

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 422

Introduced by Arch, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the modifications made to child welfare policies and practices during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 and the practices and regulations that have been adjusted in order to effectively maintain the physical safety of workers, children, families, and others, while meeting the unique needs of children and families during the crisis.

The study shall examine the aspects of emergency policy and practice changes relating to child welfare that evolved during the crisis, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The types of child welfare services that have been delivered through virtual means;

(2) The costs of telehealth and other virtual services in the child welfare system and the reimbursement structure for services through the Nebraska medicaid program, private insurance plans, and federal child welfare funding streams;

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

(4) The electronic technology utilized in the delivery of telehealth and other child welfare services and the ability to protect child and family privacy, maintain progress toward permanency, and provide for child-caregiver bonding.

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.