

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

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.