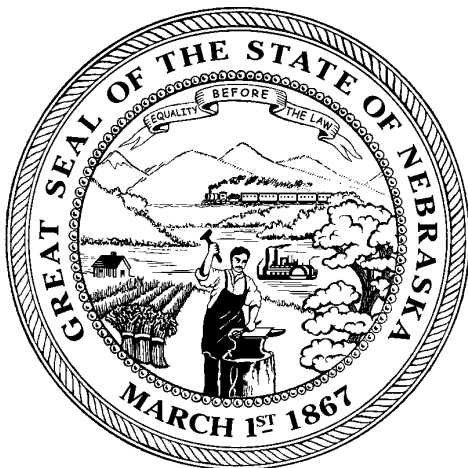


**INTERIM
STUDY
RESOLUTIONS**

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

2024



02-01-2024

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2024**

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INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS**Numerical List**

- LR298 Provide for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to appoint a committee of the Legislature to be known as the Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee of the Legislature Special Committee
- LR303 Interim study to examine the viability of adopting the Classical Learning Test as an option for meeting admissions requirements at the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges
Education
- LR314 Interim study to examine adjustments to county revenue sources and elimination of unnecessary county expenses to compensate for a phaseout of the Nebraska inheritance tax by 2029
Revenue
- LR319 Interim study to determine whether student-to-teacher ratio requirements should be considered or implemented in Nebraska by statute or regulation
Education
- LR320 Interim study to examine changes to the enrollment option program to ensure students with disabilities have an increased ability to access enrollment opportunities
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- LR321 Interim study to determine the scope and use of student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology by school officials in Nebraska
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- LR324 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska statutes should be modified to provide a tax credit or consideration towards the purchase of a new or replacement vehicle for a private seller who sells a vehicle
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- LR325 Interim study to determine whether changes to Nebraska statutes relating to pretrial discovery are necessary to accommodate or to provide for parties to inspect or extract information from personal communication devices, computers, and other similar devices
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- LR332 Interim study to consider changes to Nebraska law relating to hemp, controlled substances, and related areas of the law
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- LR341 Interim study to determine the scope and use by school districts of a ban and bar action, banning and barring individuals from school property
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- LR344 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
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- LR345 Interim study to examine all licenses issued by the State Racing and Gaming Commission
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- LR346 Interim study to review landlord-tenant law to determine whether legislative reforms can be enacted to further protect and empower victims and survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence and their dependents
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- LR347 Interim study to examine the frequency of claims brought under the Political Subdivisions Torts Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act and the frequency of tort claims brought against other states
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- LR348 Interim study to examine a respondent's right to a trial by jury under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act
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- LR349 Interim study to examine the funding sources, including tax incentives and other methods, used for early childhood education programs in Nebraska
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- LR351 Interim study to examine the safe storage of firearms
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- LR352 Interim study to assess identified improvement projects for clean water and drinking water systems in Nebraska
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- LR359 Interim study to review the concept of property development in the State of Nebraska
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- LR360 Interim study to review the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Act
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- LR373 Interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals to practice dentistry in Nebraska
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- LR374 Interim study to examine the availability of healthy and affordable food choices in Nebraska communities
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- LR375 Interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals who practice production animal veterinary services in Nebraska
Agriculture
- LR376 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR377 Interim study to examine the components of the State of Nebraska's public health registry data collection and the release of that data to appropriate research entities
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- LR378 Interim study to examine the viability of selling land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds
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- LR381 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of court fees as a funding source for the court system and the judicial branch
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- LR382 Interim study to examine the governance and representation of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska
Education
- LR383 Interim study to examine improvements to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and potential alternative funding mechanisms for Nebraska public schools
Education

- LR384 Interim study to examine nonprofit organizations, their nonprofit status, the way they use their nontaxable income, and the ways they use their nontaxable income for political purposes
Revenue
- LR385 Interim study to examine state standardized testing required in elementary and secondary public schools and the (AQuESTT) system used to classify schools under the Quality Education Accountability Act
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- LR386 Interim study to examine the scope of practice for behavior analysts in the State of Nebraska
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- LR387 Interim study to examine payment rates and methodology used by the Department of Health and Human Services for child and adolescent behavioral health care, child welfare, and juvenile service providers
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- LR394 Interim study to identify and review all programs and services enacted by the Legislature which may result in an increase in expenditures of funds by counties and county governments assigned to provide such programs and services
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR395 Interim study to examine the tax and surcharge burden imposed on telecommunications services
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR396 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee
Health and Human Services
- LR397 Interim study to examine the structure and processes of the credentialing review process known as the "407 process"
Health and Human Services
- LR398 Interim study to examine the development and use of messenger RNA vaccines in livestock
Agriculture
- LR399 Interim study to review occupational regulations under the Nebraska Potato Development Act and the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act for purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act
Agriculture
- LR400 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee
Agriculture
- LR401 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of Nebraska's county jails
Judiciary
- LR402 Interim study to examine and monitor broadband expansion in Nebraska
Transportation and Telecommunications

- LR403 Interim study to examine telecommunications and issues discussed during the hearing on LB1256 introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR404 Interim study to examine the impact of the services provided to eligible recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program funds
Health and Human Services
- LR405 Interim study to examine the process the Department of Health and Human Services uses in selecting a provider to service a foster home
Health and Human Services
- LR406 Interim study to explore the development of an institution dedicated to providing instruction, orientation, and professional development tailored for elected officials and office holders in Nebraska
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR407 Interim study to examine the City of Omaha Employees' Retirement System for Omaha's civilian employees and the City of Omaha Police and Fire Retirement System for Omaha's police and fire employees
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR408 Interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR409 Interim study to carry out the provisions of 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR410 Interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of and how to best direct funding and appropriations towards sustaining a strong health care workforce in Nebraska, especially in rural communities
Appropriations

- LR411 Interim study to review LB1072, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, relating to the topic of sustainable aviation fuel Revenue
- LR412 Interim study to examine changes to state law regarding the use of artificial intelligence in political campaigns
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR413 Interim study to examine Nebraska laws regarding theft with intent to sell stolen goods as scrap metal
Judiciary
- LR414 Interim study to determine the feasibility of having the state run all property assessment in Nebraska, merging county assessors with another office, or having county assessors be an appointed position
Revenue
- LR415 Interim study to examine the historic unwind of the federal COVID-19 Medicaid continuous coverage requirements as implemented by the Department of Health and Human Services
Health and Human Services
- LR416 Interim study to examine what funding options and appropriations may be necessary to improve the return on investment of housing incentives offered by the State of Nebraska
Appropriations
- LR417 Interim study to provide a comprehensive examination of the funding structure of Nebraska's transportation system and to identify strategies to fund highway maintenance and construction
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR418 Interim study to examine the current property tax valuation process
Revenue
- LR419 Interim study to examine school meal programs in Nebraska
Education
- LR420 Interim study to examine the budget needs of and funding sources for regional behavioral health authorities
Appropriations
- LR421 Interim study to examine addiction with an emphasis on the examination of opioid addiction
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- LR422 Interim study to examine the needs, successes, and challenges relating to behavioral health in Nebraska
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- LR423 Interim study to examine child care providers in Nebraska and the shortage of child care options in rural Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR424 Interim study to examine occupation taxes
Revenue
- LR425 Interim study to examine the challenges faced by families with special needs students in enrolling such students as option students in other school districts under the enrollment option program
Education
- LR426 Interim study relating to public records requests to determine whether reports of the resistance of government entities to public record requests are representative or isolated
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR427 Interim study to examine the use of the child care subsidy program in section 68-1206 as an incentive to recruit and retain employees in the child care industry
Health and Human Services
- LR428 Interim study to review how the State of Nebraska can ensure it has effective emergency medical services in rural communities
Health and Human Services
- LR429 Interim study to examine the Child Care Licensing Act and the availability and affordability of liability insurance for licensed child care providers in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR430 Interim study to examine the impact of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's private and public sectors, including the technology and insurance sectors
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR431 Interim study to examine the roles of various entities in the pharmaceutical supply chain
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

- LR432 Interim study to examine the impact of digital asset data mining on Nebraska public power districts, electric ratepayers, and communities
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR433 Interim study to examine the availability and access to data regarding maternal and infant health care in Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR434 Interim study to examine tourism, including agritourism, in the State of Nebraska
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR435 Interim study to assess the loss of funding to Nebraska counties as a result of an elimination of the Nebraska inheritance tax and to identify potential state funding sources to replace lost revenue
Revenue
- LR436 Interim study to examine the initiative and referendum petition processes in the twenty-six states in which such a process exists
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR437 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee
Urban Affairs
- LR438 Interim study to review the occupational regulations for fire alarm inspectors
Urban Affairs
- LR439 Interim study to explore whether the size of school districts has contributed to historical student underachievement within the Class V school district
Education
- LR440 Interim study to examine how to close the educational achievement gap in the Class V school district
Education
- LR441 Interim study to examine the impact of local housing regulations on Nebraska's housing supply
Urban Affairs
- LR442 Interim study to examine the scope and function of the Nebraska Health Information Initiative and its affiliates in Nebraska
Health and Human Services

- LR443 Interim study to examine assisted-living facility reimbursement rates at different facilities throughout Nebraska
Health and Human Services
- LR444 Interim study to examine the oversight of staffing agencies, including health care staffing agencies, in Nebraska
Business and Labor
- LR469 Interim study to examine existing, new, and emerging technologies in the nuclear energy industry
Natural Resources
- LR495 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee
Judiciary
- LR496 Interim study to examine issues relating to the State Department of Education
Education

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), Ibach (VC), Brewer, Hansen, Holdcroft, Hughes, Raybould, Riepe

LR375 Interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals who practice production animal veterinary services in Nebraska
Agriculture

LR398 Interim study to examine the development and use of messenger RNA vaccines in livestock
Agriculture

LR399 Interim study to review occupational regulations under the Nebraska Potato Development Act and the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act for purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act
Agriculture

LR400 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee
Agriculture

LR374 Interim study to examine the availability of healthy and affordable food choices in Nebraska communities
Agriculture

Appropriations: Clements (C), Wishart (VC), Armendariz, Dorn, Dover, Erdman, Lippincott, McDonnell, Vargas

LR416 Interim study to examine what funding options and appropriations may be necessary to improve the return on investment of housing incentives offered by the State of Nebraska
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LR410 Interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of and how to best direct funding and appropriations towards sustaining a strong health care workforce in Nebraska, especially in rural communities
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Appropriations
- LR361 Interim study to conduct a review of the fees that fund Nebraska's cash funds
Appropriations
- LR389 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee
Appropriations
- Banking, Commerce and Insurance:** Slama (C), Jacobson (VC), Aguilar, Ballard, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, von Gillern
- LR358 Interim study to examine the causes of increasing commercial insurance premiums and the impacts on Nebraska businesses
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- LR370 Interim study to examine the rise of retailers moving to digital-only transactions
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LR432 Interim study to examine the impact of digital asset data mining on Nebraska public power districts, electric ratepayers, and communities
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Business and Labor: Riepe (C), Ibach (VC), Blood, Halloran, Hansen, Hunt, McKinney

LR354 Interim study to assess state-led programs pertaining to the Nebraska workforce
Business and Labor

LR444 Interim study to examine the oversight of staffing agencies, including health care staffing agencies, in Nebraska
Business and Labor

Education: Murman (C), Albrecht (VC), Conrad, Linehan, Meyer, Sanders, Walz, Wayne

LR378 Interim study to examine the viability of selling land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds
Education

LR320 Interim study to examine changes to the enrollment option program to ensure students with disabilities have an increased ability to access enrollment opportunities
Education

LR425 Interim study to examine the challenges faced by families with special needs students in enrolling such students as option students in other school districts under the enrollment option program
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LR496 Interim study to examine issues relating to the State Department of Education
Education

LR382 Interim study to examine the governance and representation of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska
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LR368 Interim study to examine the process for school districts to change the boundaries of individual schools within their districts
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Executive Board: Aguilar (C), Lowe (VC), Arch, Ballard, Bostar, Jacobson, Riepe, Slama, Vargas, Clements (nonvoting ex officio)

LR393 Interim study to examine safety and accessibility issues for the State Capitol Building
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- LR396 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Health and Human Services Committee
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Judiciary: Wayne (C), DeBoer (VC), Blood, Bosn, DeKay, Holdcroft, Ibach, McKinney

- LR495 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee
Judiciary
- LR348 Interim study to examine a respondent's right to a trial by jury under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act
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- LR347 Interim study to examine the frequency of claims brought under the Political Subdivisions Torts Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act and the frequency of tort claims brought against other states
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- LR340 Interim study to review the death penalty in Nebraska
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- LR342 Interim study to consider changes to the juvenile justice system to address impacted juveniles who have mental health and substance use diagnoses
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- LR346 Interim study to review landlord-tenant law to determine whether legislative reforms can be enacted to further protect and empower victims and survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence and their dependents
Judiciary

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LR325 Interim study to determine whether changes to Nebraska statutes relating to pretrial discovery are necessary to accommodate or to provide for parties to inspect or extract information from personal communication devices, computers, and other similar devices
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LR351 Interim study to examine the safe storage of firearms
Judiciary

LR390 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska statutes should be changed to accommodate official recognition of customary adoptions
Judiciary

LR413 Interim study to examine Nebraska laws regarding theft with intent to sell stolen goods as scrap metal
Judiciary

Natural Resources: Bostelman (C), Moser (VC), Brandt, Cavanaugh, J., Fredrickson, Hughes, Jacobson, Slama

LR469 Interim study to examine existing, new, and emerging technologies in the nuclear energy industry
Natural Resources

LR352 Interim study to assess identified improvement projects for clean water and drinking water systems in Nebraska
Natural Resources

Nebraska Retirement Systems: McDonnell (C), Ibach (VC), Clements, Conrad, Hardin, Vargas

LR407 Interim study to examine the City of Omaha Employees' Retirement System for Omaha's civilian employees and the City of Omaha Police and Fire Retirement System for Omaha's police and fire employees
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LR409 Interim study to carry out the provisions of 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions
Nebraska Retirement Systems

LR408 Interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board
Nebraska Retirement Systems

Revenue: Linehan (C), von Gillern (VC), Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Meyer, Murman

LR384 Interim study to examine nonprofit organizations, their nonprofit status, the way they use their nontaxable income, and the ways they use their nontaxable income for political purposes
Revenue

LR349 Interim study to examine the funding sources, including tax incentives and other methods, used for early childhood education programs in Nebraska
Revenue

LR414 Interim study to determine the feasibility of having the state run all property assessment in Nebraska, merging county assessors with another office, or having county assessors be an appointed position
Revenue

LR418 Interim study to examine the current property tax valuation process
Revenue

LR367 Interim study to examine mechanisms to slow the rise of property tax valuations during periods of rapid property value increases
Revenue

LR314 Interim study to examine adjustments to county revenue sources and elimination of unnecessary county expenses to compensate for a phaseout of the Nebraska inheritance tax by 2029
Revenue

LR435 Interim study to assess the loss of funding to Nebraska counties as a result of an elimination of the Nebraska inheritance tax and to identify potential state funding sources to replace lost revenue
Revenue

- LR411 Interim study to review LB1072, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, relating to the topic of sustainable aviation fuel Revenue
- LR324 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska statutes should be modified to provide a tax credit or consideration towards the purchase of a new or replacement vehicle for a private seller who sells a vehicle Revenue
- LR424 Interim study to examine occupation taxes Revenue

Transportation and Telecommunications: Moser (C), DeKay (VC), Bosn, Bostelman, Brandt, Cavanaugh, M., DeBoer, Fredrickson

- LR417 Interim study to provide a comprehensive examination of the funding structure of Nebraska's transportation system and to identify strategies to fund highway maintenance and construction Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR376 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR403 Interim study to examine telecommunications and issues discussed during the hearing on LB1256 introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR380 Interim study to examine issues regarding affordable broadband in Nebraska Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR402 Interim study to examine and monitor broadband expansion in Nebraska Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR395 Interim study to examine the tax and surcharge burden imposed on telecommunications services Transportation and Telecommunications

Urban Affairs: McKinney (C), Hunt (VC), Blood, Cavanaugh, J., Day, Hardin, Lowe

LR359 Interim study to review the concept of property development in the State of Nebraska
Urban Affairs

LR441 Interim study to examine the impact of local housing regulations on Nebraska's housing supply
Urban Affairs

LR360 Interim study to review the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Act
Urban Affairs

LR438 Interim study to review the occupational regulations for fire alarm inspectors
Urban Affairs

LR437 Interim study to examine issues within the jurisdiction of the Urban Affairs Committee
Urban Affairs

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES CREATED DURING THE 2024
LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALLING FOR STUDIES**

LR298 Special Interim Committee: Arch (C), Wayne (VC), Aguilar, Ballard, Bostar, M. Cavanaugh, Clements, Hansen, Holdcroft, Jacobson, Lowe, McDonnell, Riepe, Slama, Vargas

LR298 Provide for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to appoint a committee of the Legislature to be known as the Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee of the Legislature.

INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 298. Introduced by Arch, 14; Aguilar, 35; Ballard, 21; Clements, 2; Jacobson, 42; Lowe, 37; Riepe, 12; Slama, 1; Vargas, 7.

WHEREAS, the Legislature has the inherent power to secure information in order to legislate, hold hearings, and conduct investigations related to the operation of state government; and

WHEREAS, legislative oversight functions related to the Legislature's inherent power are currently distributed among the various legislative divisions within the Legislative Council, including the office of Public Counsel, the office of Legislative Audit, the office of Legislative Research, and the office of Legislative Fiscal Analyst; and

WHEREAS, the office of the Attorney General issued an opinion on August 16, 2023, stating that the current statutory regime governing two offices related to legislative oversight, the office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare and the office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System, violated the separation of powers provisions in Article II, section 1, of the Constitution of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that the legislative divisions and offices, including the office of Inspector General of Nebraska Child Welfare and the office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System, serve important legislative oversight functions and that these divisions and offices will benefit from a full review to strengthen the performance of their legislative oversight functions, to address any restructuring or reorganization necessary for continued legislative oversight, to examine how any such restructuring or reorganization may impact the interface between the Legislature and the Executive and Judicial branches, and to address any remaining issues related to the opinion of the Attorney General issued on August 16, 2023.

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

1. That the Legislature hereby calls for the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to appoint a committee of the Legislature to be known as the Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee of the Legislature. Members shall include all members of the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature, the chairperson of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature, and three atlarge members of the Legislature. The Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from the membership of the committee. The executive board may provide the committee with a legal counsel, committee clerk, and other staff as required by the committee from existing legislative staff. The executive board may authorize the committee to hire outside legal counsel as deemed necessary by the committee. The committee may hold hearings. After authorization by the executive board, the committee may issue

subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of any papers, books, accounts, documents, and testimony under oath.

2. The Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee may study the current structure and organization of legislative oversight functions among the various legislative divisions and offices and the structure and organization of legislative oversight functions in other state legislatures. The committee may also study whether current oversight conducted by any statutorily created board or commission would be more appropriately conducted within the legislative branch.

3. The Legislative Oversight Review Special Committee shall issue a report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2024. The report shall include recommendations for draft legislation, if necessary. The committee terminates on December 31, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 303. Introduced by Murman, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to study the viability of adopting the Classical Learning Test as an option for meeting admissions requirements at the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska state colleges. The adoption of the Classical Learning Test as an admissions test option would not replace the ACT or any other standard college admission test used by the University of Nebraska or the Nebraska state colleges for admissions, but would allow applicants the option to submit the results of the Classical Learning Test instead of or in addition to other accepted tests. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the input of interested individuals, public officials, and such entities as deemed necessary shall be considered and a copy of any findings and recommendations from the study shall be sent to the State Board of Education, the University of Nebraska, and the Nebraska state colleges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 314. Introduced by Clements, 2.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine potential adjustments to county revenue sources and elimination of unnecessary county expenses to compensate for a phaseout of the Nebraska inheritance tax by 2029. A review of the effect of a five-year phaseout of the Nebraska inheritance tax is appropriate as Nebraska seeks to reform its tax structure to encourage economic growth, simplicity, and fairness for its

residents and as Nebraska seeks to compete with other states in the region while providing adequate funds for necessary government duties and services.

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

- (1) The potential elimination of unnecessary and costly statutory requirements for counties;
- (2) Current county revenue sources outside of property taxes; and
- (3) Potential adjustments to current county revenue sources to provide adequate funds for necessary county government duties and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 319. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether student-to-teacher ratio requirements should be considered or implemented in Nebraska by statute or regulation. The study should also consider whether student-to-teacher ratios should be tailored for special education instruction.

At least twenty-eight states have statutes or regulations that provide student-to-teacher ratio requirements. An additional ten states provide maximum class size requirements. A number of other states have laws that link funding to lower student-to-teacher ratios. Nebraska is among the states that have no statutory or regulatory student-to-teacher ratio requirements for public schools. If implemented, Legislative Bill 1081, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, would provide for student-to-teacher ratio requirements for special education and general education students in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 320. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether students with disabilities have experienced increased ability to access option enrollment opportunities in Nebraska and to examine potential changes to the enrollment option program to better ensure students with disabilities have an increased ability to access option enrollment opportunities.

Prior to 2023, school districts had wide latitude to reject students with disabilities and evidence showed that most districts had closed enrollment option programs to all students with disabilities. In an effort to expand option enrollment opportunities for students with disabilities, section 79-239 was amended by Laws 2023, LB705, and now requires the adoption of capacity standards for acceptance and rejection of applications under the enrollment option program, and requires capacity for special education services to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, section 79-239 now requires school districts that reject such applicants to provide written notification to parents with the specific reasons for rejection including a description of the services and accommodations required for a student with a disability that the school district does not have capacity to provide.

This study should analyze applications under the enrollment option program, and acceptance or rejections thereof, in order to determine whether school districts are making individualized decisions as opposed to generalized decisions. The study should also examine and determine how the significant increases in special education funding granted in 2023 has been utilized by school districts to increase capacity in the enrollment option program for students with disabilities, and should consider what, if any, improvements need to be made to ensure that students with disabilities are regularly accepted to enrollment option programs across the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 321. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the scope and use of student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology by school officials in Nebraska and the private

companies involved that are contracting with schools for the use of such student surveillance, monitoring, and tracking technology.

The intersection of government and technology companies utilizing tools of mass surveillance raises red flags from a civil rights and civil liberties perspective. Numerous public schools in Nebraska have instituted various tracking systems of students or school-issued computers that can surveil and monitor student usage or student movement in classrooms and schools. The tracking systems include, but are not limited to, digital hall passes, anti-vaping devices, fingerprints swipes, and electronic surveys.

Tools of mass surveillance are being purchased and utilized with taxpayer funds through contracts with private companies. These tools may have legitimate use for educational purposes and new technologies can advance the goals of student success and school safety. However, it is unclear as to how decisions about the tools are being made, under what authority, whether or not students and families can opt in or out of these tools, how these tools interface with student privacy laws, whether these tools comply with constitutional rights and civil liberties, how much public funds are expended by schools in Nebraska for these tools, how these tools impact or are able to ensure proper accommodations for students with disabilities or individualized education programs, and how biometric or personally identifiable information is stored, shared, or sold with the private companies.

The study should also include, but not be limited to, a consideration of the following:

(1) What statutory reforms are necessary to ensure that the constitutional and privacy rights of students, parents, and guardians are protected regarding governmental and commercial surveillance of students; and

(2) What statutory reforms are necessary to provide remedies for students, parents, and guardians against schools and private surveillance or curriculum companies that misappropriate or improperly use collected data for commercial or other purposes beyond legitimate educational purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 324. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether the Nebraska statutes should be modified to provide a tax credit or consideration towards the purchase of a new or replacement vehicle

for a private seller who sells a vehicle. This study should also consider whether a different sales tax rate should be assessed on the sale of pre-owned or used vehicles, or whether an exemption from sales tax for such vehicles is warranted.

In Nebraska, purchasers of new and used cars must pay the state sales tax whether the vehicle is purchased from a private party, a relative, a private seller, or a licensed car dealer. Nebraska does allow for the exclusion of the value of a trade-in vehicle from the purchase of another vehicle for purpose of calculating sales tax. Section 77-2701.35 allows exclusions from the sale price for credit from a trade-in vehicle that is taken as all or a part of the consideration for the sale of another vehicle. This statute does not impose a time requirement for qualifying a vehicle transfer as a trade-in credit but the Department of Revenue generally requires that a trade-in must occur at the time of the new vehicle purchase, or the completion of the Nebraska sales and use tax form for the purchase, completed by a licensed Nebraska dealer, which serves as the certification of the consideration between the parties including a trade-in credit.

As a practical matter, the option to exclude the value of a trade-in vehicle is not available to private parties who purchase individual vehicles from other private parties. This results in a purchaser of a vehicle from a private seller having to pay sales tax on the total purchase price of a vehicle, regardless if the purchaser sold their own original vehicle at or near the time of the purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 325. Introduced by Dungan, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether changes to the Nebraska statutes relating to pretrial discovery are necessary to accommodate or to provide for parties to inspect or extract information from personal communication devices, computers, and other similar devices.

In Nebraska, the pretrial discovery process is governed mostly by statute. Various statutes provide that both prosecution and defense are entitled to inspect, investigate, and copy or receive copies of anticipated evidence or information material to a criminal case from opposing parties, witnesses, or other sources. Section 29-1913 provides that in certain instances if the prosecutor intends to use evidence consisting of scientific tests or analyses

of ballistics, firearms identification, fingerprints, blood, semen, or other stains, a defendant may request the court to order the prosecutor to make available such evidence necessary to allow the defense to conduct like tests or analyses with its own experts. Section 29-1913 does not clearly provide for a defendant to request to inspect or extract material information from personal communication devices, computers, and other similar devices which the prosecutor may intend to use evidence from or which the state may have in its possession.

Nebraska has a statutory mechanism for postconviction relief, found in sections 29-3001 to 29-3004. The postconviction relief statutes do not provide for statutory discovery or allow for the typical discovery process available in other proceedings.

This study should consider whether changes to the Nebraska statutes relating to pretrial discovery are necessary to accommodate or to provide for parties to utilize discovery during the postconviction relief process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 332. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9; Brandt, 32; Ibach, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider changes to Nebraska law relating to Legislative Bill 999, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature of Nebraska, Second Session, hemp, controlled substances, and related areas of the law. The study should also examine whether a regulatory framework of hemp-related retail businesses would be appropriate or justified.

Hemp, also called industrial hemp, is a plant and agricultural commodity cultivated for use in the production of a wide range of products. The federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 became law on December 20, 2018, and categorizes hemp as an agricultural commodity and removes hemp and tetrahydrocannabinols in hemp from scheduled control under the federal Controlled Substances Act. The federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 also modified and conformed the federal Controlled Substances Act to recognize hemp as a new commodity by expressly removing hemp from the definition of marijuana and exempted tetrahydrocannabinols in hemp from the definition of tetrahydrocannabinol.

Nebraska changed its laws in 2019 in order to be consistent with federal law and to provide for the production of hemp. In the time since the

changes, many businesses that are involved in the hemp-marketing business have been established. At present, the hemp industry generates over one hundred million dollars annually in the Nebraska economy.

Nebraska does not have regulatory authority over the sale or marketing of hemp products and the Department of Agriculture only issues licenses for the growing and cultivation of hemp pursuant to the Nebraska Hemp Farming Act. However, the sale of hemp products or similar items may be subject to other state laws, such as food laws, controlled substances laws, or deceptive trade practice laws despite the lack of hemp-specific regulations or laws. This state of affairs has allowed for some flexibility for retailers.

Legislative Bill 999, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, would make significant changes to Nebraska law and the hemp retail market. The bill received a public hearing conducted by the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature and was opposed by the hemp and hemp-retail industry. However, opponents of the bill expressed a willingness to discuss state regulation of the hemp and hemp-retail industry to address the motivation for the bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 333. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether legislation similar to the model Hunger-Free Campus Bill is needed to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students. This study should also determine the size and scope of hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students, assess available resources to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of Nebraska college students, and research best practices other states utilize to address hunger and basic needs insecurity of college students.

Nationally, one in three college students face food insecurity and three in five college students face at least one form of basic needs insecurity. Basic needs include access to food, housing, health care, technology, transportation, resources for personal hygiene, and child care and related needs. As students from diverse backgrounds are entering college with hopes of creating a better future, many are struggling to support themselves and finish their degrees. While additional forms of food assistance, such as local food pantries exist, many students do not know how to access these

resources and the stigma of accessing such resources keeps students from using the resources.

The high cost of housing, transportation, textbooks, health care, and other living expenses, coupled with the rising cost of tuition, have created significant financial burdens for college students. These costs particularly impact students from low-income families, those who have children, first-generation and nontraditional college students, and former foster youth. Financial aid programs and scholarships designed for low-income students fail to cover the bulk of their needs and even if students work while in school the income from a job does not eliminate the threat of food and other basic needs insecurity.

Ten states have passed a version of the model Hunger-Free Campus Bill, which sends funding to public colleges to address student hunger. Any public college is eligible to access these funds if it meets certain criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 334. Introduced by Raybould, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider strategies to ensure public access to the Nebraska State Capitol and adequate offstreet parking for state employees working in the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol.

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

- (1) The number of individuals working in the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;
- (2) The number of offstreet parking spaces reasonably necessary to accommodate the parking needs of state employees working in the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;
- (3) The number of offstreet parking spaces maintained by the State of Nebraska near the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;
- (4) The effect of state employee use of onstreet parking near the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol on public access to the State Capitol and state offices in state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;
- (5) The management of onstreet parking by the city of Lincoln near the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol to

provide public access to the State Capitol and state offices in state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;

(6) Options for the provision of offstreet parking for state employees working in the State Capitol or state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol along with the costs and financing alternatives for each option;

(7) Cooperative agreements with the city of Lincoln for financing or construction of parking garages or other ways to meet offstreet parking needs for the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol;

(8) Future offstreet parking needs of state employees in the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol; and

(9) The process for monitoring and maintaining public access to the State Capitol and state buildings within two blocks of the State Capitol.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 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 336. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9; Dungan, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the method of funding for court interpreters and determine a stable or permanent funding arrangement to ensure Nebraska courts have qualified interpreters providing interpreting services. The study should also consider legislative or judicial policies that maintain and promote effective and professional interpreting services for courts and litigants in Nebraska.

It is a matter of fundamental fairness and due process of law that when a litigant, a witness, or a victim do not understand or speak English well enough to adequately comprehend or communicate in legal proceedings, a qualified interpreter should be provided. In order to accommodate the rights of participants who do not speak English, the Nebraska Supreme Court, through the State Court Administrator, maintains a statewide register of interpreters consisting of certified and noncertified interpreters. All such interpreters must satisfy minimum requirements and be able to interpret simultaneously and consecutively and provide sight translation from English into the language of the non-English-speaking person and from the language of that person into English.

Interpreters are not employees of the Nebraska Supreme Court or the state. Instead, interpreters are paid an hourly rate set by the State Court

Administrator. The rate is higher for certified interpreters than for non-certified. The hourly rates have not permanently changed since 2004, despite numerous attempts to increase the rates. In 2023, the Legislature appropriated funds to the Nebraska Supreme Court budget to increase the number of certified and non-certified interpreters and to provide for an automatic annual increase. Governor Jim Pillen vetoed this increase and the Legislature did not override the veto. As a consequence, many interpreters refused to work in Nebraska courts, opting to work in other legal interpreting services, such as in federal court or for courts in neighboring states, or in other interpreting services not related to law. Ultimately, the State Court Administrator was able to use residual money in its budget to increase the payment rate for interpreters on a temporary basis in order that interpreters would work in Nebraska courts.

Legislative Bill 864 was introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature of Nebraska, Second Session, to continue the temporary increase arranged by the State Court Administrator. This appropriation, if signed into law, would only extend through the end of fiscal year 2024-25.

On January 25, 2024, in his State of the Judiciary to the Legislature, Chief Justice Mike Heavican of the Nebraska Supreme Court noted the historic increase in interpreter demand, not simply in the increased numbers of those who need interpreting services, but also the increase in the diversity of interpreted languages. The Chief Justice also stated that the Nebraska Supreme Court anticipates that the number of limited English proficient, deaf, and hard of hearing court and probation users to steadily increase in the coming years and that increased funding for language-access initiatives, including interpreters, is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 337. Introduced by Hansen, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine public assistance programs in Nebraska in order to determine whether program structures could be improved to better reward work and allow forward momentum for program participants.

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

(1) The eligibility thresholds of public assistance programs and the effect these thresholds have on the ability of program participants to increase their earnings or take new employment;

(2) The methods other states have utilized to address the limitations of public assistance programs created by eligibility thresholds; and

(3) Potential ways to improve public assistance programs in order to reward work and allow program participants to move off of public assistance programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 338. Introduced by Riepe, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine health care delivery systems situated in rural areas, defined as all counties except Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy. This study shall focus on, but need not be limited to:

(1) Identifying legal barriers and operational impediments within the statutory framework governing health care delivery systems in rural areas;

(2) Assessing emerging technologies, procedures, and protocols to enhance operational efficiency of health care delivery systems in rural areas;

(3) Analyzing census figures, utilization rates, and identifying potential or ongoing shortages to inform strategic decision-making for health care delivery systems in rural areas;

(4) Staffing and education needs of health care delivery systems in rural areas;

(5) Funding of health care delivery systems in rural areas including medical assistance program utilization; and

(6) Any other areas of interest as deemed necessary by the committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 339. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider reforms to the parole process. This study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following potential reforms:

- (1) Early release from parole for those who are compliant with conditions;
- (2) A good-time calculation for the terms of parolees;
- (3) Statutory changes to limit parole revocations to serious violations of parole rather than technical or minor violations; and
- (4) Any other potential reforms.

Nebraska's prison population, anticipated growth of such population, and the state's current needs for facility construction have all been recently examined by the state. In 2021 and 2022, state officials partnered with the Crime and Justice Institute to examine trends in Nebraska's criminal justice system and various policies and operations relating to the Nebraska Criminal Code and prison population. The Crime and Justice Institute Working Group produced data-driven policy reforms to reduce the state's projected prison population growth while promoting public safety and reducing recidivism. There were seven general policy priorities, and one of those policies was directly related to enhancing parole supervision for people reentering society.

One of the suggested reforms identified by the Crime and Justice Institute was to better utilize the parole process. In 2020, only fifty-eight percent of eligible offenders were placed on parole. Trends going back to 2011 showed fewer people being granted parole and when released, they had been in prison longer. The Crime and Justice Institute recommended a number of reforms to parole, all of which recommended greater use of parole.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 340. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the death penalty in Nebraska. In 2015, Nebraska voters reinstated the death penalty in the state. Since reinstatement, Nebraska has only carried out one execution. This study should examine, but need not be limited to, the utility of the death penalty as well as the following subjects:

- (1) The method of execution available to Nebraska and what other death penalty states have for execution methodology;
- (2) The availability of execution drugs necessary to effectuate the lethal injection method that Nebraska presently uses;
- (3) The societal or racial disparity in application of the death penalty;
- (4) Prosecutorial practices relating to pursuing death penalty imposition;
- (5) Public opinion relating to the death penalty in Nebraska and in other jurisdictions;
- (6) The utility or value of the death penalty in Nebraska;
- (7) The deterrent effect on criminal behavior, if any, of the death penalty;
- (8) Alternatives to the death penalty;
- (9) The experiences of other states or jurisdictions relating to the death penalty; and
- (10) Any other subject relating to the death penalty in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 341. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the scope and use by school districts of a ban and bar action, banning and barring individuals from school property. This study should include an examination of whether the purported authority for such bans is appropriate and what statutory reforms are necessary to protect parents' rights to be involved in their child's education and to contest, appeal, or otherwise challenge a ban and bar action.

School districts for Nebraska public schools are utilizing a ban and bar process by which school districts prohibit students and family members from school property with the threat of police enforcement should an individual violate a ban. There are no regulations related to the appropriate use of a ban, the length of a ban, or to whom and when a ban may be applied. There have been instances of school districts instituting bans against students and family members who have disagreed with staff or administrators regarding the educational needs of the student, even though there was no evidence of a threat by the student or family member, and some school districts have even implemented four-year bans. There is no due process or appeal mechanism by which a student or family member can allege that a ban and bar is unreasonable or retaliatory.

The only authority for a school district to utilize a ban and bar arises from section 79-405, which states, in part, that every school district is a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, may sue and be sued, and may purchase, hold, and sell such personal and real estate as the law allows. School districts have implemented ban and bar actions through the general right of corporations to prohibit trespass.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 342. Introduced by Bosn, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider changes to the juvenile justice system to address impacted juveniles who have mental health and substance use diagnoses.

Sufficient and available mental health services are presently lacking for many Nebraskans, including for youth and adolescents. Behavioral health and mental health services are especially needed for system-involved youth and those youth who are subject to any filing under the Nebraska Juvenile Code, particularly those youth who are subject to potential liberty restriction or secure detention.

This study should examine potential investments and funding to provide for mental health treatment professionals, programs, and facilities to meet the needs of Nebraska youth, adolescents, and adults through community-based services and accessible residential and inpatient care. The study should also determine how the state can provide assistance in supporting measures to improve mental health care in Nebraska communities. The study should also examine any statutory changes necessary to effectuate providing services to system-involved youth in need of behavioral health services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 344. Introduced by Lowe, 37.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 345. Introduced by Lowe, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine all licenses issued by the State Racing and Gaming Commission. This 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 EIGHTH 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 346. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Cavanaugh, J., 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review landlord-tenant law to determine whether legislative reforms can be enacted to further protect and empower victims and survivors of domestic or sexual violence and their dependents.

Laws 2021, LB320, provided rental protections for tenants who are experiencing domestic or sexual violence. The legislation expanded protections from eviction for survivors of domestic or sexual violence and facilitated the ability for a survivor to terminate a lease early if the survivor needs to move away from an abuser or because the abuser is no longer contributing to rent. The study shall evaluate additional reforms to landlord-tenant law which shall include, but need not be not limited to:

(1) Extending protection for survivors of domestic or sexual violence to apply to notices to tenants for noncompliance pursuant to subsection (1) of section 76-1431;

(2) Providing additional legislative directives to qualified third parties that certify domestic violence activities under subdivision (5)(a)(iii) of section 76-1431;

(3) Providing additional legislative directives to the entities authorized to certify domestic violence activities under section 76-1431 and considering whether the Nebraska Supreme Court or Administrative Office of the Courts could provide a list of such entities; and

(4) Any other possible reforms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 347. Introduced by Dungan, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the frequency of claims brought under the Political Subdivisions Torts Claims Act and the State Tort Claims Act and the frequency of tort claims brought against other states.

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

(1) The number of claims brought against the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions for intentional torts committed by employees of the state or its political subdivisions or individuals in the custody or care of the state or its political subdivisions prior to September 1, 2020;

(2) The costs associated with claims brought against the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions for intentional torts committed by employees of the state or its political subdivisions or individuals in the custody or care of the state or its political subdivisions prior to September 1, 2020;

(3) The number of claims brought against other states or political subdivisions of other states for intentional torts committed by employees of other states or political subdivisions of other states; and

(4) The frequency or number of criminal charges filed for abuse or neglect against employees of the State of Nebraska or its political subdivisions or individuals in the care or custody of the state or its political subdivisions since September 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 348. Introduced by Dungan, 26.

PURPOSE: This resolution proposes an interim study on a respondent's right to a trial by jury under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. That act requires that actions for possession be tried by the court without a jury. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 76-1446. In a recent case from the Nebraska Supreme Court, three Justices joined a concurring opinion which raised the possibility that this may violate the constitutional right to a jury trial, stating that this "bench trial provision may rest on constitutionally fragile ground." NP Dodge Mgmt. Co. v. Holcomb, 314 Neb. 748, 993 N.W.2d 105 (2023) (Papik, J., concurring).

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

(1) How many states allow for a jury trial for residential eviction proceedings;

(2) How many cases in Nebraska went to a jury trial before repealing the right;

(3) Potential violations of constitutional rights; and

(4) The likely outcome if Nebraska does not allow for a right to a trial by jury under the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 349. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the funding sources, including tax incentives and other methods, used for early childhood education programs in Nebraska. This study should include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) What resources the State of Nebraska invests into early childhood education;
- (2) The history of early childhood education and its funding in Nebraska;
- (3) What local and community partners the State of Nebraska works with for early childhood education; and
- (4) Early child care needs in Nebraska.

Upon conclusion of the study, the committee should also send the report of its findings to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Education Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 351. Introduced by Raybould, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study on the safe storage of firearms. The study should include an examination of best practices, policies, and laws regarding the safe storage of firearms in homes, schools, and workplaces. Additionally, the study should examine and compare laws from neighboring states regarding the safe storage of firearms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 352. Introduced by Raybould, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to assess identified improvement projects for clean water and drinking water systems in Nebraska. This study should examine the funding needs and potential funding sources for such projects. Identification of projects may come from, but need not be limited to, the 2024 Intended Use Plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for State Fiscal Year 2024.

The Intended Use Plan includes projects with total needs of just over two billion eight hundred ten million dollars. Such projects work to improve and

maintain aging infrastructure to provide clean water and drinking water and work to create alternative water sources for contamination mitigation. Currently, the state provides funds to meet roughly fifteen percent of such needs through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund which leaves the large majority of projects in need of funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 353. Introduced by Lowe, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the pricing and taxation of alcohol in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 354. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to assess state-led programs pertaining to the Nebraska workforce. It is challenging for employers to navigate and understand all available resources and qualifications to access such resources, such as worker training, job training, workforce development, customized job training, apprenticeships, and other programs and grants.

The study shall analyze state funding, policies, and initiatives addressing workforce needs and shortages and examine the accessibility of current programs offered by the Department of Labor, Department of Economic Development, Department of Health and Human Services, and State Department of Education and whether they are meeting the growing workforce needs in Nebraska.

The study shall further examine how to coordinate and increase opportunities for all Nebraskans to enter and advance in these programs,

how to align and expand education and training, and how to strengthen the capacity, diversity, development, and retention of the Nebraska workforce.

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

- (1) Existing pathway programs and educational initiatives that train or upskill workers in Nebraska;
- (2) Current state funding sources and programs that invest in the workforce in Nebraska, including worker training, workforce development, worker retention and recruitment, and career and technical education;
- (3) How programs are marketed and applications are sought;
- (4) How funds are distributed and how applications are scored, including the application approval rates and whether those denied have opportunity to receive technical assistance and appeal;
- (5) Opportunities to align or improve systems that support Nebraska's workforce in underserved and high-need communities across the state;
- (6) Alternative paths for public-private partnerships to address future workforce needs and requirements; and
- (7) The following issues relating to the State Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund:
 - (a) How the fund is used for workforce programs;
 - (b) Whether excess funds should be directed to additional workforce training and development purposes;
 - (c) What constitutes an adequate level of funding;
 - (d) Alternative legislative paths to establish a trust fund cap and redirect excess funds or dissolve the trust fund and identify alternative sources for the worker training; and
 - (e) Current legal parameters for the use of the fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 355. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine and compare the processes for adopting, promulgating, and eliminating rules and regulations in Nebraska and other states, to explore updates, improvements, and cleanup of the Administrative Procedure Act to make the act more transparent and accessible to the public and the

Legislature, and to explore and compare different means of oversight employed nationwide by legislative bodies over administrative agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 356. Introduced by von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine State Capitol building improvements for senators. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Parking security and capacity;
- (2) Senator's expenditures relating to device use with personal phones, laptops, cell plans, and wireless fidelity;
- (3) Expenditures relating to use of home offices;
- (4) Reimbursements;
- (5) Current mileage allocations; and
- (6) Any other matters pertaining to senators' materials, technology, and functional aspects of their positions to improve efficiency, determine costs, and improve accessibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 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 357. Introduced by Holdcroft, 36; Halloran, 33; Lowe, 37; von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine to what extent, if any, there is a necessity to bolster election security in the State of Nebraska.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall hold a hearing, with invited testimony only, to ascertain the necessity of

improved election security or increased election security for upcoming elections in the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 358. Introduced by Slama, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the causes of increasing commercial insurance premiums and the impacts on Nebraska businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 359. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the concept of property development in the State of Nebraska. The study shall examine how property is developed, what is currently working or not working for successful property development, and any possible areas of opportunity for property development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 360. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Act. The study shall specifically examine how the act is functioning, who is receiving grant funds under the act, and any possible changes to the act that may need to be addressed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 361. Introduced by Cavanaugh, M., 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to conduct a review of the fees that fund Nebraska's cash funds. This study will examine each fee and related cash fund by gathering the following data and information and may include further related information to complete the review:

- (1) The amount of each individual fee and how it is paid;
- (2) The amount of revenue collected by the fee;
- (3) The balance of the cash fund to which the fee is credited;
- (4) The allowable usages of the cash funds to which the fees are credited;
- (5) Any other information related to the fees and usage to help guide the Legislature in determining whether the current fees are operating as intended;
- (6) A determination of whether the fees are generating enough revenue to sustain the cash fund and fulfill its purpose;
- (7) A determination of whether the fees are generating more revenue than is needed to fulfill the purpose of the fund;
- (8) Whether the agency or entity responsible for implementing the purposes of the cash fund is spending the funds as intended by the Legislature; and
- (9) Any agency recommendations for fee amounts based upon the findings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 362. Introduced by Brewer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the dangers posed by artificial intelligence for elections. The committee may seek the participation and input of interested parties and other committees of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 363. Introduced by Brewer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the credentialing requirements for water-based fire protection system contractors in furtherance of the purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act.

The study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination and consideration of whether the current means of regulating the profession:

(1) Is the least restrictive regulation which is necessary to protect consumers from undue risk of present, significant, and substantiated harms that clearly threaten or endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the public when competition alone is not sufficient and which is consistent with the public interest;

(2) Protects the fundamental right of an individual to pursue a lawful occupation;

(3) Is construed and applied to increase opportunities, promote competition, and encourage innovation; and

(4) Should be changed to conform to the policy principles set out in the Occupational Board Reform Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 364. Introduced by Brewer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the credentialing requirements for private detectives, private detective agencies, and plain clothes investigators in furtherance of the purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act.

The study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination and consideration of whether the current means of regulating the profession:

(1) Is the least restrictive regulation which is necessary to protect consumers from undue risk of present, significant, and substantiated harms that clearly threaten or endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the public when competition alone is not sufficient and which is consistent with the public interest;

(2) Protects the fundamental right of an individual to pursue a lawful occupation;

(3) Is construed and applied to increase opportunities, promote competition, and encourage innovation; and

(4) Should be changed to conform to the policy principles set out in the Occupational Board Reform Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 365. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study examining school guidelines and policies relating to LGBTQ bullying prevention. Currently, Nebraska's bullying statutes are governed by section 79-2,137, which directs school districts to develop and adopt policies concerning bullying prevention and education for all students. By reviewing school policies and practices and resources available to school districts, the Legislature can identify the challenges and areas for improvement to ensure that all students are protected from bullying in a school setting.

This interim study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) A review of available data on the prevalence of school bullying in Nebraska;

(2) A state-by-state review of bullying laws, and the progression of how best practices surrounding bullying has evolved;

(3) A state-by-state review of school nondiscrimination laws, including whether the state has guidance on the treatment of LGBTQ students; and

(4) Input from school districts, parents, and other stakeholders regarding recommendations and strategies to enhance and strengthen school policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 366. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine opportunities under the medical assistance program to improve state beneficiaries' social determinants of health by allowing coverage of clinically appropriate interventions that address enrollees' health-related social needs.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recognize the important links between health-related social needs, health coverage, and health outcomes. Health-related social needs are an individual's unmet adverse social conditions that contribute to poor health such as food insecurity, unemployment, and housing instability. These needs can account for as much as fifty percent of health outcomes, drive health disparities, and increase costs.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have demonstrated commitment to supporting states in efforts to improve population health, reduce disability, and lower overall health care costs through coverage of health-related social needs. A study of state medicaid programs that integrate health-related social needs services is appropriate to understand the potential outcomes of adopting this type of program in Nebraska.

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

(1) Research on how social determinants of health and health-related social needs affect health services utilization, health care costs, health disparities, and health outcomes;

(2) Eligible populations and covered services in states that have integrated health-related social needs services into medicaid state plans;

(3) The results of integrating health-related social needs services into medicaid state plans in other states, including health outcomes, access, equity, cost savings, and cost-effectiveness of health care services and interventions;

(4) What the most appropriate medicaid authority is for health-related social needs services;

(5) How to align health-related social needs services with existing assistance programs available to the target populations; and

(6) Service delivery requirements, fiscal policies, and other federally mandated conditions for health-related social needs services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 367. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine mechanisms to slow the rise of property tax valuations during periods of rapid property value increases. While the dramatic increase in home prices over the past ten years has shown the strength of our state's housing market, it has also created challenges for homeowners, as increasing property taxes have strained family budgets. This study should explore whether there are ways to flatten valuation increases so that homeowners could have more predictability in their year-to-year property tax bills.

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

(1) A review of available data on the increases in home valuations in Nebraska;

(2) A state-by-state comparison of methods used to slow the growth of property tax valuations;

(3) A review of county board of equalization methods of complying with the uniformity clause of the Constitution of Nebraska;

(4) A comparison of assessment and equalization methods across counties in determining actual value, including the sales comparison approach, the income approach, and the cost approach; and

(5) A consideration of potential changes the Legislature could adopt to address challenges that homeowners face from rising home valuations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 368. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the process for school districts to change the boundaries of individual schools within their districts. Given that many families move specifically to be near a certain school within a greater school district, the decision to change boundaries can upend planning for families and affect numerous relationships between students, teachers, and staff. Boundary changes involve a decision-making process that can be difficult; however, changes are often necessary to facilitate growth within a school district. Parents should have the opportunity to voice their concerns and have full transparency regarding the process for changing school boundaries within a school district that determines which school their children will attend.

Currently, the process for school district boundary changes is governed by section 79-413. This interim study is meant to evaluate whether some of the process for school district boundary changes, such as notification to parents, should be replicated in school boundary changes within a district.

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

- (1) The processes that school districts in Nebraska use for interdistrict school boundary changes;
- (2) Statutes in other states relating to school boundary changes within a single school district;
- (3) Ways to facilitate communication between parents and school districts when school boundary changes are being considered;
- (4) How much advanced communication should be given to parents;
- (5) Strategies to increase transparency for school boundary changes; and
- (6) Public meeting laws in Nebraska, and whether school boundary changes should require an opportunity for public comment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 369. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this legislative resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the barriers to voting and equal representation for Native Americans in Nebraska. In 2021, the federal Interagency Steering Group on Native American Voting Rights was created by Executive Order 14019. The goal of this executive order was to research the barriers Native Americans face in achieving full access to participate in United States elections, and to recommend ways to mitigate or eliminate these barriers. While this has yielded broad federal recommendations, further research into the challenges unique to Nebraska is warranted.

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

- (1) A review and analysis of data on voter registration and voting on tribal lands in Nebraska;
- (2) Identification of barriers to voting for Native Americans in Nebraska;
- (3) Collaboration with stakeholders, including nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions, and city, county, and tribal government officials to evaluate and develop strategies and solutions to increase election accessibility;
- (4) An evaluation of the effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other states directed toward Native American populations as they relate to election accessibility on tribal lands;
- (5) An evaluation of the adequacy of policy coordination between counties and tribes; and
- (6) Any recommendations for changes to policies, procedures, and programs to address the barriers to voting for Native Americans in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 370. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the rise of retailers moving to digital-only transactions. A number of Nebraskans prefer

to use cash, including individuals with concerns about the privacy of digital transactions, and individuals that do not have bank accounts or easy access to a bank account. As a result, several municipalities have adopted requirements that cash be an accepted option in all retail transactions that are not online. Federal legislation has been introduced that would require cash options for transactions under two thousand dollars. A study on cashless transactions can ensure access to goods and services, while working to protect the rights and interests of businesses in Nebraska.

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

- (1) A determination of how many Nebraskans rely primarily on cash for their purchases;
 - (2) The effect of requiring an option to use a cash-payment on businesses in Nebraska;
 - (3) The effect that widespread digital-only transactions would have on partners trying to leave relationships with joint finances;
 - (4) A consideration of exemptions for a cashless ban;
 - (5) Options to protect consumer privacy in cash and cashless transactions;
- and
- (6) Ways to increase accessibility of digital payments for individuals without bank accounts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 371. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the status of laws relating to consent and campus sexual assault in Nebraska. Under current Nebraska statutes, an absence of consent to sexual activity can be shown when the victim is compelled to submit by force, the threat of force, coercion, or deception; and a lack of consent can be expressed through words or conduct of the victim.

According to the Association of American Universities, nationwide, thirteen percent of all students have experienced sexual assault, and nearly twenty-five percent of undergraduate women have experienced some form of sexual assault. Given the pervasive occurrence of sexual violence on college campuses, in recent years some states have adjusted their laws governing consent to make it clear that consent means an informed, affirmative, conscious, voluntary, and mutual agreement to engage in sexual

activity. This interim study is meant to examine whether Nebraska's consent laws are sufficient to address campus sexual assault.

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

- (1) The law governing consent in Nebraska, including both statutes and case law;
- (2) A review of such laws in other states and the evolution of such laws;
- (3) Statutory reforms that may be necessary to ensure the safety of students on campus;
- (4) Campus sexual assault policies in Nebraska and nationally; and
- (5) Strategies that have been effective in reducing sexual assault on college campuses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 372. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska's policies relating to the Board of Nursing and the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and to evaluate the effectiveness and usefulness of the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.

The nursing field has changed greatly since the statutory requirements for each of these boards were constituted. To accommodate all interested parties, it is essential to study the needs of the workplace in the field of nursing. Additionally, Nebraska is currently the only state with a Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, which represents certified registered nurse anesthetists, certified nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists.

Ensuring that Nebraska prioritizes the special role advanced practice registered nurses have in the state's health care system will make Nebraska a more appealing state for advanced practice registered nurses to practice, thus dissipating some of the shortages in the state's health care system. An evaluation of the state's policies for these boards might help determine if combining the Board of Nursing with the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses will effectively represent all registered nursing interests in the state.

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

(1) The current requirements for members of the Board of Nursing compared to what would more accurately represent the nursing field in Nebraska;

(2) The current requirements for members of the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses compared to what would more accurately represent the field of advanced practice registered nursing in Nebraska;

(3) The proportions of different types of nurses in the state, including, but not limited to, advanced practice registered nurses and licensed practical nurses;

(4) The percentage of registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses practicing in primarily rural communities versus urban communities; and

(5) What the makeup of a potential combined Board of Nursing and Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses should be.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 373. Introduced by Ibach, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals to practice dentistry in Nebraska.

The availability of qualified dental professionals is essential for maintaining the oral health of Nebraska communities. However, recruiting and retaining dentists, especially in underserved areas, presents significant challenges. Colleges of dentistry play a crucial role in providing advanced training, enhancing skills, and fostering the development of dental professionals. Enhancing these programs can contribute to addressing workforce shortages and improving access to dental care in the state.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) Analyzing opportunities and challenges related to enhancing dentistry training programs offered by the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University, including potential avenues to increase the recruitment and retention of dental residents and qualified faculty members in Nebraska; and

(2) Any other issues related to improving the workforce development pipeline of dentists in Nebraska, especially as it relates to underserved areas and underserved patient populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 374. Introduced by Ibach, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the availability of healthy and affordable food choices in Nebraska communities. This study shall review research articles and other literature on the topic of availability of healthy and affordable food choices in Nebraska communities to evaluate overall food access in Nebraska and to inform public policy discussions on this topic. The study shall also identify potential public policy interventions that would increase access to and utilization of healthy food choices.

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

(1) Reviewing alternative methodologies for defining low-grocery-access areas, as the United States Department of Agriculture definition of low-income and low-access areas, also known as food deserts, does not accurately identify the need for more food choices in every community, especially in rural areas;

(2) Analyzing federal, state, and local efforts to provide healthy and affordable food to low-income and low-access areas;

(3) Identifying resources and incentives the state may use to combat low access to food;

(4) Identifying factors that limit access to healthy and affordable food choices within rural and urban communities and demographic groups;

(5) Analyzing barriers and challenges for small locally owned grocery stores to provide healthy food options;

(6) Reviewing current economic development policies that enable food retailers to improve or expand healthy food options and identify any gaps in access to healthy food options;

(7) Evaluating mechanisms to develop markets and distribution of locally produced foods to meet the need for healthy and affordable food;

(8) Evaluating how food insecurity affects Nebraska families; and

(9) Evaluating the benefits of access to healthy and affordable food.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 375. Introduced by Ibach, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine different methods, including potential statutory changes, to address the need to recruit, train, and retain individuals who practice production animal veterinary services in Nebraska. This study shall include, but not need be limited to:

- (1) Exploring the need for establishing a new college of production animal veterinary medicine at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln;
- (2) Analyzing opportunities and challenges related to expanding veterinary training programs offered by the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis, and Northeast Community College; and
- (3) Framing unique solutions tailored to Nebraska to increase the number of practitioners in production animal veterinary services, especially in rural areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 376. Introduced by Moser, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study 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 EIGHTH 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 377. Introduced by von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the components of the State of Nebraska's public health registry data collection and the release of that data to appropriate research entities. This study should examine all public health registry information collected by the state through health registries and vital records and how that information is maintained and released for research purposes given the confidentiality and privacy parameters imposed by state and federal law, including criteria used by the Department of Health and Human Services in decisionmaking.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) Identifying the public health data of all Nebraskans that is currently collected by the state related to health diagnoses, treatments, and outcomes by geographical location;

(2) Reviewing how other states collect and release health data and how those processes compare to Nebraska;

(3) Reviewing potential changes to the current data collection and release statutes, including criteria used by the Department of Health and Human Services in decisionmaking that would provide responsiveness to research data requests; and

(4) Examining potential ways to consolidate the Nebraska statutes relating to public health data.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 378. Introduced by Murman, 38; Albrecht, 17; Conrad, 46; Dover, 19; Erdman, 47; Halloran, 33; Linehan, 39; Meyer, 41; Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the viability of selling land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) Whether the land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds is presently providing the most effective rate of return to Nebraska schools;
- (2) Whether the funds gained from the sale of land managed by the Board of Educational Lands and Funds could lead to a greater return;
- (3) How such a sale could be handled in the most fiduciarily responsible manner possible;
- (4) The constitutionality of such a sale;
- (5) The potential for property tax relief from such a sale; and
- (6) The public support for such a sale.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall consider the input of interested individuals, public officials, and such entities as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 379. Introduced by Bostar, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the role of health insurance for biomarker testing and the use of biomarker testing in public and private payor markets. The study should also examine the barriers faced by Nebraska patients in accessing biomarker testing which can inform and personalize treatments for diseases and conditions such as cancer.

Health data shows that currently sixty percent of medical treatments in preclinical development rely on biomarker data. Biomarker testing includes, but is not limited to, single-analyte tests, multiplex tests, protein expression, and whole exome, whole genome, and whole transcriptome sequencing.

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

- (1) The awareness of patients, providers, and insurers about precision medicine and biomarker testing in Nebraska;
- (2) When available, the effectiveness of biomarker testing and related treatment and how biomarker testing is being used for an increasing range of conditions and diseases;

(3) Barriers to appropriate patient access and utilization of biomarker testing; and

(4) Current insurance coverage in both the public and private sectors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 380. Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues regarding affordable broadband in Nebraska.

The Affordable Connectivity Program, a federal benefit program to provide affordable broadband to households, announced that in February of 2024 it would no longer be able to enroll new households, and that by April of 2024 funding for the program will likely lapse. In Nebraska, approximately ninety-six thousand households have enrolled in the federal program. Nebraska is investing unprecedented amounts of money into providing broadband to areas that are currently unserved or underserved. It is vitally important that households are able to afford the broadband provided in such areas.

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

(1) Prices currently offered by Internet service providers to customers in service territories, including, but not limited to, available discounts and the cost of any devices required by the Internet service provider for broadband service, the speed of broadband service provided at each price point, the type of broadband service available in such areas, and any data caps related to customer plans offered;

(2) Anticipated prices by Internet service providers in areas that are currently unserved or underserved who have received or who have applied to receive state or federal funds to provide Internet services in such areas, including the type of broadband service expected to be provided;

(3) Government-led efforts to provide or encourage affordable broadband services, including, but not limited to, ways to coordinate efforts between the Legislature, the Public Service Commission, the Nebraska Broadband Office, Internet service providers, and the federal government to encourage and support affordable broadband;

(4) Long-term issues relating to broadband deployment in high-cost, low-density areas, including, but not limited to, maintenance costs, legal

obligations to continually provide service, consumer price variability, and new and emerging technologies; and

(5) Any other issues relating to the affordability and reliability of broadband services in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 381. Introduced by DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of court fees as a funding source for the court system and the judicial branch. In Nebraska, fees are assessed as part of the court costs for most, if not all, civil and criminal cases, including those related to traffic citations.

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

(1) Whether fees should be assessed on all cases or only certain types of cases;

(2) How court costs and fees in Nebraska compare to other states;

(3) The appropriateness and effectiveness of court fees as a means of providing funds for the court system or other agencies;

(4) The prioritization of fees collected and effectiveness of such fees to provide the court with sufficient resources and an analysis of the fees currently collected, the cost of each fee to court users, and how the fees are disbursed;

(5) Court fees and other ancillary expenses assessed to juveniles and their guardians, including, but not limited to, amounts collected yearly, any specific use of fees assessed to juveniles, and further examination of issues related to Legislative Bill 1089, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session; and

(6) How much political subdivisions pay in court fees and whether any adjustments should be made.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 382. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the governance and representation of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. The study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Potentially increasing the total number of regents on the board to eleven, of which the three additional regents shall be appointed by the Governor, one from each congressional district;

(2) Potentially adjusting the language relating to the board's nonvoting student representatives from each campus to include the student body president of the University of Nebraska at Kearney; and

(3) How the board presently functions and operates as compared to the original intent for the board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 383. Introduced by Hughes, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine improvements to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and potential alternative funding mechanisms for Nebraska public schools.

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

(1) Potential changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act that would provide for more equitable property tax levies between public school districts;

(2) Potential changes to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act that would simplify state aid calculations for public school districts; and

(3) Proposals to leverage state resources, including the Board of Education Land and Funds, to provide additional funding to public school districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 384. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study nonprofit organizations, their nonprofit status, the ways in which such organizations use their nontaxable income, and the ways in which such organizations use their nontaxable income for political purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 385. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine state standardized testing required in elementary and secondary public schools in Nebraska and the Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT) system used to classify schools under the Quality Education Accountability Act.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) The benefits and value of Nebraska's standardized assessment system developed by the State Board of Education compared to adopting norm-referenced, nationally accepted, standardized testing requirements;

(2) The history of standardized testing in Nebraska and how Nebraska came to develop and adopt its own standardized assessments; and

(3) How the AQuESTT system was developed for the statewide assessment and reporting system as required pursuant to section 79-760.01, and if classifying schools in the manner outlined in such system is beneficial to Nebraska schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 386. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the scope of practice for behavior analysts in the State of Nebraska. The work of applied behavior analysts, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech therapists complement each other and result in well-rounded patient care. The services provided by behavior analysts in the educational and human resources spheres are essential to Nebraskans of all ages. Further study is required on how the scope of practice for behavior analysts can work in concert with the practice of occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech therapists and can complement and enhance the services provided by those professions.

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

(1) How the scope of practice of behavior analysts is defined by the Department of Health and Human Services; and

(2) The scope of practice language of behavior analysts as compared to the scope of practice of occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech therapists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 387. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine payment rates and methodology used by the Department of Health and Human Services for child and adolescent behavioral health care, child welfare, and juvenile service providers.

Nebraska is facing a crisis in access to adequate and appropriate behavioral health care, child welfare, and juvenile services. Rising costs for providers have exacerbated this issue and raised questions regarding current provider rates.

In order to determine if legislation is needed to ensure that providers are adequately funded, this study shall examine the current rates paid to providers and whether the Department of Health and Human Services payment methodology reflects legislative intent.

Upon completion of this study, a report shall be made that includes any suggested statutory changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine what funding and appropriations are necessary to address the parking shortage for state employees and members of the public in the State Capitol environs and provide possible funding solutions to eliminate such shortage.

The citizens and employees of the State of Nebraska are keenly aware of the shortage of parking available in the area around the State Capitol. A parking study was completed in 2019 by the Department of Administrative Services, which identified issues that should be addressed in the determination of possible solutions to the parking problems in the State Capitol environs. Previously, issues and potential solutions were laid out in the Department of Administrative Services' Capital Campus Area 20-Year Master Plan, which was completed in 2017.

Since 2019, the number of state employees working in the State Capitol environs has increased and parking remains an issue for both employees as well as members of the public. This study shall also look into the effects that the ongoing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning project at the State Capitol has on the availability of parking as well as the potential impact of future projects in the surrounding areas. There also exists the possibility for a partnership with the city of Lincoln or private entities to address the shortage of available parking.

The committee shall examine the extent of the parking shortage for state employees and members of the public, provide possible solutions to eliminate such shortage, provide an update on the proposed changes in the 2019 Department of Administrative Services study, discuss a possible partnership with the city of Lincoln to address this issue, and examine the

potential for cost savings through deployment of state-owned office space within the State Capitol environs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 389. Introduced by Clements, 2.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature that may arise in the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Brewer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine whether the Nebraska statutes should be changed to accommodate official recognition of customary adoptions. The study should also focus on whether changes to the Nebraska statutes or regulations are necessary to ensure that customary adoptions are regarded in the same manner as standard adoptions.

Some native and indigenous communities have a tradition of customary adoptions, or an adoption process that is recognized by the community and tribe which gives a child a permanent parent-child relationship with someone other than the child's birth parents. Many customary adoptions do not require termination or relinquishment of the rights of birth parents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 391. Introduced by von Gillern, 4; Erdman, 47; Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine State Capitol building improvements. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) State building codes and whether the State Capitol building environment is a safe and productive workplace;
- (2) The feasibility of improving the lighting system throughout the building;
- (3) The ergonomics of chairs, desks, and workstations;
- (4) The feasibility and need for updated restroom sanitation and plumbing devices to protect public health;
- (5) Improved safety of building exits, specifically door spaces and staircases; and
- (6) Any other health, support, safety, and occupational concerns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 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 392. Introduced by Hansen, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the costs and frequency of rebasing provider rates and to develop a methodology for rebasing such rates. The types of providers to be examined shall include, but not be limited to, child welfare, developmental disabilities, nursing facilities, assisted-living facilities, behavioral health, and hospitals. The study shall focus on developing a permanent rebasing methodology for provider rates in order to (1) maintain quality of services, (2) meet the needs of providers and their workforce, and (3) ensure fair rates for all providers. The study shall include, but not be limited to, a review of:

1. The factors used in determining current provider rates;
2. The factors causing the frequency of rebasing;
3. Cost reports from providers;
4. Projected state revenue;

5. Inflation rates;
6. The amount of Medicaid reimbursement to providers;
7. The types of providers, rates, and comparison within each type;
8. Comparison of Nebraska provider rates with other states; and
9. New technologies, services, and provider types that require a payment methodology or rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 393. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Lowe, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine safety and accessibility issues for the State Capitol building. This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (1) Methods to improve the safety and accessibility of the State Capitol as it relates to a safe workplace for state employees while respecting restrictions on physical modifications of a building designated as a National Historic Landmark; and
- (2) Ensuring any such methods do not limit the public's access to elected officials and state agencies that operate in the State Capitol.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 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 394. Introduced by Holdcroft, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to identify and review all programs and services enacted by the Legislature which result or may result in an increase in expenditures of funds by counties and county governments assigned to perform or provide such programs and services. A review of the impact of unfunded and

underfunded mandates on counties and county governments is appropriate as Nebraska seeks continued property tax reform. The committee may seek the participation and input of other committees of the Legislature.

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

- (1) Any and all statutes which presently impose unfunded or underfunded mandate obligations on counties;
- (2) Any corresponding increases in property taxes by counties to meet the requirements of unfunded or underfunded mandates;
- (3) Mandated but unfunded or underfunded programs or services which could be changed, eliminated, or repealed;
- (4) The impact on county finances of fees set by statute and whether such fees are appropriate; and
- (5) The impact of inadequate fees on property taxes by counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 395. Introduced by Bosn, 25; DeBoer, 10.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the tax and surcharge burden imposed on telecommunications services.

Nebraska has one of the highest rates of taxation on telecommunications consumers in the nation with a rate averaging nearly twenty-five percent for many wireline services. A disproportionate part of this tax burden results from universal service surcharges. While not technically classified as tax, this assessment is a surcharge that ultimately imposes the same financial burden on consumers as a tax. Originally conceived as a tool to help make rural telephone service available and affordable by adding a small charge to all Nebraska telephone customers, Nebraska's universal service surcharge has grown to be among the highest in the nation, and results in increasing the cost for wireline and wireless telephone services in Nebraska.

Broad consensus exists that every Nebraska home and small business should have access to robust broadband infrastructure and service. What is less clear is how to fund the goal of deploying broadband infrastructure most equitably and efficiently to every remaining unserved location in the state.

With approximately five hundred million dollars of promised support now in the pipeline for broadband deployment from the Broadband Bridge Program created under the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act, the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, and the federal Universal Service Fund, it is an opportune time to examine and understand the extent to which Nebraska's surcharge for the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund, currently the second-highest surcharge in the nation, can be reformed and targeted to avoid placing a disproportionate and unfair burden for any remaining broadband deployment needed in the state on one class of customers, the customers of telephone service, or whether there are more equitable funding sources available to meet these needs.

This interim study should focus on these and other taxes and surcharges imposed on telecommunications services in Nebraska and determine ways the state can maintain and advance the efficiency and availability of telecommunications services in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 396. Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Hansen, 16, Chairperson; Ballard, 21; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Day, 49; Hardin, 48; Riepe, 12; Walz, 15.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 397. Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Hansen, 16, Chairperson; Ballard, 21; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Day, 49; Hardin, 48; Riepe, 12; Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the structure and processes of the credentialing review process known as the "407 process." The 407 process reviews a health profession's proposal for licensure or change in scope of practice. This study shall include, but not be limited to, a review of:

- 1) The scope of practice criteria;
- 2) The role of the technical review committee;
- 3) Application requirements;
- 4) Funding mechanisms; and
- 5) The coverage of health professions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 398. Introduced by Halloran, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the development and use of messenger RNA vaccines in livestock. This study is intended to inform any potential legislative discussions relating to the use of messenger RNA vaccines in livestock by compiling information regarding:

- (1) The mechanisms of messenger RNA vaccine efficacy;
- (2) The various messenger RNA vaccines that are in use or under development;
- (3) The benefits and risks of messenger RNA vaccines in relation to other types of vaccines in widespread use;
- (4) The regulatory infrastructure governing research, development, and commercial introduction of messenger RNA vaccines; and
- (5) Scientific literature that relates the safety of foods derived from messenger RNA vaccine treated animals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 399. Introduced by Halloran, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review occupational regulations under the Nebraska Potato Development Act and the Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act for purposes of the Occupational Board Reform Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 400. Introduced by Halloran, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature that may arise in the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 401. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Blood, 3; Bosn, 25; DeKay, 40; Holdcroft, 36; Ibach, 44; McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to conduct a comprehensive examination of Nebraska's county jails. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Policies and procedures relating to county jails housing state prisoners, including, but not limited to, reimbursement provided to the county jails, such reimbursement's sufficiency, and the availability of programming to state prisoners in county jails;

(2) Statutory provisions relating to jails, including, but not limited to, analyzing statutory differences between prisons and jails;

(3) Staffing needs and requirements for safe and full operation of county jails, including, but not limited to, salary and benefits offered, hours, and safety of staff inside the facility;

(4) Out-of-cell time provided to inmates in county jails;

(5) Medical and mental health care provided to inmates in county jails and costs associated with such care;

(6) Maintenance needs of jails and adequacy of county jails to house inmates and state prisoners;

(7) Issues related to distances between jails and courthouses and efforts undertaken to ensure proper administration of justice and respect for constitutional rights;

(8) State aid provided to county jails, such aid's sufficiency, and how to lessen the reliance of jails on property taxes;

(9) The average length of time spent by inmates in jail before being moved to prison; and

(10) The efficiency of keeping inmates in jail after being sentenced to serve the remainder of their sentence as compared to moving such inmates into a prison to serve the remainder of their sentence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 402. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Bosn, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine and monitor broadband expansion in Nebraska. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Projects being undertaken as a part of Nebraska's Broadband Bridge Program, the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Equity and Access Deployment Program, the United States Department of Agriculture's ReConnect Program, the Federal Communications Commission's Alternative Connect America Cost Model and Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model, and any other state or federal efforts for the expansion of broadband availability in Nebraska and whether funding through any of these programs will be sufficient to overcome any inflationary pressures affecting broadband expansion;

(2) State and federal resources allocated for maintenance and upkeep of current communications service providers as well as projected maintenance

and upkeep needs of projects under development or soon to be under development; and

(3) Any other issues related to the expansion of broadband in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 403. Introduced by DeBoer, 10; Fredrickson, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine telecommunications and issues discussed during the hearing on Legislative Bill 1256, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Information sharing, including, but not be limited to, the sharing of proprietary information with the Public Service Commission during outages of 911 services;

(2) State oversight over communication service providers as it relates to 911 services;

(3) State and federal regulations as they relate to outages of 911 services to find areas for improvement; and

(4) Any other issues as they relate to outages of 911 services in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 404. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of the services provided to eligible recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program funds and the most effective way to utilize such funds to provide services and cash assistance to

Nebraskans receiving aid from the aid to dependent children program while living in poverty.

The aid to dependent children program, which provides time-limited direct cash assistance to families with children in deep poverty, is paid for by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program funds. Over the last few decades, national data show that the number of families participating in the aid to dependent children program has dropped significantly but this does not mean there is a lack of need for such program, as the poverty data shows. Current participation in the aid to dependent children program is proportionately low in part because of administrative barriers, difficulty for participants to navigate a sanction-based program, a very low standard of need formula used for determining eligibility, and benefit levels which have not been updated in many years.

In 2020, more than ninety percent of Nebraskans who applied for the aid to dependent children program were denied. Nebraska is among the top five states with in number of denials for those applying to participate in the program. This study should focus on whether this trend can be reversed with use of existing funds like Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program rainy day funds.

This study should also focus on what changes to law or policy could be made to ensure needy families receive necessary assistance from the aid to dependent children program, such as adjustments in calculations for the aid to dependent children program's standard of need formula and maximum benefit levels or changes in how child support is considered for recipients of the Aid to Dependent Children program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the process the Department of Health and Human Services uses in selecting a provider to service a foster home and the similarities and differences between agency supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes.

Historically, the state has defined agency supported foster care and pre-adoptive care services to mean agency supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes despite significant differences between the

categories including resource needs, initial and ongoing training and licensing requirements, initial and ongoing staff training requirements, support for both the home and the child, transportation, pre-adoption support services, and other matters that effect foster children. The additional responsibility placed on other family members in relative homes and kinship homes often substantially impacts the other family members' capacity to welcome additional children into their homes along with other issues that impact all involved.

The demands on the child welfare provider community differ between the placement services for agency supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes relating to the requirements and expectations outlined by the Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, the process used to select a provider to service a foster home can be disruptive to foster children and confusing to the provider community.

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

(1) The differences between agency-supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes and the impact those differences have on foster children, families, and providers;

(2) The financial impact to both providers and the Department of Health and Human Services of serving agency-supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes;

(3) The difference in requirements and expectations the Department of Health and Human Services has of providers for agency-supported foster homes, relative homes, and kinship homes; and

(4) The process the Department of Health and Human Services uses in selecting a provider to support relative homes and kinship homes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 406. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to explore the development of an institution dedicated to providing instruction, orientation, and ongoing professional development specifically tailored for elected officials and office holders in Nebraska. The potential institute shall aim to enhance governance through improved collaboration, leadership, and informed decisionmaking among Nebraska's public servants.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, collaboration with the following entities:

- (1) Current and former elected officials at various levels of government within Nebraska;
- (2) Academic institutions with public administration, political science, and leadership programs;
- (3) Private sector leaders with experience in governance and leadership training;
- (4) Nonprofit organizations focused on government accountability and transparency; and
- (5) Public and private funding entities interested in supporting governance and leadership development.

The study should also explore the following:

- (1) The feasibility of establishing an institute for collaboration and leadership for elected officials and office holders in Nebraska, including potential governance structures and locations;
- (2) The core curriculum and orientation programs that would address the unique needs and challenges faced by elected officials and office holders, including ethical governance, public policy formulation, and constituent services;
- (3) Potential public and private funding sources and models to ensure the institute's sustainability and accessibility to all elected officials and office holders in Nebraska;
- (4) Best practices from similar institutions in other states or countries, including lessons learned and key success factors; and
- (5) The potential impact of such an institute on enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, and collaboration of Nebraska's public servants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 407. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the City of Omaha Employees' Retirement System for Omaha's civilian employees and the City of Omaha Police and Fire Retirement System for Omaha's police and fire employees. The study shall include an examination of the contribution rates for the city of Omaha and its employees and any city charter provisions that might impact such

contributions. The study shall also examine potential sources of funding for contributions for the systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 408. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, and the Nebraska Judges Retirement System. 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 the administration of each retirement system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 409. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to carry out the provisions of section 13-2402, which requires the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee to monitor underfunded defined benefit plans administered by political subdivisions. The study shall include a public hearing for the presentation of reports by political subdivisions with underfunded defined benefit plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 410. Introduced by Dorn, 30.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the long-term fiscal sustainability of and how to best direct funding and appropriations towards sustaining a strong health care workforce in Nebraska, especially in rural communities.

The health care industry plays a crucial role in ensuring the well-being of Nebraska residents and the vitality of Nebraska communities. Hospitals across Nebraska face significant challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified health care professionals, including, but not limited to, physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, and support staff. The shortage of health care workers poses a threat to the quality and accessibility of health care services provided to Nebraskans, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

Addressing these workforce challenges requires a collaborative and multi-faceted approach involving health care organizations, educational institutions, government agencies, and other stakeholders. It is imperative for the Legislature to recognize and support efforts to mitigate the impact of these challenges and ensure the continued provision of high-quality health care services to all Nebraskans.

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

(1) The funding streams and potential new sources of money for sustaining the health care workforce;

(2) Grants and funding opportunities to assist in training costs for the health care workforce;

(3) Current data on the significant workforce challenges facing hospitals and health care facilities across the state and the impact of housing and child care shortages on the health care industry;

(4) Partnerships between health care organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies to address such challenges and develop innovative solutions;

(5) Programs and initiatives aimed at recruiting and retaining health care professionals, especially in rural and underserved areas;

(6) Funding and resources for health care workforce development programs, scholarships, loan repayment programs, and other incentives to attract and retain health care professionals in Nebraska;

(7) Collaborations between government agencies, health care organizations, and educational institutions for identifying barriers to workforce development and implementing strategies to overcome workforce challenges;

(8) Relevant stakeholders to prioritize the expansion of health care education and training programs, with a focus on meeting the evolving needs of Nebraska's health care employees; and

(9) The progress of efforts to address hospital workforce challenges and exploring additional legislative measures as needed to support such efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 411. Introduced by Dungan, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review Legislative Bill 1072, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, and to research the topic of sustainable aviation fuel. Sustainable aviation fuel is an alternative fuel made from non-petroleum feedstocks that reduces emissions from air transportation. Sustainable aviation fuel can be blended at different levels with limits between ten and fifty percent depending on the feedstock and how the fuel is produced. According to the International Civil Aviation Organization, over three hundred sixty thousand commercial flights have used sustainable aviation fuel at forty-six airports, mainly in the United States and Europe. The demand for sustainable aviation fuel is presently greater than the available supply.

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

(1) How many airports and airlines require sustainable aviation fuel to be used instead of traditional jet fuel;

(2) What the environmental impact of sustainable aviation fuel is compared to traditional jet fuel;

(3) What existing infrastructure Nebraska has to support sustainable aviation fuel production;

(4) The economic impact increased use of sustainable aviation fuel would have on Nebraska;

(5) What policies Nebraska needs to enact to attract sustainable aviation fuel producers; and

(6) What other states have implemented to help increase sustainable aviation fuel production.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 412. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine possible changes to state law regarding the use of artificial intelligence in political campaigns. Generative artificial intelligence technology has rapidly developed in recent years and audio and visual depictions of public figures created using artificial intelligence are becoming more common.

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

(1) Concerns related to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and free speech regarding the regulation of political speech and artificial intelligence;

(2) Laws in other states regarding the use of artificial intelligence and disclosure in political advertisements and the penalties for violation of such laws;

(3) Federal laws and regulations regarding the use of artificial intelligence in political campaigns;

(4) Possible enforcement mechanisms under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act regarding use of artificial intelligence;

(5) Potential civil remedies regarding use of artificial intelligence; and

(6) Input from broadcasters, election officials, experts on artificial intelligence, and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 413. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska laws regarding theft with the intent to sell the stolen goods as scrap metal. As catalytic converter thefts continue to be a problem for many residents of Nebraska, this study shall examine criminal laws related to theft, verification processes for scrap metal recyclers, the status of local ordinances addressing catalytic converter theft, and current data regarding theft offenses in Nebraska.

This study shall engage local law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and the public in examining possible legislative solutions to prevent or curtail the number of incidents of theft in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 414. Introduced by Meyer, 41; Albrecht, 17; Dover, 19; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39; Lippincott, 34; Sanders, 45; von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to determine the feasibility of having the state run all property assessment in Nebraska, merging county assessors with another office, or having county assessors be an appointed position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 415. Introduced by Cavanaugh, M., 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the historic unwind of the federal COVID-19 Medicaid continuous coverage requirements as implemented by the Department of Health and Human Services. In March 2020, Congress passed a law responding to the COVID-19 pandemic that generally required states to keep most people enrolled in Medicaid coverage regardless of changes, such as a change in income. Nearly three hundred ninety thousand Nebraskans had been relying on Medicaid coverage for their health needs during the pandemic. The federal protections ended in March 2023. The department began the unwinding process and restarted terminations, the first of which were effective April 1, 2023. The unwinding is an unprecedented health coverage disenrollment event. Between April 2023 and February 2024, more than ninety-four thousand Nebraskans were terminated from Medicaid coverage during the unwinding period. The department has been tracking data throughout the unwinding process, which is projected to continue through summer 2024.

This study will examine the practices utilized by the department during the Medicaid unwind and related health coverage outcomes for Nebraskans. This study shall include, but not be limited to, data collection and information gathering regarding:

- (1) Eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination policies and practices for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program during the unwinding period;
- (2) Lessons learned from continuous coverage and unwinding; and
- (3) Opportunities and plans to improve the systems utilized in eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination processes for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 416. Introduced by Dover, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine what funding options and appropriations may be necessary to improve the return on investment of housing incentives offered by the State of Nebraska. The study may include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Existing state law and funding available for housing, including, but not limited to, tax increment financing, the documentary stamp tax, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Rural Workforce Housing Fund, the Middle Income Workforce Housing Investment Fund, and any other state funding for housing;

(2) The return on investment that housing provides individuals, families, businesses, communities, and the state;

(3) The tax revenue benefits that housing incentives create for municipalities, counties, and the state and the overall return on investment of the various housing incentives;

(4) The benefits that home ownership has on Nebraska's workforce, economy, and state and local budgets;

(5) Housing statistics of those individuals and entities using state housing incentives compared to those individuals and entities not using such incentives, separated by class of city, including, but not limited to, the following statistics:

(a) Housing starts;

(b) Cost per square foot, taking into consideration initial land cost, lot size, style of home, and basement finish; and

(c) Land cost per square foot and the impact of incentives offered, including tax increment financing;

(6) The various housing funding models used by nonprofit organizations; and

(7) Laws and funding methods used in other states related to housing and where Nebraska ranks in comparison.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 417. Introduced by Dover, 19; Albrecht, 17; Blood, 3; Bosn, 25; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Conrad, 46; Day, 49; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Dungan, 26; Erdman, 47; Fredrickson, 20; Halloran, 33; Hansen, 16; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39; Lippincott, 34; Murman, 38; Raybould, 28; Riepe, 12; Vargas, 7; Walz, 15; Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose a study that includes a comprehensive examination of the funding structure of Nebraska's transportation system and to identify possible alternatives to supplement or

replace traditional methods and strategies that have historically been employed to fund highway maintenance and construction. The study shall include a reevaluation and update of the results of the LR152 in 2009, including the impact of subsequent legislation such as the Build Nebraska Act (Laws 2011, LB84), the Transportation Innovation Act (Laws 2016, LB960) and changes to the fuel tax in Laws 2015, LB610.

The needs of Nebraska's transportation system have continually outpaced revenue with the annual twenty year needs rising an estimated fifteen percent to a record sixteen billion seven hundred million dollars in 2023. While revenue has remained steady, with influxes from sources other than the traditional fuel tax, such as the Build Nebraska Act's one-quarter of one percent of sales tax and the increase of federal funds under the current surface transportation reauthorization, known as the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, highway construction costs continue to increase through inflationary factors and global demand for resources. This study aims to understand the buying power of the annual budget of the Department of Transportation and examine potential revenue sources that have been employed in other states as a way to combat decreasing revenue due to more fuel-efficient vehicles.

This study shall examine several factors surrounding the state of highways in Nebraska, including, but not limited to:

- (1) An analysis of the current funding for highways and streets in Nebraska and the emphasis on user fees;
- (2) An analysis of the overall effectiveness of the fuel tax in today's economic environment, including factors such as increased vehicle fuel efficiency and electric vehicles;
- (3) An analysis of construction inflation in recent years, increasing the cost of business;
- (4) An analysis of how local governments have fared under the state's highway revenue structure; and
- (5) A review of other states' alternative methods of funding and financing highways, including, but not limited to, bonding, financing, implementing a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) system, tolling, using public-private partnerships, the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, and redistributing current state revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 418. Introduced by Dover, 19; Albrecht, 17; Blood, 3; Bosn, 25; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Conrad, 46; Day, 49; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Dungan, 26; Erdman, 47; Fredrickson, 20; Halloran, 33; Hansen, 16; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39; Lippincott, 34; Raybould, 28; Riepe, 12; Vargas, 7; Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the current property tax valuation process. The study shall examine the different classes of real property, including residential, commercial, and agricultural, to ascertain if there is a more equitable process to determine property valuation that will result in a property tax that more clearly reflects the taxpayer's ability to pay based on the revenue produced by that real property, when possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 419. Introduced by Hughes, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine school meal programs in Nebraska, barriers to participation in school meal programs, and potential strategies to maximize the role of school meal programs in addressing child hunger. The committee shall consult with the State Department of Education for this study.

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

- (1) How the adoption of the community eligibility provision impacts the funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act of participating schools or school districts;
- (2) The adequacy and appropriateness of using free and reduced-price lunch data and data collected by the Internal Revenue Service to calculate the poverty allowance within the funding formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act;
- (3) The adequacy and appropriateness of the state's current community eligibility provision multiplier which is used to determine funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act for schools and school districts and which is based on a school's or school district's direct certification population;
- (4) How past, current, and projected future funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act impacts schools and school

districts participating in or eligible for the community eligibility provision using the existing community eligibility provision multiplier and other options, with consideration for schools and school districts with large enrollments versus schools and school districts with smaller enrollments;

(5) Recommendations for adjusting the community eligibility provision multiplier;

(6) Recommendations for adjusting relevant state statutes to support continued and additional school and school district participation in the community eligibility provision; and

(7) Any other related topics the committee deems appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 420. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the budget needs of and funding sources for regional behavioral health authorities.

In 1974, the Legislature established the six behavioral health regions to address the diverse populations, resources, and needs of the state. State statutes set out the responsibility of each behavioral health region to plan, coordinate, develop, and evaluate the publicly funded behavioral health service system by addressing needs, gaps, and barriers and contracting with community-based service organizations to provide behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and prevention activities. Behavioral health regions are local units of government that the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services contracts with to engage in planning and service implementation.

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

(1) The funding historically provided to the regions;

(2) The impact of recent reductions in funding to the Division of Behavioral Health, as well as the impact of the unfunded provider rate increase, including program reductions across behavioral health regions;

(3) Challenges faced by behavioral health regions and partner providers in dispersing funding, including the medical assistance program unwinding and continuing staff shortages;

(4) The Lincoln Regional Center's staffing needs and challenges; and

(5) Opioid settlement funding updates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 421. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine addiction with an emphasis on the examination of opioid addiction and a focus on evaluating effective primary prevention strategies, intervention methods, and robust recovery support systems. The study shall develop actionable recommendations for legislative initiatives aimed at enhancing the efficacy and accessibility of primary prevention, intervention, and recovery supports, to ultimately foster healthier communities and individuals.

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

(1) Primary prevention strategies to prevent substance use disorders, including a review of how other states structure and fund primary prevention efforts;

(2) Gaps, challenges, and opportunities to better support current primary prevention policies and programs;

(3) Evidence-based practices in primary prevention;

(4) Funding sources for addiction-related services; and

(5) Harm reduction strategies and the funding sources and evidence-based strategies available for harm reduction programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 422. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the needs, successes, and challenges relating to behavioral health in Nebraska, including the regional behavioral health authorities.

In 1974, the Legislature established the six behavioral health regions to address the diverse populations, resources, and needs of the state. State statutes set out the responsibility of each behavioral health region to plan, coordinate, develop, and evaluate the publicly funded behavioral health service system by addressing needs, gaps, and barriers and contracting with community-based service organizations to provide behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and prevention activities. Behavioral health regions are local units of government that the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services contracts with to engage in planning and service implementation.

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

- (1) Behavioral health needs and challenges throughout the state, particularly in rural Nebraska;
- (2) Services provided by the behavioral health regions and partner providers;
- (3) Challenges to funding utilization, including, but not limited to, the medical assistance program unwinding, COVID-19 pandemic policies, and staffing shortages;
- (4) The current and historical capacity of the Lincoln Regional Center;
- (5) The documented lack of flexibility and slow-walking of approval of new projects by the Division of Behavioral Health; and
- (6) Opioid settlement projects and funds disbursement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Hansen, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine child care providers in the state and the shortage of child care options in rural Nebraska. With the overwhelming request from parents for more access to child care options, this study is intended to find what hinders private providers from being able to serve in rural Nebraska and consider what barriers could be removed. The licensing procedures for child care

providers should be processes that allow for capable, safe, and trusted members of rural communities to care for children.

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

- (1) Staff-to-child ratios of child care providers;
- (2) State statutes, rules, and regulations relating to child care;
- (3) Staff shortages for child care providers;
- (4) Inspection procedures for child care providers;
- (5) The number of child care facilities in rural areas in Nebraska; and
- (6) A comparison of Nebraska laws relating to child care with the laws of other states relating to child care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 424. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine occupation taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 425. Introduced by Murman, 38; Albrecht, 17; Conrad, 46; Linehan, 39; Meyer, 41; Sanders, 45; Walz, 15; Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the challenges faced by families with special needs students in enrolling such students as option students in other school districts under the enrollment option program and how the Legislature can better provide guidance and resources to facilitate the best outcomes for families. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall consider the

input of families, school officials, and other entities as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 426. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study relating to public records requests to determine whether reports of the resistance of government entities to public record requests are representative or isolated. The study should determine whether any additional statutory reforms beyond Laws 2023, LB43, are justified in response to the Supreme Court's opinion in *Nebraska Journalism Trust v. Dept. of Env't. & Energy*, 316 Neb. 174 (2024), to ensure that the purposes of sections 84-712 to 84-712.09 are being met and that Nebraskans have prompt, unfettered, and robust access to open government.

Subdivision (1)(b) of section 84-712.03 allows for any person who is denied access to public records to petition the Attorney General for assistance in obtaining the requested records. This study should look to see how such requests are made by the public to the Attorney General and whether there is an online portal or some similar means to effectuate assistance. The study should also determine how many such requests have been accommodated or responded to by the Attorney General. The study should also determine what the Attorney General did in response to such requests, what the resolutions of the requests were, and how many such requests were made and served in the last several years.

Additionally, body-worn camera footage is presumed to be a public record, but is regularly withheld or released solely at the whim of police agencies. Legislative Bill 366, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, First Session, would provide a very narrow expansion mandating release of body-worn camera footage in custody deaths after the conclusion of the statutorily required grand jury process. This component of Legislative Bill 366 was strongly resisted by law enforcement and prosecutors despite the strong public interest in accessing such footage and law enforcement and prosecutors contradicted their position regarding body-worn camera footage more broadly as an accountability tool in news stories and legislative testimony during the hearing before the Judiciary Committee on Legislative Bill 1185, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session. This study should also focus on what statutory

reforms are necessary to provide for the public's right to access to police body-worn camera footage in instances in which the public interest is strong or when law enforcement releases such footage in part themselves.

In order to complete the purpose of this study, the committee shall obtain input from the public and impacted individuals regarding the subject matter of the study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 427. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the use of the child care subsidy program in section 68-1206 as an incentive to recruit and retain employees in the child care industry.

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

(1) The available workforce data on the Nebraska child care industry, including historical trends;

(2) The effects of child care workforce shortages and child care availability on the overall Nebraska workforce;

(3) Child care subsidy programs implemented in Kentucky, Iowa, Rhode Island, and other states to recruit and retain the child care workforce in such states, including program structure, cost, and impact.

(4) Potential statutory and administrative changes necessary to implement a child care subsidy program for child care employees in Nebraska;

(5) The anticipated cost of implementing a child care subsidy program for child care employees in Nebraska; and

(6) The anticipated outcomes should Nebraska implement a child care subsidy program for child care employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 428. Introduced by Hardin, 48; Bostelman, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review how the State of Nebraska can ensure it has effective emergency medical services in rural communities.

Access to emergency medical care is vital to the health of rural communities across the United States. Emergency medical services play a critical role in this care for rural areas. Ambulance services face increasing difficulty in responding to emergencies in the rural United States due to workforce shortages and financial crises.

About one-third of rural emergency medical services agencies in the United States are in immediate operational jeopardy because the agencies cannot cover costs, largely due to insufficient medicaid and medicare reimbursements. These reimbursements cover, on average, about one-third of the actual costs to maintain equipment, stock medications, and pay for insurance and other fixed expenses.

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

- (1) Exploring rural emergency medical services funding streams and researching potential new sources of funding;
- (2) Exploring how to maintain and replace expensive ambulance and emergency medical equipment for rural emergency medical services;
- (3) Exploring grants and funding opportunities to assist in training and certification costs for rural emergency medical services providers;
- (4) Researching how other states with similar demographics to Nebraska fund rural emergency medical services;
- (5) Examining ways to remove barriers for emergency medical technicians and paramedics in rural Nebraska and ensure they are working at the top of their scope;
- (6) Assessing the current state of emergency medical services infrastructure, resources, and capabilities across Nebraska, in both urban and rural areas;
- (7) Evaluating response times, transport protocols, and coordination of health care providers and emergency response agencies;
- (8) Examining workforce challenges, training requirements, and opportunities for professional development within the emergency medical services sector;
- (9) Reviewing funding mechanisms, reimbursement models, and financial sustainability of emergency medical services agencies and providers; and

(10) Analyzing best practices, innovations, and evidence-based approaches to improve the quality, efficiency, and patient outcomes of emergency medical services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Hardin, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the Child Care Licensing Act and the availability and affordability of liability insurance for licensed child care providers in Nebraska. To become licensed and maintain licensure, section 71-1911.03 requires child care providers to obtain liability insurance coverage in the event of legal defense costs or damages as a result of accidents or injuries. In recent years, many licensed child care providers have faced significant barriers due to discontinued coverage, significantly increased premiums, and more stringent policy terms.

To assess the breadth and scope of barriers to obtaining liability insurance as a requirement of child care provider licensing, to identify causes to the increasing difficulty in maintaining liability insurance coverage, and to provide legislative recommendations, this study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) A review of the purpose and legislative history of requiring liability insurance coverage as a condition of child care provider licensure;

(2) An assessment of historical and current costs, availability, and typical liability insurance policies and determinations for licensed child care providers and the associated impact on the cost of child care;

(3) An examination of liability insurance licensing requirements in other states, as well as access and affordability; and

(4) Legislative recommendations to improve access to and affordability of liability insurance for child care providers to ensure compliance with licensure requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 430. Introduced by Bostar, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's private and public sectors, including the technology and insurance sectors.

Artificial intelligence technologies have emerged as transformative tools with the potential to significantly impact workforce dynamics, operational efficiencies, and technological advancements. Nationally, state governments are recognizing the importance of understanding and adapting to the implications of artificial intelligence adoption to ensure effective governance and service delivery.

Given the potential impact of artificial intelligence on the public and private sectors, a comprehensive examination of the effects of artificial intelligence on Nebraska's workforce, operational efficiencies, and technological landscape is essential for informed decisionmaking and strategic planning. It is imperative to assess how artificial intelligence adoption can enhance productivity, improve service quality, and foster innovation, while also addressing potential challenges related to workforce displacement, skill gaps, and equitable access to technological resources.

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

(1) The current and potential impact of artificial intelligence adoption on the state economy, including changes in job roles, skill requirements, and workforce development needs;

(2) The extent to which artificial intelligence technologies can enhance operational efficiencies, streamline processes, and optimize resource allocation;

(3) The role of artificial intelligence in driving technological advancements and innovation within Nebraska, including influence of artificial intelligence on digital transformation initiatives and emerging technologies;

(4) Key challenges and opportunities associated with artificial intelligence integration, such as workforce reskilling, data security, ethical considerations, and stakeholder engagement; and

(5) Potential recommendations for policies, regulations, and investment strategies to support responsible artificial intelligence adoption, to promote workforce resilience, and to harness the full potential of artificial intelligence technologies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 431. Introduced by Jacobson, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the roles of various entities in the pharmaceutical supply chain, including pharmaceutical manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, insurers, and private and public health plans. Further, the interim study should also consider whether additional oversight or regulation is needed for some or all of these entities to safeguard consumer access to safe, effective, and timely pharmaceuticals, ensure fair business practices within the pharmaceutical supply chain, decrease the costs to consumers to access both pharmaceuticals and health insurance coverage, and reduce barriers to patient-friendly cost-saving measures within the pharmaceutical supply chain. The study shall include an examination of issues raised in Legislative Bills 778, 984, and 990, introduced in the One Hundred Eighth Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 Jacobson, 42.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of digital asset data mining on Nebraska public power districts, electric ratepayers, and communities.

The study shall include an examination of the following:

(1) Whether Nebraska's existing electric infrastructure is sufficient to support increased usage demands required for expanded digital asset data mining and, if not, the scope of the structural and financial investment necessary to meet such demand;

(2) The effect on existing electric ratepayers, particularly industrial and agricultural ratepayers, of expanded digital asset data mining operations in Nebraska;

(3) The existence, efficacy, and prudence of laws and regulations adopted by other states or localities to regulate digital asset data mining operations; and

(4) A cost-benefit analysis of digital asset data mining operations for Nebraska communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 433. Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the availability and access to data regarding maternal and infant health care in Nebraska. Such data is a critical component to ensuring that policy makers are aware of the health status of mothers and babies so that solutions may be directed to interventions that successfully support this vulnerable population.

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

(1) A review of available data regarding maternal and infant health in Nebraska and how the data is collected and shared with those working to improve the health of Nebraskans and the general public;

(2) A review of information regarding what such data reveals regarding the health status of mothers and babies in Nebraska;

(3) Comparisons of the status of maternal and infant health in Nebraska with other states;

(4) A review of the timeliness, thoroughness, and accuracy of data reports relating to maternal and infant health provided in compliance with state statute;

(5) A review of barriers to access of maternal and infant health data for the general public and for organizations performing child health quality improvement and research; and

(6) Consideration of the development of a maternal and child health dashboard to assist in the improvement of health outcomes in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 434. Introduced by Brandt, 32.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine tourism, including agritourism, in the State of Nebraska. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

- (1) The current state of agritourism activities in Nebraska, including the types of activities offered, visitor demographics, and economic impact;
- (2) The regulatory and permitting processes governing agritourism operations in the state and recommendations for streamlining and improving such processes;
- (3) Best practices and successful models of agritourism from other states and countries that could be adapted for use in Nebraska;
- (4) Marketing and promotional efforts aimed at promoting agritourism in Nebraska and recommendations for enhancing such efforts to attract more visitors; and
- (5) Opportunities for collaboration between agritourism operators, local communities, and state agencies to support and promote agritourism initiatives.

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veteran 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 Raybould, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to assess the loss of funding to Nebraska counties as a result of an elimination of the Nebraska inheritance tax and to identify potential state funding sources to replace lost revenue to Nebraska counties as a result of an elimination of the Nebraska inheritance tax.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 436. Introduced by Hansen, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the initiative and referendum petition processes in the twenty-six states in which such a process exists. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) Recent proposed statutory or constitutional changes to initiative and referendum petition processes including changes to signature requirements, circulation periods, initiative content, circulator requirements, signer requirements, petition requirements, ballot language, election requirements, withdrawing signatures, and campaign finance requirements;

(2) Whether all Nebraskans, including individuals in low-population areas, are fairly and properly represented in the initiative petition process; and

(3) Spending on initiative petition measures in Nebraska over the last fifteen years including names of funding entities, dollar amounts, and where such entities are located.

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veteran 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 Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Blood, 3; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Day, 49; Hardin, 48; Lowe, 37.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study 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 EIGHTH 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 438. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study 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 EIGHTH 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 439. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to explore whether the size of school districts has contributed to historical student underachievement within the Class V school district. This study should seek to understand whether the school district's size contributes to the success or lack thereof of students.

This study should include, but need not be limited to, answers to the following questions:

- (1) What are the prevailing trends in student performance and academic outcomes over the past decade in the Class V school district?
- (2) How do such trends compare to regional, state, and national benchmarks?
- (3) What is the total student population of the Class V school district?
- (4) What percentage of students in the Class V school district are classified as living below the poverty line?
- (5) What is the racial and ethnic composition of the student body in the Class V school district?
- (6) What is the socioeconomic status distribution among the student population in the Class V school district?
- (7) How many schools are within the Class V school district?
- (8) What is the geographical size of the Class V school district?
- (9) What is the student-to-teacher ratio in the Class V school district?

(10) How many administrators are employed in the Class V school district?

(11) How many administrators in the Class V school district have teaching certificates but do not teach?

(12) What are the average test scores for students in the Class V school district?

(13) What is the graduation rate of students in the Class V school district?

(14) How do student outcomes in the Class V school district compare to state and national averages?

(15) Are there significant achievement gaps among different demographic groups within the Class V school district?

(16) What percentage of students are on track to graduate on time in the Class V school district?

(17) What is the annual turnover rate for teachers within the Class V school district?

(18) What factors are cited by teachers as causing them to leave their positions in the Class V school district?

(19) How does teacher turnover in the Class V school district compare to neighboring districts and national averages?

(20) Are there specific schools within the Class V school district experiencing higher turnover rates? If so, where are the schools located?

(21) What resources are available to schools within the Class V school district?

(22) How are resources allocated among schools in the Class V school district?

(23) What professional development opportunities are provided to teachers within the Class V school district?

(24) What support services are available to students from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Class V school district?

(25) What support services are available to teachers in the Class V school district?

(26) What policies and practices regarding curriculum, assessment, and instruction are in place that cause undue hardship to students in the Class V school district?

(27) How are decisions made regarding budget allocation and resource distribution for the Class V school district?

(28) Are there specific initiatives or programs implemented to address the needs of students from low-income backgrounds in the Class V school district?

(29) How does the Class V school district support teacher retention and professional growth?

(30) What level of involvement do parents and community members have in the Class V school district?

(31) Are there partnerships with local organizations or businesses to support educational initiatives in the Class V school district?

(32) How do the Class V school district communicate with parents and community stakeholders about school policies and initiatives?

(33) Are there barriers to parental involvement in the Class V school district, particularly among families facing socioeconomic challenges?

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 440. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine how to close the educational achievement gap in the Class V school district. This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The demographic composition of the Class V school district, including racial and ethnic breakdowns, socioeconomic status, English language proficiency, and any other relevant factors that could influence educational outcomes;

(2) The existing educational policies, curricula, teaching methods, and support systems to identify any biases or inequities that may be perpetuating the educational achievement gap;

(3) The quality of teacher training and ongoing professional development opportunities in the Class V school district and whether teachers are equipped with culturally responsive teaching practices and strategies to effectively support diverse learners;

(4) School, family, and community engagement and the communication, involvement, and support for families in need in the Class V school district;

(5) What can be done to promote collaboration among educators, administrators, students, families, and stakeholders to foster continuous improvement through reflection, feedback, and evidence-based strategies;

(6) The resource distribution across the Class V school district's schools to see if there is equity for marginalized students;

(7) The Class V school district's partnerships with community organizations and businesses that provide additional support services or could;

(8) The African American Achievement Council's status and engagement with the Class V school district board and administration;

(9) Whether students have access to rigorous academic programs, advanced coursework, extracurricular activities, and support services, such

as counseling and special education, in the Class V school district to see if there is equitable access for all students, regardless of background;

(10) The availability and effectiveness of programs aimed at addressing the social and emotional needs of students in the Class V school district, including mental health services, counseling, and conflict resolution programs;

(11) Data analytics that track student performance in the Class V school district to identify patterns of underachievement and student progress over time;

(12) Possible accountability measures that would help ensure that interventions are implemented effectively and outcomes are improving in the Class V school district;

(13) The curriculum of the Class V school district to see if the curriculum reflects the diversity of students' backgrounds and experiences;

(14) What culturally relevant content and teaching materials would enhance engagement and academic success in the Class V school district;

(15) The availability and effectiveness of early childhood education programs in the Class V school district, including pre-kindergarten and kindergarten readiness initiatives, that are supposed to ensure all students have a strong foundation for academic success;

(16) The Class V school district board's role in promoting educational equity through policy, resource allocation, and oversight;

(17) The Class V school district board's community engagement and advocacy efforts for underserved populations;

(18) The monitoring of student progress in the Class V school district and Class V school district leadership accountability; and

(19) The collaboration of Class V school district board members with district leadership on equity initiatives to close the achievement gap.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 441. Introduced by Armendariz, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of local housing regulations on Nebraska's housing supply. Nebraska has been experiencing a severe shortage of housing options for its residents across the state and at all income levels. Residents of Nebraska are faced with skyrocketing rents and home prices. Despite the Legislature appropriating funds for a variety of housing grants, including for

the rural workforce and middle income workforce, more needs to be done. In recent years, states across the country have explored and passed bipartisan legislation addressing the regulatory matters deemed necessary to help increase housing affordability and supply.

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

- (1) Local zoning regulations that may impede the quantity of new housing being built;
- (2) Local building codes that may increase the costs of new housing being built;
- (3) Local permitting and planning processes in place that may impact the cost and time for new housing being built; and
- (4) Potential ways to incentivize municipalities to reduce the regulatory burdens imposed on new housing being built.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 442. Introduced by Ballard, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the scope and function of the Nebraska Health Information Initiative and its affiliates in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 443. Introduced by Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine assisted-living facility reimbursement rates at different facilities throughout Nebraska.

Assisted-living facilities provide crucial care to members of the community as they age, from those with minor health risks to those with severe memory loss. Nebraska currently provides different medicaid reimbursement rates based on a facility's urban or rural location. Presently, the rural reimbursement rate is higher than the urban reimbursement rate due to the higher staffing shortages in rural communities. However, the reimbursement rate for memory-care facilities and assisted-living facilities, regardless of location, remains the same, despite memory-care facilities offering more secure and constant care. Further study is required for how memory-care reimbursement rates may be structured differently, based on the type of care provided and the staffing services required.

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

- (1) How reimbursement rates for assisted-living facilities in rural and urban communities compare;
- (2) What reimbursement rates for memory-care facilities would be comparable to the rates for assisted-living facilities, based on percentage of reimbursement;
- (3) The benefits provided to assisted-living facility residents and their families, memory-care facility residents and their families, assisted-living facilities, and memory-care facilities, in both urban and rural communities, when reimbursement rates are adjusted;
- (4) The benefits and further services insurance companies are able to provide when reimbursement rates differ between memory-care facilities and assisted-living facilities; and
- (5) The prevalence of medicaid waiver assisted-living services across Nebraska specific to memory care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 444. Introduced by Wishart, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the oversight of staffing agencies, including health care staffing agencies, in Nebraska.

Health care staffing agencies play a crucial part in Nebraska's health care system by directing people to jobs required for the system to operate. With widespread shortages throughout the state in every section of health care,

the roles of staffing agencies are more pronounced than ever. However, the oversight provided to staffing agencies is limited. Requiring health care staffing agencies to register with the Department of Health and Human Services, confirm insurance-holder status, and verify that staff meet requirements would provide guardrails beneficial not only to the state but to the health of Nebraska residents. Further study is required of how such requirements would benefit the overall health care system of Nebraska.

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

- (1) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding the agencies' insurance certificates or policies;
- (2) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding verification of qualifications, certifications, and requirements of staff;
- (3) How a database of registered health care staffing agencies operated by the Department of Health and Human Services would benefit Nebraska's health care system as a whole;
- (4) The potential benefits of creating a system that the public could use to report complaints about health care staffing agencies; and
- (5) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding annual registration with the Department of Health and Human Services and what information should be provided along with such registration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 469. Introduced by Natural Resources Committee: Bostelman, 23, Chairperson; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Fredrickson, 20; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Moser, 22; Slama, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine existing, new, and emerging technologies in the nuclear energy industry.

Many electric utilities are setting carbon reduction goals as well as setting zero net carbon policies. However, the demand for electricity continues to rise as different sectors of the economy move away from traditional fossil fuel resources to reduce emissions. This is most evident in the transportation and agriculture sectors.

Residential, business, and commercial electric utility customers demand a reliable electric energy resource available twenty-four hours per day and

three hundred sixty-five days per year. Increased demand for electricity comes while traditional fossil fuel generation resources are being prematurely shut down to meet reduced carbon goals. Loss of baseload resources without comparable replacements puts electric utility consumers at risk. To meet the continuing demand for reliable electricity, zero-carbon baseload generating resources, such as nuclear energy, will be needed to ensure that utilities may meet carbon goals and continue to supply reliable electricity to consumers.

Emerging and new nuclear energy generation technologies and research are changing the way electricity is generated using nuclear energy, making the generation safer and more efficient. The utilization of existing and new advanced nuclear energy technologies also allows spent nuclear energy fuel to be managed as an asset. Education about these technologies is an important part of the process of understanding the role that nuclear energy can play in a low-carbon future.

For purposes of this study, the committee shall hold informational hearings inviting key nuclear energy industry companies and support business to provide education and details on existing, new, and emerging technologies in the nuclear energy industry. The committee shall also prepare a report outlining resources that could be used as educational tools about nuclear energy for policy makers, businesses, and members of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH 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 495. Introduced by Judiciary Committee: Wayne, 13, Chairperson; Bosn, 25; DeBoer, 10; Holdcroft, 36; McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study 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 EIGHTH 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 496. Introduced by Education Committee: Murman, 38, Chairperson; Albrecht, 17; Conrad, 46; Linehan, 39; Meyer, 41; Sanders, 45; Walz, 15; Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine issues relating to the State Department of Education.

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

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