Intended by Arch, 14; Howard, 9; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the role of telehealth services during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 and the practices and regulations that were adjusted in order to effectively meet health care needs during the crisis. The study shall examine the aspects of telehealth that could be modified to provide for the responsible evolution of this component of the health care system, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The types of health care services that are delivered through telehealth;

(2) The costs of telehealth services and the reimbursement structure for services in the Nebraska medicaid program and in private insurance plans;

(3) The utilization of telehealth services during the pandemic compared to previous years and the anticipated utilization in future years;

(4) The electronic technology utilized in the delivery of telehealth services and the ability to protect patient privacy; and

(5) The occupational licensing necessary to provide quality telehealth services and the potential barriers licensing regulations place on the delivery of health care services through telehealth.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.