Introduced by Vargas, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to review the effects of COVID-19 on the safety of workers in Nebraska. The purpose of this study is to review how COVID-19 changes the workplace safety conditions for employees especially those working in environments that are high density or otherwise highly risky for exposure to COVID-19.

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

1. Availability of personal protective equipment and maintenance of social distancing for workers;

2. Issues specific to the meatpacking industry where COVID-19 outbreaks occurred and an examination of section 48-2213, which established the meatpacking industry worker rights coordinator;

3. Appropriate data practices for employers when employees are sick, including, but not limited to, transparency with infection rates and data distributed to workers and public health professionals;

4. A review of best practices for worker retention and sick leave policies during a global health emergency; and

5. Any changes to employment law necessary to mitigate disease transmission and protect workers and the public.

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

1. That the Business and Labor 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.