

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 23**

Introduced by Riepe, 12.

Read first time January 14, 2015

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

WHEREAS, veterans have earned and deserve high-quality, safe, consistent, and accessible health care services; and

WHEREAS, veterans in Nebraska often travel long distances to receive health care at a United States Department of Veterans Affairs facility, especially hospital care; and

WHEREAS, veterans deserve access to health care services closer to where they reside, including access to personal physicians, local hospitals, and other health care facilities and services; and

WHEREAS, the retention and recruitment of physicians and other health care professionals will promote stronger community-based health care services to veterans and the surrounding communities, and reduce needless duplication of health care services; and

WHEREAS, continuity of care and promotion of the medical home will be improved with veterans having access to local physicians and local hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the economies of local communities will benefit from veterans accessing all components of the community's health care resources; and

WHEREAS, money and time will be saved by allowing veterans to access local community health care services for their health care needs; and

WHEREAS, expanding health care options for veterans will increase access for veterans, especially in rural areas.

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

1. That the Legislature urges the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to provide veterans with direct access to health care services in each local community in Nebraska.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Secretary and Under Secretary of Health of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and to each member of Nebraska's delegation to the United States Congress.