

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 156

Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine strategies to prevent suicide by youth involved in the Nebraska juvenile justice system.

Involvement with the juvenile justice system has been linked to an increased suicide risk among youth. Factors that may increase suicide risk in this population include mental health or substance use disorders, the loss of a friend or family member to suicide or another cause of death, social isolation, relationship problems, and separation from family.

Administrators, staff, and others in the juvenile justice system can play an important role in suicide prevention. Adopting suicide prevention protocols, guidelines, and tools will help improve the Nebraska juvenile justice system's intervention standards and mental health care, thereby contributing to suicide prevention and to the overall health and well-being of justice-involved youth.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Best practices for suicide prevention in the juvenile justice system;
- (2) Collaboration between agencies involved in the Nebraska juvenile justice system to identify and provide services to youth who are at-risk of suicide;
- (3) Availability of appropriate services for youth in the Nebraska juvenile justice system who are at-risk of suicide; and
- (4) Effective data collection and information-sharing practices for the purposes of law, policy, and program development, for the purposes of individual case planning and decisionmaking, and for program evaluation and performance measurement relating to youth who are at-risk of suicide.

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

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST 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.