

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 389

Introduced by Stinner, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and analyze existing public postsecondary institution programs, initiatives, and strategies to:

(1) Address workforce and talent shortages and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on those shortages; and

(2) Identify best practices for increasing postsecondary degrees and credentials to assist in filling vacant high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs in Nebraska to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on Nebraska's economy and develop Nebraska's workforce in a post-pandemic environment.

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

(1) The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nebraska's workforce and demand for high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs in Nebraska;

(2) State and federal programs that are specifically targeted to high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs;

(3) Public postsecondary institution initiatives that seek to address workforce and talent shortages in high-wage, high-demand, high-skill occupations;

(4) Degree and credential completion initiatives that seek to assist Nebraskans who have postsecondary education credits, but who have not earned a degree or certification;

(5) Best practices of public postsecondary institutions in assisting first-generation students and adult-learners seeking to enter into high-wage, high-demand, high-skill careers;

(6) Barriers for public postsecondary institutions to increase the college-going rate to further address vacant high-wage, high-demand, high-skill

jobs in Nebraska;

(7) Education attainment, demographic, and high-wage, high-demand, high-skill occupation projections through 2030;

(8) Best practices in the utilization of differentiated tuition and tuition waivers for public postsecondary institutions for high-wage, high-demand, high-skill connected degree and credential programs; and

(9) Historical review of state appropriations for dual credit scholarship and targeted public postsecondary institution scholarship programs.

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

1. That the Appropriations 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.