

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 245

Introduced by Spivey, 13; Storer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the feasibility, accessibility, and potential benefits of licensed freestanding birth centers in Nebraska. This study shall assess how birth centers improve maternal health outcomes, expand access to care, and offer safe, cost-effective alternatives for low-risk pregnancies.

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

(1) Reviewing Nebraska's current statutes, regulations, and licensure requirements related to the establishment and operation of birth centers;

(2) Reviewing access to perinatal care across Nebraska especially in rural and low-income geographies;

(3) Analyzing and reviewing regulatory models from other states;

(4) Reviewing the impact of birth centers on maternal and child health outcomes, patient satisfaction, and cost of care;

(5) Identifying factors for implementation, including financial, regulatory, and geographic implication; and

(6) Exploring the role of state policy in birth center regulation, access to care, and other health impacts.

In conducting this interim study, the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature may confer with families, healthcare providers, public health experts, relevant state agencies, and community organizations to assess the impacts and viability of birth centers as a component of Nebraska's maternal healthcare infrastructure.

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