

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 408

Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a study to examine whether Nebraska should amend its laws relating to the determination of the age of majority.

Nebraska law generally defines the age of majority as 19 years old. Nebraska is one of three states, along with Alabama and Mississippi, that does not have age 18 as the general age of majority. Additionally, Nebraska law does have some overlapping definitions that provide for some circumstances in which people who are 18 years old possess some, but not all, adult rights, such as Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-2101, which permits persons at least 18 years old to enter into contracts or obtain mental health services. Additionally, in other areas of law, there is a seemingly different age of majority, such as Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-705, which defines a child as an individual under the age of 16 for purposes of the crime of child abandonment.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Any impact amending the age of majority will have on child custody and support matters and foster care youth and other potential ramifications; and
- (2) What legislation, policies, or protocols other states have enacted relating to the age of majority and the experience that such other jurisdictions have had when implementing changes to the age of majority.

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