

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 239

Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the issues surrounding the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in Nebraska. The WIOA was signed into law on July 22, 2014. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. WIOA supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and amends the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Wagner-Peyser Act, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. WIOA takes effect on July 1, 2015, with the United States Department of Labor issuing guidance on the timeframes for implementation and proposed regulations reflecting the changes in WIOA.

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

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

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

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

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

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