

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 512**

Introduced by Business and Labor Committee: Harr, 8, Chairperson; Bloomfield, 17; Crawford, 45; Ebke, 32; Howard, 9; Johnson, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR). The CIR is a state agency designed to resolve public sector labor controversies with jurisdiction over state and local government employees, including public utilities. The Constitution of Nebraska authorizes the creation of such an agency, and in 1947, state legislation created the CIR. The CIR was designed as a compromise meant to provide a meaningful avenue for workers to be heard and address fairness in the workplace while prohibiting workers from striking and ensuring public safety. The CIR is an option of last resort meant to be invoked only when the parties reach an impasse in their negotiations of wages, terms, or other conditions.

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

- (1) Implementation, experience, and practice of the CIR;
- (2) Effectiveness of legislation in providing greater predictability and consistency to the CIR process of resolving labor disputes;
- (3) Similar laws, programs, or institutions in other states addressing public sector labor controversies; and
- (4) Costs and benefits to employers, employees, and taxpayers as a result of the Industrial Relations Act.

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