

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 170

Introduced by Rountree, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine children's access to legal counsel in juvenile proceedings in Nebraska. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) State and federal legislation and case law regarding the right to legal counsel in juvenile delinquency and status offense proceedings;

(2) Current data from the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation regarding numbers and rates of juveniles requesting or waiving counsel, as well as any legislative history of research, studies, or special investigations regarding waiver of counsel in juvenile delinquency and status offense proceedings;

(3) Local court rules, practices, and procedures that promote or prevent meaningful access to legal counsel in juvenile delinquency and status offense proceedings; and

(4) A review of national policies, recommendations, and best practices for ensuring meaningful access to legal counsel for juveniles in both urban and rural environments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST 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.