PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the interplay between developmental disability and child welfare services to ensure proper treatment and protection of the rights of state wards.

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

(1) A comparison of licensing standards for foster homes and group homes for child welfare placements with the licensing standards for group homes and extended family homes for persons with developmental disabilities;

(2) The alignment of systems to best serve children and families with complex needs, especially children whose needs are not met with a single program; and

(3) The funding mechanisms available to provide permanency for youth with developmental disabilities in the child welfare system, including the possibility of a dual agency or a blended rate for individuals or families providing a permanent placement for such children.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Developmental Disabilities Special Investigative 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.