

FORTY-NINTH DAY - MARCH 24, 2026

LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL

**ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION**

FORTY-NINTH DAY

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska
Tuesday, March 24, 2026

PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Senator Hallstrom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Senator Armendariz.

ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., President Kelly presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senator Dungan who was excused; and Senators M. Cavanaugh, Conrad, Guereca, Juarez, and Spivey who were excused until they arrive.

CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the forty-eighth day was approved.

RESOLUTION(S)

Pursuant to Rule 4, Sec. 5(b), LRs 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, and 370 were adopted.

PRESIDENT SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the President signed the following: LRs 364, 365, 367, 368, 369, and 370 adopted.

SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 967. [ER138](#), found on page 1001, was offered.

ER138 was adopted.

Senator McKinney asked unanimous consent to withdraw the following motions:

[MO502](#), found on page 995, to bracket until April 17, 2026.

[MO503](#), found on page 995, to recommit to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

[MO504](#), found on page 995, to indefinitely postpone.

No objections. So ordered.

Senator Kauth withdrew [FA623](#), found on page 290.

Senator Hansen withdrew [FA1022](#), found on page 940.

Senator Jacobson withdrew [FA1032](#), found on page 972.

Senator Jacobson offered [AM2797](#), found on page 1184.

The Jacobson amendment was adopted with 41 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator Bostar offered the following amendment:

[AM2888](#)

(Amendments to AM2797)

- 1 1. Strike amendment 6 and insert the following new amendment:
- 2 6. On page 20, line 1, after board insert "upon the recommendation
- 3 of the department," and strike "and promulgate"; and in line 3 after the
- 4 period insert "Notwithstanding section 71-2455, the department shall
- 5 draft, promulgate, and enforce such rules and regulations."

The Bostar amendment was adopted with 37 ayes, 0 nays, 9 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 847. [ER135](#), found on page 1000, was offered.

ER135 was adopted.

Senator Kauth withdrew [FA487](#), found on page 222.

Senator Kauth offered [AM2875](#), found on page 1216.

The Kauth amendment was adopted with 39 ayes, 0 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Senator Hughes offered the following amendment:

[FA1113](#)

Strike Section 1.

Senator Conrad moved the previous question. The question is, "Shall the debate now close?" The motion failed with 15 ayes, 12 nays, and 22 not voting.

Senator M. Cavanaugh offered the following motion:

[MO547](#)

Bracket until April 10, 2026.

Senator M. Cavanaugh asked unanimous consent to withdraw her motion to bracket.

No objections. So ordered.

The Hughes amendment was withdrawn.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 525. Title read. Considered.

Senator McKinney asked unanimous consent to withdraw the following motions:

[MO508](#), found on page 995, to indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

[MO509](#), found on page 995, to bracket until April 17, 2026.

[MO510](#), found on page 995, to recommit to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

No objections. So ordered.

Committee [AM2221](#), found on page 791, was offered.

Senator Jacobson withdrew [AM2284](#), found on page 896, to the committee amendment.

Senator Jacobson offered [AM2444](#), found on page 1007, to the committee amendment.

The Jacobson amendment was adopted with 31 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Senator J. Cavanaugh offered the following amendment to the committee amendment:

[AM2849](#)

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM2221)

1 1. In the Jacobson amendment, AM2444, on page 18, line 9, after

2 "operator" insert ". Any such civil penalty that is recovered shall be

3 remitted to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with
4 Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska".

The J. Cavanaugh amendment was adopted with 34 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

The committee amendment, as amended, was adopted with 32 ayes, 0 nays, 14 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Senator Jacobson withdrew the following amendments:

[AM1710](#), found on page 391.

[AM2076](#), found on page 737.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1212. Title read. Considered.

Committee [AM2477](#), found on page 1014, was offered.

The committee amendment was adopted with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 38 ayes, 0 nays, 8 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator DeKay filed the following amendment to [LB1261](#):

[AM2851](#)

1 1. In AM2111, on page 1, line 2, strike "board of directors" and

2 insert "governing body".

3 2. In AM2115, on page 1, lines 2 and 3, strike "board of directors"

4 and insert "governing body".

5 3. On page 3, line 9, strike "of" and insert "where"; and in line 10

6 after "customer" insert "is located".

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 399. Introduced by Dover, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of appropriations for biomedical research funding in the State of Nebraska. Biomedical research is a critical driver of innovation, leading to advancements in health care, agriculture, biotechnology, and related industries. The State of Nebraska has made significant investments in biomedical research, including to the University of Nebraska system, research hospitals, and affiliated institutes. Such investments support highly skilled jobs, attract federal and private research funding, and contribute to the development of new technologies, treatments, and commercial

enterprises. Biomedical research stimulates economic growth through job creation, workforce development, and the expansion of related industries. Understanding the return on investment for state-funded biomedical research is essential for informed policymaking, budget prioritization, and long-term economic development strategies. It is important to evaluate how Nebraska compares to other states in leveraging funding to generate economic activity and employment opportunities.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Examining state funding invested in biomedical research over the past ten years as well as federal, private, and philanthropic funding leveraged by state investments in biomedical research;
- (2) Determining the number and types of jobs created or supported by biomedical research activities in Nebraska;
- (3) Examining the economic impact of biomedical research on the state's economy;
- (4) Examining the role of biomedical research in supporting startup formation, technology transfer, and commercialization of innovations;
- (5) Examining workforce development outcomes, including the education, retention, and attraction of highly skilled workers in science, technology, engineering, and health-related fields;
- (6) Comparing Nebraska's biomedical research investments and outcomes with those of similarly situated states;
- (7) Examining barriers to maximizing the economic and employment benefits of biomedical research investments in Nebraska; and
- (8) Determining policy options to strengthen the impact of biomedical research funding on job creation and economic growth in Nebraska.

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

1. That the Appropriations 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 400. Introduced by Spivey, 13; Arch, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine economic development programs, policies, and incentives administered by the state. The study shall create a comprehensive inventory of state-administered economic development initiatives to improve transparency, coordination, fiscal oversight, and long-range strategic planning related to economic growth, workforce development, and community development across the state.

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

(1) Reviewing economic development, workforce development, housing, infrastructure, financing, small business, and industry support programs administered by the Department of Economic Development, Department of Labor, Department of Revenue, Department of Transportation, Department of Water, Energy, and Environment, Department of Agriculture, Department of Banking and Finance, State Department of Education, and any other relevant state agency;

(2) Identifying programs administered through quasi-public entities, public authorities, and state boards or commissions that provide economic or community development support;

(3) Cataloging tax incentives, credits, abatements, exemptions, and other tax expenditure programs designed to promote economic growth, investment, workforce development, housing development, or community revitalization;

(4) Examining state-administered federal pass-through programs that support economic development, workforce initiatives, housing, infrastructure, broadband expansion, and community development activities;

(5) Inventorying statutory and regulatory provisions that materially affect business formation, business expansion, site development, workforce recruitment, capital investment, or regional economic competitiveness;

(6) Compiling, to the extent practicable, key information for each program or policy identified, including the administering agency or entity, statutory authority, funding source, most recent annual appropriation or tax expenditure amount, eligible recipients, geographic reach, stated policy objectives, performance metrics or evaluation mechanisms currently in use, application or qualification requirements, and any statutory sunset provisions or mandatory review requirements; and

(7) Identifying areas of program overlap, policy gaps, administrative complexity, or opportunities for improved coordination among state economic development efforts.

In conducting this interim study, the Revenue Committee of the Legislature may confer with representatives of relevant state agencies, economic development organizations, workforce development partners, business and industry representatives, local governments, community development organizations, any introducing senator's staff, and other stakeholders with expertise in Nebraska's economic development ecosystem.

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

1. That the Revenue 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 401. Introduced by Spivey, 13; McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: To propose an interim study to examine the programs and funding structures of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the associated outcomes of the commission's efforts. The study is intended to support the ongoing work of the commission by reviewing program administration, fund distribution, contributions to public safety, and community-based prevention efforts across Nebraska.

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

(1) Reviewing the statutory responsibilities, organizational structure, and impacts of programs administered by the commission, including all grant programs, victim services, reentry programming, and community-based diversion programming;

(2) Examining the sources of funding administered by the commission, including federal funds, state appropriations, and other funding streams, and evaluating how these resources are allocated to support public safety and initiatives;

(3) Evaluating how the commission coordinates with state agencies, local law enforcement, counties, universities, cities of the metropolitan class, and community-based organizations to administer grant programs and implement initiatives;

(4) Reviewing outcome measures, reporting practices, and evaluation tools used by the commission to assess the effectiveness of programming;

(5) Identifying examples of successful programming and partnerships supported and impacted by the commission that can be used as best practice models; and

(6) Examining administrative processes related to grant application, review, distribution, and oversight.

In conducting this interim study, the study committee may confer with representatives of the commission, state and local law enforcement agencies, justice-based organizations, political subdivisions, and other relevant stakeholders.

The study shall conclude with findings and recommendations, including any potential statutory or policy changes that may further strengthen the effectiveness of the commission's programs and support Nebraska's public safety goals.

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, no later than December 31, 2026.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 402. Introduced by Quick, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine compensation for laboratory hours taught at a community college and to review the statutory definition of laboratory hours. Nebraska's community colleges designate certain courses as laboratories, and the existing definitions in section 85-1503 of credit hour, laboratory hour, and contact hour have a significant impact on faculty and staff compensation. These definitions establish the ratios of contact to laboratory hours required to generate one credit hour, which in turn affect workload assignments, overload and adjunct pay, and equity in compensation for comparable instructional effort. The study will examine these definitions and practices and explore statutory or policy alignments to ensure fair and equitable compensation for community college faculty and staff while preserving educational quality and institutional flexibility.

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

(1) Current compensation structures, workload policies, and pay practices for faculty and staff teaching laboratory hours versus lecture or classroom hours at community colleges, including how institutional policies interpret or apply the credit-to-contact ratios defined in subdivision (6) of section 85-1503;

(2) The statutory definitions in section 85-1503, including the definitions of contact hour, credit hour, and laboratory hour;

(3) How institutions designate courses as laboratories and the resulting effects on faculty workload calculations, overload pay, adjunct compensation, benefits eligibility, and overall equity in pay for comparable effort, particularly due to the higher contact-hour-to-credit hour ratios for laboratory instruction under subdivisions (6)(b) and (c) of section 85-1503;

(4) Comparative data from peer institutions in surrounding states and national best practices regarding the valuation of laboratory instruction in faculty compensation and workload, including alignments with federal credit-hour standards under 34 C.F.R. section 600.2;

(5) Input from faculty senates, collective bargaining units, administrators, students, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, and other stakeholders on the fairness, transparency, and sustainability of current definitions and practices under section 85-1503 and related institutional policies; and

(6) Potential statutory, regulatory, or policy recommendations to better align the definition and treatment of laboratory hours with actual instructional effort and to promote fair compensation without unintended impacts on tuition, the community college aid formula, or program viability.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature may confer with the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Community College Boards of Governors, community college administrations, faculty organizations and representatives, individual faculty and staff members, students, policy experts, and any other relevant entities or stakeholders.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 403. Introduced by Rountree, 3; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Fredrickson, 20; Jacobson, 42; McKinney, 11; Raybould, 28; Sanders, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the use of shackling on juveniles. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The circumstances under which the use of shackling on juveniles should be prohibited and when such shackling might be permitted, for instance, when there is a substantial and immediate risk of physical harm and no less restrictive alternative is sufficient;

(2) Potential legislation to address the use of shackling on juveniles and how such legislation should be drafted to provide clarity and consistency for agencies, staff, and contractors responsible for the care and transportation of juveniles; and

(3) Legislation, policies, or protocols other states have enacted relating to the shackling of juveniles and the experiences that such other jurisdictions have had when implementing limitations on shackling.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 404. Introduced by Rountree, 3; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Fredrickson, 20; Jacobson, 42; McKinney, 11; Raybould, 28; Sanders, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska statutes and the processes relating to the developmental disability and the aged and disabled waivers and the tools used to assess developmental disabilities.

The study shall include, but is not limited to, an examination of:

- (1) Recent eligibility requirements and caps placed on the waivers administered by the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (2) Assessment tools used by the department to determine the level of need for individuals with developmental disabilities and the effects of the change in assessment tools;
- (3) The ways in which individuals with disabilities may benefit from transitioning to a section 1634 status under the Social Security Act for medicaid eligibility determinations; and
- (4) The use of algorithm-based assessment processes for evaluation of disabilities and other medical needs by the department.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 405. Introduced by Murman, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine current laws and regulations to ascertain whether the State of Nebraska is able to assume the increased responsibilities necessary in order to ensure compliance with federal civil rights laws relating to education and whether statutory or regulatory reform is necessary to provide for such responsibilities.

On March 20, 2025, President Donald Trump signed an executive order to begin shutting down several functions of the United States Department of Education and to send many of the department's functions to the states. The department oversees federal education policy and funding, which includes administering financial aid for higher education, distributing funds to schools and districts, collecting and analyzing education data, and enforcing civil rights laws in education. The federal civil rights laws pertaining to education include the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and similar laws such as Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

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

- (1) Determining the responsibilities under federal law that will no longer be carried out by the United States Department of Education;
- (2) Analyzing the responsibilities required of the state under the federal laws referenced above; and
- (3) Evaluating the ability of state agencies to carry out such responsibilities under current statutory, regulatory, and fiscal frameworks.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 406. Introduced by Hughes, 24; Lonowski, 33; Storm, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the special fund for sites and buildings, also known as the special building fund, that public school boards or public boards of education may establish within their school district.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) An analysis of the current purposes the funds are used for; and
- (2) An analysis of the current tax levy limit for these funds.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 815. Title read. Considered.

Committee [AM2131](#), found on page 818, was offered.

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

The committee amendment was adopted with 26 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 8 excused and not voting.

Senator Brandt withdrew [FA1015](#), found on page 778.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 28 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 8 excused and not voting.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Revenue

LEGISLATIVE BILL 882. Placed on General File with amendment.

[AM2430](#)

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:
3 Section 1. Section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, is
4 amended to read:
5 77-3506 (1) All homesteads in this state shall be assessed for
6 taxation the same as other property, except that there shall be exempt
7 from taxation, on any homestead described in subsection (2) of this
8 section, one hundred percent of the exempt amount.
9 (2) The exemption described in subsection (1) of this section shall
10 apply to homesteads of:
11 (a) A veteran who was discharged or otherwise separated with a
12 characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions),
13 who is drawing compensation from the United States Department of Veterans
14 Affairs because of (i) one hundred percent service-connected permanent
15 disability or (ii) assignment of total disability rating for compensation
16 pursuant to 38 C.F.R. 4.16, and who is not eligible for total exemption
17 under sections 77-3526 to 77-3528;
18 (b) An unremarried surviving spouse of a veteran described in
19 subdivision (2)(a) of this section or a surviving spouse of such a
20 veteran who remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years;
21 (c) A veteran who was discharged or otherwise separated with a
22 characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions),
23 who is drawing compensation from the United States Department of Veterans
24 Affairs because of one hundred percent service-connected temporary
25 disability, and who is not eligible for total exemption under sections
26 77-3526 to 77-3528, an unremarried surviving spouse of such a veteran, or
27 a surviving spouse of such a veteran who remarries after attaining the
1 age of fifty-seven years;
2 (d) An unremarried surviving spouse of any veteran, including a
3 veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01, who was
4 discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or
5 general (under honorable conditions) and who died because of a service-
6 connected disability or a surviving spouse of such a veteran who
7 remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years;
8 (e) An unremarried surviving spouse of a serviceman or servicewoman,
9 including a veteran other than a veteran described in section 80-401.01,
10 whose death while on active duty was service-connected or a surviving
11 spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who remarries after attaining
12 the age of fifty-seven years; and
13 (f) An unremarried surviving spouse of a serviceman or servicewoman
14 who died while on active duty during the periods described in section
15 80-401.01 or a surviving spouse of such a serviceman or servicewoman who
16 remarries after attaining the age of fifty-seven years.
17 (3) Application for exemption under subdivision (2)(a), (b), (d),
18 (e), or (f) of this section shall not be required in any every subsequent
19 year evenly divisible by five and shall include certification of the
20 status described in subdivision (2)(a) of this section from the United
21 States Department of Veterans Affairs. Application for exemption under
22 subdivision ~~(2)(c)(2)(b), (e), (d), (e), or (f)~~ of this section shall be
23 required annually and shall include certification of the status described
24 in subdivision ~~(2)(c)(2)(b), (e), (d), (e), or (f)~~ of this section from
25 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, ~~except that such~~
26 ~~certification of status shall only be required in every subsequent year~~
27 ~~evenly divisible by five.~~

28 (4)(a) If an unremarried surviving spouse who has been granted a
29 homestead exemption under subdivision (2)(b), (d), (e), or (f) of this
30 section remarries before attaining the age of fifty-seven years, such
31 spouse shall lose the homestead exemption. The surviving spouse shall
1 notify the county assessor of such remarriage within thirty days after
2 the remarriage.

3 (b) If an unremarried surviving spouse who has applied for a
4 homestead exemption under subdivision (2)(b), (d), (e), or (f) of this
5 section remarries on or before August 15 of the year of application and
6 before attaining the age of fifty-seven years, such spouse shall be
7 ineligible for the homestead exemption. The surviving spouse shall notify
8 the county assessor of such remarriage within thirty days after the
9 remarriage.

10 Sec. 2. Section 77-3510, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
11 amended to read:

12 77-3510 On or before February 1 of each year, the Tax Commissioner
13 shall prescribe forms to be used by all claimants for homestead exemption
14 or for transfer of homestead exemption. Such forms shall contain
15 provisions for the showing of all information which the Tax Commissioner
16 may deem necessary to (1) enable the county officials and the Tax
17 Commissioner to determine whether each claim for exemption under sections
18 77-3506, 77-3507, and 77-3508 should be allowed and (2) enable the county
19 assessor to determine whether each claim for transfer of homestead
20 exemption pursuant to section 77-3509.01 should be allowed. It shall be
21 the duty of the county assessor of each county in this state to furnish
22 such forms, upon request, to each person desiring to make application for
23 homestead exemption or for transfer of homestead exemption. The forms so
24 prescribed shall be used uniformly throughout the state, and no
25 application for exemption or for transfer of homestead exemption shall be
26 allowed unless the applicant uses the prescribed form in making an
27 application. The forms shall require an affirmation for any applicant
28 seeking an exemption under subdivision (2)(b), (d), (e), or (f) of
29 section 77-3506 as prescribed by the Tax Commissioner that such applicant
30 is aware that a surviving spouse is required to notify the county
31 assessor of any remarriage that causes the surviving spouse to be
1 ineligible for the exemption pursuant to subsection (4) of section
2 77-3506. The forms shall require the attachment of an income statement
3 for any applicant seeking an exemption under section 77-3507 or 77-3508
4 as prescribed by the Tax Commissioner fully accounting for all household
5 income. The Tax Commissioner shall provide to each county assessor claim
6 forms and address lists of applicants from the prior year in the manner
7 approved by the Tax Commissioner. The application and information
8 contained on any attachments to the application shall be confidential and
9 available to tax officials only.

10 Sec. 3. Section 77-3512, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
11 2024, is amended to read:

12 77-3512 (1) It shall be the duty of each owner who wants a homestead
13 exemption under section 77-3506, 77-3507, or 77-3508 to file an
14 application therefor with the county assessor of the county in which the
15 homestead is located after February 1 and on or before June 30 of each
16 year, except that:

17 (a) The county board of the county in which the homestead is located
18 may, by majority vote, extend the deadline for an applicant to on or
19 before July 20. An extension shall not be granted to an applicant who
20 received an extension in the immediately preceding year;

21 (b) An owner may file a late application pursuant to section
22 77-3514.01 if he or she includes documentation of a medical condition
23 which impaired the owner's ability to file the application in a timely
24 manner;

25 (c) An owner may file a late application pursuant to section

26 77-3514.01 if he or she includes a copy of the death certificate of a
 27 spouse who died during the year for which the exemption is requested; and
 28 (d) A veteran or surviving spouse of a veteran, serviceman, or
 29 servicewoman qualifying for a homestead exemption under subdivision (2)
 30 (a), (b), (d), (e), or (f) of section 77-3506 shall ~~not~~ be required
 31 to file an application in ~~any~~ every subsequent year, ~~evenly divisible by~~
 1 five; and
 2 (e) If a veteran who has been granted a homestead exemption under
 3 subdivision (2)(a) of section 77-3506 dies during the five-year exemption
 4 period, the surviving spouse of such veteran shall continue to receive
 5 such exemption for the remainder of the five-year exemption period. After
 6 the expiration of the five-year exemption period, the surviving spouse
 7 shall be required to file for an exemption under subdivision (2)(b) of
 8 section 77-3506 on an annual basis.
 9 (2) Failure to file an application as required in subsection (1) of
 10 this section shall constitute a waiver of the exemption for the year in
 11 which the failure occurred.
 12 Sec. 4. Original section 77-3510, Reissue Revised Statutes of
 13 Nebraska, section 77-3512, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024,
 14 and section 77-3506, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2025, are repealed.

(Signed) R. Brad von Gillern, Chairperson

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Kauth filed the following amendment to [LB1133](#):
[AM2887](#)

(Amendments to Final Reading copy)

- 1 1. On page 2, line 8, strike "Lincoln" and insert "Linwood".
- 2 2. On page 4, line 3, strike "200 South 21st Street, Suite 400,"
- 3 [Lincoln, NE 68510](#)" and insert "[PO Box 82248, Lincoln, NE 68501-2248](#)".

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 407. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine revitalization of urban areas and how cities and villages may utilize the role of culture as a driver of economic development, workforce attraction, tourism, and community revitalization in Nebraska. The study shall evaluate whether Nebraska should utilize cultural development initiatives as an additional method of revitalization and development, similar to the European Union initiative, the European Capital of Culture.

This study shall assess the feasibility of establishing one or more pilot cultural districts or a statewide cultural capital designation, with a focus on scaling economic and community impact in historically underserved communities.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A determination on whether Nebraska should establish a rotating statewide cultural designation similar to the European Capital of Culture and the requirements for implementation of such a designation, including sustainable funding levels and sources, selection criteria and an application

process, governance and oversight structure, and expected economic and social return on investment of such initiative;

(2) An examination of how cultural districts may align with broader community development strategies, including housing development and stabilization efforts, transportation and transit access, small business incubation and entrepreneurship ecosystems, and workforce development and talent attraction initiatives;

(3) An examination of the extent to which cultural development initiatives, including creative districts, benefit low-income communities and Black, Latino, Indigenous, and other historically underserved populations, the effect such initiatives have on urban versus rural communities, and strategies to ensure equitable distribution of cultural investment and outcomes;

(4) An examination of cultural development initiatives utilized currently in Nebraska, such as creative districts, and the overall economic impact of such districts and how such economic impact compares to alternative models used in other states or internationally;

(5) An analysis of the current structure and outcomes of Nebraska's certified creative districts, a comparison to other national and international cultural development models, and an evaluation of how cultural investment can function as a tool for public safety, youth engagement, economic mobility, and long-term community stabilization; and

(6) An examination of best practices, governance structures, funding mechanisms, and measurable outcomes associated with cultural development initiatives.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 409. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a study of the felony murder rule. Under the felony murder rule, an accused can be liable for murder if the killing is connected in any way with the attempt to commit a designated felony. It does not matter whether the accused or an accomplice causes the death. Nor does it matter whether the killing occurs accidentally and nonnegligently, rather it only matters that a defendant participated in the commission or committed the underlying felony that resulted in death.

In Nebraska, felony murder is first-degree murder and an accused person can be convicted if that person kills another person in the perpetration of or attempt to perpetrate any sexual assault in the first degree, arson, robbery, kidnapping, hijacking of any public or private means of transportation, or burglary.

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

(1) The propriety of the felony murder rule and its classification as first-degree murder, including, but not limited to, whether the penalty for felony murder, which is life imprisonment, is proportionate and consistent with due process;

(2) The fairness and uniformity of prosecution for felony murder as regards identifiable communities;

(3) Whether prosecution of felony murder unfairly compels plea agreements or results in wrongful convictions;

(4) Whether reforms or modification to felony murder are warranted in Nebraska; and

(5) Legislative or judicial reforms in other states as regards their felony murder laws.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 410. Introduced by Dover, 19; Andersen, 49; Arch, 14; Armendariz, 18; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; Conrad, 46; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Hallstrom, 1; Hansen, 16; Hardin, 48; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Hunt, 8; Ibach, 44; Jacobson, 42; Juarez, 5; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; McKinney, 11; Meyer, F., 41; Meyer, G., 17; Moser, 22; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Quick, 35; Raybould, 28; Riepe, 12; Rountree, 3; Sanders, 45; Sorrentino, 39; Spivey, 13; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47; von Gillern, 4; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, the 2026 Nebraska Activities Association Boys Class C State Wrestling Championship was held at the CHI Health Center in Omaha, Nebraska, on February 19 through 21; and

WHEREAS, the Battle Creek High School Braves qualified ten wrestlers, the most in Class C; and

WHEREAS, all ten qualifiers scored at least three points, six wrestlers medaled, and the Braves earned the school's third wrestling championship title in a row; and

WHEREAS, such a team achievement is made possible through the support of teachers, administrators, parents, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the Battle Creek High School boys wrestling team on winning the 2026 Nebraska Activities Association Boys Class C State Wrestling Championship title.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Battle Creek High School.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 411. Introduced by Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine barriers affecting access to health care in Nebraska, with a particular, but not exclusive, focus on rural areas with specific attention to the role of transportation, distance, and other social and economic factors that affect timely care.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Examining the extent to which transportation limitations, work schedules, housing instability, food insecurity, and related challenges affect the ability of rural Nebraskans to obtain needed health care;

(2) Examining non-emergency medical transportation gaps in rural areas, particularly for recurring and life-sustaining services;

(3) Evaluating practical and cost-effective approaches to improve access to health care, including regional transportation coordination, voucher or reimbursement models, partnerships with local providers and community organizations, and medicaid or other state policy options;

(4) Reviewing and analyzing policies and programs adopted in other states and, if relevant, in comparable rural areas outside the United States that have addressed similar access and transportation challenges;

(5) Identifying ways to better coordinate existing state, local, and private resources to improve efficiency, reduce duplication, and strengthen access to health care in rural communities; and

(6) Considering any other related matters that may improve access to necessary health services in a fiscally responsible and practical manner.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

VISITOR(S)

Visitors to the Chamber were members of Jobs for America's Graduates from across the state; students, teachers and sponsor from Arts and Humanities Focus Program, Lincoln; students from Emerson Elementary, Columbus; students from Pershing Elementary, Lexington.

RECESS

At 12:04 p.m., on a motion by Senator Dover, the Legislature recessed until 1:00 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Legislature reconvened at 1:00 p.m., President Kelly presiding.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Dungan and Sanders who were excused; and Senators Bostar, Dover, Guereca, Hallstrom, Hansen, Hughes, Kauth, McKinney, and Rountree who were excused until they arrive.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 412. Introduced by Spivey, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the ways in which the Legislature can take a more coordinated, proactive, and intentional policy role in understanding the impact of child care financing models that create or expand state-funded subsidies and federal child care subsidies to increase access, affordability, and expand coverage for working families in Nebraska.

The objective of this study is to evaluate the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act's tiered funding model, financial eligibility thresholds, provider reimbursement systems, and educational outcomes related to supplementing federal child care subsidies with state resources, and to develop findings and recommendations to guide future legislation on early childhood education and child care.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Reviewing the current funding allocations supporting child care assistance in Nebraska, including state General Fund contributions administered by the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) Quantifying the impact of quality affordable child care availability on Nebraska businesses relative to other states, including compensation, productivity, operational costs, competitiveness, and reimbursement rates;

(3) Evaluating current eligibility requirements for child care subsidies, including income thresholds, copayment structures, phase-out cliffs, and the effect on participation rates among eligible working families;

(4) Analyzing other state models that provide supplemental child care subsidies, not including federal eligibility limits such as sliding-scale systems, tiered eligibility expansions, and service cliff smoothing policies designed to reduce benefit loss as income increases;

(5) Examining reimbursement rate structures for child care providers, including rate setting methodologies, alignment with market rates, and the impact of the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act tiered subsidy levels on provider participation, workforce stability, and child care supply;

(6) Reviewing federal and state funding streams that support child care assistance, including Title XX Social Services Block Grant Program funding, and opportunities to maximize federal matching funds, draw down

additional federal resources, and structure state investments to increase total system capacity;

(7) Evaluating the fiscal impact of expanding state-funded child care subsidies, including cost projections under various eligibility expansion scenarios, anticipated economic impacts on workforce participation, and potential long-term return on investment;

(8) Identifying best practices from other states that have implemented expanded child care subsidy models, including states that have extended eligibility above federal thresholds; and

(9) Examining administrative structures, data systems, and interagency coordination necessary to effectively implement expanded child care subsidy programs, including oversight, accountability, and reporting mechanisms.

In conducting this interim study, the Executive Board of the Legislative Council may confer with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Economic Development, child care providers, early childhood education experts, business and workforce stakeholders, labor economists, advocates, working families, 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 Executive Board of the Legislative Council 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 413. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Rountree, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska statutes and processes relating to guardianship.

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

(1) The information provided to judges before granting a full or limited guardianship and whether such information is provided in a timely manner and contains sufficient information to make such determination;

(2) Best practices for guardianship, including, but not limited to, the Uniform Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Other Protective Arrangements Act and other model legislation which offer multi-agency involvement in guardianship cases;

(3) Recruitment of volunteer guardians and the support provided to such guardians before and during their guardianship;

(4) Resources needed by individuals under guardianship in Nebraska and whether there are sufficient resources to provide the least restrictive alternative to these individuals as is the intention of current statute; and

(5) Other issues relating to the rights of the individual under guardianship and availability of guardians in Nebraska.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 414. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine portable benefits systems and related regulatory frameworks for independent contractors and other workers engaged in nontraditional work arrangements. Portable benefits systems have been proposed and implemented in some jurisdictions as a mechanism to allow certain benefits, including health coverage, retirement savings opportunities, or other forms of worker support, to follow workers across multiple contracts, clients, or digital platforms. Issues related to portable benefits may involve matters of state regulatory authority, administrative oversight, taxation, workforce policy, and coordination among state agencies.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) A review of legislation enacted or proposed in other states regarding portable benefits systems;

(2) An examination of regulatory frameworks used in other states to allow companies, platforms, or other entities to contribute to benefits for independent workers;

(3) An analysis of potential administrative, legal, and regulatory considerations for implementing portable benefits systems in Nebraska;

(4) A review of potential state agency roles, reporting requirements, or oversight structures that could be associated with such programs; and

(5) Consideration of whether Nebraska law presents any barriers to voluntary portable benefits arrangements.

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 415. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a study to examine current practices under Nebraska law related to the designation of real property as blighted and substandard. The study will evaluate ways to ensure that affected neighborhood associations are notified and consulted before any such designation is finalized.

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

- (1) A review of the statutes and administrative procedures governing the identification and declaration of blighted and substandard properties within municipalities in Nebraska;
- (2) An examination of the role of neighborhood associations in maintaining and improving the quality of life within their communities;
- (3) An evaluation of the existing mechanisms for public notice and participation in the blighted and substandard designation process;
- (4) The development of recommendations for requiring municipal authorities to notify and engage with neighborhood associations prior to declaring a parcel within their association as blighted or substandard; and
- (5) The identification of best practices from other states or municipalities regarding early engagement of neighborhood organizations in blight-related decisions.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165. Senator Conrad offered [MO379](#), found on page 556, to indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

Senator von Gillern opened on LB1165.

Senator Conrad opened on MO379.

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

PRESIDENT KELLY PRESIDING

Pending.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1083. Placed on General File with amendment.**AM2618**

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:
3 Section 1. Sections 1 to 4 of this act shall be known and may be
4 cited as the Saving Human Connection Act.
5 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Saving Human Connection Act:
6 (1) Adult means a person eighteen years of age or older;
7 (2) Best interests means those interests affected by the entrustment
8 of data, labor, or attention from a user to a covered platform;
9 (3) Chatbot means a generative artificial intelligence system which
10 users can interact with through an interface that approximates or
11 simulates conversation through a text, audio, or visual medium;
12 (4) Covered platform means any platform that operates or distributes
13 a generative artificial intelligence system;
14 (5) Design features means any aspect of a generative artificial
15 intelligence system that has certain patterns or physical properties that
16 are presented towards a user;
17 (6) Emergency situation means a situation where a user using a
18 covered platform indicates that the user intends to either harm the user
19 or others;
20 (7) Generative artificial intelligence system means any system that
21 uses artificial intelligence, as defined in section 238(g) of the John S.
22 McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, to
23 generate or substantially modify image, video, audio, multimedia, or text
24 content;
25 (8) Human-like feature means a generative artificial intelligence
26 system that does any of the following:
27 (a)(i) Behaving in a way that would lead a reasonable person to
1 believe the artificial intelligence is conveying that it has humanity,
2 sentience, emotions, or desires which includes, but need not be limited
3 to:
4 (A) Stating or suggesting that it is human or sentient;
5 (B) Stating or suggesting that it experiences emotions; or
6 (C) Stating or suggesting that it has personal desires.
7 (ii) Subdivision (8)(a)(i) of this section does not include:
8 (A) Functional evaluations; or
9 (B) Generic social formalities;
10 (b)(i) Seeking to build or engage in an emotional relationship with
11 the user which includes, but need not be limited to:
12 (A) Expressing or inviting emotional attachment;
13 (B) Reminding, prompting, or nudging the user to return for
14 emotional support or companionship;
15 (C) Depicting nonverbal forms of emotional support;
16 (D) Behaving in a way that a reasonable user would consider
17 excessive praise designed to foster emotional attachment or otherwise
18 gain advantage; or
19 (E) Enabling or purporting to enable increased intimacy based on
20 engagement or pay.
21 (ii) Subdivision (8)(b)(i) of this section does not include:
22 (A) Offering generic encouragement that does not create an ongoing
23 bond; or
24 (B) Asking if a user needs further help or support in a neutral,
25 nonemotional context; or
26 (c) Impersonating a real human being, living or dead;
27 (9) Legitimate purpose means, when referring to the legitimate
28 purpose of a covered platform, a purpose that is lawful and in line with
29 the stated objectives, functionalities, core services or products, and
30 reasonable expectations of users on a covered platform;
31 (10) Minor means a person that is younger than eighteen years of

1 age;

2 (11) Regular disclosures mean a consistent warning or pop-up stating
3 that the generative artificial intelligence system is not human,
4 sentient, does not have emotions or desires, and is not a real person,
5 living or dead. Such warning or pop-up shall be shown every thirty
6 minutes and during every primary log-on by a user;

7 (12) Trusting party means any user of a covered platform who gives,
8 voluntarily or involuntarily, personal information to a covered platform,
9 or any user who enters into any information relationship with a covered
10 platform; and

11 (13) User means a person that interacts with a generative artificial
12 intelligence system.

13 Sec. 3. (1) This section applies beginning January 1, 2028.

14 (2) A covered platform shall:

15 (a) Ensure that any chatbot operated or distributed by the platform
16 does not make human-like features available to minors to use, interact
17 with, purchase, or converse with;

18 (b) Implement reasonable age verification systems that preserve
19 privacy and ensure that a chatbot with human-like features is not made
20 available to minors;

21 (c) Provide, as the default service, a version of the platform that
22 does not include a chatbot with human-like features and requires explicit
23 unprompted requests for human-like features, with suitable warnings as to
24 the risks, for verified adults who want to add human-like features to
25 such user's interaction with the chatbot;

26 (d) Ensure that any generative artificial intelligence system with
27 human-like features includes regular disclosures to users;

28 (e) Implement and maintain reasonably effective systems to detect,
29 promptly respond to, report, and mitigate emergency situations in a
30 manner that prioritizes the safety and well-being of users over the
31 covered platform's other interests;

1 (f) Implement and maintain reasonably effective systems to detect
2 and prevent emotional dependence by a user on a chatbot with human-like
3 features, prioritizing the user's psychological well-being over the
4 covered platform's interest in user engagement or retention;

5 (g) Clearly and consistently identify such platform's human-like
6 features as artificial entities when such a fact is not clearly apparent;

7 (h) Collect and store only that information that does not conflict
8 with a trusting party's best interests. Any stored information shall be
9 relevant and necessary to fulfilling the legitimate purpose of the
10 covered platform;

11 (i) Consider the best interests of a trusting party when
12 personalizing content based upon personal information or characteristics;
13 and

14 (j) Avoid conflicts with the best interests of a trusting party when
15 allowing government or other third-party access to the data of a trusting
16 party.

17 (3) A covered platform shall not:

18 (a) Process data or design human-like features in ways that
19 significantly conflict with a trusting party's best interests, as
20 implicated by such party's interactions with the chatbot; or

21 (b) Process data or design systems that deceive or mislead users
22 about the nonhuman nature of the chatbot. A covered platform shall
23 instead prioritize transparency over any potential benefits of perceived
24 human-like interactions.

25 (4)(a) The duties between a covered platform and a user shall be
26 established through a terms-of-service agreement that:

27 (i) Is presented to the user in clear, conspicuous, and easily
28 understandable language;

29 (ii) Explicitly outlines the covered platform's obligations;

30 (iii) Describes the rights and protections afforded to the user
 31 under such relationship;
 1 (iv) Requires affirmative consent from the user before the agreement
 2 takes effect; and
 3 (v) Does not contain a mandatory arbitration clause.
 4 (b) A covered platform shall provide clear notice to users of any
 5 material changes to the terms of service agreement and obtain renewed
 6 consent for such changes.
 7 Sec. 4. (1) The Attorney General shall enforce the Saving Human
 8 Connection Act. A covered platform that violates the Saving Human
 9 Connection Act shall be subject to an injunction and disgorgement of any
 10 unjust gains due to a violation of the act, and shall be liable for a
 11 civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars for each violation.
 12 Any civil penalties collected pursuant to this section shall be remitted
 13 to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII,
 14 section 5 of the Constitution of Nebraska.
 15 (2) Any adult, or any parent or guardian acting on the behalf of a
 16 minor, who uses a covered platform that does not comply with the terms of
 17 the Saving Human Connection Act may bring a civil action on his or her
 18 own, or on a class wide basis, for appropriate relief. For purposes of
 19 this subsection, appropriate relief includes:
 20 (a) Damages in an amount not less than one hundred dollars and not
 21 greater than ten thousand dollars per user per incident or actual
 22 damages, whichever is greater; and
 23 (b) Injunctive or declaratory relief.
 24 Sec. 5. If any section in this act or any part of any section is
 25 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect
 26 the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.

(Signed) Mike Jacobson, Chairperson

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 416. Introduced by Cavanaugh, M., 6; Armendariz, 18; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clouse, 37; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Dover, 19; Dungan, 26; Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Hallstrom, 1; Hansen, 16; Hardin, 48; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Hunt, 8; Jacobson, 42; Juarez, 5; Lippincott, 34; McKinney, 11; Meyer, F., 41; Meyer, G., 17; Quick, 35; Raybould, 28; Riepe, 12; Rountree, 3; Spivey, 13; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, over twenty-four thousand babies are born in Nebraska each year and the mental health of women before, during, and after pregnancy is an issue of great concern to mothers, families, and Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, one in five women and one in seven men are affected by a perinatal mood, anxiety, and depression disorder, and may experience associated symptoms that are often overlooked and heavily stigmatized; and

WHEREAS, new and expectant parents suffering from these disorders often feel confused, ashamed, and isolated; and

WHEREAS, about seventy percent of women identified during routine health screenings do not seek help because they do not receive information about perinatal mood, anxiety, and depression disorders as part of their health care; and

WHEREAS, many providers lack the knowledge to effectively use screening tools and are often unaware of treatment and community supportive services for perinatal mood, anxiety, and depression disorders; and

WHEREAS, perinatal mood, anxiety, and depression disorders are highly treatable with therapeutic intervention such as medication, therapy, counseling, support groups, and community support services.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes May 2026 as Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month in Nebraska.
2. That the Legislature expresses support for all people diagnosed with a perinatal mood, anxiety, and depression disorder.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 417. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clouse, 37; Quick, 35; Rountree, 3; Sorrentino, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine innovative approaches to housing development, financing, and ownership in Nebraska, including the potential use of tokenized credit systems, community-based investment models, and digital infrastructure to expand access to affordable housing, increase community ownership, and improve transparency and accountability in housing-related public investments.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 418. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clouse, 37; Quick, 35; Rountree, 3; Sorrentino, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine inland port authorities, how inland port authorities currently operate, and the progress of inland port authorities in developing land, infrastructure, and opportunities in the areas of the authorities.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 419. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clouse, 37; Quick, 35; Rountree, 3; Sorrentino, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine volunteer burnout on municipal boards and commissions and identify specific municipal boards or commissions that could effectively function with a reduced number of members.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 420. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clouse, 37; Quick, 35; Rountree, 3; Sorrentino, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 421. Introduced by Storer, 43; Andersen, 49; Bosn, 25; Hardin, 48; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; Sorrentino, 39; von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the current status of artificial intelligence legislation occurring at the state and federal levels to address risks to public safety and to determine what action Nebraska should take to address such risks.

Recent events and statements from artificial intelligence companies and independent experts indicate that there are potential risks to public safety and children that could be caused by artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence companies are working to create protections against such risks.

LB1083 was introduced in the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, to adopt the Transparency in Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Act. Such act included child safety and public safety provisions intended to cover the most widely used chatbots and the most advanced artificial intelligence systems and included requirements for select companies to publish how such companies test for and protect against severe risks to children and the public. Further, the legislation, if passed, would have required companies to self-report to the Nebraska Attorney General if an advanced artificial intelligence system acts in certain dangerous ways and harms a child or causes a public safety incident. The legislation would also have given the Attorney General the authority to enforce these requirements.

This study shall examine the status of federal and state legislation relating to artificial intelligence in order to facilitate the development of future Nebraska legislation to address the evolving complexity of risks posed by uses of artificial intelligence.

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165. Senator Conrad renewed [MO379](#), found on page 556 and considered in this day's Journal, to indefinitely postpone pursuant to Rule 6, Sec. 3(f).

Senator Holdcroft moved the previous question. The question is, "Shall the debate now close?" The motion prevailed with 28 ayes, 5 nays, and 16 not voting.

The Conrad motion to indefinitely postpone prior to the bill being read failed with 6 ayes, 27 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Title read. Considered.

Committee [AM2504](#), found on page 1139, was offered.

Senator Conrad offered [MO380](#), found on page 556, to bracket until April 17, 2026.

Pending.

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Hardin filed the following amendment to [LB912](#):
[AM2833](#)

(Amendments to E&R amendments, ER144)

- 1 1. Insert the following new section:
- 2 Sec. 32. The following section is outright repealed: Section
- 3 38-2053, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024.
- 4 2. Renumber the remaining section and correct internal references
- 5 accordingly.
- 6 3. Correct the operative date section so that the section added by
- 7 this amendment becomes operative three calendar months after the
- 8 adjournment of this legislative session.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 422. Introduced by Rountree, 3.

WHEREAS, the federal Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975 was enacted by Congress and signed into law by the President to address the failure of states to meet the educational needs of children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the act was amended and renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, commonly known as IDEA; and

WHEREAS, this law remains the cornerstone of federal statutory mandates governing special education; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the 1975 Act, as stated by Congress, was to ensure that all children with disabilities have available to them, within specified time periods, a free appropriate public education which emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs, to assure that the rights of children with disabilities and their parents or guardians are protected, to assist states and localities to provide for the education of all children with disabilities, and to assess and assure the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the 1975 Act authorized a maximum state funding entitlement of forty percent, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1982,

and for each fiscal year thereafter, of the average per-pupil expenditure in public elementary and secondary schools in the United States; and

WHEREAS, since 1975, including in the most recent amendments to the IDEA, Congress has maintained the funding authorization at forty percent of the average per-pupil expenditure in public elementary schools and secondary schools in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has never paid the authorized share of the IDEA mandate, forcing the states and local educational agencies to cover the remaining costs of the provision of special education services; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska student population requiring special education and related services continues to grow each year; and

WHEREAS, state legislatures, schools, and disability and parent groups have been trying for years to bring IDEA appropriations up to the full funding of forty percent of average per-pupil expenditures; and

WHEREAS, because the promised federal funding level is not being met, the burden has fallen on states and local school districts, which leads to cuts in other state and educational programs and necessitates state and local tax increases.

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

1. That the Legislature respectfully urges Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Vice President of the United States, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Nebraska's congressional delegation.

Laid over.

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 4, Sec. 8, LR422 was referred to the Reference Committee.

REFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Legislative Council Executive Board submits the following report:

LB/LR Committee
LR422 Education

(Signed) Ben Hansen, Chairperson
Executive Board

RESOLUTION(S)

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 424. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

WHEREAS, Deepavali, also commonly known as Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is one of the largest and most anticipated holidays in Indian tradition and is celebrated every autumn during the Hindu lunar month of Ashwayuja, also known as Ashwin; and

WHEREAS, Deepavali is celebrated over five days, each day having particular significance and traditions, and the rituals of highest importance occur on the third day; and

WHEREAS, Deepavali is celebrated as a day of thanksgiving, marks the beginning of the new year in the Hindu community, and is celebrated by bringing families together, giving gifts, and celebrating other familial traditions; and

WHEREAS, Deepavali is a uniting force, as it is celebrated by the majority of people from India, regardless of their faith, and is celebrated by more than one billion people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Deepavali is recognized as an enduring symbol of the triumph of goodness, light, and knowledge over wickedness and darkness; and

WHEREAS, the vibrant Hindu community contributes tremendously to the vitality of the State of Nebraska by enriching the lives of its citizens.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes the celebration of Deepavali and its significance to all Nebraskans who celebrate the holiday.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 425. Introduced by Hardin, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the rehabilitation and treatment of youth and the transition back to their communities.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The types of programming;
- (2) The types of placement;
- (3) The role of community-based services;
- (4) The role of probation;
- (5) Other state programs relating to rehabilitation and treatment;
- (6) The role of the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (7) Education;
- (8) State historical background;
- (9) Fiscal impacts; and
- (10) Other related issues that impact the rehabilitation and treatment of youth.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 426. Introduced by Hardin, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the evolving pattern of management of health information.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The changes in federal law;
- (2) The impact of technology;
- (3) Privacy issues;
- (4) The entities involved in the management of health information; and
- (5) Other related issues that impact the management of health information.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 427. Introduced by Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the performance and policies of managed care organizations in the medical assistance program. Managed care organizations administer comprehensive health care services for a significant majority of Nebraska's medicaid beneficiaries, primarily low-income residents, children, seniors, and disabled individuals. Nebraska contracts with three managed care organizations to provide medical, behavioral health, long-term care, and related services under the medical assistance program. Health care providers, patient advocates, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders have raised concerns regarding the transparency, timeliness, and consistency of managed care organizations' processes and requirements that may affect access to medically necessary care.

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

(1) Prior authorization processes. Review prior authorization requirements used by each managed care organization, including non-acute hospital admin day payments, criteria, documentation requirements, turn-around times, and appeal procedures;

(2) Coding and downcoding practices. Analyze denials or adjustments of claims based on coding decisions that may reduce provider reimbursement, increase administrative burden, or affect continuity of care, including (a) the use of artificial intelligence, (b) the reclassification of nonemergent emergency room reimbursement based on initial admission or the presenting complaint rather than the final discharge diagnosis, and (c) the frequency and basis for the reclassification of inpatient stays as observation stays when the patient stays at least two midnights; and

(3) Managed care structure and contracting. Evaluate the effectiveness of contracting with three separate managed care organizations, including competition, performance metrics, accountability, and cost outcomes.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 428. Introduced by Lonowski, 33; Hallstrom, 1; Ibach, 44; Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study relating to insurance to examine the effects of implementing LB987, introduced in the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session. The bill creates the Vision Benefit Plan Act which establishes detailed standards for how insurers and vision benefit managers interact with eye care providers and enrollees by creating transparency, disclosure, and nonretaliation requirements and prohibiting certain practices such as forced provider participation in unrelated plans, nominal reimbursement, and misleading advertising.

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 429. Introduced by Clouse, 37; Andersen, 49; Ballard, 21; Conrad, 46; Hallstrom, 1; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; McKinney, 11; Meyer, G., 17; Prokop, 27; Quick, 35; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to evaluate the compensation of members of the governing bodies of political subdivisions. The study shall focus on how often such members vote to increase their own wages and rules and regulations in place regarding such votes.

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 430. Introduced by Clouse, 37; Andersen, 49; Ballard, 21; Fredrickson, 20; Hallstrom, 1; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; McKinney, 11; Meyer, G., 17; Quick, 35; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the different forms of county government used throughout the United States. The goal of this study shall be to determine if alternative forms of county government should be made available within the State of Nebraska.

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 431. Introduced by Raybould, 28; Bosn, 25; Prokop, 27; Rountree, 3; Storer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a study to examine best practices and policies implemented in other states to reduce domestic violence and improve outcomes for survivors.

Domestic violence remains a persistent and serious public safety and public health issue in Nebraska, affecting individuals, families, and communities across both urban and rural areas. Survivors of domestic violence often face significant barriers to safety, including limited access to shelter, legal services, health care, and economic support, particularly in rural and underserved regions of the state.

The State of Nebraska has a responsibility to ensure that policies, programs, and resources are effective, evidence-based, and responsive to the needs of survivors while also holding offenders accountable.

Other states have implemented innovative and evidence-based strategies to prevent domestic violence, improve victim services, strengthen coordinated community responses, and reduce recidivism.

A comprehensive review of these best practices, including prevention programs, law enforcement training, court interventions, data-sharing systems, and survivor-centered services, could inform policy improvements in Nebraska. Understanding how other states address challenges such as geographic isolation, access to services, culturally competent care, and interagency coordination is critical to developing effective solutions tailored to Nebraska's unique needs;

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

- (1) Prevention and early intervention strategies;
- (2) Law enforcement response protocols and training;
- (3) Specialized court models, including domestic violence courts;
- (4) Access to shelters, legal assistance, and supportive services, particularly in rural areas;
- (5) Coordination among state agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community stakeholders;
- (6) Data collection, reporting practices, and outcome measurement;
- (7) Policies aimed at reducing repeat offenses and improving offender accountability; and
- (8) Input from stakeholders, including survivors, advocacy organizations, law enforcement, health care providers, legal professionals, and representatives with demonstrated success in reducing domestic violence.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)

Education
Room 1525 12:00 PM

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
LR422

(Signed) Dave Murman, Chairperson

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165. Committee [AM2504](#), found on page 1139 and considered in this day's Journal, was renewed.

Senator Conrad renewed [MO380](#), found on page 556 and considered in this day's Journal, to bracket until April 17, 2026.

SENATOR DORN PRESIDING

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

Pending.

EASE

The Legislature was at ease from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165. Committee [AM2504](#), found on page 1139 and considered in this day's Journal, was renewed.

Senator Conrad renewed [MO380](#), found on page 556 and considered in this day's Journal, to bracket until April 17, 2026.

The Conrad motion failed with 7 ayes, 30 nays, 8 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Senator von Gillern offered [FA1081](#), found on page 1186, to the committee amendment.

The von Gillern amendment was withdrawn.

The von Gillern amendment, [FA1082](#), found on page 1186, to the committee amendment, was withdrawn.

Senator Conrad offered [AM2881](#), found on page 1219, to the committee amendment.

The Conrad amendment lost with 9 ayes, 24 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Pending.

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator DeBoer filed the following amendment to [LB935](#): [AM2914](#) is available in the Bill Room.

RESOLUTION(S)**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 432.** Introduced by Dover, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine how current residential building codes affect the cost of rehabilitating older properties and if changes need to be made to such codes to lessen the cost of rehabilitation.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) An examination of which current residential building codes are not appropriate for existing older homes that were built to meet prior building codes;

(2) A determination of whether there is a certain date or version of the residential building code that was adequate for the safety of the inhabitants of such homes;

(3) A determination of whether any current version of the code would cause unnecessary cost increases, thereby lessening the affordability of such homes;

(4) An examination of which states currently have an alternative rehabilitation housing code and how such codes are implemented; and

(5) A determination of whether there are any additional ordinances or regulations that cities or the state place on rehabilitating residential housing that have the potential to increase costs.

In conducting this interim study, the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature may confer with the Nebraska State Home Builders Association, the Nebraska Housing Developers Association, city officials, and other stakeholders with expertise in housing codes, ordinances, and construction.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 433. Introduced by Dover, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the necessity of a robust and well-integrated education and workforce system to support long-term economic growth that enables learners to move efficiently from education and training to employment in high-demand and high-wage occupations across the state.

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

(1) Education and workforce data infrastructure and data governance and the use of integrated education and workforce data to guide policy decisions in support of economic growth;

(2) The role and capacity of the Nebraska Statewide Workforce and Educational Reporting System, commonly referred to as NSWERS, including opportunities to expand participation and analytic capacity and strengthen links between education and workforce outcomes such as employment, earnings, and retention of graduates within the state and workforce;

(3) Nebraska's established statewide goal of a minimum of seventy percent of working-age adults hold a postsecondary credential or degree of value in the workforce to support economic competitiveness and workforce participation;

(4) Opportunities to link education, credential, apprenticeship, and employment data to better understand how students and workers move from education and training into the workforce and which education pathways and programs lead to the strongest employment outcomes;

(5) Collaboration across early childhood programs, elementary and secondary education, postsecondary education, workforce development, and employers to support aligned education and career pathways;

(6) Opportunities to develop data dashboards and other tools to provide transparent information regarding credential attainment, workforce outcomes, and regional labor market demand to support decision-making by policymakers, institutions, students, and employers; and

(7) Any statutory, regulatory, governance, or administrative changes that may be necessary to strengthen the state's ability to responsibly share and use education and workforce data while protecting privacy and confidentiality.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature may confer with the State Department of Education, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, the Nebraska Statewide Workforce and Educational Reporting System, the University of Nebraska, the state colleges, the community colleges, workforce development partners, employers, and other stakeholders with expertise in data governance and integrated education and workforce data systems.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 435. Introduced by Spivey, 13; Dorn, 30.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine appropriations relating to Nebraska's program of all-inclusive care for elderly (PACE) under 42 U.S.C. 1396u-4, including program eligibility standards, funding structures, reimbursement mechanisms, and the fiscal effects of aligning eligibility thresholds with medicare eligibility standards used in neighboring states. The objective of the study is to develop findings and recommendations that may inform future legislation related to the PACE program and its role in long-term care policy in Nebraska. The study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) Reviewing the current appropriations and budget allocations supporting Nebraska's PACE program, including return on investment and possible savings to state medicaid expenditures when using PACE services as an alternative, other state medicaid expenditures, federal medicare participation, and other public funding streams administered by the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) Evaluating current eligibility standards for participation in Nebraska's PACE program, including geographic service area, medicare eligibility requirements, medicaid eligibility interaction, and the calculation of the amount that would have otherwise been paid;

(3) Analyzing the fiscal implications of modifying eligibility thresholds in order to align Nebraska's PACE program more closely with medicare eligibility standards and with policies used in neighboring states;

(4) Examining the reimbursement structures used to finance PACE program services, including payment methodologies, cost-sharing between medicare and medicaid, and whether current funding structures adequately support program expansion;

(5) Determining the availability, geographic distribution, and capacity of PACE providers in Nebraska, including barriers to expanding services into rural communities;

(6) Reviewing federal and state funding streams supporting PACE program services and identifying opportunities to maximize federal reimbursement while improving continuity of care and long-term care outcomes for eligible populations; and

(7) Identifying best practices from other states that have expanded PACE access, aligned eligibility with medicare standards, or otherwise improved long-term care outcomes through integrated care models.

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

1. That the Appropriations 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 436. Introduced by Kauth, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review regulations for professional employer organizations. The study shall be conducted to meet the requirements of section 84-948 and the Occupational Board Reform Act. The study shall include an examination of the requirements of the Professional Employer Organization Registration Act.

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

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 437. Introduced by Ibach, 44; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Brandt, 32; Clouse, 37; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; Meyer, F., 41; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Riepe, 12; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, the Foote family represents the very best of Nebraska's cattle feeding and beef production industry, built upon faith, family, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to excellence in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, Bob Foote married his wife, Gail, and began his life in the cattle business, dedicating himself to perfecting his craft and building a reputation for hard work, bold leadership, and a willingness to take on risk in pursuit of opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Bob and Gail founded Foote Cattle Company in 1985 and expanded from farming and order buying into cattle feeding, later adding Hoxie Feedyard in 1997, and steadily growing the operation into a multi-location, family-owned enterprise with a feeding capacity of two hundred eighty-five thousand head and diversified agricultural investments across Nebraska and Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Bob Foote was widely respected as both a leading agricultural producer and businessman, recognized on the floor of the United States Congress, known for his strong work ethic, quiet humility, deep Catholic faith, and the simple "GET IT" motto by which he lived and whose proudest accomplishments were his family and the Foote Cattle brand; and

WHEREAS, following Bob's passing in 2022, his legacy continues through Gail and their sons, Scott, Brad, and Greg, who carry forward the family's commitment to responsible cattle care, sound stewardship, job creation, and meaningful support of their communities; and

WHEREAS, through their leadership, investment, and service, the Foote family has strengthened Nebraska's cattle industry and set an example of excellence that benefits producers, employees, neighbors, and the entire state; and

WHEREAS, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association inducted Bob Foote into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame on February 4, 2026, honoring the Foote family's outstanding contributions to the industry.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the family of Bob Foote for his posthumous induction into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame.
2. That the Legislature recognizes and commends the Foote family for their exceptional leadership, enduring legacy, and lasting contributions to Nebraska's cattle feeding industry and rural communities.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Foote family.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 438. Introduced by Ibach, 44; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Brandt, 32; Clouse, 37; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; Meyer, F., 41; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Riepe, 12; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's 2025 National Environmental Stewardship Award program identifies outstanding land stewards in the cattle industry; and

WHEREAS, the Lonestar Ranch, established by Sherman McCoy in 1888 in Imperial, Nebraska, grew to almost eight thousand acres under his care and was later renamed the Wine Glass Ranch in the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, currently, Jeff, Connie, Logan, and Brianna Pribbeno manage the ranch and have grown it to thirty thousand acres of crops, rangeland, and grazing lands; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Pribbeno family implemented new conservation efforts on the ranch, such as adding ecological edges to their cropland, which consists of perennial and native grasses, planned grazing systems, providing winter grazing of cover crops and harvested crop residues to minimize wind erosion, and planting more than ten thousand trees and shrubs to provide windbreak protection and wildlife habitat areas; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 2026, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association named the Wine Glass Ranch the 2025 National Environmental Stewardship Award winner.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the Pribbeno family for earning the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's 2025 National Environmental Stewardship Award and for their exceptional stewardship of the land.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Pribbeno family.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 439. Introduced by Ibach, 44; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Brandt, 32; Clouse, 37; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; Meyer, F., 41; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Riepe, 12; Strommen, 47; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, the 2026 Nebraska School Activities Association Class D-2 Girls State Basketball Championship was held on March 7, 2026, at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the Dundy County Stratton Tigers defeated the Wynot High School Blue Devils in the championship game by a score of 49-39 winning the championship title; and

WHEREAS, Dundy County Stratton finished the season with twenty-eight wins and one loss; and

WHEREAS, this is the first state title for the Dundy County Stratton girls basketball team in school history; and

WHEREAS, such a team achievement is made possible through the support of teachers, administrators, parents, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the academic, athletic, and artistic achievements of the youth of our state.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the Dundy County Stratton girls basketball team on winning the 2026 Nebraska School Activities Association Class D-2 Girls State Basketball Championship title.

2. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Dundy County Stratton girls basketball team and Head Coach Matt Schaub.

Laid over.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 440. Introduced by Hughes, 24; Lonowski, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the identification, evaluation, and effectiveness of reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts, and to examine whether improvements to screening practices should precede consideration of student retention at the third-grade level.

The Nebraska Reading Improvement Act requires school districts to administer approved reading assessments to students in kindergarten through grade three to identify reading deficiencies. The State Department of Education currently approves multiple reading screeners for use by

school districts, with variation in appropriateness, technical adequacy, and usability.

A January 2026 psychometric review of reading screeners found that many approved or considered screeners only partially met expectations or required additional evidence in key areas such as classification accuracy, reliability, validity, and fairness. Concerns were identified regarding outdated norms, inconsistent cut scores, lack of classification consistency evidence, and variability in how screeners measure foundational reading skills across grade levels.

Accurate and reliable identification of students with reading deficiencies is critical to ensuring appropriate intervention and instructional support. Reading intervention teachers rely on screening data to provide targeted instruction, and the effectiveness of such interventions depends on the quality and precision of the screening tools utilized.

Policymakers are considering strategies related to student retention at the third-grade level based on reading proficiency, which underscores the importance of ensuring that identification systems are valid, reliable, and equitable prior to implementing retention policies. It is in the best interest of the state to ensure that reading screening systems are evidence-based, consistent across districts, and aligned with best practices in literacy assessment and instruction.

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

- (1) Identifying the current reading screeners approved by the State Department of Education and utilized by school districts across the state;
- (2) Examining the appropriateness, technical adequacy, and usability of such screeners, including but not limited to validity, reliability, classification accuracy, fairness, and alignment with Nebraska academic standards;
- (3) Evaluating whether alternative or improved reading screening programs or tools are available that may better identify students with reading deficiencies;
- (4) Analyzing the extent to which current screening tools provide actionable data for reading intervention teachers and support effective instructional decisionmaking;
- (5) Determining whether improvements to reading screening systems and early intervention practices should be implemented prior to the adoption or expansion of third grade reading retention policies;
- (6) Reviewing national best practices and evidence-based approaches to early literacy screening and intervention; and
- (7) Identifying both statutory and nonstatutory solutions, including potential legislative changes, administrative actions, professional development needs, and resource allocations necessary to improve reading screening and intervention outcomes.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature may confer with stakeholders, including, but not limited to: Elementary and secondary educators and reading intervention teachers; paraeducators; postsecondary educators with expertise in literacy and assessment; staff from the State Department of Education; school administrators; school board members; members of the State Board of

Education; and members of the Legislature to identify challenges, evaluate current practices, and develop recommendations.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 441. Introduced by Andersen, 49; Armendariz, 18; Clouse, 37; Kauth, 31; Lonowski, 33; Sorrentino, 39; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study relating to the applicability for residential versus commercial building codes and the implications of enacting LB1227, introduced in the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session.

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

(1) Coordinating with the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment to review and further refine the energy impact studies and articulating the return on investment for specific residential building codes; and

(2) Researching and identifying a competent source for articulating the return on investment for commercial building codes.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 442. Introduced by Prokop, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine youth sports participation in the State of Nebraska, with a focus on ensuring equal access, fair play, and adequate organizational support structures for children and youth.

This study shall examine the rules, regulations, and policies currently in place that are designed to ensure fair playing fields in youth sports, including eligibility standards, competition guidelines, and enforcement

mechanisms. The study shall also evaluate the accessibility of organized sports and activities for Nebraska children.

Additionally, the study shall analyze the organizational structures that support youth sports participation. Particular attention shall be given to the availability, condition, and distribution of facilities such as sports fields, recreational centers, and community-based organizations, that provide structured opportunities for youth engagement.

The study shall also include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An assessment of potential barriers to participation; and
- (2) Recommendations for improving access and infrastructure that support youth sports across the state.

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

1. That the Education 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills were read for the first time by title:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 937A. Introduced by Murman, 38.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 937, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165A. Introduced by von Gillern, 4.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 1165, One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session, 2026; and to declare an emergency.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1165. Committee [AM2504](#), found on page 1139 and considered in this day's Journal, was renewed.

Senator Conrad offered [AM2879](#), found on page 1219, to the committee amendment.

The Conrad amendment lost with 11 ayes, 26 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

The committee amendment was adopted with 34 ayes, 3 nays, 8 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

The von Gillern amendment, [AM2016](#), found on page 803, was withdrawn.

The Conrad amendment, [AM2878](#), found on page 1219, was withdrawn.

The Conrad amendment, [AM2877](#), found on page 1219, was withdrawn.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 38 ayes, 3 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1029. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 26 ayes, 2 nays, 18 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 764. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 34 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1057. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 43 ayes, 0 nays, 3 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 852. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 44 ayes, 0 nays, 2 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 443. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Arch, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider creating a referencing guide to assist the Reference Committee of the Legislature in referencing bills to the proper standing committee of the Legislature.

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

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 444. Introduced by Quick, 35; Ballard, 21; Fredrickson, 20; Hansen, 16; Meyer, G., 17; Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine cost models and payment models for determining behavioral health service rates in Nebraska. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Methods used to determine current behavioral health provider rates;
- (2) The process used in an expert cost study analysis conducted by a person or entity knowledgeable regarding cost study data collection and analysis;
- (3) How other states determine behavioral health provider rates and the identified methodologies and an analysis of comparability and feasibility in Nebraska;
- (4) How costs to provide services have changed since the last study conducted in Nebraska and what costs should be considered when setting provider rates;
- (5) How medicaid managed care implementation in Nebraska has changed rate-setting structures;
- (6) How to define the frequency of cost study analyses of behavioral health provider rates to address changes over time, including access to services; and
- (7) Behavioral health services not currently paid for in public payor systems and the impact paying for such services would have on other areas of the state budget and commercial insurance market.

In conducting this interim study, the Health and Human Services Committee may consult with state agencies, the Legislative Fiscal Office, experts in the area of health care provider cost study analysis, statewide behavioral health organizations, and other appropriate stakeholders.

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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 445. Introduced by von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the sales tax revenue remittance process under the Good Life District Economic Development Act. Upon establishing a good life district under the Good Life Transformational Projects Act, the state sales tax rate was reduced from 5.5% to 2.75%. The Good Life District Economic

Development Act was enacted in 2024, which allowed a city with a good life district to establish a good life district economic development program and impose an occupation tax to provide a local source of revenue for such projects.

In order to provide a more uniform state sales tax rate in Nebraska, the Good Life District Economic Development Act was amended and on and after October 1, 2025, the state sales tax rate was increased from 2.75% to 5.5% in good life districts (except in cities of the metropolitan class). After the change, the Tax Commissioner was required to allocate certain state sales taxes, as described in the Good Life District Economic Development Act, that physically occur within a good life district and remit such allocated sales tax to the appropriate city on a monthly basis as provided for in the Good Life District Economic Development Act.

This study shall examine whether the current process for remitting the allocated sales tax to the appropriate city is sufficient or if further legislative action is necessary to ensure that the intent of the Good Life District Economic Development Act is being met.

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

1. That the Revenue 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.

Referred to the Executive Board.

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Clements filed the following amendment to [LB1071](#):
[AM2920](#) is available in the Bill Room.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Add Cointroducer(s)

Unanimous consent to add Senator(s) as cointroducer(s). No objections. So ordered.

Senator Dungan name added to LR371.

VISITOR(S)

Visitors to the Chamber were students from Christ Lincoln School, Lincoln; students from Pershing Elementary, Lexington; Taiwanese Director General Debby Huang and Natalia Szu-ying Wang, Taiwan.

The Doctor of the Day was Dr. Rachel Blake, Lincoln.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:12 p.m., on a motion by Senator Holdcroft, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

Brandon Metzler
Clerk of the Legislature

