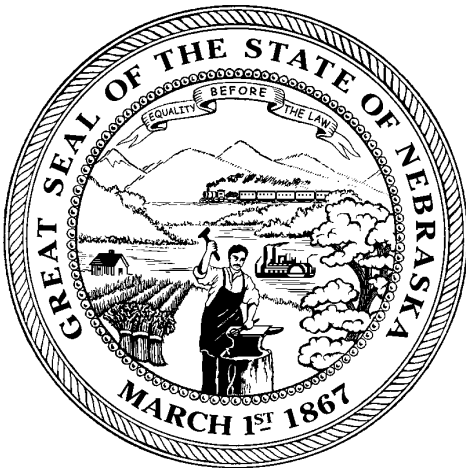


**INTERIM  
STUDY  
RESOLUTIONS**

**ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND SESSION**

**2020**



03-02-01-2020



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2020**

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**INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS****Numerical List**

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Natural Resources

- LR449 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of systemic and institutional racism in Nebraska  
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- LR452 Interim study to examine career and technical education programs and opportunities  
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- LR453 Interim study to examine barriers to obtaining state identification that may exist for inmates in county correctional facilities who are in the process of being released or who have recently been released  
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- LR454 Interim study to evaluate Nebraska law permitting a faculty or academic license for dentistry  
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Revenue

## REFERENCING AND STUDY PROCESS

### Rule 4, Section 3

As a general practice, the Executive Board will refer interim study resolutions to the appropriate committees based upon subject-matter jurisdiction.

The Executive Board may, on its own behalf, conduct interim studies or create select interim committees to do so. Depending upon the availability of staff resources, subject-matter jurisdiction, and legislator interest, the Executive Board may establish a select committee to undertake the study.

The Executive Board shall retain its traditional prerogatives to consider and refer study proposals arising from extraordinary circumstances after the deadlines.

Legislative rules require study resolutions be prioritized by the chairperson of the committee to which they are referred, and a report on those priorities shall be filed with the Clerk.

Rule 4, Section 3(g) of the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature requires that on or before December 1 of each year, each standing and select interim committee file a report on the disposition of the study resolutions referred to them.

(The following referral list reflects the committee prioritization of the resolutions referred to them.)

## INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE REFERRALS

### Committee Priority Designations

**Agriculture:** Halloran (C), Brandt (VC), Blood, Chambers, Hansen, B., Lathrop, Moser, Slama

- LR378 Interim study to examine the Livestock Brand Act and the role and mission of the Nebraska Brand Committee  
Agriculture
- LR337 Interim study to reexamine which Nebraska-grown food products can feasibly be used for school meals and snacks  
Agriculture
- LR380 Interim study to examine the feasibility of creating a state meat inspection program  
Agriculture
- LR435 Interim study to examine and document the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency on the agricultural sector of Nebraska  
Agriculture

**Appropriations:** Stinner (C), Bolz (VC), Clements, Dorn, Erdman, Hilkemann, McDonnell, Vargas, Wishart

- LR389 Interim study to analyze existing public postsecondary institutions programs, initiatives, and strategies to address workforce and talent shortages and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on these shortages  
Appropriations
- LR390 Interim study to assess the fiscal and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nebraska's early childhood workforce and the early childhood care and education system  
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Appropriations
- LR394 Interim study to examine the TestNebraska program  
Appropriations
- LR407 Interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund  
Appropriations



**Banking, Commerce and Insurance:** Williams (C), Lindstrom (VC), Gragert, Howard, Kolterman, La Grone, McCollister, Quick

- LR354 Interim study to examine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated  
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR430 Interim study to examine issues related to property and casualty insurance  
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR355 Interim study to review the credentialing requirements in the Real Property Appraiser Act in furtherance of the purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act  
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

**Business and Labor:** Hansen, M. (C), Hansen, B. (VC), Chambers, Crawford, Halloran, Lathrop, Slama

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LR441 Interim study to examine issues related to paid family and medical leave  
Business and Labor

LR357 Interim study to review occupational regulations for locksmiths  
Business and Labor

**Education:** Groene (C), Walz (VC), Brewer, Kolowski, Linehan, Morfeld, Murman, Pansing Brooks

LR402 Interim study to examine the impact of COVID-19 on the education of Nebraska's children  
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LR399 Interim study to conduct an in-depth review of how at-risk and economically disadvantaged students are identified as a qualification factor for state-funded, education-related programs at the primary, secondary, and postsecondary levels  
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LR362 Interim study to conduct an in-depth review of the financing of special education in public primary and secondary schools  
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**Executive Board:** Hilgers (C), Vargas (VC), Bolz, Chambers, Hughes, Kolterman, Lowe, McCollister, Scheer, Stinner (nonvoting ex officio)

LR361 Interim study to examine matters related to the upcoming redistricting process in Nebraska  
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Executive Board

LR423 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the pay plan and salary grade ranges for legislative employees  
Executive Board

**General Affairs:** Briese (C), Lowe (VC), Arch, Blood, Brandt, Hunt, Moser, Wayne

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LR432 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee  
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**Government, Military and Veterans Affairs:** Brewer (C), La Grone (VC), Blood, Hansen, M., Hilgers, Hunt, Kolowski, Lowe

LR455 Interim study to examine the burden on counties with regard to the costs paid for office space used by the Dept. of Health and Human Services for the administration of public health programs  
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LR397 Interim study to examine the implementation and impact of eliminating felony disenfranchisement in Nebraska  
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

**Health and Human Services:** Howard (C), Arch (VC), Cavanaugh, Hansen, B., Murman, Walz, Williams

LR420 Interim study to examine the racial and ethnic disproportionality that exists in Nebraska's foster care and juvenile justice systems, including specifically for youth committed to the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers  
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**Judiciary:** Lathrop (C), Pansing Brooks (VC), Brandt, Chambers, DeBoer, Morfeld, Slama, Wayne

- LR457 Interim study to examine the Nebraska parole and pardons processes  
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- LR377 Interim study to complete a comprehensive review of the reform of policing in Nebraska  
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- LR388 Interim study to examine the coordination of efforts to find alternatives to incarceration for offenses that involve operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other drugs  
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**Natural Resources:** Hughes (C), Bostelman (VC), Albrecht, Geist, Gragert, Halloran, Moser, Quick

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- LR333 Interim study to examine the possibility of placing one or more reservoirs on the Platte River and its tributaries for the purpose of flood control, hydroelectric energy, recreation, economic development, and environmental stewardship  
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**Revenue:** Linehan (C), Friesen (VC), Briese, Crawford, Groene, Kolterman, Lindstrom, McCollister

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LR364 Interim study to conduct an in-depth review of the use of plastic shopping bags and single-use checkout bags  
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**Transportation and Telecommunications:** Friesen (C), Geist (VC), Albrecht, Bostelman, Cavanaugh, DeBoer, Hilgers, Hughes

LR437 Interim study to review the current model of collecting revenue to build and repair roads  
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LR438 Interim study to continue to monitor the activities of the Rural Broadband Task Force that was created by Laws 2018, LB994  
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**Urban Affairs:** Wayne (C), Hunt (VC), Arch, Briese, Crawford, Hansen, M., Lowe

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LR370 Interim study to examine the statutes governing all classes of municipalities in Chapter 18 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes  
Urban Affairs

LR371 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee  
Urban Affairs

## INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 314.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the most recent experience study required under section 84-1503. The Public Employees Retirement Board is required to obtain such experience study at least every four years for all retirement systems administered by the board. The board administers the retirement systems provided for in the County Employees Retirement Act, the Judges Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, and the State Employees Retirement Act. The next experience study is scheduled for 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 315.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review a separate compliance audit obtained by the Public Employees Retirement Board, as required under section 84-1503, of the state-administered retirement systems. The compliance audit includes, but is not limited to, an examination of records, files, and other documents and an evaluation of all policies and procedures to determine compliance with all state and federal laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 316.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this study is to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board as provided in the County Employees Retirement Act, the Judges Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retire Act, and the State Employees Retirement Act. The

study may also examine the retirement system administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. The study shall examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and administration of each retirement system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 317.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to carry out section 13-2402 which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature to monitor defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions. The study committee shall conduct a public hearing for the presentation of reports by all political subdivisions with defined benefit plans that are underfunded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 318.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to review progress in complying with sections 79-9,120 to 79-9,123, which require the Public Employees Retirement Board, in consultation with the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature, the Omaha School Employees Retirement System, the Omaha Public Schools, and other stakeholders, to prepare a work plan that identifies the tasks, process, costs, and timeline involved in transferring management and actuarial services of the Omaha School Employees Retirement System to the Public Employees Retirement Board. The work plan is required to be completed and submitted to the Legislature by June 30, 2020, and shall include:

(1) A comparison of the annual administration costs of the Omaha School Employees Retirement System to the estimated cost for the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System to manage the Omaha School Employees Retirement System plan;

(2) The identification of the necessary tasks and costs to transfer management from the Omaha School Employees Retirement System to the Public Employees Retirement Board, including assessment of the following categories:

- (a) Administration;
  - (b) Actuarial service;
  - (c) Accounting;
  - (d) Computer infrastructure;
  - (e) Information technology;
  - (f) Member data and record transfer;
  - (g) Necessary statutory changes;
  - (h) Staff training and assessment of staffing needs; and
  - (i) Educational and communication plans to fully inform all system stakeholders and affected governmental entities regarding management changes; and
- (3) Establishment of timelines for completion of identified tasks.

The management transfer is not to include a merger or consolidation of the Omaha School Employees Retirement System with the School Employees Retirement System nor is it to include assumption of liability for the unfunded balance by the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems, or the Public Employees Retirement Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 333.** Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the possibility of placing one or more reservoirs on the Platte River and its tributaries for the purpose of flood control, hydroelectric energy, recreation, economic development, and environmental stewardship.

The study shall be completed in collaboration with the University of Nebraska College of Engineering and affected stakeholders. Stakeholders shall include representatives from the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Environment and Energy, the Game and Parks Commission, affected municipalities and natural resources districts, local taxing authorities, affected drainage districts, and other interested entities. The study shall consider the impact and placement of one or more reservoirs of sufficient size and scale to provide flood control, a stable and reliable drinking water supply, power generation, extreme weather mitigation, and recreation, and to attract and retain a workforce to foster regional and economic growth.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A history of the Platte River watershed;
- (2) The purpose of and need for such reservoirs on the Platte River;
- (3) A description of a possible reservoir project;
- (4) Project challenges and benefits;
- (5) Next steps;
- (6) Water supply issues, including existing water supplies, future water supply needs, water rights, flood control, hydrology and hydraulics, and methodology;
- (7) Existing flood risk and predicted flood risk with and without a reservoir project;
- (8) Recreation, including existing regional recreation and future regional recreational needs;
- (9) Hydropower, including existing power demands, future power demands, and the integration of hydropower into regional power production;
- (10) Site selection and optimization;
- (11) Conceptual reservoir design;
- (12) Possible project features, including an evaluation of alternatives;
- (13) Potential project costs and benefits;
- (14) Alternative reservoir locations;
- (15) Expansion of existing facilities;
- (16) A description of the outcomes if no action is taken;
- (17) Screening of alternatives;
- (18) Permitting issues and procedures; and
- (19) Necessary collaboration with federal agencies such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the United States Department of Agriculture for the completion of such potential reservoir project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 337.** Introduced by Brandt, 32.

**PURPOSE:** It has been ten years since Legislative Resolution 42 (2009) first explored the statewide economic and educational potential of a "farm to school" program in Nebraska. In the intervening decade, notable progress has been made in instituting the methods and systems necessary to assist Nebraska producers in providing local schools with fresh and minimally processed foods for school meals and snacks. The addition of a local foods coordinator and introduction of "Nebraska Thursdays" and "Harvest of the

Month" programs from the Department of Education have resulted in more school districts sourcing from local farmers and market gardeners. Interest has increased on the federal level as well, with the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm to School Grant Program receiving more requests than it has available funding, and additional federal legislation currently under consideration by Congress, the "Farm to School Act" and the "Kids Eat Local Act", both cosponsored by Rep. Jeff Fortenberry. A follow-up legislative interim study examining the status of Nebraska's farm to school activities and the needs of the stakeholders involved shall ensure that the necessary coordination and strategic planning is in place for further growth.

This interim study shall reexamine which Nebraska-grown food products can feasibly be used for school meals and snacks, including use of appropriate preservation methods of local foods by school nutrition staff for use later in the school year, and shall review existing regulations of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, and other authorities that may impact the supply of Nebraska-grown foods provided to local schools. In addition, the study shall assemble a catalog of where farm to school activities are happening in the state, along with volume and cost totals for foods locally sourced, to provide insight into best practices as well as barriers that are impeding participation.

To reflect the interests and needs of the various stakeholders concerned with creating successful statewide farm to school opportunities, this interim study shall include input from:

- (1) Producers of agricultural products marketed at Nebraska food markets, including producers of fruits and vegetables, agricultural protein products, and grains;
- (2) Suppliers of agricultural products, including grocers and school suppliers;
- (3) Meat processors;
- (4) Food distributors;
- (5) Food assistance agencies;
- (6) Resource conservation and development organizations;
- (7) Representatives of school food services from rural and urban public school districts;
- (8) Representatives from a summer food service program and from a child and adult care food program;
- (9) Tribal organizations;
- (10) An agricultural education extension organization;
- (11) A member-based agricultural marketing promotion and education program;
- (12) Representatives from the Department of Agriculture, State Department of Education, and Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (13) Any other interested parties or organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture 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 Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 340.** Introduced by Stinner, 48; Hughes, 44.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the extent of surface water irrigation in this state and the condition of the surface water irrigation projects. The study shall also examine the economic, social, and environmental benefits of such irrigation projects.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The number of irrigation districts, reclamation districts, public power and irrigation districts, and canal companies in the state;
- (2) The acres served with surface water irrigation and the number of surface water irrigators in the state;
- (3) The miles of canals, laterals, pipelines, and drains operated and maintained in the state for the purpose of surface water irrigation;
- (4) The number and size of dams, reservoirs, and lakes operated in the state as part of surface water irrigation projects, including those still under federal ownership through the Bureau of Reclamation;
- (5) Information about the age and condition of the surface water irrigation project facilities in the state;
- (6) Costs of operating and maintaining existing surface water irrigation projects, including amounts paid to the federal government for operation and maintenance of facilities operated by the federal government as part of such projects;
- (7) Benefits from the surface water irrigation projects other than the delivery of irrigation water; and
- (8) An estimate of future funding needs to address aging surface water infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 345.** Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine efforts to protect Nebraska's archeological and paleontological resources and promote cooperation between governmental agencies, tribal governments, and other stakeholders regarding the discovery and the removal or borrowing of archaeological or paleontological resources from all lands in the state.

Nebraska led the original efforts to protect these spaces and resources from destruction and pilfering in 1937 with establishment of the Nebraska



Standard Specifications for Highway Construction and again in 1959 by authorizing the Department of Roads, now the Department of Transportation, to enter into agreements with state agencies to remove and preserve archaeological, paleontological, and historical remains.

With more than 10,600 archeology sites with 21 sites on the National Register of Historical Places, Nebraska is home to one of the best records of geological and geoscience history in the United States, second only to the American Museum of Natural History, and Nebraska has a potential abundance of available sources to study.

Nebraska can again lead the nation in protecting this natural record of history, as well as the remains of earlier human impacts in what is now Nebraska, by assuring that discoverers of archeological or paleontological resources discovered on tribal, public, or private property being used for public or state uses shall coordinate with the interested stakeholders, such as adjacent landowners, tribal governments and councils, or other individuals and agencies.

The issues to be addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Best practices utilized when archaeological or paleontological resources are discovered;
- (2) How other states regulate archaeological or paleontological discoveries;
- (3) Methods to prevent any government agency or any private entity or individual from entering onto lands and removing archaeological or paleontological resources without permission or without cooperating with interested stakeholders; and
- (4) Improvements that can be made in statute to promote cooperation between all stakeholders in the handling of archaeological or paleontological resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 347.** Introduced by Lindstrom, 18.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the use of heat-applied tax stamps on individual cigarette packages in Nebraska. New technologies enable manufacturers to apply a bar code, hologram, or quick response code or use another data embedding technique that is easily read and counterfeit resistant, and have been utilized in several other states.

The interim study shall:

- (1) Examine the efficiency of the current method of heat-applied tax stamps for the State of Nebraska, manufacturers, and retailers;

(2) Examine the potential of bar coding, holograms, quick response codes, and other embedding techniques to aid in collection of state excise taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products;

(3) Identify barriers within federal, state, and local laws to using such technologies; and

(4) Examine legislation in other states allowing bar codes and holograms to be used as tax stamps on cigarette packages and how such legislation has affected tax collection and deterred counterfeit and illegal cigarette sales.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the General 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 348.** Introduced by Lindstrom, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine service animal fraud and emotional support animal fraud.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The process for obtaining a service or emotional support animal;

(2) Federal and state laws, local ordinances, policies, or other controls regarding service and emotional support animals;

(3) Efforts to increase public awareness on the federal and state laws, local ordinances, policies, or other controls regarding service or emotional support animals; and

(4) The design, implementation, and enforcement of legislation, ordinances, policies, or other controls used in other states to address and regulate the process by which people obtain and use service and emotional support animals appropriately.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 350.** Introduced by Arch, 14; Howard, 9; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the role of telehealth services during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 and the

practices and regulations that were adjusted in order to effectively meet health care needs during the crisis. The study shall examine the aspects of telehealth that could be modified to provide for the responsible evolution of this component of the health care system, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) The types of health care services that are delivered through telehealth;
- (2) The costs of telehealth services and the reimbursement structure for services in the Nebraska medicaid program and in private insurance plans;
- (3) The utilization of telehealth services during the pandemic compared to previous years and the anticipated utilization in future years;
- (4) The electronic technology utilized in the delivery of telehealth services and the ability to protect patient privacy; and
- (5) The occupational licensing necessary to provide quality telehealth services and the potential barriers licensing regulations place on the delivery of health care services through telehealth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 352.** Introduced by Morfeld, 46.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to explore the enforcement of the ordinances and codes of cities of the second class and villages to promote the public welfare and economic development. The interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) How cities of the second class and villages across Nebraska provide ordinance and code enforcement;
- (2) How other cities of the second class and villages across the country provide municipal and village ordinance and code enforcement;
- (3) Resources available to such political subdivisions to ensure such ordinance and code enforcement;
- (4) The unique challenges smaller cities and villages face in such ordinance and code enforcement; and
- (5) The resources the state can provide and potential laws the Legislature can consider to assist such political subdivisions in such ordinance and code enforcement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 354.** Introduced by Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be updated. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Real Property Appraiser Board and should consider the input of interested persons as the study committee deems necessary and appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 355.** Introduced by Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review the credentialing requirements in the Real Property Appraiser Act in furtherance of the purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 356.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 357.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review occupational regulations for locksmiths. The study shall be conducted to meet the requirements of sections 84-948 and the Occupational Board Reform Act. The study shall include an examination of the requirements in sections 28-1402 to 28-1405 for each locksmith to register with the county clerk in the county in which the locksmith's business is located.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 358.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The workings of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act in general;
- (2) The effects of court decisions on interpretations of current statutes within the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act and whether any such court decisions require additional action by the Legislature; and
- (3) The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on both workers and employers in regard to workers' compensation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 359.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the Employment Security Law and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the efficacy of

the law. The review should include an examination of the successes and challenges found during the unemployment crisis caused by the pandemic.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The response to and the lessons learned from the unprecedented number of applications submitted during the initial phase of the pandemic;
- (2) Best practices and examples of how to improve adjudication times in order to prevent long delays for persons receiving benefits;
- (3) How Nebraska and federal law worked together and where improvements can be made in order to effectuate the federal response to the pandemic;
- (4) General lessons learned on how to best serve Nebraska beneficiaries and examine ways to provide communication about benefits and requirements to those struggling with unemployment; and
- (5) Any other issues or concerns about the Employment Security Law that were brought to light due to the pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 361.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine matters related to the upcoming redistricting process in Nebraska. The study shall specifically examine, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- (1) The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on redistricting and the census;
- (2) The effect of the delayed deadline for census data to be collected and the expected delay in receiving census data for the redistricting process;
- (3) Information on what other states are doing to mitigate difficulties in the redistricting process related to COVID-19;
- (4) The impact on redistricting if there is a change in the number of legislative districts;
- (5) Best practices to add transparency to the process of redistricting through legislative rule changes or other means;
- (6) Information about past redistricting practices in Nebraska that might help to aid the process of redistricting;
- (7) Best redistricting practices to comply with state and federal law, ensure fair minority representation, ensure fair distribution of legislative districts throughout the state, and ensure Nebraskans are confident in the redistricting process; and
- (8) Any other matters related to redistricting that will help the Legislature to fairly complete its redistricting duties in a timely manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 362.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct an in-depth review of the financing of special education in public primary and secondary schools.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The methods of financing special education in public schools, including methods in other states that would provide equitable education across the state;

(2) The percentage of special education funding received from federal, state, and local sources, and how the ratio of funding from these sources has changed over the past ten years;

(3) The maintenance of effort requirements regarding federal funding for special education; and

(4) The annual change in special education expenditures in school districts of various sizes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 363.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct an in-depth review of the financing of the public elementary and secondary schools.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The methods of financing public elementary and secondary schools, including methods used in other states, which would provide equitable educational opportunities across the state and offer alternatives to a heavy reliance on property taxes;

(2) The option of using income as a component in the financing of public elementary and secondary schools;

(3) The option of using sales tax as a component in the financing of public elementary and secondary schools, including, but not limited to, an examination of the experience of any other states with such option;

(4) Financing issues as they relate to the quality and performance of public elementary and secondary schools;

(5) Options for funding college-readiness and career-readiness programs, including, but not limited to, programs of excellence, dual-enrollment courses, and career academies;

(6) The costs and resources necessary to meet the diverse and growing needs of students across the state, including, but not limited to, the needs of students in poverty and limited English proficiency students;

(7) Methods used by other states to fund public elementary and secondary school infrastructure needs;

(8) Options for funding distance learning programs;

(9) The effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on school finance; and

(10) Other issues related to public elementary and secondary school finance, as necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 364.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to conduct an in-depth review of the use of plastic shopping bags and single-use checkout bags.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Legislation enacting fees or bans on plastic shopping bags and single-use checkout bags, including the effects of such legislation on reducing the use of such bags;

(2) The effectiveness of different fee amounts in reducing the use of plastic shopping bags and single-use checkout bags;

(3) The impact of such fees on low-income individuals or those who rely on benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or other similar programs;

(4) The implementation of such fees in other jurisdictions;

(5) Environmental impacts of plastic shopping bags and single-use checkout bags, including, but not limited to, the impacts on farmland, livestock, and water treatment plants; and

(6) Possible methods to produce and distribute reusable canvas shopping bags.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:



1. That the Revenue 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 365.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to conduct an in-depth review of the use of highway cable barriers on Nebraska's highways.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The use of highway cable barriers in the medians of divided highways in other states, including the cost of installing such barriers and the effect on traffic fatalities since installation;
- (2) The projected cost of installing highway cable barriers on Nebraska's divided highways;
- (3) The effectiveness of highway cable barriers on highway stretches with varying traffic levels and median widths; and
- (4) The projected decrease in traffic fatalities or property damage as a result of highway barrier cables.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 367.** Introduced by Dorn, 30.

**PURPOSE:** As partners in delivering essential governmental duties to citizens in Nebraska, county governments undertake implementing statutorily required services on a daily basis. Numerous required services have statutorily set fees or fines. This study shall examine these set fee and fine amounts and the costs experienced by county governments when administering the associated services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 368.** Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study and analyze underinvestment in primary care in the State of Nebraska. Primary care is the essential foundation of a successful, sustainable health care system. Primary care helps prevent illness and death and is associated with a more equitable distribution of health. Primary care treatment not only improves the health of patients, it is also a highly effective use of health care dollars. It is estimated that almost forty percent of emergency department visits and roughly ten to seventeen percent of inpatient hospitalization costs are preventable. Primary care can help save money on these preventable visits. Primary care is important to the health of individuals and has consequential results for both the cost and quality of a patient's health care, whether such care is funded privately or by public means.

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

- (1) The current amount of health care spending in Nebraska, both public and private, on primary care;
- (2) Whether the Legislature should establish reporting requirements for primary care spending for public and private health care payors;
- (3) The public health benefits for citizens of the state if the Legislature were to establish a minimum level of primary care spending for public and private health care payors;
- (4) The potential cost savings for the state if the Legislature were to establish a minimum level of primary care spending for public and private health care payors; and
- (5) The public health benefits and cost savings achieved by other states which have implemented such measures related to primary care spending.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.
3. That the study committee shall draft legislation for introduction at the commencement of the 107th Nebraska Legislature to carry out the study committee's recommendations.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 369.** Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Wayne, 13, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Briese, 41; Crawford, 45; Hansen, M., 26; Hunt, 8; Lowe, 37.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the occupational regulations for fire alarm inspectors. Such a review is required by section 84-948, and this study fulfills the requirements of the Occupational Board Reform Act. The study shall include an examination of the guidelines issued

by the State Fire Marshal to determine qualifications for fire alarm inspectors pursuant to section 28-1251.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 370.** Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Wayne, 13, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Briese, 41; Crawford, 45; Hansen, M., 26; Hunt, 8; Lowe, 37.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the statutes governing all classes of municipalities in Chapter 18 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes. The goal of the study shall be to update and modernize statutes through the elimination of obsolete, antiquated, and duplicate statutory language.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 371.** Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: Wayne, 13, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Briese, 41; Crawford, 45; Hansen, M., 26; Hunt, 8; Lowe, 37.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 372.** Introduced by Wayne, 13.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the impact of sanitary and improvement districts on residential neighborhood development in Nebraska.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A comparison of residential neighborhood development in municipalities that encourage the use of sanitary and improvement districts and municipalities that do not encourage the use of sanitary and improvement districts;
- (2) A review of the impact of sanitary and improvement districts on the availability of affordable housing in municipalities that encourage sanitary and improvement districts; and
- (3) An examination of the impact of sanitary and improvement districts on racial and socioeconomic segregation within metropolitan statistical areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 373.** Introduced by Albrecht, 17; Murman, 38; Crawford, 45; Lowe, 37.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this study is to conduct a comprehensive review of statutory and regulatory policies of the State of Nebraska as they pertain to Nebraska's biofuels industry, and to determine what changes are needed to further enhance and promote the biofuels industry in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Current state-supported funding provisions that promote and enhance higher blends of biofuels and increased sales of biofuels to consumers in Nebraska;
- (2) Current state-authorized collection of data with regard to a variety of higher blends of biofuels;
- (3) Current state and national regulations that may be impeding the growth and stability of Nebraska's biofuels industry;
- (4) Current tax provisions that either support or hinder biofuels production and sales in Nebraska;
- (5) A potential policy of replacing current E10 retail pump offerings with E15 offerings and the economic impact this proposal would have on the ethanol industry and ethanol sales in Nebraska, if enacted;
- (6) Potential statutory and regulatory changes that would be necessary to support a "Clean Fuels Standard" in Nebraska similar to what is being considered in several other Midwestern states;

(7) State-level policies that have been implemented in other states to promote higher biofuel sales and enhance the biofuels industry in their states;

(8) Opportunities that exist for biofuels to be used in the renewable chemical processes and other similar processes that may diversify the use of, and increase the demand for, Nebraska produced biofuels; and

(9) The current level of research being conducted in Nebraska on the use of biofuels and determine what future research needs there may be with regard to biofuels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources 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 work in close consultation with the Nebraska Ethanol Board to complete the above interim study.

3. 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 374.** Introduced by Wayne, 13.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues related to the historical practice known as redlining within Nebraska municipalities. Redlining is the discriminatory practice whereby banks, mortgage lenders, realtors, and other private entities restrict services to certain areas of a community, often because of the racial characteristics of an applicant's neighborhood. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The negative impacts of redlining on racial and socioeconomic segregation within municipalities;

(2) The legal underpinnings of redlining, including the role of federal, state, and local governments in promoting the practice of redlining; and

(3) Potential policy solutions to reverse the negative impacts of redlining.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 377.** Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to complete a comprehensive study on the reform of policing in Nebraska. The study shall focus on, but not be limited to, the feasibility of steps that the Legislature could take to

establish, or promote the establishment of, governmental entities that would provide oversight of law enforcement agencies and that would be separate from and independent of the law enforcement agencies being overseen. The study committee shall obtain input from experts and interested parties.

The study shall include an examination of:

- (1) Other oversight mechanisms that have been established in Nebraska and elsewhere;
- (2) Those features that would work best to make law enforcement oversight entities as independent as possible from the law enforcement agencies being overseen;
- (3) The legal responsibilities of law enforcement agencies that are subject to such oversight to provide the oversight entities with all needed evidence or relevant information; and
- (4) The feasibility of a system whereby all law enforcement agencies would be required by law to publicly disclose all disciplinary actions taken by such agencies against their officers.

The study may also include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

- (1) Whether it is desirable to reform law enforcement practices, including, but not limited to: (a) The use of chokeholds, electroshock weapons, sprays or other chemical irritants, batons, and high impact munitions for crowd control or for the arrest and restraint of suspects; and (b) the use of deadly force;
- (2) Whether improvements can be made in the staffing and hiring practices of law enforcement agencies; and
- (3) Whether improvements can be made in the training of law enforcement officers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 378.** Introduced by Halloran, 33.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to examine the Livestock Brand Act and the role and mission of the Nebraska Brand Committee.

Specifically, the study shall:

- (1)(a) Compare and describe similarities and differences between brand inspection services and mandates applied in Nebraska and those applied in other states where brand inspection is performed. Such comparison shall:
  - (b) Identify public or private entities responsible for performing brand inspection, carrying out livestock brand recording, and carrying out other related services and regulations;
  - (c) Identify any employment of law enforcement personnel or relationships with other law enforcement agencies by such entities; and

(d) Compare the points in commerce where brand inspection is performed, the cost of brand inspection, and how such cost is supported;

(2) Gather data, literature, and other information along with opinions from the Nebraska livestock industry relevant to the following questions:

(a) Whether brand recording, brand inspection, and related services and regulations under the Livestock Brand Act remains a cost-effective, essential, and valued tool for theft detection and prevention;

(b) Whether brand inspection services continue to have commercial utility to all segments of the cattle industry and provide a vital contribution to the integrity of the marketplace;

(c) Whether the Livestock Brand Act and the rules and regulations of the Nebraska Brand Committee, or any provisions thereof, impose unnecessary regulatory costs and burdens or result in competitive disadvantages for Nebraska's cattle industry as a whole or for segments of the cattle industry;

(d) Whether any revisions to the Livestock Brand Act and its implementation would eliminate or mitigate such burdens or competitive disadvantages;

(e) Whether alternative methods of organizing and providing brand inspection and related services would more cost effectively and more appropriately serve the cattle industry in Nebraska; and

(f) Whether the mission of the Nebraska Brand Committee should expand or evolve to provide other livestock identification recording and verification services that would be of value to the cattle industry; and

(3) Consult and involve various interested parties and organizations in its inquiry under this resolution, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Brand Committee, cow-calf producers, livestock feeders, dairy producers, breeding stock producers, livestock auction market operators, livestock processors, and academic and industry experts in livestock identification methods and technologies as related to herd management, livestock marketing, and disease traceability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 379.** Introduced by Geist, 25.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine whether continuity of care and safety for individuals and the public can be enhanced by allowing mental health providers to coordinate with law enforcement. The study shall include, but not be limited to, a review of mental health records to the extent such review is consistent with state and federal law regarding the confidentiality of such records.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 380.** Introduced by Brewer, 43; Bostelman, 23; Erdman, 47; Gragert, 40; Halloran, 33.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the feasibility of creating a state meat inspection program. A state meat inspection program would allow cattle producers and small beef processors in this state to better feed Nebraska residents, greatly strengthen and secure the beef supply chain from cattle producers to consumers, and spur economic development in rural Nebraska. The study should seek to consult with and involve various interests and stakeholders in its inquiry under this resolution including, but not limited to, livestock producers, small plant processors, the Department of Agriculture, and industry and trade groups. The study should examine, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Different ways cattle producers and meat processors can take advantage of federal law and legislation to allow intrastate, interstate, and e-commerce sales of state-inspected meat;
- (2) How cattle producers can develop their own branded beef programs and take advantage of available United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) producer grants;
- (3) Courses of action that are safe so that the requirements of the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the USDA are met or exceeded, and which do not have a General Fund impact;
- (4) Programs offered in other states to stimulate the expansion of local meat processing; and
- (5) How to support investment in custom and small plant processing and expand direct-to-the-consumer marketing of inspected meat.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 381.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the collective-bargaining agreements of law enforcement agencies and the statutory requirements for such agreements.



The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Common provisions in individual collective-bargaining agreements with law enforcement agencies;
- (2) Disciplinary procedures provided for in collective-bargaining agreements, including, but not limited to, responses to the use of force and safeguards for the public;
- (3) Duties of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice imposed by sections 81-1456 and 81-1457;
- (4) Requirements of the Commission of Industrial Relations on collective-bargaining agreements between political subdivisions and law enforcement agencies; and
- (5) Requirements for collective-bargaining between the Nebraska State Patrol and its employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 382.** Introduced by Legislative Performance Audit Committee: Geist, 25, Chairperson; Crawford, 45; Friesen, 34; Hansen, B., 16; Hilgers, 21; Scheer, 19; Lindstrom, 18.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study the oversight of non-court-involved child welfare cases. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Oversight entities for non-court-involved child welfare cases;
- (2) Authority and access to information regarding non-court-involved child welfare cases;
- (3) The differences in oversight of non-court-involved child welfare cases across the state; and
- (4) Whether the current oversight of non-court-involved child welfare cases is sufficient.

The study committee shall solicit information from representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services service areas, the Foster Care Review Office, child abuse and neglect investigation teams formed pursuant to section 28-729, and other interested parties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 383.** Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 384.** Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues related to Nebraska's correctional system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 385.** Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to investigate the advertisement and use of unproven stem cell injections as a therapy for health disorders. Stem cells of the body are capable of developing into any of the body's 200 different kinds of cells and, with proper study, development and approval, may offer the potential to combat diseases that have few or no treatments. The only stem-cell-based products that have approval from the federal Food and Drug Administration are those made from blood-forming cells that are derived from umbilical cord blood, peripheral blood, or bone marrow. These are used primarily to treat patients with cancer or other disorders of the blood or immune system. Any other advertised use of stem cells is not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration and the advertising of such unapproved uses violates state and federal law. It has been documented across the United States that patients who have received unapproved stem cell therapy have suffered serious infections, blindness, tumor growth, or even death. Older individuals are particularly vulnerable to misleading marketing statements regarding stem cell therapy as they may not be good candidates for other treatment

options but are desperate for relief. More than 500 clinics across the United States, including several in Nebraska, offer unproven stem cell therapies which cost tens of thousands of dollars and are not covered by private or public insurance. Such clinics do not possess approval from the federal Food and Drug Administration, nor scientific substantiation for the claims made within their advertising campaigns, and are harming Nebraskans. Other states have implemented new laws to establish consumer protections for those in the public who are unaware of potential risks, dangerous side effects, and lack of effectiveness of such unapproved stem cell therapy. By informing the public that certain treatments have not been proven safe or effective Nebraskans can make more informed decisions about their healthcare.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Stem cells and stem cell products;
- (2) The approval process for stem cell therapies by the federal Food and Drug Administration;
- (3) Current clinical trials for stem cells and stem cell products;
- (4) Products and services offered at stem cell clinics located in Nebraska and the advertising techniques used to promote such products and services; and
- (5) The role the state can play in protecting the public from potential adverse effects of unproven stem cell therapies, including the state agencies that can work together to share certain information.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 386.** Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Vargas, 7.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine Nebraska law, policy, and application in the filing and transferring of cases involving youth between juvenile and criminal court and to consider the jurisdictional structure currently set forth in sections 29-1816, 43-246.01, 43-247, and 43-274 and in light of national best practices, scientific understanding of adolescent development, the lived experience of youth and families in Nebraska, and racial equity outcomes. The purpose of this interim study is also to examine how the current jurisdictional structure supports the intent of the juvenile code to effectuate the outcomes listed in section 43-246 and to explore the expansion of problem-solving courts and alternative juvenile court jurisdictional models, including extending the age of juvenile court jurisdiction or adopting a young adult court.

This interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(1) The number and type of cases in Nebraska, disaggregated by demographic factors, wherein:

(a) An individual under the age of eighteen was charged as an adult in county or district court, whether or not a motion to transfer the case to juvenile court was filed;

(b) An individual under the age of eighteen was petitioned in juvenile court and a motion to transfer the case to county or district court was filed; or

(c) An individual under the age of eighteen was charged as an adult in county or district court and petitioned in juvenile court for separate offenses arising from a singular incident;

(2) Case progression data with regard to filing of transfer motions, hearings on transfer motions, orders on transfer motions, and any appeals that may have been filed in the matter;

(3) The disproportionate use of discretionary charging and transfers for Black, Indigenous, and other youth of color in Nebraska and whether and to what extent the factors set forth in section 43-276 contribute to racial and ethnic disparities for youth sentenced as adults;

(4) The variance of discretionary charging and transfers of youth between juvenile and criminal court across counties, by gender, by age, and by type of offense;

(5) The case outcomes or sentences for youth charged and sentenced as adults, as compared with the case outcomes or dispositions for youth charged as adults but transferred to juvenile court;

(6) The experience and outcomes of discretionary criminal court charging and transfers, as articulated by youth and family advocates with lived experience of the transfer process in Nebraska; and

(7) Other state models and best practices for structuring juvenile, adult, and young adult court jurisdictions to support rehabilitation, healing, and community safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 387.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the processes by which children, from birth to age three, who are the victim of a substantiated case of abuse or neglect, are able to access services through Nebraska's Early Development Network under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C.

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

(1) The percentage of children from birth to age three who are the victim of a substantiated case of abuse or neglect that receive services through the Nebraska Early Development Network;

(2) Points in the process that present barriers to services for children from birth to age three who are the victim of a substantiated case of abuse or neglect;

(3) Conversations with Nebraska Early Development Network leadership, regional Early Developmental Network leadership, Early Development Network service coordinators, Early Development Network evaluators, families, and other interested parties from rural and urban settings;

(4) Eligibility under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, for children from birth to age three who are the victim of a substantiated case of abuse or neglect in surrounding states; and

(5) Potential solutions to ensure children from birth to age three who are the victim of a substantiated case of abuse or neglect have access to the services they need to thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 388.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the coordination of efforts to find alternatives to incarceration for offenses that involve operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. The study shall focus on allowing counties to create and implement 24/7 sobriety programs, in which participants are tested twice daily at designated facilities for evidence of alcohol or drug consumption in place of incarceration or other conditions of bond, and allowing for application for permits for such programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 389.** Introduced by Stinner, 48.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study and analyze existing public postsecondary institution programs, initiatives, and strategies to:

(1) Address workforce and talent shortages and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on those shortages; and

(2) Identify best practices for increasing postsecondary degrees and credentials to assist in filling vacant high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs in Nebraska to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on Nebraska's economy and develop Nebraska's workforce in a post-pandemic environment.

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

(1) The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nebraska's workforce and demand for high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs in Nebraska;

(2) State and federal programs that are specifically targeted to high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs;

(3) Public postsecondary institution initiatives that seek to address workforce and talent shortages in high-wage, high-demand, high-skill occupations;

(4) Degree and credential completion initiatives that seek to assist Nebraskans who have postsecondary education credits, but who have not earned a degree or certification;

(5) Best practices of public postsecondary institutions in assisting first-generation students and adult-learners seeking to enter into high-wage, high-demand, high-skill careers;

(6) Barriers for public postsecondary institutions to increase the college-going rate to further address vacant high-wage, high-demand, high-skill jobs in Nebraska;

(7) Education attainment, demographic, and high-wage, high-demand, high-skill occupation projections through 2030;

(8) Best practices in the utilization of differentiated tuition and tuition waivers for public postsecondary institutions for high-wage, high-demand, high-skill connected degree and credential programs; and

(9) Historical review of state appropriations for dual credit scholarship and targeted public postsecondary institution scholarship programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 390.** Introduced by Stinner, 48.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this study resolution is to assess the fiscal and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nebraska's early childhood workforce and the early childhood care and education system and to ensure that the early childhood care and education system is stable enough to support children's development during and after this crisis situation and to

support families, communities, and businesses while rebuilding the state's economy.

The foundation for this study resolution is an analysis of Nebraska's strengths and challenges across all sectors affecting early childhood care and education as presented in "Elevating Nebraska's Early Childhood Workforce: Report and Recommendations of the Nebraska Early Childhood Workforce Commission," released on January 30, 2020, by the Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska. The science of early childhood development makes it clear that the early years, from birth through the age of eight, are a time of unparalleled human growth and brain development and that healthy development during these pivotal early years requires reliable, positive, and consistent interactions between the developing child and parents and other familiar, caring adults.

In Nebraska, seventy-five percent of children under the age of six live in homes where all adults in their family work outside the home. Most parents of young children who work outside the home rely on early childhood professionals, whether in family child care homes, child care centers, or public or private schools, to provide additional positive interactions and experiences that young children need to thrive. Prior to the pandemic, many communities across the state already lacked sufficient and affordable early childhood care and education options. Eleven Nebraska counties had no licensed child care facilities and eighty-four percent of Nebraska counties lacked sufficient child care openings to meet the needs of families living in the county.

A survey of Nebraska child care providers conducted by the Buffett Early Childhood Institute in the initial days of the pandemic revealed many of the providers could not survive a closure of any length, decreasing parent options and increasing stress on local economies. Ensuring all families and children have equitable access to affordable high-quality care is key to both the healthy growth and development of Nebraska's children as well as the economic vitality and prosperity of communities and the state.

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

- (1) The fiscal and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the early childhood workforce and the early childhood care and education system;
- (2) Federal and state investments and expenditures in Nebraska's early childhood care and education system;
- (3) The funding gap between current investments and the total investments needed to fully fund a high-quality early childhood care and education system; and
- (4) Financing options for closing the funding gap for a high-quality early childhood care and education system, including state and community-based models.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 391.** Introduced by Crawford, 45.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to conduct a review of current academic literature and research examining the impact of paid sick leave policies on pandemic spread in various states and industries and to identify lessons and best practices for the development of paid sick leave policy in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 392.** Introduced by Lowe, 37.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the feasibility of increasing the capacity of pre-health academic and research undergraduate programs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney to help expand the permanent presence of the University of Nebraska Medical Center in central and western Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The current capacity of existing pre-health or health care-related undergraduate programs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney;

(2) Existing initiatives to recruit undergraduate students into pre-health or health care-related degree programs;

(3) Internship, apprenticeship, and professional development initiatives that focus on recruiting undergraduate students into health-related careers;

(4) The current master facility plan at the University of Nebraska at Kearney as it relates to potential expansions of existing University of Nebraska Medical Center programs and facility space;

(5) Current planning efforts and the capacity of the University of Nebraska Medical Center to expand the delivery of new and expanded health sciences programs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney; and

(6) Recommendations for potential strategies and funding sources to achieve the expansion of undergraduate pre-health career pipelines between the University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 393.** Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Vargas, 7.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review juvenile justice involvement for youth who commit a status offense specified in subdivision (3)(b) of section 43-247. Status offenses include a range of behaviors prohibited by law for children, but not adults, including chronic absenteeism, running away from home, being uncontrollable in the home, engaging in behavior that injures or seriously endangers the morals or health of the youth or others, and possessing or consuming alcohol or tobacco. National juvenile justice best practices encourage policymakers to increase community-based interventions that address the underlying causes of status offenses and eliminate formal court interventions.

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

- (1) The number and type of status offenses cases filed across the state;
- (2) The outcomes for youth adjudicated for status offenses, including length of time on probation, recidivism, or other metrics to assess whether youth are transitioning to a productive adulthood;
- (3) Any outcomes not tracked, including educational attainment, behavioral and mental health improvements, skill development, and employment;
- (4) The amount of money the state commits to state systems to address status behaviors, including, but not limited to, the costs of formal court involvement, the cost to the educational system to address chronic absenteeism, and the cost of state-aid dedicated to community-based interventions for youth;
- (5) The variance of chronic absenteeism in our state across school districts, diversion programs focused on chronic absenteeism, and referrals to county attorneys for formal court intervention, including demographic information and how chronic absenteeism may disproportionately affect communities of color and non-English learners;
- (6) The programs addressing chronic absenteeism supported through community-based aid dollars, other community-based programs that address behaviors that lead to status offense filings, and the outcomes for youth resulting from all such programs;
- (7) Any programs used by probation to address chronic absenteeism within probation districts and the outcomes for youth resulting from such programs;

(8) Best practices to improve youth and family engagement and positive youth outcomes resulting from collaborative plan meetings required pursuant to subdivision (2)(b) of section 79-209; and

(9) A survey of national best practices in addressing status offenses to identify necessary services and gaps in service delivery in this state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 394.** Introduced by Cavanaugh, 6.

**PURPOSE:** To study the TestNebraska program. TestNebraska is a new initiative which began in April 2020 based on a partnership between the state leaders in Nebraska and private corporations. The goal of the initiative is to dramatically increase the rate of testing for the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), an upper-respiratory tract illness, so Nebraskans would have better access to testing and help stem the spread of COVID-19 in order to return society to normal as quickly as possible.

The study should include investigation into the contract which formed the basis of the partnership, the procurement process used for purposes of the program, the exclusion of certain state resources by the program, and the lack of access to the program for vulnerable populations, including low-income, minority, medically fragile, and disability populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 395.** Introduced by Blood, 3.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to determine the benefits of requiring each committee of the Legislature to complete a study and hold a public hearing for each interim study resolution referred to the committee prior to the beginning of the following legislative session.

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

(1) Whether the portion of Rule 4, Section 3(c), of the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, which states "...the chairperson of each committee may file with the Clerk, on a form prescribed by the Clerk, his or

her committee's study plan for any study resolution referenced to such committee" should be replaced with "...the chairperson of each committee shall file, on a form prescribed by the Clerk in consultation with the Executive Board, a study plan for all study resolutions referenced to such committee"; and

(2) How such form should be designed to obtain more comprehensive information about the research to be completed and to ensure all interim study resolutions are given the proper time and attention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the Executive Board shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 396.** Introduced by Friesen, 34; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska should enact peer-to-peer vehicle sharing program legislation. The study should include a review of issues raised during consideration of Legislative Bill 961, One Hundred Sixth Legislature, Second Session, 2020, which, as introduced, was based on the Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing Program Model Act adopted in 2019 by the National Council of Insurance Legislators. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee shall seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations as the study committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee and the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of the study make a report of the findings, together with the recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 397.** Introduced by Cavanaugh, 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to study the implementation and impact of eliminating felony disenfranchisement in Nebraska.

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

(1) The history, process, and impact of eliminating felony disenfranchisement in Vermont and Maine;

(2) The requirements for successful implementation of voting from prison in Nebraska;

(3) The impacts on public safety, including recidivism; and

(4) The policy justification for restricting voting rights for Nebraskans convicted of a felony.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 398.** Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine retirement benefits for law enforcement employees in all counties, except counties containing a city of the metropolitan class, and all cities and villages, except cities of the metropolitan class. The study shall examine the average retirement benefits for such law enforcement officers and compare such average retirement benefits to the retirement benefits for law enforcement officers in other states. The study shall consider any federal policies, including, but not limited to, the federal Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety Retirees Act, as included in the Pension Protection Act of 2006, and any additional contributions allowable by employees and employers to enhance law enforcement retirement benefits.

The study shall examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and policies of retirement systems for such law enforcement officers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 399.** Introduced by Groene, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct an in-depth review of how at-risk and economically disadvantaged students are identified as a qualification factor for state-funded, education-related programs at the primary, secondary, and postsecondary education levels. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The use of the federal National School Lunch Program administered by the federal Department of Agriculture as a proxy to identify poverty;

(2) The impact changes in such program, specifically the implementation of the community eligibility provision and direct certification, have had on current and future student eligibility for state programs;

(3) How poverty is identified and program qualification factors are written in other states;

(4) Relevant studies and literature with a focus on the best practices for determinations of poverty for education-related funding programs; and

(5) Whether a need exists to update current state statutes to meet the legislative intent for the various funding programs in light of changes in federal policy, and, if so, what options are available for such statutory updates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 400.** Introduced by Groene, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Education Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 401.** Introduced by Groene, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the enrollment option program as applied across the state to ensure that it is offering equality to all Nebraska students. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The demographics of school districts that students option into compared to the districts from which such students option out;

(2) The rate at which students are denied the ability to option into another school district based on:

(a) Full capacity in a program, class, grade level, or school building;

(b) Special education limitations; or

(c) Missed application deadlines; and

(3) Equitable state funding options for students that attend school through the enrollment option program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 402.** Introduced by Groene, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the impact of COVID-19 on the education of Nebraska's children and options available to ensure that free instruction is provided to all students. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Broadening options for educational opportunities;
- (2) Consequences for students and families, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) A widening of learning gaps;
  - (b) Costs and attributes related to stay-at-home efforts and remote learning; and
  - (c) Costs of alternative learning environments; and
- (3) Impacts on the educational workforce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 404.** Introduced by Morfeld, 46; Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to provide continued oversight of and updates regarding the execution and administration of medicaid expansion by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §68-992.

In November 2018, the people of Nebraska voted to expand access to the medical assistance program through Initiative No. 427. On April 1, 2019, the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Department of Health and Human Services submitted three state plan amendments to the federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, which are necessary to implement medicaid expansion. Expanded coverage is expected to begin October 1, 2020, with enrollment beginning August 1, 2020.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The hiring and retention of employees tasked with determining eligibility for expanded medicaid coverage through the Heritage Health Adult program;

(2) Any challenges to beneficiaries, providers, contractors, or the department in implementing the medical assistance program;

(3) The effectiveness of educational media and programming relating to the enrollment of individuals in the medical assistance program; and

(4) Any other issues relating to expanded edicaid coverage in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 405.** Introduced by Cavanaugh, 6.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the feasibility of developing the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Information System (NJJIS), an independent, external, juvenile justice and child welfare data warehouse that will integrate current data sources from state and local agencies, for the applied purposes of research and evaluation. The purpose of the NJJIS is to answer key questions about youth at risk of entering the child welfare and juvenile justice system, along with youth involved in either system, to guide future investment in preventing involvement in both systems.

Currently, juvenile justice, child welfare, education, and law enforcement data are maintained by separate agencies, making research efforts to improve these systems limited in scope to a single agency, while lacking in uniform definition and independent evaluation.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Current gaps in data and information sharing;

(2) Legal issues surrounding data sharing, including, but not limited to, privacy protections provided under the law by federal, state, and local governments;

(3) Specific agency concerns and solutions for overcoming such concerns;

(4) Data sharing memorandums of understanding that should be put into place between local and state agencies;

(5) The process for matching youth cases across systems;

(6) The process for releasing data for the purposes of research and evaluation; and

(7) How data is reported and current statistics distributed in compliance with federal requirements and with sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 406.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 407.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

**PURPOSE:** The Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund was initially created with a fifty million dollars endowment for health care programs using the principal and investment income from the Nebraska Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund and the Nebraska Medicaid Intergovernmental Trust Fund. The purpose of this endowment was to create an ongoing funding mechanism for health care in Nebraska. The purpose of this interim study is to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

This study shall include:

(1) A review of the annual Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund reports provided by the Department of Health and Human Services;

(2) Input from interested parties regarding the funds necessary to continue using the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to pay for health care and related services; and

(3) Recommendations for any statutory or funding changes that the Legislature should make in order to protect the ongoing viability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 408.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

**PURPOSE:** The United States Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

The assistance provided by the CARES Act was intended to provide direct economic stimulus to individuals, families, small businesses, and industry, and provide assistance for state, local, and tribal governments affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A portion of these economic stimulus funds were directed to state relief and entitlement programs under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

1. How much money was distributed from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' Community CARES grant program and to how many eligible grant recipients;

2. The individual communities or geographic areas of the state receiving Community CARES Act funding and how such funding was allocated geographically;

3. The types of programs funded from the Community CARES grant program, including, but not limited to, programs under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature;

4. The measurable outcomes reported for programs funded by the Community CARES grant program, including how many individuals or families received assistance and the average amount of assistance received by an individual or household;

5. How other funding from the federal CARES Act that was allocated to specific Department of Health and Human Services programs was spent, including, but not limited to, the number and geographic distribution of providers or eligible recipients receiving such funds.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 409.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the drug testing protocol in the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services for families involved in the child welfare system.

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

- (1) The experience of other states with drug testing protocols related to child welfare systems;
- (2) Drug testing for initial assessments and structured decisionmaking safety and risk assessments;
- (3) The use of a new drug testing protocol in high-risk cases and for families subject to a safety plan;
- (4) The use of substance use disorder evaluations when the structured decisionmaking assessment outcome is safe or conditionally safe;
- (5) The benefits of allowing infants and children who may have been exposed to drugs to be tested;
- (6) The current laws related to drug testing policies in the child welfare system;
- (7) The impacts of possible drug use on children after the drug testing protocol change;
- (8) The process for holding parents and guardians accountable under a safety plan or case plan; and
- (9) The efforts by the department to find a compromise solution with stakeholders regarding drug testing protocols.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 410.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to provide continued oversight of and updates regarding the contract between the Department of Health and Human Services and St. Francis Ministries for child welfare case management services in the eastern service area.

Pursuant to section 68-1212 the Department of Health and Human Services is authorized to contract with a lead agency for a case management lead agency model pilot project in the eastern service area. In June 2019, the

department awarded that contract to St. Francis Ministries, replacing PromiseShip, a collaborative that had been providing services for the previous nine years. The bid from St. Francis Ministries received lower scores but was significantly less expensive with a reduction of more than half the cost of PromiseShip's bid and more than half of what it had historically cost PromiseShip or the State of Nebraska to provide services to the children in the eastern service area. In October 2019, the timetable for the transfer of cases from PromiseShip to St. Francis Ministries was accelerated, and all cases were transferred by January 1, 2020.

The Health and Human Services Committee has continued oversight over the case management lead agency model pilot program in the eastern service area. To keep the committee informed of the progress and performance of the new lead agency contract, this interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The areas of contract oversight and performance review detailed in section 68-1212;
- (2) The caseload size for caseworkers at St. Francis Ministries and how those caseload are calculated;
- (3) The availability of appropriate foster homes and emergency short term placements in the eastern service area;
- (4) The hiring and retention of staff by St. Francis Ministries, including the qualifications for each role;
- (5) Services offered by St. Francis Ministries; and
- (6) The use of sub-contractors by St. Francis Ministries for service delivery, which entities are serving as sub-contractors, and the percentage of services being provided by St. Francis Ministries or a subsidiary of St. Francis Ministries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 411.** Introduced by Howard, 9.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to provide continued oversight of and updates regarding the response of the Department of Health and Human Services to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Statewide and local measures implemented to address COVID-19;
- (2) The effectiveness and availability of testing;
- (3) The hiring and retention of contact tracers;

(4) The effectiveness of waivers to the medical assistance program or other economic assistance programs implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(5) Future plans for mitigation of COVID-19 for locations or populations at high risk of outbreak, including schools, meat-packing facilities, long-term care facilities, and large scale events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 412.** Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to assess the mental and behavioral health needs of Nebraskans and the current shortages of services and resources needed to ensure a robust behavioral health service delivery system.

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

(1) The current system for mental and behavioral health care and adherence to the Division of Behavioral Health Strategic Plan for 2017-2020;

(2) Mental and behavioral health programs and services administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and the behavioral health regions;

(3) Funding sources for mental and behavioral health assessment, treatment, and community support;

(4) Model policies and programs used by behavioral health groups to ensure community mental and behavioral health needs are met; and

(5) Emergency protective custody and steps the Department of Health and Human Services takes to ensure a safe and appropriate environment for individuals placed in such custody.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 413.** Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to continue oversight of the residential facilities for juveniles, including the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, under the supervision of the Department of Health and Human Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 414.** Introduced by Walz, 15; Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature related to long-term care facilities, assisted living facilities, and nursing facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 415.** Introduced by Clements, 2.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the state inheritance tax, its current structure, and recommendations on whether it should be amended, replaced, or repealed. As Nebraska seeks to reform its tax structure to encourage economic growth, simplification, and fairness for its residents while providing adequate funds for necessary government duties and services, it is appropriate to review the inheritance tax.

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

- (1) The current structure, rates, and thresholds of the inheritance tax;
- (2) The revenue generated and the ways in which it is spent throughout the state; and
- (3) Recommendations on whether the inheritance tax should be amended, replaced, or repealed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Revenue 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 416.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the terms used to refer to law enforcement officers in Nebraska statutes. The study shall examine:

- (1) The usage of the term law enforcement officer, police officer, peace officer, sheriff, constable, and any other terms used to refer to a law enforcement officer throughout Nebraska statutes;
- (2) The difference in meaning, if any, between the terms used to refer to law enforcement officers;
- (3) Whether it would be beneficial to adopt consistent usage and definitions for law enforcement officers in Nebraska statutes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 417.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine law enforcement jurisdictions in the state and the existing policies on the use of force by law enforcement officers.

This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An analysis of current use of force policies across jurisdictions to determine the most common components of these policies;
- (2) An examination of current national best practices regarding use of force policies and whether Nebraska jurisdictions are adopting best practices; and
- (3) Barriers law enforcement agencies may face in adopting effective use of force policies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 418.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the categorization of criminal offenses. Currently, discussion and debate about criminal laws often include terms such as drug related crimes or violent crimes, of which there are not consistent definitions within Nebraska statutes. Nebraska's classification of crimes into misdemeanors and felonies does not serve as a viable proxy for these terms. For instance, some misdemeanors may be seen as more serious than some felonies.

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

- (1) Whether the criminal offenses in Nebraska can be categorized into drug-related and non-drug-related within the existing classification system;
- (2) Whether the criminal offenses in Nebraska can be categorized into violent and nonviolent offenses within the existing classification system; and
- (3) Whether any other potential categorization would be necessary or helpful in drafting future legislation relating to criminal justice issues.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 419.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine the various age requirements in the Nebraska statutes related to minors and the age of majority.

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

- (1) Age requirements related to receiving state services;
- (2) Age requirements related to juvenile court and criminal proceedings;
- (3) Age requirements related to consent for medical care;
- (4) Age requirements related to consent for contracts;
- (5) Any other related age requirements in statute; and
- (6) Potential advantages and disadvantages of adopting consistent ages throughout Nebraska statutes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 420.** Introduced by Howard, 9; Lathrop, 12.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to study the racial and ethnic disproportionality that exists in Nebraska's foster care and juvenile justice systems, including, specifically, for youth committed to the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers. Despite the promise of equal protection under the law, there have been continued racial and ethnic disparities in the foster care and juvenile justice systems for youth of color, especially for youth and families who are Native American, African American, or Latino. Based on population size, there is a significantly disproportionate percentage of youth and families of color involved with the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An action plan for reducing racial and ethnic disproportionality in the foster care and juvenile justice systems that includes input from a diverse group of community members of color, including, but not limited to, Nebraska's four federally recognized Indian tribes, and others whose lives have been affected by the foster care and juvenile justice systems;

(2) The need for a formal body, such as a subcommittee of the Nebraska Children's Commission, or a task force, to lead this work and advise the Legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, and the Office of Juvenile Services on recommended policy and practice reform;

(3) Current data limitations, including inconsistencies in data collection, on the race and ethnicity of children and families involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems;

(4) The need for reporting from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, and the Office of Juvenile Services to be shared with the Legislature;

(5) Specific procedures that may be contributing to the current disproportionality;

(6) Racial disproportionality within the context of known risk factors for system involvement, such as household poverty, and protective factors, such as the availability of community-based prevention services; and

(7) Potential model policies that offer a systemic approach to racial disproportionality in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.



**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 421.** Introduced by Lathrop, 12; Howard, 9.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to study the racial and ethnic disproportionality that exists in Nebraska's foster care and juvenile justice systems, including, specifically, for youth committed to the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers. Despite the promise of equal protection under the law, there have been continued racial and ethnic disparities in the foster care and juvenile justice systems for youth of color, especially for youth and families who are Native American, African American, or Latino. Based on population size, there is a significantly disproportionate percentage of youth and families of color involved with the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An action plan for reducing racial and ethnic disproportionality in the foster care and juvenile justice systems that includes input from a diverse group of community members of color, including, but not limited to, Nebraska's four federally recognized Indian tribes, and others whose lives have been affected by the foster care and juvenile justice systems;

(2) The need for a formal body, such as a subcommittee of the Nebraska Children's Commission, or a task force, to lead this work and advise the Legislature, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, and the Office of Juvenile Services on recommended policy and practice reform;

(3) Current data limitations, including inconsistencies in data collection, on the race and ethnicity of children and families involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems;

(4) The need for reporting from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, and the Office of Juvenile Services to be shared with the Legislature;

(5) Specific procedures that may be contributing to the current disproportionality;

(6) Racial disproportionality within the context of known risk factors for system involvement, such as household poverty, and protective factors, such as the availability of community-based prevention services; and

(7) Potential model policies that offer a systemic approach to racial disproportionality in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 422.** Introduced by Arch, 14.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to examine the modifications made to child welfare policies and practices during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 and the practices and regulations that have been adjusted in order to effectively maintain the physical safety of workers, children, families, and others, while meeting the unique needs of children and families during the crisis.

The study shall examine the aspects of emergency policy and practice changes relating to child welfare that evolved during the crisis, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The types of child welfare services that have been delivered through virtual means;

(2) The costs of telehealth and other virtual services in the child welfare system and the reimbursement structure for services through the Nebraska medicaid program, private insurance plans, and federal child welfare funding streams;

(3) The utilization of telehealth services and other virtual services during the pandemic compared to previous years and the anticipated utilization in future years; and

(4) The electronic technology utilized in the delivery of telehealth and other child welfare services and the ability to protect child and family privacy, maintain progress toward permanency, and provide for child-caregiver bonding.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 423.** Introduced by Vargas, 7; Kolterman, 24.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to conduct a comprehensive review of the pay plan and salary grade ranges for legislative employees and to make recommendations that will modernize current policies and practices.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the Executive Board shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 424.** Introduced by Vargas, 7; Cavanaugh, 6; Howard, 9.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to conduct a comprehensive review of maternal and child mortality and make recommendations that will improve the quality of care in Nebraska for mothers and babies. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) National best practices relating to maternal and child mortality;
- (2) Recent legislative action, policy initiatives, and recommendations addressing maternal and child mortality;
- (3) Potential reporting improvements that could lead to a more complete understanding of rates and causes of maternal mortality;
- (4) Racial, economic, and geographic disparities that exist in maternal and child mortality;
- (5) Potential reporting improvements for major morbidities of pregnancy;
- (6) Possible improvements to the data included on birth and death certificates of mothers and babies; and
- (7) The current organizational infrastructure that exists to address maternal and child mortality and additional resources may be needed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 425.** Introduced by Hilkemann, 4.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to:

- (1) Examine the administrative costs of local systems and school districts, including, but not limited to, the definition of what constitutes an administrative cost and the portion of total authorized expenditures that are budgeted for such costs;
- (2) Investigate methods for reducing such costs; and
- (3) Investigate methods for consolidating administrative costs of school districts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 427.** Introduced by Wishart, 27; Pansing Brooks, 28.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study the issue of reentry housing utilized by people exiting the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and requiring post-release supervision.

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

(1) Whether state licensing is necessary to ensure the safety of residents and the surrounding community; and

(2) Whether facilities use evidence-based plans for programming and what standards are set to support the residents transitioning to independence.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 428.** Introduced by Wishart, 27.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues surrounding staffing ratios and standards of care at assisted living facilities, nursing facilities, and day service providers.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Research by the study committee on the development of minimum staffing ratios and standards of care at assisted living facilities, nursing facilities, and day service providers;

(2) Development of goals and guidance for the study committee to develop minimum staffing ratios and standards of care at assisted living facilities, nursing facilities, and day service providers; and

(3) Research on partner organizations to work in cooperation to develop minimum staffing ratios and standards of care at assisted living facilities, nursing facilities, and day service providers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:**

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 429.** Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine matters related to mapping broadband coverage throughout Nebraska. This interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Current best practices for mapping broadband coverage utilized in Nebraska and in other states;
- (2) The accuracy of current broadband data maps in determining broadband conditions and coverage in Nebraska;
- (3) The information collected by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on Form 477 and the accuracy of that information in demonstrating service availability;
- (4) Possible changes to current broadband coverage mapping techniques to develop more accurate broadband coverage maps, specifically in rural Nebraska;
- (5) The inclusion in mapping of household level data and Internet speeds that do not consistently meet federal standards; and
- (6) An analysis of whether proposed changes by the FCC to provide more accurate data will be sufficient to determine whether coverage in Nebraska census tracts and households will be accurately accounted for in the determination of broadband speeds available for those users.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 430.** Introduced by Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues related to property and casualty insurance. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Department of Insurance and should consider the input of interested persons as the study committee deems necessary and appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 432.** Introduced by Briese, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the General 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 433.** Introduced by Briese, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the State Racing Commission and review occupational licenses and regulations for jockeys and horse trainers. The study shall be conducted to fulfill the requirements of section 84-948 and the Occupational Board Reform Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the General 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 434.** Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to analyze housing throughout Nebraska. The Blueprint Nebraska report, Growing the Good Life (July 2019) prepared by a panel of housing experts, chronicles the status of Nebraska's housing conditions in 2019. The report indicates the state has a 30,000 to 50,000 unit deficit of affordable housing units. The report suggests that stimulating production, addressing the affordability gap, and increasing the tenure of affordability are all important steps to reduce the state's housing deficit. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) An analysis of how additional housing production is required to produce residences for new job seekers;

(2) A determination of ways to replace deteriorating housing stock and to replace housing damaged in flooding and natural disasters;

(3) The development of ways to speed up production in detached housing and the best use of tax credit financed residential rental housing in the lowest income quartile;

(4) A review of the state Affordable Housing Tax Credit and how it extends the utility of the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit in meeting housing challenges; and

(5) Recommendations to address specific housing deficits and needs in the housing infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 435.** Introduced by Halloran, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine and document the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency on the agricultural sector of Nebraska. The study shall examine means to support increased resiliency in the processing, distribution, and retail sectors of the food system and to avoid disruptions due to pandemic or other public health emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Agriculture 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 436.** Introduced by Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to determine whether elementary and secondary students in Nebraska have adequate access to clean drinking water throughout the school day.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An identification of consensus recommendations for access to and consumption of drinking water by elementary and secondary students during the school day;

(2) An assessment of recommendations against current practices in select school buildings across the state;

(3) An examination of applicable building codes and other laws or regulations governing access to drinking water in school buildings;

(4) A determination of whether building codes or other governing laws or regulations should be modified to comply with the consensus recommendations; and

(5) The development of proposed revisions to the state building code or other governing laws or regulations to bring Nebraska's K-12 school buildings into compliance with consensus recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 437.** Introduced by Friesen, 34.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the current model of collecting revenue to build and repair roads. In Nebraska, state and local governments rely primarily on fuel taxes to fund highway construction and repair.

As electric-powered and hybrid passenger and commercial vehicles continue to increase in market share and gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles continue to drive more miles per gallon, fewer dollars may be available for road repair and construction in the future.

Certain states have explored funding highway construction and maintenance from road charges based on the number of miles driven. Issues that need to be resolved in order for road charges to provide a dependable and reliable source of revenue include enforcement and compliance, including administrative costs, privacy, data security, equity, motor vehicle operator satisfaction, vehicle manufacturer cooperation and coordination, technology needs, and other issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 438.** Introduced by Friesen, 34.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to continue to monitor the activities of the Rural Broadband Task Force that was created by Laws 2018, LB994. The task force is charged with studying issues relating to broadband availability, quality, and affordability in rural areas and comparability to broadband services in urban areas. The task force presented initial findings and recommendations in a report to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council in 2019, and the task force continues to examine



issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability of broadband services in rural Nebraska.

In addition, the study committee shall review:

(1) Actions of the Governor and the Department of Economic Development in providing money from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act for broadband development in Nebraska; and

(2) The progress of the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Phase I Auction Procedures in Nebraska. The study committee shall determine whether the RDOF method that weights bids for services with faster speeds and lower latency more heavily in an auction would be appropriate for Nebraska law relating to reverse auctions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 439.** Introduced by Friesen, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature that may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 440.** Introduced by Friesen, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to explore existing laws, rules, and regulations related to excavation, in particular excavation regarding underground facilities, and consider policy changes which may decrease instances of excavation-related damage to underground facilities.

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

(1) Existing laws, rules, regulations, and best practices related to notice of excavation, locating and marking underground facilities, excavation, notice of damage to underground facilities, and repair of underground facilities, including the provisions of the One-Call Notification Systems Act;

(2) Codification of best practices, including excavation methodologies and limitations on the scope of a single location ticket;

(3) Opportunities to increase clarity regarding the scope of an upcoming excavation in order to improve the locating and marking of underground facilities, including physically marking the scope of an excavation project;

(4) Whether the time afforded to operators to locate and mark underground facilities upon receiving notice of excavation is sufficient or whether such time should be extended; and

(5) Requirements for requesting subsequent locating and marking of underground facilities following initial notice of excavation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 441.** Introduced by Cavanaugh, 6.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues related to paid family and medical leave, access to such leave in Nebraska, the need for such leave, and the impact of such leave on workforce development.

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

(1) Access to and the need for parental leave for new parents to care for and bond with a new child that has joined the family through birth, adoption, or foster care placement;

(2) Access to and the need for caregiver leave for employees to care for a family member with a serious health condition;

(3) Access to and the need for medical leave for employees to respond to their own serious health condition;

(4) Access to and the need for bereavement leave for employees after the death of a family member;

(5) Access to and the need for military family leave;

(6) The impact a lack of access to leave has for workforce development and competition for talent in Nebraska;

(7) The impact Nebraska's aging population has on caregiving responsibilities for the state's younger workforce, the need for leave, and the retention of millennial workers;

(8) Gender disparities in caregiving roles and time dedicated to shared caregiving;

(9) Racial disparities in access to leave and the impacts a lack of leave has on racial equity;

(10) Economic disparities in access to and the need for leave policies;

(11) Public health concerns resulting from a lack of leave policies;

(12) The economic impacts of denying workers leave, including, but not limited to, the cost of employee turnover, lost productivity, higher costs associated with delayed medical care, and the costs of lost wages;

(13) Public opinion and support for paid family and medical leave; and

(14) Potential statutory changes needed to expand access to paid family and medical leave for Nebraska workers and possible avenues for such statutory change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 445.** Introduced by Stinner, 48.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to update data and review the potential impact on the state behavioral health system by expanding access to prescribing psychologists.

Nebraska has a documented shortage of adequately trained prescribers of psychotropic medication across the state. This leaves consumers of all ages underserved, with particularly adverse effects on consumers in rural areas and on children and adolescents. Clinical psychologists have the same number of years of education and doctoral level clinical experience as physicians who attend medical school, but clinical psychologists are focused on mental health diagnosis and treatment. Specially trained prescribing psychologists would also have additional post-doctoral training in prescriptive authority for psychotropic medication, including three years of physician-supervised practice and continuing competency requirements.

Prescribing psychologists that currently practice in the United States Public Health Services, Indian Health Service, and United States military have had an excellent safety record for more than 20 years. Other states have passed legislation allowing specially trained psychologists to prescribe and there is significant data on the positive effects and outcomes of adding another category of highly trained prescribers to serve constituents.

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

(1) The status of behavioral health access in the state, including the availability of prescribers, continuity of care, and integration of behavioral and physical healthcare services;

(2) The training and education of prescribing psychologists who provide assessments, psychotherapies, and management of psychotropic medications; and

(3) How prescribing psychologists work with other health care professionals to serve patients safely and effectively.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 446.** Introduced by Hughes, 44; Erdman, 47.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the rulemaking process, implementation, and impact of the most recent rule and policy changes considered or implemented by the Game and Parks Commission in relation to the Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas. The study shall be completed in collaboration with the Game and Parks Commission, affected political subdivisions, local taxing authorities, local businesses, and other interested entities.

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

(1) The history of public access to, and permitted recreational activities at, Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala;

(2) The purpose of public access to, and need for recreational use of, Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala, including the economic impact of recreational activities at such lakes on the City of Ogallala, Keith County, and the State of Nebraska;

(3) Compliance and enforcement of laws, rules, and regulations applicable to visitors to the Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas;

(4) The role of public input and the rulemaking process used by the Game and Parks Commission in relation to the Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas;

(5) The processes used by the Game and Parks Commission to evaluate management of the Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas and compliance with the Lake McConaughy/Lake Ogallala 2017-2037 Master Plan, the weaknesses and solutions identified following such evaluation, and the efficacy of implemented solutions, including the rules and regulations implemented for the 2020 season; and

(6) The record of collaboration and information sharing between the Game and Parks Commission, affected political subdivisions, local taxing authorities, local businesses, and other interested entities with regard to evaluating and addressing management, future planning, needed resources, and other issues affecting the Lake McConaughy and Lake Ogallala state recreation areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Natural Resources 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 449.** Introduced by Vargas, 7.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive interim study on systemic and institutional racism in Nebraska and make recommendations that will improve and modernize Nebraska systems and institutions and make them more equitable for Nebraskans who are biracial, interracial, and people of color.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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 obtain input from the public and impacted individuals regarding the subject matter of this resolution.

3. 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 450.** Introduced by Vargas, 7; Wishart, 27.

**PURPOSE:** In March 2020, as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-19, dated March 26, 2020, which temporarily waived certain restrictions in the Nebraska Liquor Control Act on alcohol sales by bars and restaurants holding Class C licenses. Specifically, the executive order waives the requirement, under Neb. Rev. Stat. 53-124(6)(a)(iii), that sales of alcohol for off-premises consumption be in the original packaging only. The executive order permits alcoholic beverages to be sold by bars and restaurants so long as the beverages are in containers sealed with a lid or other method of securing the product and are not partially consumed. The purpose of this study is to examine whether the law should be amended to make permanent this temporary waiver.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the General 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 452.** Introduced by Vargas, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct an interim study to examine career and technical education programs and opportunities. The study shall align with the state plan under the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, otherwise known as Perkins V. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

- (1) Existing efforts that align with Nebraska's workforce, economic, and educational goals;
- (2) Existing state and local partners and identification of potential new partners;
- (3) Funding models in other states that leverage federal Perkins plans; and
- (4) Approaches to leveraged funding opportunities that will strengthen career and technical education opportunities in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 453.** Introduced by Geist, 25.

PURPOSE: This study shall examine barriers to obtaining state identification that may exist for inmates in county correctional facilities who are in the process of being released or who have recently been released. The study shall also explore possible avenues for easing any such barriers to obtaining state identification, which is essential for the inmates to rejoin their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 454.** Introduced by Hansen, B., 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to study and evaluate Nebraska law permitting a faculty or academic license for dentistry. This study shall examine the academic licensure of surrounding states and states competing against Nebraska for dental faculty. The study shall include the potential impact faculty licensing could have on the practice of dentistry in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 455.** Introduced by Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: Since 1983, it has been an incumbent duty of counties to provide, or to pay rent for, office space and service space used by the Department of Health and Human Services for the administration of public assistance programs. In recent years, efforts to remove state aid to counties and growing burdens placed on counties have created questions concerning the equity of the current payment processes. This study will examine the burden on counties with regard to these costs as well as the potential property tax relief that could be provided to the taxpayers in those few counties who are saddled with this responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 456.** Introduced by Walz, 15; Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the proposal by the Department of Health and Human Services for changes to Medicaid Section 1915(c) Waiver Appendix K in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how both service providers and individuals with developmental disabilities have been impacted by the proposal. The study shall also examine the possibility of extending the flexibilities and accommodations afforded to service providers and individuals with developmental disabilities by the Appendix K changes beyond the September 6, 2020, expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 457.** Introduced by McCollister, 20.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to study the Nebraska parole and pardons processes.

(1) With regard to the parole process, the study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(a) The current population of the Nebraska correctional system and their eligibility for parole;

(b) Programming available through the Department of Correctional Services to prepare individuals for parole;

(c) Existing constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions that relate to parole eligibility, release, and supervision; and

(d) Potential changes to constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions that would improve public safety, the conditions in Nebraska prisons, and the success of the parole system.

(2) With regard to the pardons process, the study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(a) The number and frequency of meetings held by the Board of Pardons and the notice provided for such meetings;

(b) The clarity of requirements for pardon requests and the consideration given to each individual application;

(c) National best practices for the entities in each state responsible for pardons and how the practices of the Board of Pardons align with such best practices;

(d) The national average for the length of time that must elapse for a pardon to be considered;

(e) Standards for the web site for the Board of Pardons to clearly state the dual obligation of the state to prosecute wrong doing and provide restorative justice to those who demonstrate meaningful progress toward rehabilitation; and

(f) The necessity for an annual report to the legislative and judicial branches of state government and to the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 459.** Introduced by Vargas, 7.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this interim study is to review the effects of COVID-19 on the safety of workers in Nebraska. The purpose of this study



is to review how COVID-19 changes the workplace safety conditions for employees especially those working in environments that are high density or otherwise highly risky for exposure to COVID-19.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Availability of personal protective equipment and maintenance of social distancing for workers;
- (2) Issues specific to the meatpacking industry where COVID-19 outbreaks occurred and an examination of section 48-2213, which established the meatpacking industry worker rights coordinator;
- (3) Appropriate data practices for employers when employees are sick, including, but not limited to, transparency with infection rates and data distributed to workers and public health professionals;
- (4) A review of best practices for worker retention and sick leave policies during a global health emergency; and
- (5) Any changes to employment law necessary to mitigate disease transmission and protect workers and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Business and Labor 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.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 477.** Introduced by Revenue Committee: Linehan, 39, Chairperson; Briese, 41; Friesen, 34; Kolterman, 24; Lindstrom, 18.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this resolution is to examine the definition and interpretation of cigarette by the Department of Revenue for purposes of taxation and the Master Settlement Agreement.

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

- (1) The definition of cigarette under the Master Settlement Agreement;
- (2) The definition of cigarette by the federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau;
- (3) The treatment of filtered cigars by other states party to the Master Settlement Agreement;
- (4) The taxation of filtered cigars by other states;
- (5) The interpretation of sections 77-2601 and 77-2602.05 and any other relevant statutes by the Department of Revenue;
- (6) Any reliable evidence or information indicating a decrease in Master Settlement Agreement dollars due to the interpretation of filtered cigars as cigars; and
- (7) Recommendations on whether the Department of Revenue should alter the current interpretation of cigarette.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Revenue 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.

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