

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 203**

Introduced by Juarez, 5; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; DeBoer, 10;  
Prokop, 27; Rountree, 3; Spivey, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to evaluate the existing passenger rail infrastructure in Nebraska and gather feedback from the public to inform future legislation. In recent years, interest in rail transit and public transportation has grown in Nebraska, especially among young professionals. In addition to retaining Nebraska's homegrown talent and meeting the needs of a growing workforce, passenger rail projects are major development opportunities that drive large public and private investment.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Examining existing and historic passenger rail infrastructure in Nebraska;

(2) Examining plans by Amtrak for services relevant to Nebraska in the future and steps Nebraska has taken to participate in those plans;

(3) Examining public opinion on rail transit in Nebraska, which includes comments from public meetings hosted across the state. Public meetings may be held in Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, and Columbus, in addition to other locations; and

(4) Considering actions needed by the Legislature to advance passenger rail planning in Nebraska, including directing the Department of Transportation.

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

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.