

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 467

Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine strategies, policies, and investments that cities, villages, and the State of Nebraska may use to make the state more attractive to young people, including, but not limited to, students, young professionals, entrepreneurs, and early-career families.

This study shall evaluate the factors influencing whether young people choose to remain in, relocate to, or leave Nebraska and identify opportunities to strengthen talent retention, workforce development, and community vitality across the state.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An analysis of current demographic trends related to young people in Nebraska, including retention rates, out-migration patterns, and regional disparities between urban and rural communities;

(2) An evaluation of job availability, wage competitiveness, career pathways, and alignment between education systems and workforce needs, including opportunities in emerging industries;

(3) An assessment of housing availability, affordability, and accessibility for young people, including rental and homeownership opportunities;

(4) A review of factors such as arts and culture, entertainment, public spaces, transportation, and overall livability that influence decisions of young people;

(5) An examination of kindergarten through grade twelve, postsecondary, and workforce training systems, including partnerships with colleges, universities, and employers to retain graduates in Nebraska;

(6) An evaluation of resources, capital access, and support systems available to young entrepreneurs and small business startups;

(7) An examination of opportunities for young people to engage in civic life, leadership development, and community decision-making;

(8) An identification and analysis of best practices from other states and regions that have successfully attracted and retained young people; and

(9) Identification of systemic, economic, or social barriers that discourage young people from staying in or moving to Nebraska.

The study may also include input from stakeholders including young residents, employers, educational institutions, economic development organizations, community groups, and policy experts.

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.