure for and use of like-kind exchanges under section 1031 of the United States Internal Revenue Code and their potential impact on the taxable value of agricultural and horticultural land. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The prevalence of the use of section 1031 exchanges for the acquisition or disposition of agricultural and horticultural land and the number of section 1031 exchanges used to determine the taxable value of agricultural and horticultural land;

(2) The impact on the taxable value of agricultural and horticultural land with the use of section 1031 exchanges in the sales file;

(3) The adequacy of the information required on real estate transfer statements, otherwise known as form 521, with regard to section 1031 exchanges and the adequacy of the information obtained by assessors with regard to section 1031 exchanges in addition to that information obtained from the form 521; and

(4) Recommendations on policy alternatives to mitigate the impacts of section 1031 exchanges on taxable value, if warranted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 327. Introduced by Davis, 43; Larson, 40; Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the procedures and categories used by county assessors to classify types of land for valuation and taxation purposes. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Whether the uses and land classifications are being properly identified and applied by county assessors and whether the property assessment division of the Department of Revenue is providing appropriate oversight of county assessors' practices;

(2) Whether the uses and land classifications are sufficiently taking into account the difference in soil types, climate, and other local factors that could affect the actual value of the land;

(3) Situations in which land within a county is valued based on comparable land in a different county and whether this is a justifiable procedure by county assessors;

(4) Whether the category for recreational land is being properly utilized by county assessors in assessing land value;

(5) Whether the assessment practices and categories of classification for acreages in urban areas are appropriately identifying the type and value of that land;

(6) Recommendations of statutory changes to promote consistent and accurate classification of agricultural and other types of land; and

(7) Whether an additional category called irrigated grassland is merited as opposed to classifying it as irrigated cropland.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 328. Introduced by Davis, 43; Friesen, 34; Groene, 42; Hughes, 44; Kuehn, 38; Larson, 40; Schilz, 47; Schnoor, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine options for implementing a "circuit breaker" tax credit to protect agricultural property owners in Nebraska from a property tax "overload" by providing a tax credit when property taxes are excessive relative to the taxpayer's income. This study shall examine the circuit breaker mechanism that was included as a property tax relief option in LR566 (2014) and as a property tax recommendation in the report of the Tax Modernization Committee created by LR155 (2013).

This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Property taxes paid by Nebraska agricultural property owners relative to their incomes;

(2) Mechanisms for reducing property taxes for agricultural property owners paying high property taxes relative to their incomes, particularly the agricultural property tax circuit breaker concept and its variations, including multiple threshold and sliding scale circuit breakers;

(3) Agricultural property tax circuit breakers and similar programs in other states including Michigan's Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program and Wisconsin's farmland preservation and tax relief credit programs;

(4) Recommendations for definitions and limitations in using an agricultural property tax circuit breaker to avoid abuse of the program and ensure credits are delivered to those with the highest need, including the types of land use that would qualify as agricultural uses, the duration of agricultural use required to qualify for the credit, which families and businesses would be eligible, which property taxes would be included, and the measure of income to be used; and

(5) The fiscal impact of potential options for an agricultural property tax circuit breaker in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 329. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of the state and local sales and use taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 330. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of real and personal property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 331. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the structure of, compliance with, and administration of Nebraska individual and corporate income taxes, including financial institution and insurance premium taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 332. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The first recommendation by the 2013 Tax Modernization Committee regarding property taxes was to increase the state aid commitment to schools to offset property tax use and reduce property taxes as a share of total state and local taxes. The purpose of this resolution is to continue the work of the Tax Modernization Committee by further examining the tax revenues for public schools and to develop recommendations for any changes to the current structure of such tax revenues. The study committee is encouraged to work with the Education Committee of the Legislature to examine the issues involved in this study.

The study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) Fairness and equity between and among taxpayers of Nebraska;
- (2) Efficiency and effectiveness in the availability of tax resources necessary to educate the public school students of Nebraska;
- (3) Stability in the resources available to school districts and the tax expectations for citizens of the state in light of the unique constitutional limitations imposed by the uniformity clause of our state constitution; and
- (4) Competitiveness for the state in terms of the state's ability to attract and keep well-paying jobs and investments based on the state's economic climate.

The study committee shall examine relevant studies, literature, and any other information with a focus on the mix of taxable resources available and used to support public education, as well as any other information deemed appropriate by the study committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 333. Introduced by Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine methods to improve government efficiency. Nebraska's overall state spending has increased faster than the cost of living for numerous budget cycles. This trend at the state level is not sustainable over the long-term and will eventually result in significant financial challenges for the state as well as Nebraska taxpayers. These spending levels have also led to Nebraska maintaining its position as one of the highest tax states in the United States.

Controlling growth in government spending at the state and local levels while simultaneously delivering high quality public services will require governmental entities to evaluate new strategies and methods for delivering these services in a more efficient and effective way. These new strategies must focus on simpler program delivery and waste reduction.

For more than 25 years, private sector employers in the United States have utilized a wide variety of quality improvement techniques to improve the development and delivery of their products and services while lowering their overall cost structure. Many of these improvement processes were derived by businesses from around the world. American automobile manufacturers, for example, copied the principles of lean manufacturing in an effort to make American cars more competitive in the world marketplace. Private businesses have more recently adopted additional strategies like Six Sigma, Kaizen, executive coaching, and supply chain management.

These various quality improvement strategies first practiced in the private sector are now being implemented in the health care, utility, and government sectors. Nebraska employers like Blue Cross and Blue Shield are fully committed to their quality improvement efforts and have committed short-term resources with the goal of improving their product offerings and lowering costs over the long term. Today, more than 13 states from both sides of the political spectrum have implemented aggressive and focused quality improvement strategies. States like Iowa have used lean government strategies to successfully decrease the amount of time necessary to improve an air quality permit. These positive results were accomplished with less overall cost.

This study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) Whether there is a clear need to improve the effective delivery of programs implemented by and administered in the State of Nebraska;
- (2) What quality improvement initiatives other states have undertaken to address program inefficiencies and cost;
- (3) What has been the result in states that have implemented lean government and other similar strategies;
- (4) What quality improvement strategies would have the greatest likelihood of success in Nebraska;
- (5) Whether initiatives should be on a wide scale or pilot basis if Nebraska decides to implement quality improvement strategies;
- (6) Whether there will be support within both the legislative and executive branches to support and implement strategies derived through quality improvement efforts;

(7) How the state can successfully engage current employees in the quality improvement process;

(8) How the state can engage customers in improving service delivery; and

(9) Whether quality improvement processes could ultimately lead to cost savings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 334. Introduced by Morfeld, 46; Cook, 13; Kolowski, 31; Pansing Brooks, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the integral link between academic achievement and risky health behaviors and to identify specific strategies in schools proven to simultaneously address and improve both academic achievement and health outcomes.

Comprehensive sex education in schools can promote healthy attitudes on adolescent growth and development, body image, dating, relationships, and family. Comprehensive sex education can also positively affect adolescent behavior and provide teens with the information, skills, and support needed to develop positive values and make healthy decisions.

The issues examined by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) How other states have institutionalized medically accurate and age appropriate comprehensive sex education;

(2) Effective partnerships between families, schools, and health providers in providing information on sexual and reproductive health and how parents and caregivers can be equipped to provide accurate information to children and youth;

(3) Strategies in schools to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors related to improving adolescent sexual and reproductive health outcomes; and

(4) Recommendations for any legislation necessary to address issues and provide solutions suggested by this study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 335. Introduced by Hansen, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the most recent report published by the Presidential Commission on Election Administration (Commission), review the recommended election law changes, and compare them to current Nebraska law. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The recommendations made by the Commission;
- (2) The recommendations made by the Commission that are not currently enacted into Nebraska law;
- (3) The recommendations made by the Commission that are already completely or partially enacted into Nebraska law; and
- (4) Legislative action necessary to mirror those recommendations made by the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 336. Introduced by Hansen, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the appropriation of funds to the State Department of Education to implement mentor teacher programs which provide ongoing support for individuals entering the teaching profession. The study shall examine mentor teacher programs in other states and how those programs are funded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 337. Introduced by Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding distracted driving due to texting or using a hand-held device while operating a motor vehicle. The study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) The dangers of distracted driving;
- (2) The efficacy of current Nebraska statutes on this subject;

- (3) The complications of enforcing a primary offense of distracted driving; and
- (4) What legislative action has been taken in other states to address these and similar safety concerns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 339. Introduced by Garrett, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the current statutory requirements governing the removal of roadside vegetation. The study shall consider the concepts proposed by LB 639 (2015) which would require the Department of Roads to adopt a vegetation control program and authorize the department to issue permits for the removal of vegetation if such vegetation obstructs or obscures a lawfully placed advertising sign, display, or device. The study shall also include a review of the statutory fee charged for the issuance or renewal of a vegetation control permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 344. Introduced by Education Committee: Sullivan, 41, Chairperson; Baker, 30; Cook, 13; Groene, 42; Kolowski, 31; Morfeld, 46; Pansing Brooks, 28; Schnoor, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the financing of public education and develop recommendations for improving school funding in Nebraska. Providing quality education through Nebraska's public schools is essential to the quality of life for all citizens of the state. In addition, the first recommendation by the 2013 Tax Modernization Committee regarding property taxes was to increase the state aid commitment to schools to offset property tax use and reduce property taxes as a share of total state and local taxes. Therefore, the study committee is encouraged to work with the Revenue Committee of the Legislature to examine the issues involved in this study. The study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) Fairness and equity for public school students in all parts of the state;
- (2) Efficiency and effectiveness in the use of tax resources to educate the public school students of Nebraska;
- (3) Stability in the resources available to school districts, particularly in times of economic volatility; and
- (4) Competitiveness for the state in terms of the state's ability to attract and keep well-paying jobs and investments based on a workforce educated for success.

The study committee shall examine school finance policy in other states and relevant studies and literature with a focus on the mix of taxable resources used to support education, strategies for addressing economic volatility, and other issues as determined by the committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

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