

NINETY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 82**

Introduced by Dw. Pedersen, 39

PURPOSE: To conduct an interim study to examine and seek to determine the appropriate administrative structure for the oversight and operation of the Nebraska veterans homes with respect to the concerns addressed in LB 430 (1999).

The study shall systematically examine the operations of the veterans homes and the efforts such operations have on satisfactory delivery of services, efficient use of resources, and accountability regarding the quality of care.

This study shall include the following elements:

(1) A review of the issues and policies governing admittance to the Nebraska veterans homes in order to determine the reasons for underutilization of the facilities by eligible veterans and their spouses;

(2) A review of the issues and policies regarding the utilization of bed space for offices and storage;

(3) A review of issues and policies regarding staffing, such review to cover recruitment efforts and personnel retention;

(4) A determination of the proper level of funding the operations of the veterans homes; and

(5) An exploration of the issue of oversight by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-SIXTH 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 in conjunction with the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, individuals representing the budget division of the Department of Administrative Services, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, all interested members of the Legislature, representatives of the veterans organizations, and members of the public shall participate and assist the committee in its findings.

3. That the committee shall conduct public hearings across the state with at least one public hearing being held at each of the four veterans homes located in Norfolk, Omaha, Grand Island, and Scottsbluff, providing an opportunity for public comment and discussion with all employees and residents regarding their concerns with the current operations at each of the facilities.

4. That the committee shall, upon the conclusion of its study, submit a written report of its findings, including all transcripts of public hearings held across the state in each of the four veterans homes, together with its recommendations, to the Legislature.

5. That the committee shall conduct a review of LB 430 (1999) in order to amend that legislation or prepare legislation for reintroduction in the next legislative session.

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PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATURE

I, Patrick J. O'Donnell, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Legislative Resolution 82, which was passed by the Legislature of Nebraska in the Ninety-sixth Legislature, First Session, on the XXXX(words)XXXX day of April 1999.

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CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE