

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 452

Introduced by Spivey, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine funding sources, fee structures, service types, oversight structures, reimbursement structures, and appropriations for cross-system services between child welfare and juvenile justice.

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

(1) Reviewing the current appropriations and budget allocations supporting services for youth involved in both the child welfare system and the juvenile justice system, including funds administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Probation Administration;

(2) Evaluating how costs for youth served by both systems are distributed among state agencies, counties, behavioral health regions, and contracted service providers, including any statutory or administrative cost sharing;

(3) Analyzing the reimbursement and fee structures, including rate setting, payment methods, and whether current reimbursement levels provide adequate funding to meet program goals;

(4) Examining the coordination of payment and funding sources between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, the Department of Correctional Services, behavioral health regions, and contracted providers to ensure continuity of care, with particular attention to progress related to previous audit reports from the Auditor of Public Accounts on this subject;

(5) Reviewing federal and state funding streams that support cross-system services, including fee structures and opportunities to maximize federal reimbursement; and

(6) Identifying best practices from other states that have successfully

strengthened fiscal oversight and accountability for such funding.

In conducting this interim study, the Appropriations Committee may confer with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation, other state agencies, juvenile justice professionals, foster and kinship caregivers, service providers, impacted youth and families, behavioral health experts, advocates, and other relevant stakeholders as needed.

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.