

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 368

Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and analyze underinvestment in primary care in the State of Nebraska. Primary care is the essential foundation of a successful, sustainable health care system. Primary care helps prevent illness and death and is associated with a more equitable distribution of health. Primary care treatment not only improves the health of patients, it is also a highly effective use of health care dollars. It is estimated that almost forty percent of emergency department visits and roughly ten to seventeen percent of inpatient hospitalization costs are preventable. Primary care can help save money on these preventable visits. Primary care is important to the health of individuals and has consequential results for both the cost and quality of a patient's health care, whether such care is funded privately or by public means.

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

(1) The current amount of health care spending in Nebraska, both public and private, on primary care;

(2) Whether the Legislature should establish reporting requirements for primary care spending for public and private health care payors;

(3) The public health benefits for citizens of the state if the Legislature were to establish a minimum level of primary care spending for public and private health care payors;

(4) The potential cost savings for the state if the Legislature were to establish a minimum level of primary care spending for public and private health care payors; and

(5) The public health benefits and cost savings achieved by other states

which have implemented such measures related to primary care spending.

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 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.

3. That the study committee shall draft legislation for introduction at the commencement of the 107th Nebraska Legislature to carry out the study committee's recommendations.