

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 529

Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: Providers of developmental disability services serve an important function in meeting the needs of some of the most vulnerable Nebraskans while providing a meaningful alternative to institutionalization. Presently, the providers of such services continue to expand their capacity to serve their present clients as well as individuals on the developmental disabilities waiting list. To continue this important initiative and resource, the payment rates for such services must be sufficient to cover the cost of their undertaking. Therefore, the purpose of this resolution is to address the following issues:

(1) The adequacy of current provider rates to meet the needs of Nebraskans with disabilities and the providers of services; and

(2) The options available to update such rates based on economic indexes including, but not limited to, the Consumer Price Index, the Chained Consumer Price Index, the Bureau of Labor Statistics benefits factor, and the Medicare Economic Index.

If the study committee determines that legislation is necessary to resolve the issues addressed in this resolution, the committee may have such legislation drafted for the 2015 legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD 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 on or before December 1, 2014.