

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 231**

Introduced by Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine access to dental care and explore strategies to improve oral health in rural and other underserved areas of Nebraska.

The study shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

(1) Examining access to dental care and the availability of oral health services in rural and other underserved areas of Nebraska;

(2) Gathering information on the distribution of dental providers across the state, the barriers to care, including affordability and transportation, the availability of preventive and emergency dental services, and the impact of current medicaid and insurance coverage policies on access to treatment;

(3) Examining workforce issues, including recruitment and retention of dental professionals in underserved communities, and assessing the effectiveness of existing programs and potential policy solutions to improve oral health outcomes and reduce disparities in dental care access; and

(4) Exploring legislative solutions that can strengthen dental health infrastructure and service delivery in high-need areas.

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