

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 434

Introduced by Spivey, 13; McKinney, 11; Rountree, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine how the existing learning community as defined in section 79-2101 interacts with and impacts the city of the metropolitan class in which it exists. The objective of the study is to share findings based on the only established learning community and develop recommendations that may inform future legislation related to learning communities and the role learning communities may play in Nebraska cities.

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

(1) Reviewing the current statutory framework governing learning communities, including governance structures, funding mechanisms, and resource allocation, and any changes made to the framework since the original learning community legislation was enacted;

(2) Understanding learning community impacts, including the intended goals and impacts on the preparation of students for the workforce, achievement gaps, and the provision of special education services;

(3) Analyzing student outcome data within the learning community, including workforce preparation, academic performance, student progress, student mobility, and the role the learning community plays in the early childhood ecosystem;

(4) Examining the distribution and use of learning community levy funds and other revenue sources, including how resources are allocated among participating districts, programs, and students;

(5) Assessing coordination between learning communities, school districts, municipalities, and other local government entities, including alignment with housing and economic development policies;

(6) Identifying best practices from other states or regions that have adopted initiatives similar to learning communities; and

(7) Assessing community engagement strategies, activities and practices, and impacts relating to stated strategic goals and objectives.

In conducting this interim study, the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature may confer with school districts, learning community officials, educators, parents, municipal leaders, policy experts, and other relevant stakeholders.

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

1. That the Urban Affairs 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.