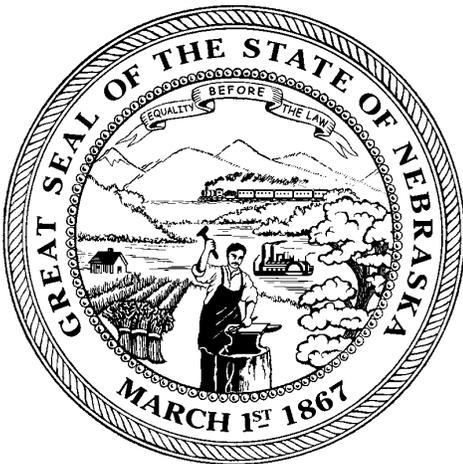


**INTERIM
STUDY
RESOLUTIONS**

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

2014



03-02-01-2014

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2014**

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INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS**Numerical List**

- LR400 Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee
- LR422 Provide the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, be designated to develop policy recommendations towards transformation of Nebraska's health care system
Special Committee
- LR424 Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee
- LR433 Interim study to examine issues relating to production, possession, and use of hemp oil for the purposes of treating epileptic seizures
Judiciary
- LR444 Create the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee as a special legislative committee
Special Committee
- LR491 Interim study to examine the need to clarify and expand application of LB985 (2014), which provided standing to natural resources districts and requirements for water appropriations
Natural Resources
- LR497 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should amend its insurance statutes to authorize property and casualty to provide electronic delivery of insurance notices and documents and Internet posting of certain insurance policies
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR498 Interim study to further examine the updating of Nebraska's business entity statutes
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- LR499 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska's Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated
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- LR501 Interim study to examine whether the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act should be updated
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- LR506 Interim study to examine whether changes in the electronic payments market have rendered section 8-157.01 unworkable and inapplicable to financial institutions
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- LR508 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska P-16 Initiative organized and managed by the University of Nebraska Education
- LR510 Interim study to examine issues surrounding offshore tax shelters
Revenue
- LR517 Interim study to examine ways to improve the quality and availability of interpreter services for Nebraskans who are deaf or hard of hearing
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- LR518 Interim study to examine the need to craft a policy to ensure that women who choose to give birth at home are adequately supported by trained health care professionals
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- LR519 Interim study to evaluate current course offering for high school students in Nebraska
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- LR520 Interim study to examine the problems that law enforcement is encountering since the State of Colorado legalized the sale and recreational use of marijuana
Judiciary
- LR521 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR522 Interim study to examine the U.S Dept. of Transportation's Maritime Administration's designation of the Missouri River from South Sioux City, Nebraska, south to Kansas City, Missouri, as the M-29 Marine Highway Connector
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR523 Interim study to examine alternative transportation options and recommend potential changes to Nebraska's statutes
Transportation and Telecommunications

- LR525 Interim study to examine the skills gap in Nebraska's workforce and to identify options for workforce education
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- LR526 Interim study to examine options to provide incentives for professional growth and development of teachers as the means to increased student achievement and success in Nebraska public schools
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- LR527 Interim study to examine the reasons why emergency disaster payments made by or through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are not made in a timely manner once awarded
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- LR528 Interim study to examine issues surrounding financing the maintenance and replacement of county bridges
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- LR529 Interim study to examine the adequacy of provider rates to meet the needs of Nebraskans with disabilities and the providers of services
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- LR530 Interim study to examine existing and proposed programs, policies, administrative rules, and statutes that impact the financial stability of working families in Nebraska
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- LR531 Interim study to examine Department of Agriculture regulation of nonprofit nursery stock distributors under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act
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- LR532 Interim study to examine utilization of federal school breakfast and lunch programs and the impact of new federal options on Nebraska
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- LR534 Interim study to examine issues surrounding patent assertion entities, commonly referred to as "patent trolls"
Judiciary

- LR535 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the structure of health and human services functions currently administered by the Department of Health and Human Services
Appropriations
- LR536 Interim study to examine the process of creating legislative task forces, committees, and commissions
Executive Board
- LR537 Interim study to examine implementation, management, operation, and ongoing development of Next Generation 911 service in Nebraska
Transportation and Telecommunications
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- LR542 Interim study to examine issues regarding the current guardian ad litem system
Judiciary
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Judiciary
- LR544 Interim study to examine the fiscal impacts of unfunded mandates
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- LR545 Interim study to examine state-wide efforts that can be taken to improve Nebraska's access to local food supply and distribution networks
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- LR554 Interim study to gather information and study the possible existence and extent of labor trafficking in the State of Nebraska
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- LR555 Interim study to examine how cities and villages provide services to residents located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction or sanitary improvement districts of such cities and villages
Urban Affairs

- LR556 Interim study to examine local use of property taxes to study the fiscal relationship between state and local governments and the impact on our schools and justice system
Revenue
- LR557 Interim study to examine the need to appropriate funds to Memorial Park in Omaha, Nebraska, for improvements to the park and to examine ways to honor our veterans
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR558 Interim study to examine ways the state and municipalities can encourage the development of community gardens, including providing spaces for gardening on public lands
Agriculture
- LR559 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Medicaid Reform Council
Health and Human Services
- LR560 Interim study to provide a forum for receiving the dairy industry report authorized pursuant to LB941, which was enacted during the 2014 legislative session
Agriculture
- LR561 Interim study to examine the role and value of private veterinarians in assisting law enforcement in carrying out duties under the Livestock Animal Welfare Act
Agriculture
- LR562 Interim study to examine the adequacy of revenue supporting the licensure and enforcement of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act
Agriculture
- LR563 Interim study to examine vertical coordination in the pork industry
Agriculture
- LR564 Interim study to examine regulatory and statutory provisions governing packer procurement of swine through marketing or production contracting under the federal Packers and Stockyards Act
Agriculture
- LR565 Interim study to examine whether adding antidepressant, antipsychotic, and anticonvulsant drugs to the medicaid preferred drug list would be of benefit to Nebraska medicaid or Nebraska medicaid clients
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- LR566 Interim study to examine methods used by other states to determine the taxable value of agricultural land
Revenue
- LR567 Interim study to examine potential funding sources for the Great Plains Black History Museum, Science and Technology Center in Omaha, Nebraska
Appropriations
- LR568 Interim study to examine options for the creation of a Nebraska educational trust fund for the purpose of stabilizing the availability of state aid to education when there is a significant decline in state sales and income tax revenue
Education
- LR569 Interim study to examine the professional development of forensic science in Nebraska
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- LR570 Interim study to examine the compliance and enforcement issues relative to Nebraska's tax incentive programs
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- LR573 Interim study to examine Nebraska's state aid programs to cities, counties, and other political subdivisions
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- LR574 Interim study to explore the need for fully integrated residential services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing
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- LR575 Interim study to examine issues surrounding in-home personal services
Health and Human Services
- LR576 Interim study to examine the current status of the sharing of electronic health records and health information exchanges in Nebraska
Health and Human Services

- LR577 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
General Affairs
- LR578 Interim study to examine the various Nebraska agricultural products used in the production of craft beer and distilled spirits
General Affairs
- LR579 Interim study to examine the need-based financial aid program, the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act, to determine whether the program is sufficient to meet the needs of students
Education
- LR580 Interim study to examine the reform effort of Nebraska's behavioral health system
Health and Human Services
- LR581 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR582 Interim study to review the work of the Task Force on Unfunded Mandates created in 1996 and to study the impacts of unfunded and underfunded mandates on counties and county governments
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR583 Interim study to assess the behavioral health and mental health needs of Nebraska's K-12 students and available resources to meet those needs
Health and Human Services
- LR584 Interim study to examine issues relating to changing recreational liability provisions
Judiciary
- LR585 Interim study to examine the Nebraska statutes relating to cities of the first class
Urban Affairs
- LR586 Interim study to gather information and make recommendations to craft policy to support and continue electronic health records exchanges and health information initiatives
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- LR587 Interim study to gather information and make recommendations to craft policy to support the creation of a sustainable community health workforce in Nebraska
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- LR588 Interim study to examine the establishment of an early childhood data governance entity
Education
- LR589 Interim study to evaluate the local and statewide health impacts of burning coal
Natural Resources
- LR590 Interim study to examine the organizational structure of public power
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- LR592 Interim study to examine various methods of behavioral health workforce development
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- LR593 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee
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- LR594 Interim study to examine Nebraska constitutional provisions which enable or limit the Legislature's power to provide for property tax policies and relief programs
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- LR595 Interim study to examine the impact of Nebraska changing to a home rule state in matters of local concern
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- LR596 Interim study to evaluate the potential uses of Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment and out-of-hospital Do Not Resuscitate protocols
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- LR597 Interim study to examine methods by which to find balance between water resources and water uses in areas under interstate compacts, cooperative agreements, or decrees
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- LR598 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the potential impact of federal legislation that would require remote retailers with no physical presence in Nebraska to collect and remit sales and use tax
Revenue

- LR599 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of tax increment financing under the Community Development Law in Nebraska
Urban Affairs
- LR600 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of a foundation formula per student in the calculation of need for a school district and use of an income factor in the calculation of resources for state aid purposes
Education
- LR601 Interim study to examine the impact of implementing, and the impact of failing to implement, medicaid expansion in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR618 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee
Education
- LR624 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee
Health and Human Services
- LR628 Interim study to examine the role of Nebraska state government in establishing and implementing standards of performance for existing carbon dioxide emissions from public power plants within the state
Natural Resources

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.

Resolutions that call for the creation of a select committee will be reviewed by the Executive Board. 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: Schilz (C), Wallman (VC), Bloomfield, Chambers, Hansen, B. Harr, Johnson, Lathrop

- LR560 Interim study to provide a forum for receiving the dairy industry report authorized pursuant to LB941, which was enacted during the 2014 legislative session
Agriculture
- LR563 Interim study to examine vertical coordination in the pork industry
Agriculture
- LR564 Interim study to examine regulatory and statutory provisions governing packer procurement of swine through marketing or production contracting under the federal Packers and Stockyards Act
Agriculture
- LR531 Interim study to examine Department of Agriculture regulation of nonprofit nursery stock distributors under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act
Agriculture
- LR561 Interim study to examine the role and value of private veterinarians in assisting law enforcement in carrying out duties under the Livestock Animal Welfare Act
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- LR562 Interim study to examine the adequacy of revenue supporting the licensure and enforcement of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act
Agriculture
- LR545 Interim study to examine state-wide efforts that can be taken to improve Nebraska's access to local food supply and distribution networks
Agriculture
- LR558 Interim study to examine ways the state and municipalities can encourage the development of community gardens, including providing spaces for gardening on public lands
Agriculture

Appropriations: Mello (C), Harms (VC), Bolz, Conrad, Kintner, Larson, Nelson, Nordquist, Wightman

- LR535 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the structure of health and human services functions currently administered by the Department of Health and Human Services
Appropriations
- LR544 Interim study to examine the fiscal impacts of unfunded mandates
Appropriations
- LR529 Interim study to examine the adequacy of provider rates to meet the needs of Nebraskans with disabilities and the providers of services
Appropriations
- LR549 Interim study to examine issues relating to Game and Parks Commission funding
Appropriations
- LR567 Interim study to examine potential funding sources for the Great Plains Black History Museum, Science and Technology Center in Omaha, Nebraska
Appropriations

Banking, Commerce and Insurance: Gloor (C), Christensen (VC), Campbell, Carlson, Garrett, Howard, Pirsch, Schumacher

- LR498 Interim study to further examine the updating of Nebraska's business entity statutes
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR499 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska's Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR501 Interim study to examine whether the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act should be updated
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR497 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should amend its insurance statutes to authorize property and casualty to provide electronic delivery of insurance notices and documents and Internet posting of certain insurance policies
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR506 Interim study to examine whether changes in the electronic payments market have rendered section 8-157.01 unworkable and inapplicable to financial institutions
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Business and Labor: Lathrop (C), B. Harr (VC), Ashford, Chambers, Hansen, McGill, Wallman

LR547 Interim study to examine issues surrounding labor shortage areas in the state and opportunities available to Nebraska's future workforce
Business and Labor

LR551 Interim study to examine enforcement under the Employee Classification Act and the effect misclassification has on facets of business and labor in Nebraska
Business and Labor

LR554 Interim study to gather information and study the possible existence and extent of labor trafficking in the State of Nebraska
Business and Labor

Education: Sullivan (C), Scheer (VC), Avery, Cook, Davis, K. Haar, Kolowski, Seiler

LR618 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee
Education

LR508 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska P-16 Initiative organized and managed by the University of Nebraska
Education

LR525 Interim study to examine the skills gap in Nebraska's workforce and to identify options for workforce education
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LR519 Interim study to evaluate current course offering for high school students in Nebraska
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Education
- LR600 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of a foundation formula per student in the calculation of need for a school district and use of an income factor in the calculation of resources for state aid purposes
Education
- Executive Board:** Wightman (C), Krist (VC), Adams, Avery, Campbell, Chambers, Christensen, Karpisek, Lathrop, Mello (nonvoting ex officio)
- LR536 Interim study to examine the process of creating legislative task forces, committees, and commissions
Executive Board
- General Affairs:** Karpisek (C), Coash (VC), Bloomfield, Crawford, Johnson, Krist, Lautenbaugh, Schilz
- LR578 Interim study to examine the various Nebraska agricultural products used in the production of craft beer and distilled spirits
General Affairs
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Government, Military and Veterans Affairs: Avery (C), Murante (VC), Bloomfield, Garrett, Karpisek, Lautenbaugh, Scheer, Wallman

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- LR557 Interim study to examine the need to appropriate funds to Memorial Park in Omaha, Nebraska, for improvements to the park and to examine ways to honor our veterans
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR538 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the implementation of an electronic notary system in Nebraska
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Health and Human Services: Campbell (C), Krist (VC), Cook, Crawford, Gloor, Howard, Watermeier

- LR601 Interim study to examine the impact of implementing, and the impact of failing to implement, medicaid expansion in Nebraska
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- LR583 Interim study to assess the behavioral health and mental health needs of Nebraska's K-12 students and available resources to meet those needs
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Judiciary: Ashford (C), Lathrop (VC), Chambers, Christensen, Coash, Davis, McGill, Seiler

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- LR520 Interim study to examine the problems that law enforcement is encountering since the State of Colorado legalized the sale and recreational use of marijuana
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- LR542 Interim study to examine issues regarding the current guardian ad litem system
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- LR584 Interim study to examine issues relating to changing recreational liability provisions
Judiciary
- Natural Resources:** Carlson (C), Brasch (VC), Dubas, K. Haar, Johnson, Kolowski, Schilz, Smith
- LR491 Interim study to examine the need to clarify and expand application of LB985 (2014), which provided standing to natural resources districts and requirements for water appropriations
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- LR590 Interim study to examine the organizational structure of public power
Natural Resources

LR589 Interim study to evaluate the local and statewide health impacts of burning coal
Natural Resources

LR628 Interim study to examine the role of Nebraska state government in establishing and implementing standards of performance for existing carbon dioxide emissions from public power plants within the state
Natural Resources

Nebraska Retirement Systems: Nordquist (C), Davis (VC), Conrad, Karpisek, Kolowski, Mello

LR521 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems

Revenue: Hadley (C), Schumacher (VC), Hansen, B. Harr, Janssen, McCoy, Pirsch, Sullivan

LR571 Interim study to examine Nebraska's individual and corporate income tax systems
Revenue

LR566 Interim study to examine methods used by other states to determine the taxable value of agricultural land
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LR570 Interim study to examine the compliance and enforcement issues relative to Nebraska's tax incentive programs
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LR594 Interim study to examine Nebraska constitutional provisions which enable or limit the Legislature's power to provide for property tax policies and relief programs
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LR573 Interim study to examine Nebraska's state aid programs to cities, counties, and other political subdivisions
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LR572 Interim study to examine Nebraska's sales and use tax base
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LR556 Interim study to examine local use of property taxes to study the fiscal relationship between state and local governments and the impact on our schools and justice system
Revenue

LR598 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the potential impact of federal legislation that would require remote retailers with no

physical presence in Nebraska to collect and remit sales and use tax
Revenue

LR510 Interim study to examine issues surrounding offshore tax shelters
Revenue

Transportation and Telecommunications: Dubas (C), Smith (VC),
Brasch, Hadley, Janssen, McCoy, Murante, Watermeier

LR528 Interim study to examine issues surrounding financing the
maintenance and replacement of county bridges
Transportation and Telecommunications

LR523 Interim study to examine alternative transportation options and
recommend potential changes to Nebraska's statutes
Transportation and Telecommunications

LR522 Interim study to examine the U.S Dept. of Transportation's
Maritime Administration's designation of the Missouri River
from South Sioux City, Nebraska, south to Kansas City,
Missouri, as the M-29 Marine Highway Connector
Transportation and Telecommunications

LR537 Interim study to examine implementation, management,
operation, and ongoing development of Next Generation 911
service in Nebraska
Transportation and Telecommunications

Urban Affairs: McGill (C), Crawford (VC), Ashford, Coash, Karpisek,
Krist, Lautenbaugh

LR585 Interim study to examine the Nebraska statutes relating to cities
of the first class
Urban Affairs

LR595 Interim study to examine the impact of Nebraska changing to a
home rule state in matters of local concern
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LR599 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of tax
increment financing under the Community Development Law in
Nebraska
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LR555 Interim study to examine how cities and villages provide services
to residents located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction or sanitary
improvement districts of such cities and villages
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LR593 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the
Urban Affairs Committee
Urban Affairs

**RESOLUTIONS CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED
DURING THE 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
CALLING FOR STUDIES BY SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee: Dubas (C), Howard (VC), Bolz, Crawford, Gloor, McGill, Nordquist

LR400 Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee to be known as the ACCESSNebraska Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee

Study of Nebraska Health Care Reform: Health and Human Services Committee: Campbell (C), Krist (VC), Cook, Crawford, Gloor, Howard, Watermeier; and Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee: Gloor (C), Christensen (VC), Campbell, Carlson, Garrett, Howard, Pirsch, Schumacher

LR422 Provide the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, be designated to develop policy recommendations towards transformation of Nebraska's health care system
Special Committee

Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee: Bolz, Chambers, Krist, Lathrop, Mello, Schumacher, Seiler

LR424 Provide the Executive Board of the Legislative Council appoint a special committee of the Legislature to be known as the Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature
Special Committee

Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee: Harms (C), Adams, Davis, Dubas, Hadley, Krist, Mello, Schumacher, Watermeier, Wightman

LR444 Create the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee as a special legislative committee
Special Committee

INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 400. Introduced by Dubas, 34; Bolz, 29; Campbell, 25; Conrad, 46; Cook, 13; Crawford, 45; Gloor, 35; Harms, 48; Howard, 9; Krist, 10; McGill, 26; Mello, 5; Watermeier, 1; Davis, 43.

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.

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2013, the Legislative Performance Audit Committee issued a report and recommendations related to the ACCESSNebraska system. The report contained findings including, but not limited to, lack of implementation of the provisions of LB 825 (Laws 2012), lack of standards relating to internal processes and performance, and failure to meet internal goals related to call wait times and call abandonment rates. The report also made certain recommendations including evaluation of key program aspects, such as the adequacy of existing staffing, call center software, and call center staff training.

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the need to have a system of public assistance service delivery that is modern and streamlined and that is also effective and efficient for clients. In recognition of the continued problems with the ACCESSNebraska system as described in the report of the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, a point has been reached where additional legislative oversight and monitoring is necessary to ensure accountability and system effectiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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, 2014. The report to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 422. Introduced by Campbell, 25; Gloor, 35.

WHEREAS, eleven of Nebraska's ninety-three counties have no primary care physicians; and

WHEREAS, those Nebraska counties with uninsured rates of 21% or greater exist only in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska's future economic and fiscal success requires a healthy population, the availability of high-quality health care at lower costs, and greater efficiency in health care delivery; and

WHEREAS, successful transformation of Nebraska's health care system is essential to the state's economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, health care reform requires the transformation of health care delivery into a patient-centric, high-value enterprise; and

WHEREAS, the challenge of health care reform requires a new level of cooperation between all health care partner stakeholders and policymakers in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, state government must provide clear leadership for health care system transformation efforts that results in transparency, trust, and full participation from all partner stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Legislative Resolution 22 (LR22) passed during the One Hundred Third Legislature, First Session, the Health and Human Services Committee, in conjunction with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, held a conference on health care in Nebraska attended by 167 stakeholders from across the state; and

WHEREAS, the LR22 stakeholders conference examined what the Nebraska health care system should look like in fifteen years and what opportunities and challenges Nebraska patients, providers, and payers will face during the period of change over the next fifteen years. This examination resulted in dialogue on population health, personal health, health care worker education and care processes, and delivery of health care and health care costs in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, LR22 initiated the discussion, but there is opportunity for continued partnership and leadership by the Legislature in the development of a vision for transformation of the Nebraska health care system.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, be designated to develop policy recommendations towards transformation of Nebraska's health care system.

2. That in order to develop its policy recommendations, the Health and Human Services Committee, in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, shall continue to bring together through information-gathering meetings and work groups partner stakeholders at all levels, including state and local governments, public and private insurers, health care delivery organizations, employers, specialty societies, consumer groups, patients, consumers, and all other interested parties, to work together with the shared objectives of controlling health care costs and improving health care quality.

3. That with input from partner stakeholders and in cooperation with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, the Health and Human Services Committee shall continue to:

a. Provide a comprehensive review of Nebraska's health care delivery, cost, and coverage demands;

b. Define opportunities for expansion of health care delivery to rural and medically underserved regions and patients through telemedicine, electronic home care devices, and Internet-based care;

c. Determine the role of team-based care including the patient-centered medical home, accountable care organizations, and introduction of additional health care providers to these medical teams;

d. Assess the opportunities for loan forgiveness for service of health care providers in designated underserved counties of Nebraska;

e. Engage additional stakeholders in dialogue, roundtable discussions, and public policy discourse;

f. Develop a framework for health care system transformation that meets public health, workforce, delivery, and budgetary responsibilities; and

g. Develop cooperative strategies and initiatives for the design, implementation, and accountability of services that improve care quality and value-based care while advancing the overall health of all Nebraskans.

4. That the Health and Human Services Committee will conduct additional public hearings and with the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee make recommendations relating to health care for all Nebraskans. The

Health and Human Services Committee and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee shall hold a joint hearing not later than November 14, 2014, to consider recommendations obtained pursuant to this resolution.

5. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, along with any work groups created pursuant to this resolution, shall rely on information, data, and subject matter expertise from consultation with a wide range of entities, including the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care and the Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Insurance, and any other agencies the committees identify to provide collaboration with the committees, and any such work groups to attain the goals for health care system transformation.

6. That the funding of the activities of the Health and Human Services Committee under this resolution will be provided by existing appropriations for the committee from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 424. Introduced by Lathrop, 12; Coash, 27; McGill, 26.

WHEREAS, Nikko Jenkins, a former inmate of the Department of Correctional Services, stands charged with three separate homicides, and each homicide is alleged to have occurred after Jenkins was released from the Department of Correctional Services on July 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the office of the Public Counsel (Ombudsman) released a report on January 6, 2014, which chronicled Jenkins' involvement with the Department of Correctional Services. The report detailed Jenkins' sentences, good time allowed, and multiple attempts to secure mental health treatment. The report also included various general impressions and observations regarding the segregation of inmates, the transition of inmates from incarceration to the community at large, the allowance of good time, mental health services for inmates, and the civil commitments of inmates; and

WHEREAS, the report was presented by the Ombudsman to Mike Kenney, director of the Department of Correctional Services, and to the deputy director for health services at the Department of Correctional Services to permit them an opportunity to submit comments to the report prior to its release. The response tendered by the Department of Correctional Services simply disputed the factual allegations of the report, and public remarks by Governor Dave Heineman impeached the veracity of the report by suggesting that the Ombudsman's office was "soft on crime"; and

WHEREAS, the circumstances of Jenkins' release has understandably generated intense public interest as evidenced by countless news stories concerning his release and the subsequent homicides, and the Ombudsman's report and the Governor's impeachment of the report have created confusion among the public regarding the circumstances of Jenkins' release and the policies and practices of the Department of Correctional Services that contributed to his early release; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Nebraska have a right to know the details of Jenkins' incarceration, including his threats to kill upon release and his pleas for a mental health commitment, the details of his release, and the

opportunities the Department of Correctional Services had to withhold or revoke good time and diminish, through mental health care, his dangerous propensities prior to his release; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature must fully understand the policies and procedures of the Department of Correctional Services, an agency within the executive branch of state government, in order to determine if those policies and procedures in any manner contributed to Jenkins' release into the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 Department of Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature. The committee shall consist of five 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 circumstances of Nikko Jenkins' incarceration and release including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Jenkins' criminal history and the sentences received for each conviction;

(b) Jenkins' juvenile justice and child welfare involvements;

(c) The history of Nebraska's good time laws and the policies or practices of the Department of Correctional Services administering how the good time laws and policies were applied to Jenkins' multiple sentences;

(d) The occasions when Jenkins, during his incarcerations, threatened to kill upon his release from the Department of Correctional Services and the department's response to each threat;

(e) Each occasion when Jenkins requested mental health treatment or commitment to the Lincoln Regional Center or similar placement and the department's response to each request;

(f) The extent to which Jenkins' release was related to prison overcrowding; and

(g) All communications by any state employee or elected official concerning Jenkins' release or regarding any of the matters listed in (a) through (f) above.

3. That the committee shall also 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 segregation of inmates;

(e) The transition of inmates from incarceration to the community at large;

(f) The administration of good time laws; and

(g) Any evaluation or study made of the department's policies and practices, whether or not any recommendations were adopted, and the reasons if any recommendations were not adopted.

4. That the committee shall issue a report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2014.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 433. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues surrounding the production, possession, and use of hemp oil in Nebraska for the purposes of treating epileptic seizures in patients not adequately treated by medical therapies approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) A review of state and federal policies related to the production, possession, and use of hemp oil;

(2) Current research on use of hemp oil to treat epileptic seizures and potential side effects from its use;

(3) A review of quality control standards in the production of hemp oil; and

(4) Liability and licensing issues faced by physicians who suggest or recommend hemp oil as a treatment option for patients with epilepsy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 444. Introduced by Legislative Performance Audit Committee: Harms, 48, Chairperson; Adams, 24; Dubas, 34; Krist, 10; Mello, 5; Watermeier, 1; Wightman, 36.

WHEREAS, the Legislative Performance Audit Committee issued a report in February 2013 after examining Nebraska's business tax incentive programs; and

WHEREAS, the overarching finding of the audit conducted by the committee was that the program goals expressed by the Legislature in statute and during legislative debate are too general to permit a meaningful evaluation of whether the programs are accomplishing those goals; and

WHEREAS, the state has granted millions of dollars in tax refunds and credits to qualifying businesses, and the businesses using those incentives have invested millions of dollars in the state and have created new jobs, but

it remains unclear how much of that business activity may have occurred without the tax incentives; and

WHEREAS, the initiation and development of an in-depth and ongoing system of review of Nebraska's tax incentive programs is needed to determine the value of those programs to the state.

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

1. The Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee is created as a special legislative committee and shall comprise:

- (a) The members of the Legislative Performance Audit Committee;
- (b) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Appropriations Committee;
- (c) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Revenue Committee; and
- (d) One other member of the Legislature selected by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

2. The chairperson of the Legislative Performance Audit Committee shall serve as the chairperson of the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee, which shall meet as often as is deemed necessary in order to accomplish the objectives enumerated in this resolution.

3. In consultation with interested stakeholders, the Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee shall be tasked with, but not be limited to, developing recommendations for the following:

- (a) Specific and measurable goals for each tax incentive program, including the Nebraska Advantage Act, the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act, the Nebraska Advantage Microenterprise Tax Credit Act, the Nebraska Advantage Research and Development Act, the Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act, and the Angel Investment Tax Credit Act;
- (b) A process for the regular evaluation of tax incentives;
- (c) Who should conduct the evaluations and what types of metrics should be used;
- (d) How often the evaluations should be conducted; and
- (e) Proposed legislation to put requirements for ongoing evaluations in statute.

4. The Tax Incentive Evaluation Committee may hold public hearings and shall issue a report to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council not later than December 15, 2014. The report may make any recommendations to update or restructure Nebraska's tax incentive programs, and include proposed language for any needed legislation. The committee shall also identify any areas on this subject requiring further study and analysis. The report to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 491. Introduced by Davis, 43; Brasch, 16; Carlson, 38; Christensen, 44; Johnson, 23; Scheer, 19; Schilz, 47; Wallman, 30; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the application of LB985 (2014) and the need to clarify and expand the application of LB985 to other political subdivisions. While current statutes provide that certain political subdivisions have the power and authority to bring, defend, or

intervene in judicial and quasi-judicial actions to protect and conserve the quantity or quality of ground water and surface water resources, agency and court interpretations of such statutes have raised questions regarding the actual power and authority of a political subdivision to establish standing when an agency's proposed action will impair or alter the political subdivision's ability to carry out its statutory duties and responsibilities. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) An examination of the current standing principles before the Department of Natural Resources;
- (2) A determination of the adequacy and effectiveness of current statutes; and
- (3) Any other issues that the committee deems relevant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 497. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska should amend its insurance statutes to authorize property and casualty to engage in the following:

- (1) Electronic delivery of notices and documents; and
- (2) Internet posting of insurance policies.

The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB716 which was introduced in 2014 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 498. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to further study the updating of Nebraska's business entity statutes. The study should include a review of current versions of business entity legislation as promulgated by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and by the Corporate Laws Committee of the Business Law Section of the American

Bar Association. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Secretary of State and should consider the input of interested persons, including the practicing bar, as the study committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 499. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska's Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated. The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB 685 (2014) which was referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Real Property Appraiser Board and should consider the input of interested persons as the study committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 501. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the Nebraska Appraisal Management Company Registration Act should be updated. The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB684 (2014) which was referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Real Property Appraiser Board and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 506. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine section 8-157.01 to determine the following:

(1) Whether, as a result of evolution in the electronic payments market, the goals of section 8-157.01 are now adequately served through other means such as increased competition and federal regulation; and

(2) Whether changes in the electronic payments market have effectively rendered section 8-157.01 unworkable and inapplicable to financial institutions, payment networks, and other entities involved in the delivery of electronic payment services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 508. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding the Nebraska P-16 Initiative organized and managed by the University of Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

(1) A review of the history, structure, and current membership of the Nebraska P-16 Initiative;

(2) A review of past and current goals and priorities set by the Nebraska P-16 Initiative, as well as efforts to implement those goals and priorities by the membership; and

(3) An examination of the need to restructure the Nebraska P-16 Initiative and also codify it in the Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 510. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding offshore tax shelters. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) An examination of the abuse of offshore tax shelters by corporations and individuals to reduce their state income tax liability;
- (2) A review of efforts in other states to recoup revenue from offshore tax shelters as well as discourage their use; and
- (3) A review of how current statutes and Department of Revenue rules and regulations regarding the collection of delinquent and unpaid taxes can be applied to recoup revenue from offshore tax shelters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 517. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study ways to improve the quality and availability of interpreter services for Nebraskans who are deaf or hard of hearing. The study committee shall coordinate with the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to work with interested stakeholders to identify the areas of concern, conduct necessary research, and explore various ways to address quality and availability issues. The study should:

- (1) Examine why there is a shortage of qualified, licensed interpreters in the State of Nebraska;
- (2) Examine complaints and concerns from the deaf and hard of hearing community about the proficiency and competency of interpreters in both educational settings and community settings;
- (3) Find opportunities to share and address competency and proficiency issues of sign language interpreters among concerned stakeholders including, but not limited to, the Nebraska educational community, the deaf and hard of hearing community, American Sign Language interpreters, and health care providers; and
- (4) Include any other issues that the study committee deems relevant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 518. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to gather information and study the need to craft a consistent and systematic policy to ensure that women who choose to give birth at home are adequately supported by trained health care professionals and the health care system. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) A survey of the requirements and qualifications for home birth attendance in other states;
- (2) An examination of how to credential health care professionals to adequately meet the needs of women who choose to give birth at home and to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public;
- (3) A review of the education and training necessary and available to provide services to women who give birth at home;
- (4) An analysis of regulatory changes necessary to ensure adequate oversight of health care professionals offering home birthing services if statutory changes are made; and
- (5) Any other issues the study committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 519. Introduced by Scheer, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and evaluate current course offerings for high school students in Nebraska. The study will assess the 249 school districts in the state to determine what courses are offered to high school students in each district. Further, the study will document and assess current use of distance learning technology and innovations to expand course offerings to students in Nebraska. The study will also determine current collaboration among the districts and what opportunities exist to expand collaboration for the benefit of students. Finally, the study will evaluate digital learning opportunities for all students in K-12 throughout Nebraska and review national trends and best practices in the use of distance learning and school district collaboration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 520. Introduced by Davis, 43; Ashford, 20; Coash, 27; Harms, 48; Lathrop, 12; Scheer, 19; Schilz, 47; Seiler, 33; Wallman, 30; Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to gather information about the developing problems that law enforcement is encountering since the State of Colorado legalized the sale and recreational use of marijuana. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) The steps that local law enforcement and the State of Nebraska can take to mitigate the problems associated with the drug;
- (2) An assessment of the adequacy of law enforcement in Nebraska counties that border Colorado;
- (3) A determination of the need to increase the presence of the Nebraska State Patrol in Nebraska counties that border Colorado;
- (4) An evaluation of how affected counties can deal with the increased costs to the judicial system; and
- (5) Whether current fines and penalties are adequate, or if Nebraska should consider more significant and effective deterrents to the illegal transportation of marijuana into Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 521. Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

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 school employees retirement system for Class V districts administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 522. Introduced by Watermeier, 1; Kintner, 2.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the United States Department of Transportation's (DOT) Maritime Administration's (MARAD) designation of the Missouri River from South Sioux City, Nebraska, south to Kansas City, Missouri, as the "M-29 Marine Highway Connector." A marine highway is a designated route for transporting cargo on water and reducing pollution and congestion of roads.

With passage of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140), the United States Congress pushed for greater use of marine transportation by requiring the DOT's MARAD to identify waterways that could potentially serve as shipping routes. Subsequently, in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010 (Public Law 111-84), the United States Congress authorized federal grants for financially viable short sea routes covering up to 80 percent of total project cost. However, marine transportation is possible when water is at appropriate levels and the United States Army Corps of Engineers' flood-control plans control the amount of water flow in the Missouri River. This study may include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Information on applicable or conflicting federal and state laws, rules, regulations, and policies;
- (2) Information on, and processes to establish, a minimum Missouri River depth by and through the United States Army Corps of Engineers or other federal or state agencies;
- (3) The impacts that a marine highway has on flood management and control;
- (4) The available funding resources and assistance for development on a marine highway;
- (5) The utilization of multiple state departments and agencies to focus on potential strategies to enhance marine highway transportation;
- (6) The development of multimodal transportation centers;
- (7) The environmental impacts on reducing carbon-based pollution by increased marine transportation and reducing over-the-road transportation;
- (8) The impact marine transportation will have on road congestion; and
- (9) The economic and recreational impact on state and local economies from marine highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 523. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study alternative transportation options and recommend potential changes to Nebraska's statutes. The Legislature recognizes there have been technological advances in personal transportation options to reduce emissions, reduce costs, increase accessibility, and improve health. Alternative transportation to be studied may include, but not be limited to, bicycles, e-bicycles, autocycles, and driverless vehicles. The study should examine the safety implications, economic impacts, and basic fairness in existing Nebraska law and the approaches of other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 525. Introduced by Bolz, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and analyze the skills gap in Nebraska's workforce and to identify options for workforce education. Education and skill development are strategies that are central to the economic competitiveness of Nebraska. By 2016, an estimated 66% of all jobs in Nebraska will require some postsecondary training beyond high school. Further, more than a third of projected high demand jobs in Nebraska will be middle-skilled jobs requiring some postsecondary education or an associate degree. The study will include, but is not limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The current skills gap and any initiatives to provide workforce education;

(2) Models for promoting workforce education for youth and nontraditional students;

(3) Financial aid opportunities for workforce education; and

(4) Any recommendations for promoting workforce education for high demand jobs in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 526. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine options to provide incentives for professional growth and development of teachers as the means to increased student achievement and success in Nebraska public schools.

Research indicates that well-trained, mentored, supported, and motivated teachers do improve the likelihood of student success. Currently the state recognizes teachers who take the initiative to improve their teaching skills and knowledge through programs for mentoring, by achieving master teacher status through National Board Certification, and through acquisition of a master's degree in a shortage area through the tuition loan forgiveness program. Lottery funds, but no state General Funds, are expended for these programs. School districts also reward teachers for the acquisition of college credit hours through progression on the salary schedule.

The study committee will explore strategies to encourage growth in classroom teaching skills and knowledge, as research indicates such improvements correlate positively to student growth for different populations of students, including students at risk because of poverty, language deficiency, or behavioral issues. The study committee will also assess state aid incentives or accreditation requirements that will encourage teachers to invest the time and money to acquire such teaching skills and knowledge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 527. Introduced by Bloomfield, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the reasons why emergency disaster payments made by or through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are not made in a timely manner once awarded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD 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.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 528. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding financing the maintenance and replacement of county bridges. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The overall condition of county bridges;
- (2) Whether adequate resources exist to maintain and replace county bridges; and
- (3) Available and potential funding sources, financing tools, and contracting options for maintenance and replacement of county bridges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 529. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: Providers of developmental disability services serve an important function in meeting the needs of some of the most vulnerable Nebraskans while providing a meaningful alternative to institutionalization. Presently, the providers of such services continue to expand their capacity to serve their present clients as well as individuals on the developmental disabilities waiting list. To continue this important initiative and resource, the payment rates for such services must be sufficient to cover the cost of their undertaking. Therefore, the purpose of this resolution is to address the following issues:

- (1) The adequacy of current provider rates to meet the needs of Nebraskans with disabilities and the providers of services; and
- (2) The options available to update such rates based on economic indexes including, but not limited to, the Consumer Price Index, the Chained Consumer Price Index, the Bureau of Labor Statistics benefits factor, and the Medicare Economic Index.

If the study committee determines that legislation is necessary to resolve the issues addressed in this resolution, the committee may have such legislation drafted for the 2015 legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 on or before December 1, 2014.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 530. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Cook, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study existing and proposed programs, policies, administrative rules, and statutes that impact the financial stability of working families in Nebraska. This study shall include a consideration of the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state and its population.

Despite historically high employment in our state and a high rate of parents in the workforce, the poverty rates of Nebraska families and individuals have risen significantly over the past decade. The median household income in Nebraska has declined by 5% between 2000 and 2012. It is in the state's best interest to take steps to ensure that employment provides economic stability for individuals and families in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

1. A review of income, employment, and other related data to provide a comprehensive portrait of the economic well-being of working Nebraskans;

2. An evaluation of existing federally supported and state-supported programs and policies that affect Nebraskans working their way to economic stability; and

3. Best policies and practices that:

a. Increase educational opportunities from birth to career;

b. Provide access to education and career-training opportunities to promote career advancement and progression;

c. Offer opportunities for quality jobs that meet private sector needs and provide economic stability for employees;

d. Address the sufficiency and effectiveness of work support programs and policies;

e. Build family assets as the basis for long-term economic stability;

f. Support employment and economic stability through individual and corporate tax policy; and

g. Promote economic and family stability through workplace policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 531. Introduced by Bloomfield, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Department of Agriculture regulation of nonprofit nursery stock distributors under the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act. This study should include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Whether there is a need for small nonprofit organizations to register plant sales with the Department of Agriculture (Department);
- (2) Whether the Department could embark on an educational campaign to address any concerns with small nonprofit organization plant sales;
- (3) Why it is necessary for small nonprofit organizations to register and pay a licensing fee when the Department seldom if ever inspects them;
- (4) If there is a better method by which the Department can keep track of small nonprofit organizations and their sales; and
- (5) How neighboring states regulate plant sales held by nonprofit organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 532. Introduced by Davis, 43; Bolz, 29; Cook, 13; Crawford, 45; K. Haar, 21; Kolowski, 31; Scheer, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the utilization of federal school breakfast and lunch programs and the impact of new federal options on Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The number of Nebraska schools eligible for the new community eligibility option and barriers to participation;
- (2) The current direct certification process for students eligible for free and reduced-price meals;
- (3) The potential impact on state and federal education funding for schools and any need for administrative or legislative measures to mitigate that impact;
- (4) The potential impact of the Community Eligibility Provision on participating schools, including, but not limited to, school breakfast participation, nutrition program administration, costs, and paperwork reduction;
- (5) Strategies to increase school breakfast participation for schools where community eligibility is not a viable option; and

(6) Any other related topics the study committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 533. Introduced by Crawford, 45; Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study, review, investigate, and assess the enrollment of former foster youth in the new medicaid category for youth formerly in foster care up to age 26 in Nebraska under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The estimated and projected number of young adults eligible under the new medicaid category in Nebraska;

(2) The number of enrolled young adults under the new medicaid category;

(3) The Department of Health and Human Services policies and procedures for automatic eligibility redetermination of youth as they age out of foster care;

(4) The Department of Health and Human Services policies and procedures regarding the eligibility of youth who were in foster care in other states and the eligibility of youth who exited foster care after their 18th birthday;

(5) The efforts made by the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct outreach to potentially eligible young adults about this new medicaid category; and

(6) Department of Health and Human Services compliance with inclusion of medicaid eligibility information and documentation in the youth's independent living transition proposal as required by section 43-1311.03 beginning when the youth is age 16 continuing through age 19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 534. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding patent assertion entities, commonly referred to as "patent trolls." This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) How the Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices Act and other state consumer protection statutes could be utilized to regulate patent trolls;
- (2) Efforts in other states to utilize existing consumer protection statutes to regulate patent trolls; and
- (3) Federal efforts to regulate patent trolls, including granting states the express authority to regulate patent trolls through state consumer protection statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 535. Introduced by Mello, 5; Bolz, 29; Campbell, 25; Conrad, 46; Crawford, 45; Gloor, 35; Harms, 48; Howard, 9; Kintner, 2; Krist, 10; Nelson, 6; Nordquist, 7; Seiler, 33; Watermeier, 1; Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive review of the structure of health and human services functions currently administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), as well as to examine similar structures and functions in other states.

Prior to 1996, the health and human services functions currently administered by DHHS were delegated to four separate state agencies. These were the Department on Aging, the Department of Health, the Department of Public Institutions, and the Department of Social Services, in addition to the Office of Juvenile Services in the Department of Correctional Services.

Since the merger of these agencies, DHHS has grown to account for more than one-third of annual expenditures in the overall state budget for fiscal year 2012-13.

Historical expenditures for DHHS have grown at a higher rate than overall state expenditures, increasing by more than \$1.7 billion with an average growth rate of 5.26% since fiscal year 1995-96.

As of December 2013, DHHS had 6,162 employees which represents nearly three times the number of state employees than that of any other state agency.

The Auditor of Public Accounts has performed 103 separate audits of DHHS and its programs and facilities since 2000, including major audits relating to the Beatrice State Developmental Center, the Thomas Fitzgerald Veterans' Home, the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney,

child welfare reform efforts, and management of federal medicaid and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds.

The continuing growth of DHHS has made it increasingly difficult for the Auditor of Public Accounts, the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, and the Appropriations Committee to engage in meaningful oversight of taxpayer dollars expended by DHHS.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of whether shifting to a less consolidated structure of health and human services functions could result in greater fiscal accountability and improved quality of service, and whether such a restructuring should include transferring programs to other existing state agencies or new state agencies.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee and Health and Human Services 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 536. Introduced by Adams, 24; Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the process of creating legislative task forces, committees, and commissions. In recent years, there has been a proliferation of legislative task forces, committees, and commissions placed in statute. Several issues have been raised regarding composition, function, and constitutionality of some of these entities as an extension of the legislative branch of government.

This study shall examine the advantages and disadvantages of creating task forces, committees, and commissions by legislation rather than by legislative resolution. The entities to be studied shall include task forces, committees, and commissions that have legislative members serving on them and task forces, committees, and commissions which serve a legislative role or function. The study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The role of legislative task forces, committees, and commissions;
- (2) Unconstitutional delegation of legislative authority;
- (3) The relationship between task forces, committees, and commissions to standing committee subject matter jurisdiction; and
- (4) Separation of powers concerns in terms of duties, membership, staffing, and funding.

This study shall also examine drafting requirements needed to make a legislative task force, committee, or commission operate effectively, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Funding, including identification of necessary costs, the approval process for spending funds, and determination as to whether a specific appropriation is required, even if only for travel expenses;

(2) The appointment process, including whether non-legislators should be included, identification of appropriate appointing authority, effective dates, reporting requirements, and study of gender and regional balance;

(3) Leadership and staffing, including the identification of the appropriate chairperson and how the chairperson will be selected, who will call the first meeting, and how staffing decisions will be determined; and

(4) Final report requirements and the duration of a task force, committee, or commission.

This study shall also address how the Legislature would implement the findings of this study, including drafting recommended rule changes if deemed necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 537. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the implementation, management, operation, and ongoing development of Next Generation 911 service in Nebraska. As technology advances, the public demands advanced emergency communications services. Nebraska has grown from the wireline telephone access of 911 service to wireless 911 access, and is now moving into Next Generation 911 which envisions additional ways to communicate text, images, video, and data to Public Service Answering Points (PSAPs) across the state. Next Generation 911 also considers the needs of diverse populations, such as the deaf and hard of hearing, low income populations, and both rural and urban residents. This study may examine new legislation necessary to enable the state to move forward with the implementation of Next Generation 911 and the need to consolidate existing statutes and funding streams for 911 services. The study committee shall consult with the Public Service Commission in its study of existing 911 service and Next Generation 911 service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 538. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues surrounding the implementation of an electronic notary system in Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

(1) A review of best practices among the states that have adopted an electronic notary system; and

(2) A review of necessary legislation to enact an electronic notary system in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD 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.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 539. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the maximum payment rate in the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program, pursuant to section 43-512, is adequate to meet the goals of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, including keeping children in their own home. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The actual cost of living for families in Nebraska;

(2) The adequacy of the maximum payment rate in the ADC program for families in Nebraska;

(3) The payment rates and payment methodologies used in other states for TANF programs;

(4) The impact of increasing the maximum payment rate in the ADC program for families and for eligibility for other assistance programs;

(5) The effectiveness of the maximum payment rate in the ADC program in keeping children in their own home and out of the child welfare system; and

(6) Any other related topics the study committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 540. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: Some individuals who have been dually diagnosed with intellectual or developmental disabilities and mental illness (I/DD and MI) or intellectual or developmental disabilities and behavioral health problems (I/DD and behavioral health problems) are not receiving effective habilitation or behavioral health services. This study's purposes are to:

(1) Study the treatment and services for people dually diagnosed with I/DD and MI or I/DD and behavioral health problems, including people who are not eligible for I/DD and MI services based on the Department of Health and Human Services' interpretation of criteria and people who may be eligible for one set of services but whose services, due to regulatory and other barriers, are inadequate to meet their needs;

(2) Consider the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's potential impacts; and

(3) Make recommendations for administrative or legislative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 541. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the implementation of educational stability plans for children in foster care under the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 542. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues regarding the current guardian ad litem system. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The role and impact of the guardian ad litem on the child welfare system;

(2) The state statutes and policies related to the requirements of providing a guardian ad litem to juveniles and adults;

(3) The costs incurred by counties and their ability to audit work for guardian ad litem; and

(4) The qualifications needed and required to serve as a guardian ad litem.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and Judiciary 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 543. Introduced by Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study any matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 544. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the fiscal impacts of unfunded mandates. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The increased occurrence of unfunded mandates on local governments in the State of Nebraska;

(2) The budgetary implications of federal unfunded mandates on both the state and local levels;

(3) The budgetary implications of state unfunded mandates on both the state and local levels; and

(4) The impact of unfunded mandates on property tax rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 545. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study state-wide efforts that can be taken to improve Nebraska's access to local food supply and distribution networks. The study will focus on the following issues:

- (1) Economic development and entrepreneurial opportunities related to local food production and consumption;
- (2) Improved health outcomes;
- (3) Positive environmental quality impacts;
- (4) Increased access to, and distribution of, wholesome, local food;
- (5) Support for local producers of sustainable food products;
- (6) Identification, preservation, and sustainable development of local resources including soil, agricultural land, important breeds and cultivars, water, skilled labor, capital, and markets;
- (7) Increased education and awareness on the part of Nebraskans regarding the benefits of locally produced foods;
- (8) Access to land for beginner farmers;
- (9) Incentives for farmers to transition their land to non-family members and beginner farmers;
- (10) Zoning requirements to allow farmers to grow food on vacant lots in municipalities; and
- (11) Funding sources for schools to purchase local food.

The study committee shall work with interested individuals and organizations to develop a state-wide food system assessment by December 1, 2014. Questions asked in the food system assessment shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) How does the food we eat today make it from the farm to our plates?
- (2) How much food does our state produce for export?
- (3) How much could be locally grown and consumed?
- (4) How much do we currently spend on food?
- (5) How do our food purchases impact our health and economy?
- (6) Do all members of our community have access to wholesome food?
- (7) Could our food choices actually help shape a robust local economy?
- (8) What is our food security?

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 546. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: (1) The purpose of this resolution is to review existing state and local programs and policies on expanded learning opportunities and make recommendations to the Legislature and State Department of Education on model approaches, including, but not limited to, the following areas:

(a) Methods of improving program quality and impact from national and local program evaluations and best practices;

(b) Available public and private funding sources for expanded learning opportunities;

(c) The alignment of efforts between the State Department of Education, the nonprofit sector, and the private sector on expanded learning opportunities;

(d) Opportunities for coordination and collaboration, including data-sharing, between school districts and community-based expanded learning opportunity programs;

(e) Methods of improving quality and retention in the expanded learning opportunity workforce, including enhancing opportunities for professional development and technical assistance;

(f) Methods to increase access for all children and families to high-quality expanded learning opportunities; and

(g) Public and private support to build a sustainable infrastructure for expanded learning opportunities.

(2) The State Department of Education, the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Economic Development shall work with the Education Committee of the Legislature to clarify a comprehensive system of accounting and reporting of all state and federal funding directly expended on expanded learning opportunities and the programs supported by such funding not later than September 1, 2014.

(3) The committee shall also consult with and solicit input from individuals and entities, including, but not limited to, Beyond School Bells, the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Office of Probation Administration, the state colleges, the community colleges, foundations, the Nebraska Elementary and Secondary School Finance Authority, the Nebraska Association of School Boards, the Nebraska Council of School Administrators, the Nebraska State Education Association, the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, the League of Nebraska Municipalities, the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension division relating to 4-H, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln National Center for Research on Rural Education, city-level expanded learning opportunities intermediaries, other local and national organizations serving youth, and other interested persons.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 547. Introduced by Smith, 14; Ashford, 20; Lathrop, 12; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues surrounding labor shortage areas in the state and the opportunities available to Nebraska's future workforce to develop the skills necessary to fill such career positions. The study shall examine, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) An identification of regional industry needs in the state;
- (2) The career education programs in Nebraska's public school system and the amount of local and state funding supporting those programs;
- (3) The prevalence of labor apprenticeship programs in the state and the extent to which those programs are able to partner with public school systems;
- (4) The involvement and support of regional business communities in the advancement of career education programs and labor apprenticeship programs;
- (5) An examination of public-private partnership opportunities for the development of a comprehensive and aggressive workforce training initiative for Nebraska, including an examination of similar initiatives in other states; and
- (6) An examination of the relevant rules that affect the credentialing of education centers.

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

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature, in consultation with 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 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 548. Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: To review, investigate, and assess how the State of Nebraska can improve the coordination and provision of child welfare services for Native American children and families. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The intersection of tribal and state child welfare and court systems, including consistency in implementing the federal Indian Child Welfare Act;
- (2) The resources available for tribal social services programs;

- (3) The barriers that prevent tribal participation in state court;
- (4) The number of culturally appropriate foster and adoptive homes for Nebraska children under the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act; and
- (5) Best practices from other states.

The study committee shall consult with stakeholders including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act Coalition, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services, representatives from the Omaha, Santee Sioux, Winnebago, and Ponca tribes of Nebraska, state and tribal court judges, the Commission on Indian Affairs, and the Nebraska County Attorneys Association.

In holding public hearings by utilizing the authority provided by section 50-406 and the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, at least one public hearing should be conducted on a Native American reservation, if possible, to ensure the committee has full access to the tribes' collective experience and expertise in effectuating the federal and state Indian child welfare acts.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee, Judiciary Committee, and State-Tribal Relations 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 549. Introduced by Bloomfield, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues relating to Game and Parks Commission (Commission) funding. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) All revenue sources for the Commission and where all funds are allocated;
- (2) All expenses for the Commission and whether they are recurring or one-time expenses;
- (3) Possible long-term funding sources for the Commission; and
- (4) Whether the purchase of farm or ranch land by the Commission is truly in support of its mission and in the best interests of the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 551. Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the enforcement of section 48-2909 with regard to the Employee Classification Act. The study shall examine the need for further enforcement and the effect misclassification has on multiple facets of business and labor in Nebraska, including its impact on state revenue, industries, and Nebraska communities. The study shall investigate actions to mitigate the problem, including enforcement of current law and possible statutory changes. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

(1) The number of times and surrounding circumstances that have triggered section 48-2909 and enforcement of the Employee Classification Act;

(2) A research and overview of current tax policy related to misclassification and potential loss of state revenue as a result;

(3) Identifying the direct and indirect effects of misclassification on certain industries; and

(4) Ascertaining the result of misclassification on Nebraska communities and if it has caused complications such as the lack of workers' compensation and unemployment insurance, wage theft, and other employment uncertainties commonly accompanied with misclassification.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 552. Introduced by Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's juvenile courts, especially juvenile courts within Douglas County. The study should include a thorough examination of the following:

(1) Juvenile court case loads;

(2) Juvenile court jurisdiction;

(3) Collaboration with other county courts;

(4) The role of a juvenile assessment center;

(5) Alternatives to incarceration;

(6) The number of motions to transfer and the number of cases transferred to adult court from juvenile court and from adult court to juvenile court;

(7) The number of juveniles placed on juvenile probation, the number of juveniles on probation in out-of-home care, the number of juveniles completing probation, the number of motions to revoke probation and probation revocations, and the average length of time on probation;

(8) The number of juveniles prosecuted for felonies, misdemeanors, and traffic offenses;

(9) Juvenile access to counsel in juvenile and adult court, both appointed and retained; and

(10) Other pertinent matters of or relating to juvenile incarceration and reducing recidivism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 553. Introduced by Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issue of drivers' licenses for young Nebraskans who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) by the Department of Homeland Security. The study shall include the following:

(1) A review of state and federal policies related to the provision of drivers' licenses for various categories of immigrants who are lawfully present in the United States;

(2) Inquiry into the effect the current practice of denying licenses to DACA recipients by the Department of Motor Vehicles has on community members and their ability to work and attend college; and

(3) Research concerning the public safety implications of denying licenses to Nebraskans who are lawfully present, including risks pertaining to untrained and uninsured drivers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 554. Introduced by Howard, 9; McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to gather information and study the possible existence and extent of labor trafficking in the State of Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Data and information collected from agencies relevant to an examination of labor trafficking in Nebraska including, but not limited to, from the Commission on Latino-Americans, Department of Labor, Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and

Criminal Justice, and the human trafficking task force established pursuant to section 81-1430;

(2) Current available research and data about labor trafficking in Nebraska;

(3) Whether and where a research deficit may exist;

(4) Input from stakeholders regarding the problems, causes, and solutions moving forward; and

(5) Any other issues that the study committee deems relevant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 555. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine how cities and villages provide services to residents located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction or sanitary improvement districts of such cities and villages, whether through interlocal agreements or by other means. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The type and extent of services provided by cities and villages across Nebraska to residents located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction or sanitary improvement districts of such cities and villages;

(2) The cost for providing such services;

(3) Barriers, if any, to providing such services; and

(4) Policies and practices in other states on this subject.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 556. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study local use of property taxes to examine the fiscal relationship between state and local governments and the impact on our schools and justice system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 557. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the need to appropriate funds to Memorial Park in Omaha, Nebraska, for improvements to the park and to examine ways to honor our veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 558. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study ways the state and municipalities can encourage the development of community gardens, including providing spaces for gardening on public lands, ensuring the existence of consistent funding sources, and simplifying bureaucratic requirements. Community gardens can provide readily available sources of fresh, healthy foods to communities that may lack easy access to affordable sources of fruits and vegetables. Community gardens also can serve as an important outdoor exercise and recreation opportunity for citizens and can create more welcoming and attractive neighborhoods.

The study will examine best practices and programs for encouraging community gardens from other states and how those states utilize their programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 559. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding the Medicaid Reform Council. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The structure, membership, and duties of the Medicaid Reform Council set forth in section 68-948;
- (2) Changing demographics in the state and the need to reform Nebraska's medicaid program to address these changes;
- (3) Recent federal changes to medicaid and the modifications necessary to implement these changes at the state level;
- (4) Potential medicaid reforms including cost-sharing, health care delivery, coordinated care, patient-centered medical homes, and other innovations; and
- (5) Whether such reforms should be implemented in Nebraska's current medicaid program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 560. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to provide a forum for receiving the dairy industry report authorized pursuant to LB941, which was enacted during the 2014 legislative session. It is intended that the study committee conduct a public hearing for the presentation of the report and to receive public comment on the report content. It is a goal of this resolution to engage stakeholders in the growth and development of dairy production and processing in Nebraska and to utilize the information and recommendations of the report to develop strategies to stimulate and support growth in Nebraska's dairy sector.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 561. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the role and value of private veterinarians in assisting law enforcement in carrying out duties under the Livestock Animal Welfare Act. The study shall examine constraints and liabilities of veterinary professionals when assisting law enforcement in investigation of incidents of animal abuse and neglect, and

whether such constraints and liabilities are a deterrent to veterinarians offering their services to advise law enforcement in such situations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 562. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the adequacy of revenue supporting the licensure and enforcement of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 563. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine vertical coordination in the pork industry, including the methods by which vertical coordination between the producing and processing sectors occurs, economic factors that contribute to vertical coordination, and the prevalence of the use of forward marketing commitments by producers via production or marketing contracts. The study shall compare swine marketing characteristics between Nebraska and surrounding states, and nationally, and identify trends in pork production characteristics in Nebraska and nationally. The study shall seek to determine sourcing of slaughter swine by Nebraska processors and whether restrictions on packer ownership of livestock under the Competitive Livestock Markets Act have implications for the continued competitiveness of packing operations in Nebraska and continued investment in packing facilities in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 564. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to identify issues positively or negatively affecting producer welfare associated with marketing and production contracting and to examine regulatory and statutory provisions governing packer procurement of swine through marketing or production contracting under the federal Packers and Stockyards Act and in other states. The study shall further examine the extent of slaughter and marketing venues other than delivery to major packing companies, including direct marketing and consumer organized procurement, that are available to Nebraska producers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 565. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether adding antidepressant, antipsychotic, and anticonvulsant drugs to the medicaid preferred drug list would be of benefit to Nebraska medicaid or Nebraska medicaid clients. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Whether any of these drugs are available in a generic form;
- (2) Whether Nebraska medicaid clients would benefit from inclusion of some or all of these drugs on the preferred drug list; and
- (3) Whether Nebraska medicaid would be able to negotiate a lesser cost or increased rebate on these drugs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 566. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the methods used by other states to determine the taxable value of agricultural land. The study shall compare Nebraska valuation results with valuation results obtained under methods used in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 567. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study potential funding sources for the Great Plains Black History Museum, Science and Technology Center in Omaha, Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Existing funding sources available for the museum;
- (2) New funding sources that could be developed to support the museum;
- (3) The potential economic and educational impact of investing in the museum;
- (4) By their mutual support, how the State of Nebraska, the city of Omaha, and Douglas County can play a key role in the museum's development;
- (5) How the museum can tap into the \$40 billion spent nationally in the African American travel market, bringing in new tourist dollars to Omaha and Nebraska;
- (6) How the museum can benefit the surrounding area and Omaha at large;
- (7) How school districts, colleges, and universities in the state can benefit from the museum in their curriculum and programs;
- (8) How museums across Nebraska can link up with the Great Plains Black History Museum, Science and Technology Center, its educational programs, and the Science on a Sphere STEM program; and
- (9) How the museum can for the first time tell the important story of African American settlement in Nebraska and the Great Plains.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 568. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study options for the creation of a Nebraska educational trust fund for the purpose of stabilizing the availability of state aid to education when there is a significant decline in state sales and income tax revenue. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Strategies the State of Nebraska could use to ensure there is an adequate and continual level of funding for state aid to public schools under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and for other education-related funding priorities;

(2) Various mechanisms utilized in providing a stable funding source for state aid to education in other states; and

(3) Additional dedicated sources of revenue which could be considered in funding an educational trust fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 569. Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the professional development of forensic science in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Formulating a medical examiner's system;

(2) Mandating accreditation for forensic laboratories for those that are providing forensic testimony;

(3) Additional funding sources for forensic science; and

(4) DNA testing for felony arrests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 570. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the compliance and enforcement issues relative to Nebraska's tax incentive programs. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of the qualification requirements to participate in the programs as well as the ongoing compliance requirements;

(2) An examination of the administrative and enforcement requirements imposed on the Department of Revenue; and

(3) A review of the utilization of the various programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 571. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's individual and corporate income tax systems. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of the exclusions, deductions, and credits currently allowed;

(2) A review of other states' income tax systems, particularly those that have recently revised their income tax system; and

(3) A review of potential federal income tax changes that may directly affect Nebraska's income tax system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 572. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's sales and use tax base. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of consumer services that are currently not subject to tax;

(2) A review of other states' taxation of consumer services; and

(3) A review of economic studies regarding expansion of the sales tax base to consumer services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 573. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's state aid programs to cities, counties, and other political subdivisions. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of state-imposed mandates on local governments;
- (2) A review of local government costs to implement and administer such mandates; and
- (3) A review of economic studies regarding state and local revenue sharing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 574. Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: According to statistics provided by the Hearing Loss Association of America, about 20% of adults in the United States, or approximately 48 million people, report some degree of hearing loss. At age 65, one out of three people has a hearing loss. In Nebraska, approximately 18,560 people or 1% of the population are deaf, 167,040 people or 9% of the population are hard of hearing, and 371,200 people or 20% of the population have an associated hearing loss. The purpose of this resolution is to study the needs of Nebraska citizens who are deaf and hard of hearing.

People who experience deafness or hearing loss rarely receive natural communication which creates isolation. The necessity of living in any residential facility is a challenge in the best of circumstances, but for people who are deaf or hard of hearing, the isolation is overwhelming, often leaving them without the ability to carry on a conversation with anyone, including their own peers.

The study committee shall explore the need for fully integrated residential services for people who are deaf and hard of hearing including the need for group homes for persons with developmental disabilities, people with mental illness, and the aging.

The study committee shall consult with the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, assisted living associations, developmentally disabled providers, the Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Nebraska Health Care Association, and the deaf and hard of hearing community in carrying out the purposes of this study.

This study shall include a review of any Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) statewide survey of developmentally disabled residential providers, assisted living communities, and nursing home facilities to determine the number of deaf and hard of hearing people living in such facilities and where these facilities are located. The DHHS survey data will be used to frame future needs for people who are deaf and hard of hearing to include, but not be limited to, the need for creating a group home designed for people who are deaf and hard of hearing, and the need for establishing a special unit within a nursing home for deaf residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 575. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding in-home personal services. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Nebraska's in-home personal services statutes set forth in sections 71-6501 to 71-6504;

(2) The benefits of in-home personal services provided to aging Nebraskans;

(3) The regulatory frameworks for in-home personal services utilized in other states;

(4) Efforts in Nebraska and in other states to develop effective criminal background checks and other screening policies for in-home personal services workers; and

(5) Programs in Nebraska and in other states to ensure the safety and security of elders in their home care experience whether provided by families or professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 576. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the current status of the sharing of electronic health records and health information exchanges in Nebraska. The study should include an examination of the benefits of electronic health records to payers, health care providers, and patients, current efforts encouraging electronic health record sharing in Nebraska, and public and private sector support given to electronic health record sharing in Nebraska through health information exchanges. The study should also examine participation in electronic health record sharing efforts through health information exchanges by payers, health care providers, and patients. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study

committee should seek the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 577. Introduced by Karpisek, 32.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to investigate and review matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 578. Introduced by Karpisek, 32; Coash, 27; Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the various Nebraska agricultural products used in the production of craft beer and distilled spirits, including issues relating to research and market development, promotion and incentives for such agricultural inputs, funding for such promotion and incentives, and any regulatory matters involving such agricultural inputs for the production of craft beer and distilled spirits.

The study committee shall seek cooperation and input from the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the Nebraska Tourism Commission in carrying out the purposes of this study.

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

1. That the General Affairs Committee and Agriculture 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 579. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Bolz, 29; Cook, 13; Kolowski, 31; Lathrop, 12; Mello, 5; Seiler, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Nebraska need-based financial aid program (Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act) that was created by the Legislature by the passage of LB574 in 2003, and whether that program is sufficient to meet the needs of students in all sectors of Nebraska higher education. The study shall provide an examination of the following:

(1) The differences in allocations of state funds to students attending particular sectors of higher education institutions in the state, compared to the allocations to students before 2003, and whether those changes were intended and are appropriate in light of changing state policies;

(2) The scope of student aid currently available from all sources, including direct and indirect state assistance, federal assistance from financial aid programs, institutional assistance, private sector assistance, aid to nonresident students at public sector institutions, and a comparison with efforts in other states relating to student aid, particularly in those states in the Big Ten and Big East athletic conferences;

(3) Whether Nebraska's investment in higher education has resulted in an appropriately educated workforce in Nebraska;

(4) The college graduate migration patterns to and from Nebraska;

(5) The ability to maintain successful institutions and educational programs in Nebraska, both public and private, in the event that financial resources become more scarce in the future; and

(6) Any other issues relating to higher education and higher education financial aid programs in Nebraska, including with respect to the use of lottery funds in funding programs like the Nebraska Opportunity Grant Act for which the funding terminates on June 30, 2016.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee and Education 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 580. Introduced by Campbell, 25; Davis, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the reform effort of Nebraska's behavioral health system since the enactment of LB1083 in 2004. Since 2004, the state regional centers have been reduced in size and services at the centers have changed. However, while plans were made to make changes in the community, it appears to many observers that these plans impacting community-based services were either not implemented or

not fully implemented. As a result, mental health boards, law enforcement agencies, courts, providers, and the medical community face difficulties in finding appropriate services for people who are mentally ill. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) How resources liberated by LB1083 have been spent;
- (2) Who is responsible for statewide mental health services;
- (3) Recommendations as to the optimal government-administrative model for Nebraska's mental health services, including whether or not the Division of Developmental Disabilities and the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services need to merge or change their existing relationship;
- (4) Whether or not the private sector has developed community-based alternatives for Nebraska's most severely disabled and vulnerable citizens;
- (5) How people enter and exit the regional centers and whether the changes made since 2004 have resulted in more people with a mental illness entering the criminal justice system; and
- (6) Whether regulatory and administrative practices have allowed or encouraged inappropriate practices by providers and practitioners, including multiple overlapping service contracts, insufficiently specified work requirements, and disproportionate practitioner-to-patient ratios.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 581. Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study any issues within the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee which may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD 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.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 582. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: In 1996 the Legislature passed LB299 which created the Task Force on Unfunded Mandates. The task force was to identify and review all

programs and services enacted by the Legislature which resulted or may result in an increase in expenditures of funds by the political subdivisions assigned to perform or provide the programs and services.

The purpose of this resolution is to review the work of the 1996 task force and study the impact of unfunded and underfunded mandates on counties and county governments. This study should include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) Identification of any and all acts by the Legislature which impose current unfunded or underfunded mandated obligations on counties;
- (2) The reduction in funds available for use by counties as a result of unfunded or underfunded mandates;
- (3) Any corresponding increase in property taxes by counties to meet the requirements of unfunded or underfunded mandates;
- (4) Identification of mandated but unfunded or underfunded programs or services which could be changed, eliminated, or repealed; and
- (5) The impact on county finances of fees set by the state and whether such fees are appropriate.

The study committee shall seek input and any recommendations or proposals from interested individuals, groups, or other entities as the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD 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.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 583. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and assess the behavioral health and mental health needs of Nebraska's K-12 students and the resources available to meet these needs through the State Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Possible changes to programs in order to better coordinate and align services for students provided through these departments;
- (2) Any gaps in services for students with either behavioral health or mental health needs;
- (3) The potential benefit gained by cooperation and coordination of services between these departments;
- (4) The impact of such services on students' ability to be successful in the classroom; and
- (5) Policies and programs in other states on this subject.

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

1. That the Education Committee and Health and Human Services 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 584. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues related to changing recreational liability provisions and enacting the Recreation and Tourism Promotion Act as contemplated by LB551 which was introduced in 2013 and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 585. Introduced by Crawford, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and review the Nebraska statutes relating to cities of the first class.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 586. Introduced by Howard, 9; Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to gather information and make recommendations necessary for the Legislature to craft policy to support and continue electronic health records exchanges and health information initiatives. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Current initiatives that facilitate the secure exchange of clinical information among health care providers, including mental health and behavioral health providers;

(2) The resources necessary for public-private partnerships to continue operations and to increase functionality;

- (3) The resources available for health information initiatives and exchanges;
- (4) The role of providers, payers, facilities, and the State of Nebraska in ensuring the continued existence of such initiatives and exchanges;
- (5) The role health information initiatives can play in prescription drug monitoring and the resources necessary to ensure effective utilization of such purpose;
- (6) Input from public and private stakeholders on needs, resources, and strategies moving forward; and
- (7) Any other information the study committee deems appropriate or necessary.

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

- 1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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 the study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 587. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to gather information and make recommendations necessary for the Legislature to craft policy to support the creation of a sustainable community health workforce in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Current efforts to educate and train community health workers to work in medically underserved areas;
- (2) Programs in other states that make effective use of community health workers as a resource for underserved communities;
- (3) How the university system, state colleges, and community colleges can work in partnership with local health organizations to ensure that community health workers are educated and trained in core competencies;
- (4) What policies may be necessary for ensuring community health workers are able to fulfill professional functions; and
- (5) The necessary steps to ensure that reimbursement can be obtained for community health workers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 588. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the establishment of an early childhood data governance entity. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The current coordination of early childhood data in Nebraska between the State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) How early childhood data collection and sharing has been or will be addressed by the goals and priorities set by the Nebraska P-16 Initiative;

(3) How 31 other states have created and benefited from the designation of an early childhood data governance entity to guide the development and use of a state coordinated longitudinal early childhood education data system to secure data sharing across public agencies and ensure appropriate, secure use of data; and

(4) How the establishment of an early childhood data governance entity can improve and sustain coordination and streamlining of services, guide resource allocation, and provide greater accountability for investment in early childhood services in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 589. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and evaluate the local and statewide health impacts of burning coal. This study should include an examination of publicly available scientific resources, databases, and recently published research pertinent to Nebraska and include a cost-benefit analysis of moving away from coal-based electricity generation to other forms of electricity generation. The study should also examine how to promote health and prevent health risks related to coal, reduce dependence on coal, and protect public health and the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 590. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the current organizational structure of public power and how it could be made more efficient and work more harmoniously together. This includes a potential reorganization and consolidation of Nebraska's numerous public power districts, rural electric associations, and municipal power suppliers. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Development of a strategic plan for reorganization of public power entities which prioritizes benefits for Nebraska including maximizing economic development and the use of Nebraska resources, and maximizing the benefits and minimizing the costs to Nebraska citizens;

(2) Recommendations on a regulatory system that achieves the goals determined by the study; and

(3) Any other recommendations as determined by the study committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 591. Introduced by Karpisek, 32.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to review issues surrounding child custody proceedings and parenting time determinations as they pertain to families of divorce. This study shall take into consideration, but not be limited to, the following information:

1. A review and an analysis of research studies that examine how custody and parenting time awards affect outcomes for children both socially and emotionally;

2. A review, a comparison, and an analysis of parent-created parenting plans, attorney-negotiated parenting plans, mediated parenting plans, and court-determined parenting plans;

3. A review and an analysis of relevant legal standards that address the constitutional rights of children and parents;

4. A review and analysis of current and proposed legislation in other states to determine how other states have addressed these issues;

5. A review and an analysis of parenting time guidelines currently used in Nebraska to set and determine standards, including variations of these standards across the state;

6. A review and an analysis of available data on Nebraska divorce and custody proceedings;

7. A review and an analysis of custody decisions related to domestic violence;

8. A review and an analysis of how litigants manipulate the current family law system and the incentives the current system creates for such manipulation;

9. A review and an analysis of the effect of child support guidelines on parenting time decisions and the effect of custody decisions on child support payments;

10. A review and an analysis of what measures could be taken to improve implementation and actual enforcement of custody decisions; and

11. A review and an analysis of custody decisions on subsequent litigation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 592. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study various methods of behavioral health workforce development. This study shall examine:

(1) The results of behavioral health screening initiatives implemented at pediatrician offices in Nebraska;

(2) State and national methods used to integrate behavioral health care in primary care offices;

(3) Existing opportunities for communities to function as a critical element of the behavioral health workforce; and

(4) Specific Nebraska stakeholder feedback regarding workforce development opportunities for those with graduate training, as well as for those individuals who have an associate or a bachelor degree, a high school diploma, or less formal education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 593. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to investigate and review matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 594. Introduced by Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska constitutional provisions which enable or limit the Legislature's power to provide for property tax policies and relief programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 595. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the impact of Nebraska changing to a home rule state in matters of local concern. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Statewide and local concerns and key issues in local municipal government operation;

(2) The current structure of the limited home rule authority granted to municipalities within current constitutional and statutory constraints;

(3) The impact of the home rule change on cities of the first and second class and villages;

(4) How such change could be implemented effectively; and

(5) The interested and affected parties outside of municipal governing bodies that would be affected by such change including, but not limited to, other taxing entities, public and private utilities, the judicial system, licensing entities, and other political subdivisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 596. Introduced by Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and evaluate the potential use of Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) and the potential use of out-of-hospital Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) protocols.

POLST are used to convert patients' medical treatment preferences into medical orders. It is completed based upon conversations among health care professionals with the patient, or with a designated proxy decision maker if identified in an advance medical directive. One of the main components of POLST is the development and use of a standardized form that provides specific medical treatment orders for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, medical intervention, artificial nutrition, and antibiotics. The standard form is designed to transfer across treatment settings so it is readily available to medical personnel, including emergency medical technicians, emergency physicians and nurses, and nursing facility staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 597. Introduced by Christensen, 44; Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study methods by which to find balance between water resources and water uses in areas under interstate compacts, cooperative agreements, or decrees in order to not force a disproportionate burden on either surface water or ground water to meet compliance for such interstate compacts, agreements, or decrees.

This study should include, but not be limited to, an examination of retirement of ground water or surface water acres, ground water and surface water dry year leases, ground water augmentation projects for surface water irrigation, rule changes by natural resources districts, ground water and surface water allocation reductions, increased flexibility to move water rights and allocations, model changes by the Department of Natural Resources, and increased occupation tax authority or state assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 598. Introduced by Davis, 43; Avery, 28; Johnson, 23; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding the potential impact of federal legislation that would require remote retailers with no physical presence in Nebraska to collect and remit the tax imposed under section 77-2703. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An analysis of the revenue currently going uncollected by the state from remote retailers without a physical presence in Nebraska;
- (2) An analysis of the amount of revenue that would be collected should the Marketplace Fairness Act of 2013 or similar legislation become law; and
- (3) An analysis of the mechanism by which the Department of Revenue would determine revenue receipts collected pursuant to passage of any such federal law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 599. Introduced by Davis, 43; Avery, 28; McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding the use of tax increment financing under the Community Development Law in Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The current processes used by municipalities in determining whether a project is eligible to receive tax increment financing and whether current law is being met;
- (2) Whether municipalities are consistently conducting the cost-benefit analysis required under section 18-2113;
- (3) Whether municipalities are ensuring that projects authorized under the Community Development Law are meeting the "but for" test;
- (4) Whether there is adequate transparency surrounding the use of tax increment financing;
- (5) The rate of return of tax increment financing projects to municipalities and other local governments, and whether certain types of projects have higher returns than others;
- (6) The extent to which tax increment financing results in lost property tax revenue for other local governments, including, but not limited to, school districts, community colleges, and natural resources districts, and whether

impacted local governments should be part of the tax increment financing approval process; and

(7) A determination of any changes that should be made to the Community Development Law in order to remedy deficiencies and improve transparency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 600. Introduced by Davis, 43; Avery, 28; Hansen, 42; Johnson, 23; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues surrounding the use of a foundation formula per student in the calculation of need for a school district and the use of an income factor in the calculation of resources for a school district pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of methods other states use to calculate a per student cost in their education funding system;

(2) An analysis of using a foundation formula per student for calculating a school district's needs;

(3) An examination of methods other states use to include wealth in their education funding system; and

(4) An analysis of using an income factor as a determination of wealth for the resources calculation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 601. Introduced by Davis, 43; Avery, 28; Campbell, 25; Crawford, 45; Howard, 9; Johnson, 23; McGill, 26; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the impact of implementing, and the impact of failing to implement, medicaid expansion in Nebraska under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) for medical assistance for newly eligible individuals described under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the federal Social Security Act, as

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

(1) The fiscal impact and effect of implementing and failing to implement the medicaid option under the ACA for:

- (a) The state as a whole;
- (b) Rural counties in Nebraska;
- (c) Hospitals in Nebraska; and
- (d) Those Nebraskans who may be eligible for the program;

(2) The economic impact on the state and local economies from medicaid expansion including, but not limited to, federal and state spending, employment both inside and outside the health care sector, tax revenue, business and employer costs, household incomes, and health care funding; and

(3) Any other effects or impacts, including the ability to reform the delivery of care in the broader range of health care services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 618. Introduced by Education Committee: Sullivan, 41, Chairperson; Avery, 28; Cook, 13; Davis, 43; K. Haar, 21; Kolowski, 31; Scheer, 19; Seiler, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is 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 THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 624. Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Campbell, 25, Chairperson; Cook, 13; Crawford, 45; Gloor, 35; Howard, 9; Krist, 10; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to investigate and review matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 628. Introduced by Natural Resources Committee: Carlson, 38, Chairperson; Brasch, 16; Schilz, 47; Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the role of Nebraska state government in establishing and implementing standards of performance for existing carbon dioxide emissions from public power plants within the state in light of the federal Clean Air Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

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