

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 373**

Introduced by Ibach, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals to practice dentistry in Nebraska.

The availability of qualified dental professionals is essential for maintaining the oral health of Nebraska communities. However, recruiting and retaining dentists, especially in underserved areas, presents significant challenges. Colleges of dentistry play a crucial role in providing advanced training, enhancing skills, and fostering the development of dental professionals. Enhancing these programs can contribute to addressing workforce shortages and improving access to dental care in the state.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) Analyzing opportunities and challenges related to enhancing dentistry training programs offered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University, including potential avenues to increase the recruitment and retention of dental residents and qualified faculty members in Nebraska; and

(2) Any other issues related to improving the workforce development pipeline of dentists in Nebraska, especially as it relates to underserved areas and underserved patient populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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.