

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 389

Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine educational opportunities and services available to deaf and hard of hearing elementary students in Nebraska.

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

(1) The availability of teachers trained in deaf education and related support personnel in school districts and educational service units;

(2) Access for elementary students to communication supports and accommodations, including sign language interpretation, captioning services, assistive listening technologies, and language development services;

(3) Early language and literacy development outcomes for deaf and hard of hearing elementary students;

(4) Coordination among school districts, educational service units, early intervention programs, and families to support language acquisition and educational success;

(5) Professional development opportunities for educators serving deaf and hard of hearing students; and

(6) Geographic or regional disparities in the availability of services, particularly in rural areas of the state.

In conducting this interim study, the Education Committee of the Legislature shall seek input from parents and families of deaf and hard of hearing students, educators, specialists in deaf education, educational service units, and relevant state agencies.

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.