

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 173

Introduced by Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: As inmates move through the state correctional system with the goal of reentering society, two of the keys to success are obtaining job skills and saving funds. Currently, inmates who reach a community corrections center are engaged in either a work detail position or a work release position. Inmates in other facilities may be eligible for other job opportunities within those facilities. In a work detail position, an inmate typically works for a state agency and earns a small wage. In a work release position, an inmate actually works in a community and is able to earn at least the minimum wage.

The purpose of this interim study is to review the work detail and work release efforts at the community corrections centers and also to review whether other inmates, such as inmates classified as minimum custody, would be able to fill at least some of the work detail positions. This would enable such inmates to gain key job skills and would potentially make additional work release opportunities available. The study committee should also review the function of the Work Ethic Camp in McCook and examine whether this facility could be utilized in a new manner that would assist inmates in successfully transitioning back into their communities.

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

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.