

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 598

Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: Twenty-first century life is increasingly controlled by electronic devices, including computers, cell phones, and other digital communication and information technology devices. Electronic devices are embedded in most modern household, business, agricultural, and transportation devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment. Such electronic devices are controlled by codes and software that are developed and controlled by the manufacturers of such devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment. The owners of devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment controlled by codes and software rarely have the ability to repair these devices on their own because they lack access to the codes and software that control them.

There are economic and security benefits that result from allowing individuals and independent repair persons access to software and codes for the purpose of repairing such items. Such benefits include competition, community vitality, and greater access for consumers.

As part of this study, issues related to allowing owners and independent repair persons access to software and codes that will allow them to repair devices, appliances, machinery, and equipment shall be examined as well as any additional issues that are necessary for a complete examination of this matter.

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