

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 561

Introduced by Harms, 48; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the feasibility of a merger between the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Labor as proposed by LB 971, introduced in 2012. The two agencies have very different functions, funding sources, constituents served, general culture, legislative priorities, and core missions. The merging of these two agencies requires a definite plan for the specifics of how the merger will occur. The study should determine whether the merger should occur and if so, how best to accomplish it.

The interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Research into which states have similar agencies to the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Labor and whether any of these states have merged the two agencies and if so, how it was accomplished and whether the merger was successful;

(2) A review of positions, duties, core missions, funding sources, functions, general culture, constituents served, legislative priorities, and any other relevant areas within the two departments; and

(3) Whether it is advisable to merge the departments, and if so, recommendations for a plan to accomplish the merger.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 on or before December 31, 2012.