

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 428

Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

WHEREAS, there are over two hundred seventy-two public libraries in Nebraska and hundreds of libraries in Nebraska schools and institutions of higher education that collectively serve thousands of Nebraskans of all ages; and

WHEREAS, libraries offer tens of thousands of educational science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, cultural, arts, entertainment, family, and business programs a year for children, teens, parents, seniors, and entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, libraries support student success by fostering strong early literacy skills, homework assistance, test preparation, coding instruction, creative labs, and twenty-first-century technology literacy that promote critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, libraries support a prosperous, competitive, and healthy economy by offering workforce skills development, career planning programs, job search assistance, and resources for research, supporting small business creation, and helping people of all ages to develop and grow their knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, libraries help families overcome intergenerational poverty by serving as community centers for lifelong learning, by bridging the digital divide with access to public computers, Wi-Fi, and mobile hotspots, and by providing free resources and expert assistance to Nebraskans across the state who want to learn, grow, and develop their skills and creativity; and

WHEREAS, libraries, as one of the most trusted civic institutions, are the hub of numerous partnerships and community investments in all areas of society and amplify the reach, efficiency, and effectiveness of community organizations and government service providers; and

WHEREAS, libraries serve as a key and trusted partner to hundreds of agencies and nonprofits and provide a vital service to Nebraskans in need by helping connect them with resources, health information, and financial assistance which helps Nebraskans lead long, productive, and fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Library Association, established in 1895, has continuously worked on behalf of Nebraskans for one hundred twenty-seven years to carry out a mission of developing and improving library and information services for all residents in the state; and

WHEREAS, the first week of April 2022 has been designated National Library Week, during which federal, state, and local agencies are encouraged to acknowledge and celebrate the important contributions libraries make to communities.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes April 3 through April 9, 2022, as Library Week in the State of Nebraska.

2. That the Legislature encourages all Nebraskans to learn about the resources, programs, and services available to them through Nebraska libraries and express gratitude to library workers for helping make Nebraska a thriving, educated, interesting, and prosperous state.