Introduce by Mello, 5; Haar, 21; Hilkemann, 4; Kuehn, 38; Nordquist, 7; Stinner, 48; Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: LB 561 (Laws 2013) moved juvenile services from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Office of Probation Administration. At the time, it was estimated there could be significant cost savings but that has not been the case. The Office of Probation Administration has requested deficit appropriations in both the 2014 and 2015 legislative sessions for juvenile services. This study will examine the reasons for the higher cost of juvenile services under the Office of Probation Administration. This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

1. The cost differences for specific services;
2. The difference in services provided by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Probation Administration to the juvenile justice population;
3. The differences between the pilot projects and full implementation;
4. The differences in reimbursement methods; and
5. The outcome of meetings with medicaid and child welfare staff, the medicaid managed care contractor, and probation personnel.

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