ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 423

Introduced by Rountree, 3; Spivey, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the issue of food insecurity for pregnant and postpartum women and their children in Nebraska.

Good nutrition is critical for the health of mothers and can have significant impact on birth outcomes. In Nebraska, one hundred five thousand households experienced food insecurity annually from 2021 to 2023, yet only forty-three percent of eligible mothers participated in the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children in 2024.

This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of the current data and statistics relating to food insecurity for pregnant and postpartum women and their children;

(2) An overview of the barriers to accessing food for these populations;

(3) A review of current opportunities for pregnant and postpartum women for accessing food, including, but not limited to, the Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and food banks and pantries;

(4) Consideration of the impact of these services on the overall health of mothers and birth outcomes for their children;

(5) A review of potential statutory or administrative changes that support additional access to food and nutrition services for pregnant and postpartum women and their children; and

(6) A determination of whether additional state funding is needed to support these critical services for these populations.

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