

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 242

Introduced by Spivey, 13; McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the current structure, function, and authority of the Board of Parole.

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

(1) Exploring the appropriate composition and qualifications of board members to best reflect the expertise needed for parole decisions;

(2) Reviewing the appointment process and length of terms for board members, including accountability and consistency;

(3) Analyzing the criteria and procedures used in parole hearings and decision-making;

(4) Evaluating the administrative independence of the Board of Parole and the board's capacity and staffing to meet the growing demand for parole hearings;

(5) Examining models from other states that have restructured or updated their parole boards to improve outcomes, reduce recidivism, and address racial and socioeconomic disparities in parole decisions; and

(6) Studying how the Board of Parole's decisions impact prison population levels, public safety, and reentry outcomes across Nebraska.

In conducting this interim study, the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature may confer with formerly incarcerated individuals, criminal justice reform advocates, law enforcement representatives, parole officers, victims' advocacy organizations, public officials, and other stakeholders to assess how to align the Board of Parole with best practices.

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

1. That the Judiciary 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.