# **INTERIM**

# **STUDY**

# **RESOLUTIONS**

# ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

# SECOND SESSION

# **2010**



03-02-01-2010

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# INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

# Recommended by the Executive Board

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LR334	Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended to provide requirements relating to health benefit plan prescription drug coverage Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LR372	Interim study to examine the potential effect of national health care reform proposals on Nebraska Health and Human Services
LR384	Interim study to examine the fire sprinkler mandate contained in 2009 building codes Urban Affairs
LR406	Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended by adopting the Physician and Patient Prescription Protection Act Banking, Commerce and Insurance
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LR424	Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should update the Uniform Commercial Code, Article 9, relating to secured transactions Banking, Commerce and Insurance
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LR435	Interim study to examine issues relating to oil and natural gas pipelines in the State of Nebraska Natural Resources
LR436*	Interim study to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act Appropriations/Health and Human Services

LR437	Interim study relating to levy exceptions and budget exceptions as they are used with interlocal agreements Revenue
LR438	Interim study of issues arising out of LB752 regarding the Nebraska Trust Company Act Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LR439	Interim study to review recent changes in federal law regarding health care insurance and to identify administrative and legislative responses which Nebraska will need to make Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LR440	Interim study to examine issues relating to mobile home parks Health and Human Services
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LR443	Interim study to review and monitor the progress of the National Broadband Plan proposed by the Federal Communications Commission Transportation and Telecommunications
LR444	Interim study to examine how the law of division fences and the law of trespass affect the ability of landowners to carry out necessary management of trees and other vegetation Agriculture
LR445	Interim study to examine the capabilities and resources available to the Dept. of Agriculture to meet the response protocols of state and federal livestock disease eradication programs Agriculture
LR446	Interim study to examine options for a long-term management framework for vegetation within streambeds and immediate riparian areas Agriculture
LR447	Interim study to examine issues relating to modern agricultural practices and food distribution systems Agriculture
LR448*	Interim study to examine funding alternatives to continue the Water Resources Cash Fund Agriculture/Natural Resources

LR449*	Interim study to examine energy efficiency financing options and sources of funds for residential, commercial, and industrial property owners Urban Affairs/Natural Resources
LR450	Interim study to examine the establishment of an electronic waste recycling program in Nebraska Natural Resources
LR451	Interim study to examine issues relating to the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act proposed by LB709 Business and Labor
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LR461	Interim study to examine the federal Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to parking accessibility for handicapped or disabled persons Urban Affairs
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LR467	Interim study to conduct research and provide recommendations for implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Health and Human Services
LR468	Interim study to examine the impact of the State of Nebraska's potential adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code Urban Affairs
LR469	Interim study to examine the economic development program options available for municipalities Urban Affairs
LR470	Interim study to examine the issue of how political subdivisions may be impacted by the 2010 United State Census Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LR471	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LR472	Interim study to examine the issue of using electronic and digital signatures on initiative and referendum petitions Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LR473	Interim study to examine the correlative rights doctrine relating to the use of ground water and clarify a definition for Nebraska statutes Natural Resources
LR474	Interim study to examine aquifer depletions in the State of Nebraska Natural Resources

LR475	Interim study to examine issues relating to restricted use chemical application and the need to improve systems of notification of pesticide applications  Agriculture
LR477	Interim study to examine the issues relating to the sustainability of public retirement plans Nebraska Retirement Systems
LR478	Interim study to examine proposals to create a statewide water planning commission or agency focusing on the development of a statewide water plan to manage Nebraska's water resources Natural Resources
LR479	Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee Judiciary
LR481	Interim study to examine the practice of prescribed burning such as controlled burns and the function of prescribed burning in managing plant and animal communities Natural Resources
LR482	Interim study to examine changes in Nebraska's demographics and the effect on governmental services Executive Board
LR483	Interim study to examine issues relating to solicitation of accident victims and motor vehicle insurance fraud Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LR484	Interim study to examine issues relating to the towing industry Transportation and Telecommunications
LR485	Interim study to examine issues relating to the shortage of social workers Health and Human Services
LR486	Interim study to examine issues relating to the health, safety, and working conditions of Nebraska meat and poultry workers Business and Labor
LR487	Interim study to examine the impact of adopting tax incentives for films, television shows, commercials, music, web-based content, or Internet-delivered content produced in Nebraska

LR488	Interim study to analyze the provisions of LB756, a bill to adopt the Nebraska Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act, with current Nebraska law Judiciary
LR489	Interim study to examine raising revenue from misdemeanors and felonies or from other sources to help fund a grant program for rural emergency medical services  Health and Human Services
LR490	Interim study to examine imposing a limitation on how much a school's state aid can change from one year to the next Education
LR491	Interim study to examine requiring a boating education course in order to reduce the number of accidents Natural Resources
LR492	Interim study to examine issues relating to adding a fiftieth senator to the Legislature Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LR493	Interim study to determine whether there are enough resources present in school to detect and treat mental illness in school-age children Health and Human Services
LR494	Interim study to examine the effect of Nebraska's workers' compensation statutes on businesses, other than agricultural operations, that employ only related employees Business and Labor
LR495	Interim study to examine district probation offices Judiciary
LR496	Interim study to examine issues relating to state and local taxation of wind energy electrical generation facilities Revenue
LR497*	Interim study to examine urban and commercial area development laws, policies, and programs Revenue/Urban Affairs
LR498	Interim study of the Tax Expenditure Reporting Act and to suggest additional duties or information to be reported under the act Revenue

LR499	Interim study to examine tax laws, policies, and programs that address the tax burdens of low-income persons and households Revenue
LR500	Interim study to examine the tax laws, policies, and programs of the State of Nebraska Revenue
LR501	Interim study to examine costs to the state and infant and child outcomes associated with not providing prenatal services through the medicaid program to low-income women in Nebraska Health and Human Services
LR502	Interim study to review the status of trauma care in Nebraska Health and Human Services
LR503	Interim study to determine whether Nebraska should enact the Revised Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations Act Banking, Commerce and Insurance
LR504	Interim study to examine policies and programs for addressing property tax relief, including existing and alternative policies Revenue
LR505	Interim study to examine issues relating to making the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act applicable to county governments Revenue
LR506	Interim study to examine state and local property tax valuation and exemption protest and appeal processes and procedures Revenue
LR507	Interim study to examine ways to streamline all levels of government, including, but not limited to elimination, consolidation, or reassignment Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
LR508	Interim study to examine the availability of land for hunters in the State of Nebraska Natural Resources
LR509*	Interim study to explore the implementation of ACCESS Nebraska relating to public benefits processing Appropriations/Health and Human Services
LR510	Interim study to examine issues relating to refunds of local option sales taxes under the Nebraska Advantage Act Revenue

LR511	Interim study to examine issues relating to expanding the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act so that incentives could be used to help employers create new jobs in small communities Revenue
LR512	Interim study to examine the responsibilities of Nebraska nonprofit corporations and health care delivery systems when implementing LB403, 2009, relating to immigration Health and Human Services
LR513	Interim study to review the implementation of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act by the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services Health and Human Services
LR514	Interim study to examine Nebraska's capacity to best serve lower-educated workers through adult education programs Education
LR515	Interim study to examine the benefits associated with the pulse oximetry procedure performed on newborns Health and Human Services
LR516	Interim study to analyze the current Vehicle and Titling Registration (VTR) System that is developed and maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles Transportation and Telecommunications
LR517	Interim study to review the operations and usefulness of the Regulation of Health Professions Act Health and Human Services
LR518	Interim study to review the efficiency associated with the fact that the Department of Motor Vehicles is solely responsible for issuance of drivers' licenses, permits, and state identification cards and collection of fees Transportation and Telecommunications
LR519	Interim study to examine issues relating to Firearms Freedom Acts which have been enacted or introduced by other state legislatures Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Interim study to examine the impact of illegal immigration on the state's budget Appropriations

LR520

LR521	Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should repeal provisions allowing persons not lawfully present in the United States to pay resident tuition at postsecondary educational institutions  Education
LR522	Interim study to examine the legality of the State of Nebraska knowingly offering state benefits to illegal immigrants Judiciary
LR523	Interim study to examine the impact of LB436 which established a statewide net metering policy Natural Resources
LR524	Interim study to examine regulation of renewable energy generation in other states and in regional transmission organizations Natural Resources
LR525	Interim study to examine Nebraska's laws on unlawful intrusion, stalking, and criminal trespass Judiciary
LR526	Interim study to examine the governing structure and function of Nebraska's higher education system Education
LR527	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee General Affairs
LR528	Interim study to examine issues regarding area restrictions in the Nebraska Liquor Control Act General Affairs
LR533	Interim study to examine the State Natural Gas Regulation Act Urban Affairs
LR534*	Interim study to examine aspects of the Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board Appropriations/Revenue
LR535*	Interim study to evaluate and identify the objectives of the Criminalistics Laboratory Division of the Nebraska State Patrol Appropriations/Judiciary
LR536	Interim study to examine gross receipts taxation in other states Revenue

LR566 Interim study to examine various methods of financing interstate water compacts and agreements
Revenue

LR568 Interim study to review implementation of reforms by the Dept. of Health and Human Services regarding how children and families are served by the child welfare and juvenile services system in Nebraska
Health and Human Services

LR571 Interim study to examine the implementation of LB63, 2009, with respect to creation of the Office of Violence Prevention, and to study implementation of LB800, 2010

Judiciary

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD POLICY**

#### **Executive Board Referral**

- A. As a general practice, the Executive Board will refer interim study resolutions to the appropriate committees based upon subject matter jurisdiction.
- B. Resolutions that call for the creation of a select committee will be reviewed by the Executive Board. 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.
- C. The Executive Board shall retain its traditional prerogatives to consider and refer study proposals arising from extraordinary circumstances after the deadlines.

# **Committee Action**

Legislative rules (Rule 4, Section 3(c)) 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. This prioritization will in no way limit the committee's traditional prerogative to conduct hearings and oversee matters that are within their subject matter jurisdiction. Each committee may file with the Clerk, his or her committee's study plan for the highest prioritized interim studies referenced to such committee.

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

\*Studies being considered jointly.

**Agriculture:** Carlson (C), Dubas (VC), Council, Dierks, Karpisek, Price, Schilz, Wallman

- LR445 Interim study to examine the capabilities and resources available to the Dept. of Agriculture to meet the response protocols of state and federal livestock disease eradication programs

  Agriculture
- LR446 Interim study to examine options for a long-term management framework for vegetation within streambeds and immediate riparian areas

  Agriculture
- LR448\* Interim study to examine funding alternatives to continue the Water Resources Cash Fund Agriculture/Natural Resources
- LR444 Interim study to examine how the law of division fences and the law of trespass affect the ability of landowners to carry out necessary management of trees and other vegetation Agriculture
- LR453 Interim study to examine what are described as food deserts or areas where access to healthy, affordable food choices is limited Agriculture
- LR426 Interim study to examine the honeybee industry in Nebraska Agriculture
- LR447 Interim study to examine issues relating to modern agricultural practices and food distribution systems
  Agriculture
- LR475 Interim study to examine issues relating to restricted use chemical application and the need to improve systems of notification of pesticide applications

  Agriculture

**Appropriations:** Heidemann (C), Harms (VC), Conrad, Fulton, Hansen, Mello, Nelson, Nordquist, Wightman

LR460\* Interim study relating to the implementation and funding of the Medicaid state plan amendment or waiver for secure residential and subacute behavioral health services

Health and Human Services/Appropriations

Funding Act

- LR534\* Interim study to examine aspects of the Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board Appropriations/Revenue

  LR436\* Interim study to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation of the Nebraska Health Care
- LR535\* Interim study to evaluate and identify the objectives of the Criminalistics Laboratory Division of the Nebraska State Patrol Appropriations/Judiciary

Appropriations/Health and Human Services

- LR463 Interim study to examine the feasibility of implementing a program similar to the StateStat management accountability process used for executive agencies in the State of Maryland Appropriations
- LR509\* Interim study to explore the implementation of ACCESS Nebraska relating to public benefits processing Appropriations/Health and Human Services
- LR520 Interim study to examine the impact of illegal immigration on the state's budget
  Appropriations

**Banking, Commerce and Insurance:** Pahls (C), Pirsch (VC), Christensen, Gloor, Langemeier, McCoy, Pankonin, Utter

- LR439 Interim study to review recent changes in federal law regarding health care insurance and to identify administrative and legislative responses which Nebraska will need to make Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR413 Interim study to determine whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be amended to provide for regulation of appraisal management companies

  Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR503 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska should enact the Revised Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations Act Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR483 Interim study to examine issues relating to solicitation of accident victims and motor vehicle insurance fraud Banking, Commerce and Insurance

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- LR406 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended by adopting the Physician and Patient Prescription Protection Act Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR424 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should update the Uniform Commercial Code, Article 9, relating to secured transactions
  Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR438 Interim study of issues arising out of LB752 regarding the Nebraska Trust Company Act
  Banking, Commerce and Insurance

**Business and Labor:** Lathrop (C), Council (VC), Carlson, McGill, Schilz, Wallman, White

- LR451 Interim study to examine issues relating to the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act proposed by LB709 Business and Labor
- LR486 Interim study to examine issues relating to the health, safety, and working conditions of Nebraska meat and poultry workers

  Business and Labor
- LR494 Interim study to examine the effect of Nebraska's workers' compensation statutes on businesses, other than agricultural operations, that employ only related employees Business and Labor

**Education:** Adams (C), Howard (VC), Ashford, Avery, Cornett, Giese, Haar, Sullivan

- LR433 Interim study to examine student expression in Nebraska's public schools
  Education
- LR490 Interim study to examine imposing a limitation on how much a school's state aid can change from one year to the next Education
- LR514 Interim study to examine Nebraska's capacity to best serve lower-educated workers through adult education programs Education

- LR521 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should repeal provisions allowing persons not lawfully present in the United States to pay resident tuition at postsecondary educational institutions

  Education
- LR526 Interim study to examine the governing structure and function of Nebraska's higher education system Education

**Executive Board:** Wightman (C), Nelson (VC), Christensen, Fischer, Flood, Karpisek, Langemeier, Pahls, White, Heidemann

LR482 Interim study to examine changes in Nebraska's demographics and the effect on governmental services

Executive Board

General Affairs: Karpisek (C), Rogert (VC), Coash, Cook, Dierks, Dubas, Krist, Price

- LR528 Interim study to examine issues regarding area restrictions in the Nebraska Liquor Control Act General Affairs
- LR527 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
  General Affairs

Government, Military and Veterans Affairs: Avery (C), Price (VC), Giese, Janssen, Karpisek, Krist, Pahls, Sullivan

- LR409 Interim study to examine the subject of online voter registration Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR507 Interim study to examine ways to streamline all levels of government, including, but not limited to elimination, consolidation, or reassignment Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR470 Interim study to examine the issue of how political subdivisions may be impacted by the 2010 United State Census Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR472 Interim study to examine the issue of using electronic and digital signatures on initiative and referendum petitions
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<b>Judiciary:</b> Ashford (C), Lathrop (VC), Christensen, Coash, Council, Lautenbaugh, McGill, Rogert		
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Revenue: White	Cornett (C), Dierks (VC), Adams, Hadley, Louden, Pirsch, Utter,
LR496	Interim study to examine issues relating to state and local taxation of wind energy electrical generation facilities Revenue
LR504	Interim study to examine policies and programs for addressing property tax relief, including existing and alternative policies Revenue
LR505	Interim study to examine issues relating to making the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act applicable to county governments Revenue
LR510	Interim study to examine issues relating to refunds of local option sales taxes under the Nebraska Advantage Act Revenue
LR566	Interim study to examine various methods of financing interstate water compacts and agreements Revenue
LR497*	Interim study to examine urban and commercial area development laws, policies, and programs Revenue/Urban Affairs
LR437	Interim study relating to levy exceptions and budget exceptions as they are used with interlocal agreements Revenue
LR487	Interim study to examine the impact of adopting tax incentives for films, television shows, commercials, music, web-based content, or Internet-delivered content produced in Nebraska Revenue
LR498	Interim study of the Tax Expenditure Reporting Act and to suggest additional duties or information to be reported under the act Revenue
LR499	Interim study to examine tax laws, policies, and programs that address the tax burdens of low-income persons and households Revenue
LR500	Interim study to examine the tax laws, policies, and programs of the State of Nebraska Revenue

LR506	Interim study to examine state and local property tax valuation and exemption protest and appeal processes and procedures Revenue
LR511	Interim study to examine issues relating to expanding the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act so that incentives could be used to help employers create new jobs in small communities Revenue
LR536	Interim study to examine gross receipts taxation in other states Revenue
LR534*	Interim study to examine aspects of the Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board Appropriations/Revenue
	tation and Telecommunications: Fischer (C), Stuthman (VC), Gay, Hadley, Janssen, Lautenbaugh, Louden
LR443	Interim study to review and monitor the progress of the National Broadband Plan proposed by the Federal Communications Commission Transportation and Telecommunications
LR484	Interim study to examine issues relating to the towing industry Transportation and Telecommunications
LR419	Interim study to determine the need to create a licensing process for boat dealers in Nebraska Transportation and Telecommunications
LR516	Interim study to analyze the current Vehicle and Titling Registration (VTR) System that is developed and maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles Transportation and Telecommunications
LR518	Interim study to review the efficiency associated with the fact that the Department of Motor Vehicles is solely responsible for issuance of drivers' licenses, permits, and state identification cards and collection of fees Transportation and Telecommunications
LR442	Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee Transportation and Telecommunications

Urban Af White	fairs: McGill (C), Coash (VC), Cook, Krist, Lathrop, Rogert,
LR469	Interim study to examine the economic development program options available for municipalities Urban Affairs
LR533	Interim study to examine the State Natural Gas Regulation Act Urban Affairs
LR384	Interim study to examine the fire sprinkler mandate contained in 2009 building codes Urban Affairs
LR468	Interim study to examine the impact of the State of Nebraska's potential adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code Urban Affairs
LR497*	Interim study to examine urban and commercial area development laws, policies, and programs Revenue/Urban Affairs
LR449*	Interim study to examine energy efficiency financing options and sources of funds for residential, commercial, and industrial property owners Urban Affairs/Natural Resources
LR324	Interim study to examine the need for public utility ratepayer assistance programs in the state Urban Affairs
LR461	Interim study to examine the federal Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to parking accessibility for handicapped or disabled persons Urban Affairs

#### INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 324.** Introduced by Cook, 13; Coash, 27; Krist, 10; Lathrop, 12; McGill, 26; Rogert, 16; White, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the need for public utility ratepayer assistance programs in the state. The statewide costs for operation, maintenance, and capital improvements to our water, wastewater, natural gas, and electrical utility infrastructure systems are increasing faster than the rate of inflation, and increasing numbers of utility customers are struggling to pay service charges. The study shall focus on the adequacy of existing assistance programs and evaluate alternatives to better meet the future needs of public utility customers in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 334.** Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended to provide specific requirements and restrictions relating to health benefit plan prescription drug coverage, especially higher cost specialty prescription drugs. The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB 1017 (Cornett), which was introduced in 2010 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Department of Insurance and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 372.** Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to study the potential effect of national health care reform proposals on Nebraska and to analyze policy options for responding to and implementing health care reform measures. To carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee shall consider input from employers, including small businesses, consumer groups, insurers, providers, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Insurance, health care consumers, and other interested parties as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

The issues to consider include, but are not limited to:

- (1) The anticipated effect of federal programs seeking to achieve health care reform on Nebraska health care services;
- (2) The role of employer-sponsored insurance and public programs in providing health care coverage for Nebraskans;
  - (3) The large number of Nebraskans who are uninsured or underinsured;
- (4) The cost shift which is imposed on Nebraska employers and consumers who purchase health insurance by the underfunding of public programs and the high levels of uncompensated care borne by hospitals and clinics;
- (5) Policy options that are available to eliminate the number of Nebraskans who are uninsured or underinsured, make private health insurance more affordable for businesses and individuals, and strengthen public programs for low-income Nebraskans; and
- (6) Available funding options to assure a financially sustainable and affordable health care system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 384.** Introduced by Krist, 10; Coash, 27; Cook, 13; Gloor, 35; Lathrop, 12; McGill, 26; Rogert, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the fire sprinkler mandate contained in 2009 building codes. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A determination of whether legislative authority is appropriately delegated to a body outside the Legislature, such as the International Code Council:
- (2) An exploration of how cities and counties across Nebraska currently adopt building codes and how such political subdivisions have amended the state building code as authorized in section 71-6406, including changes to reduce unnecessary costs of construction, increase safety, durability, or efficiency, or address special local conditions;
- (3) An examination of what state or local agencies would regulate and enforce regarding the proper installation of fire sprinklers in residential dwellings;

- (4) A study of the 2009 International Residential Code recommendations as to proper installation of fire sprinklers;
- (5) A study of the effect of a fire sprinkler mandate on the new residential housing market, particularly the affordable housing market;
- (6) A study of the effects of installed fire sprinklers on the valuation of residential dwellings;
- (7) A study of the benefits or detriments the installation of fire sprinklers in residential dwellings has on homeowners or renters insurance;
  - (8) A study of the safety and effectiveness of fire sprinklers;
- (9) An exploration of what, if any, problems fire sprinklers might present in extreme weather conditions;
- (10) A determination of the appropriate regulation and certification for businesses and individuals that install fire sprinklers in residential dwellings;
- (11) An assessment of the State Fire Marshal's statutory jurisdiction regarding commercial versus residential fire suppression system installation, inspection, and recurring inspections;
  - (12) A comparison of required versus optional fire suppression systems;
- (13) An exploration of the role and benefits of various types of fire suppression systems, including water deluge versus chemical application systems; and
  - (14) Any other related topics as the committee deems appropriate.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 406.** Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended by adopting the Physician and Patient Prescription Protection Act. The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB 1088 (Cornett), which was introduced in 2010 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Department of Insurance and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

- 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 409.** Introduced by Giese, 17; Avery, 28; Krist, 10; Price, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the topic of online voter registration. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the processes used by other states which have adopted online voter registration;
- (2) An examination of possible cost savings at the state and county level through the use of online voter registration;
- (3) A review of the technology upgrades needed in the Secretary of State's office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and other state agencies to implement a centralized system for online voter registration; and
- (4) An examination of the need to use digital signatures or electronic signatures as part of a centralized system for online voter registration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 Langemeier, 23.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the Real Property Appraiser Act should be amended to provide for regulation of appraisal management companies. The study should include a review of issues raised during consideration by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee in 2010 of LB 931 (Sullivan, Utter), as introduced. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek the assistance of the Real Property Appraiser Board and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

- 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 419.** Introduced by Pankonin, 2; Rogert, 16.

PURPOSE: To study the need to create a licensing process for boat dealers in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The current requirements for selling boats;
- (2) The current selling practices of boat dealers;
- (3) The processes involved in regulating a group of private entities such as boat dealers; and
- (4) Whether any current state agency or board is capable of regulating boat dealers within their limited authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 421.** Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Pankonin, 2, Chairperson; Heidemann, 1; Karpisek, 32; Louden, 49; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the 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 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 Class V School Employees Retirement System administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act.

The study will examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and administration of each retirement system.

- 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 422.** Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Pankonin, 2, Chairperson; Heidemann, 1; Karpisek, 32; Louden, 49; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to review and update the General Principles of Sound Retirement Planning. The General Principles of Sound Retirement Planning are utilized by the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature as a guide to evaluate proposed legislation and issues regarding Nebraska's public retirement systems. The General Principles are also used by the Legislature as a guide for each of the retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board and those systems not administered by the board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 423.** Introduced by McCoy, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the way that Nebraska awards electoral votes in presidential elections and whether any changes should be made to the current system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 424.** Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska should update its version of Uniform Commercial Code article 9 (Secured Transactions). The study should include consideration of changes recommended to the states by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and, in particular, any changes in Uniform Commercial Code section 9-506 regarding errors and omissions in debtors' names in financing statements. The study should accordingly include an examination of issues raised during consideration of amendments adopted in Uniform Commercial Code section 9-506 in 2008 (LB 716, LB 851, and LB 308A), 2009 (LB 87), and 2010 (LB 751). In order to carry out the purpose of this

resolution, the study committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 425.** Introduced by Flood, 19.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues relating to brain injuries. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of medicaid issues in covering out-of-state behavioral services that are not available in Nebraska;
- (2) An examination of the feasibility of establishing a trust fund to help address traumatic brain injuries; and
- (3) An examination of the feasibility of creating resource facilitators who would provide ongoing support to veterans with brain injuries, as proposed in LB141 (Rogert), which was introduced in 2009, or other options to help care for survivors of traumatic brain injuries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 426.** Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the honeybee industry in the State of Nebraska. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of the rules and regulations administered by the Department of Agriculture relating to the honeybee industry; and
  - (2) An examination of state and federal definitions of honey.

- 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 427.** Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to determine if hospitals in Nebraska are communicating their community benefit to community members and how newly licensed hospitals affect the cost of health care. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An exploration of how not-for-profit hospitals justify their tax-exempt status through the provision of services and uncompensated care to the community;
- (2) An exploration of the profit margin of for-profit hospitals and methods for reporting such profits and the uncompensated care and services to the community; and
- (3) An exploration of how new hospitals affect the overall cost of health care in the communities and regions they reside in, particularly the cost and utilization of Nebraska medicaid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine Nebraska's laws regarding a person's right to self-defense by the use of force as outlined in sections 28-1406 to 28-1416 and in the proposed changes contained in LB 889, which was introduced in 2010, specifically identifying, as it pertains to the use of force in the home, a workplace, or an occupied vehicle, areas to strengthen the right to self-defense for Nebraska residents. The use of force to protect one's self or another from death, bodily harm, or other forcible felonies may include the use of deadly force. The right to defend one's self in the home, a workplace, or an occupied vehicle by the use of reasonable force, which may include deadly force, is generally called the Castle Doctrine. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of Nebraska's laws regarding one's right to self-defense by the use of force as outlined in sections 28-1406 to 28-1416 and the proposed changes in LB 889, primarily as they pertain to the use of force in the home, a workplace, or an occupied vehicle;
- (2) The review of Castle Doctrine laws in other states and how they may be applied in Nebraska;
- (3) The review of the concept of presumption as presented in section 6 of LB 889;

- (4) An examination of the use of "forcible felony" as presented in LB 889;
- (5) An examination of subsection (2) of section 28-1416 to make recommendations on how to provide better protections for Nebraska residents against civil actions seeking a remedy for the use of force which is justified under Nebraska law; and
- (6) The development of other potential policy changes, if needed, to strengthen the right to self-defense within the home, a workplace, or an occupied vehicle in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 431.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: To study how private sources of money given to public institutions should be disclosed. This study should look at how private money is being directed to public bodies. It should also seek to find out information about private money donated to the state, local governing bodies, and higher education and how it currently is reported. This study should seek ways to ensure public budgets are transparent so that the public knows where its tax money is going and what the influence of private money has on public bodies. This study should also look into whether disclosure of private money could be required of all governmental institutions and whether such disclosure could be done in a way that protects donor anonymity and does not harm institutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 432.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: To look at Nebraska's child support collection methods. The study should gather information on the amount of child support in arrears in Nebraska and by county, the amount of interest owed, the number of children affected by child support in arrears both currently and over the age of nineteen, the number of noncustodial parents in arrears, and the amount of arrears owed to the state for aid to dependent children payments. The study should look into what role the Department of Health and Human

Services has in arrearages and whether the system is working in a timely manner for custodial parents. The study should also look at the current statutory scheme on child support collection and what the roles are for county attorneys. The study should also look at what other tools are or should be made available to county attorneys and judges and what other states are doing with relation to child support collection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 433.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: To study student expression in Nebraska's public schools. This study should seek to find what policies currently exist on student expression in the public schools, including policies in relation to the state curricular guidelines for citizenship education. This study should then consult interested parties and establish best practices for student expression policies based on current Nebraska policies and policies from school districts in other states. The study should also seek out any deficiencies in current policies and how those policies could be changed to avoid unnecessary and illegal violations of student expression. Finally, the study should examine state laws on student expression and make recommendations to the Legislature on any statutory changes for Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 434.** Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Coash, 27; Stuthman, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the factors contributing to childhood obesity, as well as its consequences. The issues addressed by the study should include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of the factors contributing to childhood obesity in underserved and low-income populations;
- (2) An examination of the costs of childhood obesity, both in terms of medical expenses and physical well-being;
- (3) An analysis of methods to increase access to safe places for children to exercise and participate in physical activity; and

- (4) An analysis of ways to increase children's access to nutritious meals. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 435.** Introduced by Dubas, 34; Dierks, 40; Fischer, 43; Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues relating to oil and natural gas pipelines in the State of Nebraska and issues raised during consideration of LB 755, which was introduced in 2010. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of issues relating to liability, restoration of property, and regulatory oversight.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 436.** Introduced by Gay, 14; Heidemann, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act. The issues addressed by the study shall include, but not be limited to, the distribution of funding under the act, the outcomes achieved from such funding, and the future sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

- 1. That the Appropriations Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 437.** Introduced by Pankonin, 2.

PURPOSE: To study issues related to levy exceptions and budget exceptions as they are used with interlocal agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 438.** Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether the Nebraska Trust Company Act should be amended to allow trust companies and depository financial institutions with trust departments to use certificates of deposit to comply with requirements of state law to pledge securities with the Department of Banking and Finance for the protection of trust funds under their control. The study should include an examination of issues raised during consideration of LB 752 (Pahls, Pirsch), which was introduced in 2010 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Department of Banking and Finance and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 439.** Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review recent changes in federal law regarding health care insurance and to identify administrative and legislative responses which Nebraska will need to make.

- 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 440.** Introduced by Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues related to mobile home parks. The topics addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of federal and state agencies that have the authority to regulate mobile homes and mobile home parks;
- (2) A review of the current inspection process for mobile homes and mobile home parks under the Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles;
- (3) An examination of the potential health and safety hazards unique to mobile home parks;
- (4) A review of the condemnation procedures available for political subdivisions to address mobile homes which present a public health or safety hazard; and
- (5) A review of common taxation and other issues that arise during transfer of mobile home ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RÉSOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 442.** Introduced by Fischer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues and matters within the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 443.** Introduced by Fischer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review and monitor the progress of the National Broadband Plan proposed by the Federal

Communications Commission (FCC) on March 16, 2010. The plan's goals and recommendations include:

- (1) Connecting one hundred million households to affordable 100 megabits per second service;
- (2) Affordable access in every American community to ultra-high-speed broadband of at least 1 gigabit per second at anchor institutions such as schools, hospitals, and military installations;
- (3) Making 500 megahertz of spectrum newly available for licensed and unlicensed use;
- (4) Moving the nation's broadband adoption rates from roughly sixty-five percent to more than ninety percent; and
- (5) Bringing affordable broadband to rural communities and vulnerable populations by transitioning existing Universal Service Fund support from analog technologies to digital infrastructure.

The study shall monitor the progression of the plan's implementation by the FCC and other federal agencies to determine the plan's impact upon existing Nebraska telecommunications policy. In carrying out the purpose of this study, the committee may seek the input and assistance of broadband service providers, the Public Service Commission, and other interested entities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 444.** Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine how the law of division fences and the law of trespass affect the ability of landowners to carry out necessary management of trees and other vegetation within and encroaching upon a division fence. It is the goal of this resolution to identify common-law privileges that may exist for entry upon land for purposes of abatement of vegetation within and in immediate proximity to a fence to correct or avoid damage to or dislocation of the fence or impairment of the function of the fence. The resolution shall seek to identify any appropriate revisions to the law of division fences to facilitate resolution between neighboring landowners regarding vegetation issues associated with the construction, maintenance, and repair of division fences.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 445.** Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the capabilities and resources available to the Department of Agriculture to meet the response protocols of state and federal livestock disease eradication programs. The study shall examine recent experience in livestock disease response, including that associated with the incidences of bovine tuberculosis detected in a Nebraska herd in 2009 and a South Dakota herd this year, for analysis of the adequacy of disease response resources and preparedness of state government and Nebraska's livestock industry. The study shall seek to identify reasonably anticipated livestock disease incident scenarios and to recommend investments in disease prevention and response infrastructure to optimize resiliency to future livestock disease challenges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 446.** Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine options for a long-term management framework for vegetation within streambeds and immediate riparian areas to maintain streamflow conveyance and other associated benefits. The study shall provide a forum to receive any related recommendations of prioritized vegetation management goals and objectives, and of plans and policies to achieve these objectives, of the Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force. It is a purpose of the study to identify benefited stakeholders in vegetation management projects funded in whole or in part through grants awarded under section 2-958.02 and to develop a framework for cooperative efforts among such stakeholders to develop and to carry out long-term vegetation management objectives.

- 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 447.** Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: Media attention and policy debates are increasingly driven by criticisms of modern agricultural practices and food distribution systems. The purpose of this resolution is to compile and synthesize available research and academic literature and to solicit objective expert viewpoints regarding food safety, food security, resource stewardship, farm economy welfare, and other societal benefits and trade-offs associated with various agricultural production and marketing methodologies and philosophies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 448.** Introduced by Carlson, 38; Langemeier, 23

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine and recommend funding alternatives to continue the Water Resources Cash Fund established by LB 701 during the 2007 legislative session. The study shall review the needs addressed by the Water Resources Cash Fund and projects and initiatives that have been funded in whole or in part by the fund.

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

- 1. That the Agriculture Committee and Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 449.** Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine energy efficiency financing options and sources of funds for residential, commercial, and industrial property owners. The study shall also examine the concepts of Property Assessed Clean Energy financing, and performance contracting financing and the required steps necessary to implement these programs at the municipal and state levels.

- 1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature and the Natural Resources Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of the study make a report of its findings, together with recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 450.** Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the establishment of an electronic waste recycling program in Nebraska, with the goal of adopting legislation that would establish such an electronic waste recycling program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 451.** Introduced by Mello, 5; Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine issues relating to the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act proposed by LB 709 in 2010. The bill would have required state agencies to consider the economic impact on small businesses before passing new rules and regulations, would have required agencies to consider less burdensome alternatives, would have set up judicial review of agency compliance with the rulemaking procedures, and would have required state government to periodically review existing rules and regulations to ensure they are not excessive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RÉSOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 453.** Introduced by Council, 11; Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine what are described as "food deserts" or areas where access to healthy, affordable food choices is limited. The study shall review recent United States Department of Agriculture research articles and other literature on the topic to develop

definitions and methodologies for identifying the existence of food deserts in Nebraska and to inform public policy discussions on the topic. It is further the goal of the study to identify potential policy interventions in order to increase access to and utilization of nutritious food choices for residents of underserved areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 454.** Introduced by Gay, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct research and provide recommendations regarding for-profit, specialty, or physician-owned hospitals and their potential impact on the health care delivery system in Nebraska.

In conducting the study, the committee shall consult with hospital administrators, physicians, other health care professionals, community members, individuals related to the health care work force, and other interested parties.

Issues to be considered by the committee may include, but shall not be limited to:

- (1) The history and status of hospital development in the United States;
- (2) State and federal legislation regarding hospital development, including certificate of need;
- (3) The impact of for-profit, specialty, or physician-owned hospitals on the existing health care market, including utilization, access for the uninsured and underinsured, and community hospitals; and
- (4) The impact of physician ownership and self-referrals on health care delivery, quality of patient care, and health care costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 on or before December 31, 2010.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 459.** Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's level of preparedness for emergencies and disasters, especially in relation to the

state's children. The study should examine Nebraska's statutes, rules, and regulations in terms of:

- (1) Establishing child care licensure requirements that ensure robust emergency preparedness and response plans for shelter-in-place, evacuation, communication, family reunification, and considerations for children with special needs;
- (2) Implementing continuity of operation plans within foster care, group residential homes, and juvenile detention facilities that provide adequate shelter and services to children during and after a disaster;
- (3) Improving school disaster preparedness and building the resilience of teachers, parents, and children;
- (4) Ensuring that state and local emergency stockpiles include sufficient amounts of pediatric supplies and medications, including antivirals to treat influenza in the event of a pandemic;
- (5) Requiring development of comprehensive long-term disaster recovery plans that prioritize the reestablishment of schools and child care facilities, supervised after-school programs, and access to medical care and mental health services for all children; and
- (6) Creating other necessary or advisable statutes, rules, or regulations that improve the welfare of children during and after disasters.

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

- 1. That the Health and Humans 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 460.** Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues relating to the implementation and funding of the medicaid state plan amendment or waiver passed for secure residential and subacute behavioral health services as a component of LB 603 of 2009.

- 1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 461.** Introduced by Cook, 13; McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as it relates to parking accessibility for handicapped or disabled persons. The study should include Nebraska statutes, rules, and regulations governing handicapped and disabled parking permits and business practices relating to parking spaces for handicapped or disabled persons. Specific attention should be given to obstructions such as snow piles, flower sales, construction equipment, and trash containers which are placed in handicapped parking spaces which violate statutory requirements that such spaces be exclusively used for parking by handicapped or disabled persons. The study should include recommendations for enforcement of accessibility of such parking spaces and removal of obstructions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 462.** Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issues of payment responsibility and payment rates for medical care of county inmates and those in emergency protective custody. The issues to be addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Whether hospitals or counties should pay for the medical care of those in custody;
- (2) If a county should pay, an examination of whether it should be the county of the inmate's residence, the county where the crime was committed or warrant was issued, the county where the correctional facility is located, or the county where the inmate is injured on work release;
- (3) Whether there is a need for a statewide interlocal agreement among counties regarding such payment; and
- (4) Once a payer is established, an examination of what reimbursement rate should be used.

The parties to be involved in this study shall include, but not be limited to: The Nebraska Association of County Officials; the Nebraska Hospital Association; law enforcement, including the Nebraska Sheriff's Association and the Department of Correctional Services; the Office of the Ombudsman; regional behavioral heath authorities; the League of Nebraska Municipalities; and the director of the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services.

- 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 463.** Introduced by Mello, 5; Harms, 48.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the feasibility of implementing a program similar to the StateStat management accountability process used for executive agencies in the State of Maryland. This interim study would examine the feasibility of a requirement that state agencies submit a report to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature as part of their annual budget that includes a strategic plan and performance measurement report.

Specifically, this report would include the following metrics: Adopt a strategic plan and establish operational goals; adopt comprehensive performance measures and citizen satisfaction measures; collect and analyze data on a timely basis; participate in performance review; and regularly assess strategic plans and current progress made to meet stated goals.

This interim study will examine whether Nebraska state agencies are currently meeting the aforementioned requirements, their ability to meet the aforementioned requirements, the resources required to do so, and the steps necessary to implement a StateStat program for the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 464.** Introduced by Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine staffing requirements for nursing homes. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of current minimum staffing requirements under the Nebraska Nursing Home Act and other state and federal laws;
- (2) A review of minimum staffing ratios adopted in other states, including ratios expressed as an hours per resident day (hprd) standard, ratios based on the number of staff per resident, and ratios based on the number of staff per resident bed, occupied or otherwise; and
- (3) An examination of the possible correlation between increased staffing hours and increased quality of care in nursing homes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 465.** Introduced by Rogert, 16; Hansen, 42; Janssen, 15; Krist, 10; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7; White, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the benefits associated with constructing another nuclear power plant in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska. The Fort Calhoun Station is a nuclear power plant owned and operated by the Omaha Public Power District and is located on the west bank of the Missouri River nineteen miles north of Omaha.

Since the 1970's, there are new reactor designs that have been created, and there are multiple safeguards that have been put into place to ensure safety. The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulates one hundred four nuclear power plants in the nation, including the Fort Calhoun Station. The Commission exists for the purpose of ensuring safety for the citizenry and the environment while enabling the use of radioactive material for public benefit.

The nuclear power industry in the United States has one of the lowest rates for accidents per worker at the nuclear power plants. In 2008, the rate held at 0.13 industrial accidents per two hundred thousand worker-hours, which is significantly lower than the 0.24 rate in 2005.

In 1957, the Price-Anderson Act established financial liability to ensure that each reactor company is liable for approximately one hundred million dollars in damages in the event of a reactor accident. As a result of this act as amended, in combination with the advent of computer technology, communication and accountability at the nuclear power plants have progressed and evolved over time.

Nuclear power is consistent, available, environmentally clean, safe, and cost effective. It does not produce harmful carbon dioxide emissions nor does it deplete our natural resources. Nuclear power has a long production life, and the power that is produced has the potential for reprocessing as is done in France, Japan, and Russia.

In February 2010, the eight billion dollars of federal loan guarantees under the administration of President Barack Obama will fund the construction of two nuclear reactors in the State of Georgia. This will open up immediate opportunities to construct nuclear power plants all over the nation, thereby reducing greenhouse gases associated with global warming and, at the same time, revitalize our economy through the creation of jobs during the construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

It is estimated that the construction of the two nuclear reactors in Georgia will create three thousand five hundred jobs and eight hundred fifty permanent jobs during their operation.

For these reasons, it is important to conduct a study on the benefits associated with building another nuclear power plant in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 466.** Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the operation and accomplishments of the Drug Use Review and preferred drug list activities of the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Department of Health and Human Services. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Reviewing the manner of operation of each of these activities to determine if they are achieving the results for which they are intended and the manner of doing so, including an analysis of the interaction between the two processes and an inquiry regarding the availability of the most effective medication therapy to Nebraska medicaid recipients;
- (2) With regard to the preferred drug list activity, identifying any drug cost savings that have been achieved to this point, taken against (a) the costs of carrying out the activity and (b) the savings associated with prior utilization control programs in order to determine the net savings accomplished by the preferred drug list; and
- (3) With regard to the preferred drug list activity, identifying the appropriate role of the pharmaceutical and therapeutics committee.

The study may involve interested parties, both public and private.

- 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 467.** Introduced by Gay, 14; Campbell, 25; Gloor, 35; Heidemann, 1; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7; Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct research and provide recommendations for implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The interim study will examine health care financing and delivery under the act to determine the impact on health care coverage for all Nebraskans.

This study shall be conducted by a select committee consisting of two members of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, two members of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, two members of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, and three additional members who are not members of such committees, with one member appointed by each chairperson of such committees. The chairperson of the select committee shall be the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee unless he or she is not appointed to the select committee, in which case the chairperson of the select committee shall be one of the two members of the Health and Human Services Committee who were appointed to the select committee, selected by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee.

In conducting the study, the select committee shall consult with employers, small businesses, consumers, insurers, health care providers, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Insurance, and other interested parties. Issues considered by the select committee may include, but shall not be limited to:

- (1) The effect of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on Nebraska;
- (2) The role of employer-sponsored insurance and public programs in providing health care coverage for Nebraskans; and
- (3) Available funding options to ensure a financially sustainable and affordable health care system.

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

- 1. That a select committee of the Legislature shall be designated as provided in this resolution to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 31, 2010.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 468.** Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the impact of the State of Nebraska's potential adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. This study will specifically analyze the potential financial impacts and energy savings to state agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 469.** Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the economic development program options available for municipalities. Programs that are already operational in municipalities as well as those in the development stages will be reviewed, and additionally, programs in municipalities across the nation that have met with success in economic development program implementation will also be examined.

The goal of this interim study is to determine what statutory changes and modifications of existing programs in Nebraska could be implemented to benefit local municipal economic development efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 470.** Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issue of how political subdivisions may be impacted by the 2010 United States Census. Over the years much legislation has been adopted containing population thresholds. In particular, this interim study will examine the public policy ramifications of these population thresholds and the impact of the 2010 United States Census data on certain political subdivisions such as counties and cities.

County and city officials, along with other interested parties, will be invited to participate in this interim study.

NOW, THERÉFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 471.** Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine any issues within the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee which may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RÉSOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 472.** Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issue of using electronic and digital signatures on initiative and referendum petitions. In 2010, LB 1059 was heard by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill required the Secretary of State to design a system to allow electors to use digital or electronic signatures to sign initiative and referendum petitions via the Internet.

The issues to be examined by the interim study will include, but are not limited to, determining what other states are doing regarding digital and electronic signatures for initiative and referendum petitions and studying the current technology in this area and whether the current technology will allow for the safe and secure use of such signatures on initiative and referendum petitions.

Representatives of the Secretary of State's office and county officials, along with other interested parties, will be invited to participate in this interim study.

- 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 473.** Introduced by Carlson, 38; Dubas, 34; Hansen, 42; Langemeier, 23; Schilz, 47; Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the correlative rights doctrine relating to the use of ground water and clarify a definition for Nebraska statutes. The study should include past references in Nebraska statutes and court opinions, as well as the use of the term in other jurisdictions. The study should also include different interpretations of the term as it may apply to a "normal" year compared to a "water short" year.

NOW, THÉRÊFÖRE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 474.** Introduced by Carlson, 38; Dubas, 34; Hansen, 42; Langemeier, 23; Schilz, 47; Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study aquifer depletions in the State of Nebraska. The focus of the study will be on the sustainability of aquifers to assure an adequate water supply many generations into the future. The study should include an examination of how to eliminate long-term depletions through good stewardship, as well as potential ways to accelerate recharge for sustainability. The study should emphasize local plans to solve local water challenges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 475.** Introduced by Dubas, 34; Carlson, 38

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues related to restricted use chemical application and the need to improve systems of notification of pesticide applications. The goal of the study is to identify methods to improve the way that information flows between applicators and owners of sensitive locations to reduce incidences of conflict and to enable adjacent landowners, utility operators, and others who may access or work near recently treated areas to reduce risk of accidental exposures. The study

shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of regulatory notification requirements and application of available information systems to facilitate notification

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 477.** Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Pankonin, 2, Chairperson; Heidemann, 1; Karpisek, 32; Louden, 49; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues related to the sustainability of public retirement plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 478. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine proposals to create a statewide water planning commission or agency focusing on the development of a statewide water plan to manage Nebraska's water resources. Prior to Laws 2000, LB 900, which merged the Department of Water Resources and the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, regulation and planning were separate. Currently, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for both regulation and planning. This study shall investigate how the creation of an independent entity focused on planning for Nebraska's future water uses by removing the planning responsibilities from DNR may bring a better balance between regulation and planning of our water resources and how best to establish and structure such a water planning entity. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of LB 1016, introduced in 2010, and other proposals to provide a statewide water planning entity;
  - (2) How such a water planning entity should be established or structured;
  - (3) How integrated management plans could be used in a statewide plan;
  - (4) What a statewide water plan should include; and
- (5) An examination of what purposes and goals should be given to such a water planning entity, such as recommendations for the planning of future

water uses across Nebraska, maintaining and maximizing current water supplies, creating a plan to manage water resources to encourage economic health and prosperity, forecasting, and how to create more flexibility and efficiency within our water management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 479. Introduced by Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: To investigate and review matters and issues which are within the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 481.** Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the practice of prescribed burning. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

- (1) The purpose and necessity of "prescribed" or "controlled" burns;
- (2) The function of prescribed burning in managing plant and animal communities;
  - (3) The status of prescribed burning law in Nebraska and other states;
- (4) The status and issues surrounding prescribed burning laws in local government;
- (5) The required knowledge of the surrounding natural resources and wildlife habitats to conduct prescribed burning;
  - (6) Public interest in allowing or prohibiting prescribed burns;
  - (7) Fire management best practices; and
  - (8) Any correlative educational or legal issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 482.** Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The demographics of Nebraska's population are changing. In the last decade there has been a dramatic shift of population from the rural areas to the urban areas. This change is expected to continue through the next decade and longer. The shift has dramatic consequences in employment opportunities, generation of tax revenue, placement of retail services, resources for business opportunities, changes in school enrollment, and availability of governmental services for every area of the state.

Changes in the rural areas are accompanied by and, in some cases, exacerbated by technological and economic changes in the agricultural industry. The number of family-operated and owned farms and ranches is dropping. Farms and ranches are growing in size. The average age of farmers and ranchers is getting older and the number of farmers and ranchers is declining. The farm and ranch economy is increasingly influenced by national and international issues outside the control of state government. Corporate interests and out-of-state operators and investors are playing an increasing role in Nebraska agriculture.

Nebraska's urban areas continue to grow, and the issues they face resemble the kind of issues that large metropolitan areas face in other states: Poverty; crime; urban sprawl; a decrease in lifestyle in inner city neighborhoods; the loss of jobs; an increased need for training workers in new and developing trades and industries; neighborhood redevelopment needs; greater infrastructure needs; building new schools and health care facilities; and development of recreational venues for youth and adults. The purpose of this resolution is to study these issues, and such study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A determination of the amount of state and local tax revenue generated in the rural and urban areas of the state;
- (2) A determination of the amount of state and local revenue needs of rural and urban areas of the state;
- (3) A determination of how the needs can be met and what changes need to be made in the current revenue distribution to anticipate the changes in demographics; and
- (4) An analysis of what governmental services may need to be consolidated or eliminated as a result of population shifts.

- 1. That the Legislature's Planning Committee 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 483.** Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: Motor vehicle insurance fraud is one area in which Nebraska consumers may be vulnerable, given evidence of increased unethical and fraudulent activities of medical providers engaging in solicitation of accident victims. Most notable is the utilization of runners or cappers accessing accident reports used for overzealous telemarketing and solicitation of victims for potentially unnecessary treatment by chiropractic clinics

The risk to Nebraska consumers arises when victims of accidents are solicited to visit chiropractic clinics for a free evaluation, which is often followed by a succession of follow-up visits paid for by property and casualty insurance coverage. These services may drain bodily injury benefits as well as other coverage.

Other states, including Minnesota, Missouri, Michigan, Connecticut, Kentucky, Texas, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, have introduced or passed legislation to address chiropractic solicitation, the use of runners or cappers, telemarketing abuses, and other issues. The purpose of this resolution is to study these issues and determine whether similar legislation is needed in Nebraska. The study committee shall seek the input of insurers, the Department of Insurance, the Board of Chiropractic, the Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association, and other interested parties as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 484.** Introduced by Fischer, 43.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct an analysis of what is currently considered a reasonable fee by the towing industry for a tow from a private lot, any past state regulation of the industry, and whether the Public Service Commission is equipped to handle towing disputes and to determine what is a reasonable fee in a towing dispute.

- 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 485.** Introduced by Howard, 9; Adams, 24; Ashford, 20; Dubas, 34; Gay, 14; Gloor, 35; Hadley, 37; Nordquist, 7; Pirsch, 4; Wallman, 30.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine: The shortage of social workers in central and western Nebraska who hold master's degrees; available educational opportunities or resources for citizens of these underserved areas who are interested in pursuing graduate social work education that would address such shortage; the level of unmet mental health needs in rural communities; and the services that social workers who hold master's degrees can provide to address that need. This interim study is intended to seek solutions to the critical workforce gap and to make recommendations on how best to address it. The study will seek to involve all interested parties and organizations that have a stake in such issue.

NOW, THÉREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 486.** Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: To examine the issues of health, safety, and working conditions of Nebraska meat and poultry workers and to identify opportunities to strengthen Nebraska law related to ensuring safe and dignified working conditions. Nebraska's meat industries are some of the most important industries in the state. For this reason, and because safe food comes from a safe workplace, we have a public interest in ensuring that working conditions live up to basic community standards. Unfortunately, federal data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2007 indicates that injury rates in meatpacking are more than double that of United States manufacturing as a whole. Furthermore, the United States Government Accountability Office reports that these numbers underreport actual injury rates. Nebraska was a leader in addressing the health, safety, and conditions of its workforce by passing a first-of-its-kind state law, the Nebraska Meatpacking Industry Workers Bill of Rights. Because data indicates that conditions are not sufficiently improved almost a decade later, it is time to revisit this issue. The study should include, but is not limited to:

(1) A review of current health, safety, and working conditions, including: Injury rates; work speed, including line speed and maintenance of full staffing; ability to use the bathroom; the right to choose one's own doctor when injured; payment for all time worked; safety training and equipment; verbal supervisory abuse; sexual harassment and abuse; and positive health and safety policies and practices that seem to be making a difference; and

(2) Identifying opportunities to strengthen Nebraska's health, safety, and wage enforcement oversight, workers' compensation laws, and other Nebraska laws and regulations related to ensuring safe and dignified working conditions.

The study should hear from a variety of stakeholders, most importantly Nebraska workers in settings where they can speak freely without company management or supervisors present, but also including workers' compensation attorneys, community and health organizations, union representatives, company management, and government agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 487.** Introduced by Mello, 5; Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the impact of adopting tax incentives for films, television shows, commercials, music, web-based content, or Internet-delivered content produced in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas of Nebraska.

This study shall include an examination of how the following factors are influencing the film, television, commercial, music, web-based, and Internet-delivered industries:

- (1) Types and numbers of jobs in Nebraska created by these industries;
- (2) Amount of revenue generated in Nebraska by these industries;
- (3) Tax incentives other states are offering to attract these industries; and
- (4) Tax incentives Nebraska could offer to attract these industries.

The primary focus of the study will be to find ways to encourage future job growth and economic development in Nebraska's film, television, commercial, music, web-based, and Internet-delivered industries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 488.** Introduced by Wightman, 36; Ashford, 20; Nelson, 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to analyze and compare the provisions of LB 756 (2010), a bill to adopt the Nebraska Uniform Real

Property Transfer on Death Act, with current Nebraska law. The Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act was adopted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in July 2009. Thirteen states had legislation authorizing "transfer on death deeds" prior to adoption of the uniform act. LB 756 contains the uniform act with substantial modifications applicable to the State of Nebraska. The study shall be a section-by-section analysis and comparison of the proposed Nebraska legislation, together with additional relevant considerations and recommendations. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek the assistance of professors at the University of Nebraska College of Law and the Creighton University School of Law and other interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial. The goal of the study is to provide a reliable understanding of the implications of adopting a Nebraska Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 489.** Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the possibility of raising revenue from misdemeanors and felonies or from other sources to help fund a potential grant program for rural emergency medical services. The study shall examine similar grant programs in other states, particularly the grant program described in section 26-8a-207 of the Utah Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 490.** Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issue of imposing a limitation on how much a school's state aid can change from one year to the next, expressed in terms of a percentage.

- 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 491.** Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the possibility of requiring a boating education course in order to reduce the number of accidents occurring on the waters of this state. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the subject matter that might be offered or required as part of any such boating education course.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 492.** Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the issues relating to adding a fiftieth senator to the Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 493.** Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether there are enough resources currently present in schools to detect and treat mental illness in school-age children. The study should include an examination of issues raised during the Legislature's enactment and subsequent amendment of the state's "safe haven" law in 2008 and issues raised during consideration of LB 603, which was passed in 2009. Possible topics to be covered may include the availability of school counselors in elementary, middle, and high schools and consideration of mental health examinations, similar to physical health examinations required at certain levels of schooling. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the

assistance of the State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 494.** Introduced by Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: To study the effect of Nebraska's workers' compensation statutes on businesses, other than agricultural operations, that employ only related employees. The issues to be addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the requirements for compliance under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act for businesses which employ only related employees;
- (2) An examination of business classifications under workers' compensation insurance policies and their effect on businesses which employ only related employees; and
- (3) A review of excepted occupations under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act and the application of those exceptions to businesses that employ only related employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 495.** Introduced by Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine district probation offices. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of the process used by the Office of Probation Administration to draw probation district boundaries and designate the principal office within each probation district;
- (2) A review of the allocation of district probation office expenses between the state and counties; and

(3) An examination of the budget process for probation districts which include multiple counties, with emphasis on the disparity of budget-setting authority between the counties and the reimbursement of office expenses for the principal office within the probation district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study issues relating to state and local taxation of wind energy electrical generation facilities. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Limitations placed on state and local taxation by the commerce clause of the United States Constitution, including the United States Supreme Court's "dormant" commerce clause jurisprudence, with respect to all types of taxes that could conceivably be imposed on such facilities or in connection with such facilities, including property taxes and excise taxes, such as income taxes, sales and use taxes, production taxes, and other excise taxes:
- (2) The classification of wind energy property as real property, personal property, and fixtures, including trade fixtures, and the Nebraska Supreme Court's jurisprudence with respect to the classification of property as real property, personal property, and fixtures, including trade fixtures;
- (3) Whether taxation of wind energy property should be centrally assessed property, locally assessed property, or both as may be necessary or appropriate; and
- (4) The distribution of state and local tax revenue that may be derived from the imposition of any types of taxes that could conceivably be imposed lawfully on such facilities or in connection with such facilities.

- 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 497.** Introduced by Cornett, 45; McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study urban and commercial area development laws, policies, and programs which exist in Nebraska and alternative laws, policies, and programs which exist in other states.

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

- 1. That the Revenue Committee and Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 498.** Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Tax Expenditure Reporting Act and suggest additional duties or information to be reported under the act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 499.** Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study tax laws, policies, and programs that address the tax burdens of low-income persons and households.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 500.** Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the tax laws, policies, and programs of the State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 501.** Introduced by Campbell, 25; Ashford, 20; Gay, 14; Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study costs to the state and infant and child health outcomes associated with not providing prenatal services through the Nebraska medicaid program to low-income women in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

- (1) Reduced medical payments made by the state as a result of ending prenatal services to low-income women;
- (2) Increased post-delivery medical service costs directly related to not providing prenatal care, including costs related to low birth weight infants, premature births, and other health problems associated with a lack of prenatal care, including increased expenditures in the Kids Connection program;
- (3) Costs of providing emergency medicaid for labor and delivery or pregnancy complications, including a comparison of past expenditures in the state's emergency medicaid program; and
  - (4) Financial impact to health care providers.

The study shall include data from both the public and private sectors.

- 1. That a select committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution. The select committee shall consist of three members of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, three members of the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, and three additional members of the Legislature to be appointed by the chairpersons of the Health and Human Services Committee and the Judiciary Committee. The chairperson of the select committee shall be the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee unless he or she is not appointed to the select committee, in which case the chairperson of the select committee shall be one of the three members of the Health and Human Services Committee who were appointed to the select committee, selected by the chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee.
- 2. That the select committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a preliminary report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislature on or before October 1, 2010. A final report shall be due on or before December 31, 2010.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 502.** Introduced by Wallman, 30.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review the status of trauma care in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the availability and viability of trauma care services in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 503.** Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska should enact the Revised Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations Act (2008) as approved and recommended to the states by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons, including the practicing bar, as it deems necessary and beneficial.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 504.** Introduced by Cornett, 45; Adams, 24; Dierks, 40; Hadley, 37; Pirsch, 4; Utter, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the policies and programs for addressing property tax relief, including existing and alternative policies.

- 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 505.** Introduced by Cornett, 45; Adams, 24; Dierks, 40; Hadley, 37; Pirsch, 4; Utter, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues relating to making the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act applicable to county governments. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Whether cities should be the only beneficiaries available under the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act for qualified projects; and
- (2) Whether sufficient funds would be available to help finance projects under the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act for qualified projects of cities and counties.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 506.** Introduced by Cornett, 45; Adams, 24; Dierks, 40; Hadley, 37; Pirsch, 4; Utter, 33.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study state and local property tax valuation and exemption protest and appeal processes and procedures. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The standard or standards of review and related jurisprudence used or relied upon by various tax tribunals and courts of law, including the Tax Equalization and Review Commission, the Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court, quasi-judicial tax tribunals in other states, and judicial tax tribunals in other states;
- (2) The burden of proof used or relied upon by various tax tribunals, including the Tax Equalization and Review Commission and quasi-judicial and judicial tax tribunals in other states, to determine whether any rebuttable presumption pertaining to the standard or standards of review has or have been rebutted;
- (3) The rules of practice and procedure governing the conduct of property tax protests and appeals in Nebraska and other states, including, but not limited to, rules of practice and procedure governing formal and informal protests and appeals, prehearing conferences, hearings, and rehearings, and rules of evidence applicable to formal and informal protests and appeals, including rules governing admissibility of evidence and direct examination and cross-examination of aggrieved parties and witnesses; and
- (4) Whether the Legislature should consider proposing a legislative resolution for a constitutional amendment or amendments that would either:

- (a) Abolish the Tax Equalization and Review Commission and establish (i) a different state government board or commission to perform the statewide equalization function, with right of judicial review, and (ii) a tax court established under the Constitution of Nebraska to hear and decide all property tax valuation and exemption protests and appeals, with right of judicial review; or
- (b) Limit the power and responsibility of the Tax Equalization and Review Commission solely to performing the statewide equalization function and eliminate its power and responsibility to hear property tax protests and appeals and transfer that function to a tax court established under the Constitution of Nebraska, with right of judicial review.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 507.** Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine ways to streamline all levels of government, including, but not limited to, elimination, consolidation, or reassignment. The study should examine all facets and departments of state, county, and local governments. The Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall create a task force to carry out this interim study.

NÓW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 Legislature.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 508.** Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the availability of land for hunters in the State of Nebraska, as well as the effectiveness of various programs to encourage hunting and the opening of public and personal lands for hunting. The Executive Board of the Legislative Council shall create a task force to carry out this interim study.

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

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 509.** Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: In 2008, Nebraska implemented ACCESS Nebraska, representing a significant change in public benefits processing. Over a year into this process, it is important to understand the impact of this change on clients

The purpose of this interim study is to explore the implementation of ACCESS Nebraska, particularly as it relates to client experience and system functioning over time. The study shall include the following information for the years 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 as it relates to ACCESS Nebraska programs:

- (1) The number of active cases on January 31 for each year by program and by service area;
- (2) Benefit processing time periods, by program and by service area, broken out by 0-7 days, 8-30 days, 31-45 days, 46-60 days, and over 60 days on the date of January 31 of each year. For cases pending beyond the requisite time limit, for example, beyond 30 days for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or 45 days for medicaid, provide a summary of reasons for the pending status;
- (3) Total number of applications by program and service area from the elderly, disabled, and non-English speakers for each year;
- (4) Total number of new approvals by program and service area of the elderly, disabled, and non-English speakers for January of each year for the full fiscal year;
- (5) A description of the approval and denial procedure or policy for requests for in-person applications, including, but not limited to, how caseworkers determine when an in-person interview will be conducted and whether the caseworker will go to the client or the client to the caseworker;
- (6) Total number of applications completed overall, total number of applications started and not completed, and total number of online applications completed online by office, kiosk, or community-based partner location for each year;
- (7) Total number of recertifications completed overall, total number of recertifications online, and the number of recertifications started online but not completed for each year and for January of each year, as well as the starting date of notice to clients to begin recertification online;
- (8) Current office map for the Department of Health and Human Services and complete staffing pattern for each year;
  - (9) Caseworker average caseload by region for each year;
- (10) The current accuracy rate for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits;
- (11) Total amount of funding expended in each year for community-based partner trainings, staff, technology, equipment, or for other purposes; and
- (12) A list of community-based partners identified with computer, printer, and scanner technology available.

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

- 1. That the Appropriations Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 510.** Introduced by Pirsch, 4; Giese, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues relating to refunds of local option sales taxes under the Nebraska Advantage Act. The issues addressed by this study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Advance notice to local governments of the dollar amount of refunds of local option sales taxes paid that must be refunded to taxpayers;
- (2) The time within which a local government must refund local option sales taxes paid by taxpayers; and
- (3) Enacting legislation that would allow local governments that must refund local option sales taxes to pay such refunds in installments over a fixed period of time if such local governments would face a hardship by being required to immediately refund the full amount owed in one refund payment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 511.** Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues pertaining to expanding the Local Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act so that financial incentives under the act could be used to help employers create new jobs in small communities in the state that have suffered from a declining population.

- 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 512.** Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the responsibilities of Nebraska nonprofit corporations and health care delivery systems when implementing LB 403, which was passed in 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 513.** Introduced by Gay, 14.

PURPOSE: (1) The purpose of this interim study is to review and assess the implementation of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act by the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services and, if appropriate, provide recommendations for legislation to strengthen the enactment of the act.

- (2) The Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act states that:
- (a) The division is the chief behavioral health authority for the State of Nebraska and shall direct the administration and coordination of the public behavioral health system, including, but not limited to:
- (i) Administration and management of the state regional centers and any other facilities and programs operated by the division;
  - (ii) Integration and coordination of the public behavioral health system;
- (iii) Comprehensive statewide planning for the provision of an appropriate array of community-based services and continuum of care;
  - (iv) Regional budgets and audits of regional behavior health authorities;
  - (v) Development and management of data and information systems;
- (vi) Prioritization and approval of all expenditures and reimbursement methodologies for behavioral health services and fees to be paid by consumers of such services;
- (vii) Cooperation with the department in the licensure and regulation of behavioral health professions, programs, and facilities;
- (viii) Cooperation with the department in the provision of behavior health services under the medical assistance program and audits of behavior health programs and services; and
- (ix) Promotion of activities in research and education to improve the quality of behavioral health services, recruitment and retention of behavioral health professionals, and access to behavioral health programs and services; and
- (b) The department shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the act.
- (3) The interim study shall be conducted by the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature in consultation with the Department

of Health and Human Services, the Division of Behavioral Health, the state advisory committees created in sections 71-814 to 71-816, the Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee of the Legislature, the Legislative Performance Audit Committee, the Behavioral Health Support Foundation, the Magellan Partnership Quality Improvement Team, the report of the Children's Behavioral Health Oversight Committee of the Legislature, and participation of other stakeholders representing state and local government, professionals, provider organizations, consumers, consumer advocates, and other parties, and information, deemed helpful to the Health and Human Services Committee.

- (4) Issues to be considered by the Health and Human Services Committee for the interim study may include, but shall not be limited to:
- (a) The division's completion of a strategic plan for continuing reform and transformation of the public behavior health system in accordance with the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act, including, but not limited to:
- (i) The development of an enhanced performance measurement system to gather data that is aggregated for systemwide use in planning, monitoring performance, and supporting decisionmaking, especially the best use of funding, including the adoption and use of standard performance measurement instruments and a consumer assessment tool specifically geared to outcomes associated with evidence-based practices;
- (ii) The evaluation and analysis of timely consumer access to behavioral health services and standards and adjustments to comply with service capacity and efficiencies; and
- (iii) Optimizing the use of available funding for behavioral health services by initiating regulatory reform to reduce redundancy, costs, and burdens in the delivery system that do not impact service delivery but achieve reduced costs; and
- (b) The department's completion of the development of rules and regulations to:
  - (i) Implement the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act; and
- (ii) Integrate state and federal regulations across and between the Division of Behavioral Health, the Division of Public Health, and the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Department of Health and Human Services, including medicaid rehabilitation options.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 514.** Introduced by Harms, 48.

PURPOSE: The economic downturn has contributed to instability in Nebraska's workforce, particularly for lower-educated workers. Many such

Nebraska workers are seeking to engage in adult education programs to improve their employability in a tough economy. In fact, the United States Department of Education finds that sixty percent of adult education programs in Nebraska currently have waiting lists. The purpose of this interim study is to examine Nebraska's capacity to best serve lower-educated workers through adult education programs. Nebraska's adult education programs serve a broad range of students with a variety of goals and needs. However, the current economic context provides an opportunity to examine ways to specifically serve adult education participants that have the goal of increasing their education level in order to gain employment or move up in the workforce. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) An identification of the needs of lower-educated individuals engaging in adult education programs specifically for the purpose of gaining better employment;
- (2) The number of adult education students who require more extensive basic education services before they will be able to engage in work search or employment;
- (3) Ways that Nebraska's adult education programs could better meet the demand for services, specifically for individuals seeking adult education in order to gain a better job;
- (4) Whether the efforts of Nebraska's community colleges in providing adult basic education programs are being financially supported at an appropriate level to meet the demand that exists for these services;
- (5) Ways that Nebraska's adult education instructors could be better supported to serve adult education students in need of education relating to employability; and
- (6) A review of best practices from other states that could be implemented to help move more Nebraskans into higher education and better jobs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 515.** Introduced by Rogert, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the benefits associated with the pulse oximetry procedure performed on newborns that may provide early detection and diagnosis of congenital heart disease.

Pulse oximetry is a procedure that is quick, inexpensive, and noninvasive. It may detect congenital heart disease in newborns if the defects elude a prenatal ultrasound performed at eighteen to twenty weeks gestation or a physical examination within the first twenty-four hours after birth. In addition, researchers have found that half of serious congenital heart defects may be missed during routine examinations after birth.

Congenital heart defects may occur in approximately one of every one hundred ten births and are noted to be the leading cause of newborn and infant deaths. If congenital heart disease is not detected early in the newborn, the death rate is high. Pulse oximetry is a noninvasive test which may detect seventy-five percent of critical congenital heart defects.

For these reasons, it is important to conduct a study that examines the benefits associated with the pulse oximetry procedure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 516.** Introduced by Fischer, 43; Pahls, 31

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to analyze the current Vehicle Titling and Registration (VTR) System that is developed and maintained by the Department of Motor Vehicles. VTR is used by all ninety-three counties for the titling and registration of Nebraska's approximately 2.1 million vehicles. VTR is also the system through which all motor vehicle taxes, motor vehicle fees, motor vehicle registration fees, motor vehicle sales taxes, motor vehicle wheel taxes, and other assorted motor vehicle fees are collected.

The study will consider the capabilities and limitations of VTR, technological advancements and uses in other states since VTR was developed and implemented in Nebraska in the early 1990s, and the estimated cost and potential sources of funding for a replacement system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 517.** Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to review the operations and usefulness of the Regulation of Health Professions Act, sections 71-6201 to 72-6229. The act has been in existence for twenty-five years and has never been revisited by the Legislature despite significant changes in the health

care field and in the delivery of health care. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Is the act, known as the 407 program, fulfilling its original purpose of providing for the Legislature valuable information for the purpose of making informed legislative decisions regarding the licensure and scope of practice of regulated health professionals;
- (2) Are provisions and procedures utilized by the Division of Public Health in administering the act fair and impartial to the parties involved in the reviews;
- (3) Are the criteria set out in law for the review of proposals for initial licensure of a health profession and the expansion of the scope of practice of an already licensed health profession central to the interests and concerns of the Legislature in the review and consideration of such proposals;
- (4) Are the well-being and safety of consumers adequately reflected by the review criteria in statute as administered by the Division of Public Health and are those interests appropriately balanced in relation to advantages of enabling consumer access to new services, technology, or providers; and
- (5) The act authorized the Division of Public Health to promulgate regulations for the conduct of 407 reviews, though such regulations have never been promulgated. Would the 407 program be well served by the promulgation of such regulations at this time.

The study may involve interested parties, both public and private, and should include at least one public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment on the 407 program and the history and adequacy of its operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 and shall prepare for introduction in the One Hundred Second Legislature such legislation as may be appropriate.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 518.** Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to review the efficiency associated with the fact that the Department of Motor Vehicles is the sole entity associated with the enrollment of applicants for the issuance of driver licenses, permits, and state identification cards and the collection of fees.

The study will identify the impacts on driver licensing services including, but not limited to, federal laws, federal rules and regulations, customer demographics, and cost.

The study will analyze the efficacy of the driver licensing service centers of the Department of Motor Vehicles in relation to the existing service in each county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 519.** Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine issues relating to Firearms Freedom Acts which have been enacted or introduced by several state legislatures. The acts declare that the federal government has no jurisdiction to regulate the manufacture and sales of firearms or ammunition within a state, so long as those activities do not cross state lines, causing them to enter federal jurisdiction under the interstate commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 520.** Introduced by Janssen, 15.

PURPOSE: The study should examine the impact of illegal immigration on the state's budget. The Congressional Budget Office released a report in December 2007 (Pub. No. 2500) entitled "The Impact of Unauthorized Immigrants on the Budgets of State and Local Governments". Estimates were made of such impact to several states, including Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and New Mexico in the areas of education, health care, and law enforcement. Information of the impact on Nebraska's budget was incomplete. The Legislature would benefit from a better estimate of the impact on the state's budget and a better estimate of the number of illegal immigrants residing in Nebraska.

- 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 521.** Introduced by Janssen, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine whether Nebraska should repeal statutory provisions that allow persons not lawfully present in the United States to pay resident tuition at Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 522.** Introduced by Janssen, 15.

PURPOSE: Examine the legality of the State of Nebraska knowingly offering state benefits to illegal immigrants. As part of the study, the committee shall consider its recommendations from its report from LR 362 (2008) and track activities occurring as a result of the passage of Laws 2009, LB 403.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 523.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The Legislature passed LB 436 in 2009, which established a statewide net metering policy. This study will examine the impact of the passage of LB 436. Issues to be studied include but are not limited to:

- (1) Whether it has stimulated investments in renewable energy equipment by electrical consumers;
- (2) Whether increasing the rated capacity cap to 100 KWs would increase consumer investments in renewable energy;
- (3) Whether increasing the system capacity cap to two percent would increase consumer investments in renewable energy;
- (4) Whether statewide interconnection standards should be established; and
- (5) The impact of Laws 2009, LB 436, on Nebraska's public utilities.

- 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 524.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: To study regulation of renewable energy generation in other states and in regional transmission organizations. The study should look at three main areas: (1) Other states' decertification procedures, how the state penalizes bad actors, and the state's decommissioning requirements; (2) the expanding role of regional transmission organizations in the marketing and sale of power across state lines; and (3) small and community wind initiatives in other states and how public power can further initiatives in renewable energy that provide power to Nebraska communities to encourage economic development. If necessary, the committee may use the Nebraska Statewide Wind Integration Study conducted by the Nebraska Power Association and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 525.** Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: To study Nebraska's laws on unlawful intrusion, stalking, and criminal trespass and LB 707 introduced by Senator Haar in 2010. This study should look at these statutes individually and collectively to see what gaps there are in Nebraska law with regards to window peeping and similar criminal activities. The study should look for ways to strengthen the law to catch perpetrators who fall between the gaps. Finally, the committee should make suggestions on changing any or all of these statutes or suggesting a new statute to cover areas of concern. The committee shall examine such laws in other states or localities that could be used as a model for modification of our existing laws or creating new laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 526.** Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: This study will examine the governing structure and function of Nebraska's higher education system, including:

- (1) The effect of streamlining redundant activities within each system;
- (2) The degree of efficiency within each system;
- (3) Possible cost savings associated with merging all governing structures;
- (4) Improvement of higher education administration and oversight; and
- (5) Overall improvement of higher education for Nebraska's students.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 527.** Introduced by Karpisek, 32.

PURPOSE: To study issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee which may arise during the interim.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 528.** Introduced by Karpisek, 32.

PURPOSE: To study issues regarding area restrictions in the Nebraska Liquor Control Act. This study should include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the area restrictions found in section 53-177, specifically subsection (1) of section 53-177, which prohibits the granting of liquor licenses within one hundred fifty feet of "any church, school, hospital, or home for aged or indigent persons or for veterans, their wives or children" and subsection (2) of section 53-177, which prohibits the sale for "consumption on the premises within three hundred feet from the campus of any college or university in the state";
- (2) A consideration of whether the terms in section 53-177 are adequately defined and whether it is appropriate to remove or add terms to such section;

- (3) A consideration of the potential impact on the area if alcohol could be purchased or consumed within one hundred fifty feet of the locations listed in section 53-177;
- (4) A consideration of the potential impact alcohol-related environmental messages send to prospective students and their parents if alcoholic liquor retail sales are permitted, without restrictions, within the core of a campus or within close proximity to campus-approved housing;
- (5) A consideration of policies and procedures that are flexible enough to support economic development and provide new opportunities for retail growth, yet recognize the impact of selling and serving alcoholic liquor adjacent to academic facilities or campus-approved housing;
- (6) A consideration of whether a definition of a campus is still relevant and if so, consider what that definition should be. This should recognize that a one-size-fits-all definition may not apply to all colleges and universities. It will also be important to differentiate between residential campuses, undergraduate and graduate programs, the electronic uses employed by campuses offering classes, and other such issues that impact the changing nature of education and the populations they serve;
- (7) A consideration of allowing colleges or universities to grant waivers for the service of alcoholic liquor at locations that are not in conflict with the academic mission of the institution, yet provide an important social gathering place for populations affiliated with campus; and
- (8) A consideration of ways to reduce the number of applications for special designated licenses for the service of alcoholic liquor on or near campuses as well as on or near those locations listed in subsection (1) of section 53-177.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 533.** Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McGill, 26, Chairperson; Coash, 27; Cook, 13; Krist, 10; Lathrop, 12; Rogert, 16; White, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the State Natural Gas Regulation Act. The March 2009 report issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts raised concerns about the costs that the office of public advocate has incurred because of natural gas rate increase cases and appeals. LB 811 (2010) raised issues concerning appeals under the act. The study shall focus on, but not be limited to, the effect of the act on Nebraska's ratepayers since the adoption of the act, the issues examined in the March 2009 report by the Auditor of Public Accounts, and appeals from orders of the Public Service Commission under the act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 534.** Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine any and all aspects of the Nebraska Economic Forecasting Advisory Board.

The study shall include, but not be limited to: The reasons the board was established; the history of the board; an examination and evaluation of the information and other resources used by the board to make their recommendations, including if and how ex parte communications are utilized and an inquiry as to whether or not those communications should be disclosed; the background, knowledge, and expertise required or considered when making appointments to the board; the timeline for board meetings and deliberations in comparison to the relevant timelines and deadlines utilized in state budget deliberations; the historical accuracy of revenue forecasts by the board in comparison to actual revenue receipts; a comparative analysis of other states' mechanisms, procedures, and policies for conducting economic forecasts; and the extent historically to which the Legislature and Governor have relied on the forecasts recommended by the board to make budget decisions and adjustments.

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

- 1. That the Appropriations and Revenue Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 535.** Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The Nebraska State Patrol is a multidimensional law enforcement agency established by legislative mandate in 1937. The State Patrol's responsibilities have expanded from traffic enforcement and accident investigations to include criminal and drug investigations, safety education, truck safety and regulation, liquor enforcement, the central repository for criminal histories and fingerprints, and the criminalistic laboratory, which is charged with the duty to provide scientific laboratory services to the various local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate and identify the objectives of the Criminalistics Laboratory Division of the Nebraska State Patrol and to evaluate and identify necessary revenue and funding issues needed to support the goals, objectives, and operation of the division as a stand-alone entity and in the broader context of the sound and efficient provision of Nebraska's public safety, law enforcement, criminal investigation, and judicial systems.

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

- 1. That the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
- 2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

#### **LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 536.** Introduced by Dierks, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine gross receipts taxation in other states.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 566.** Introduced by Revenue Committee: Cornett, 45, Chairperson; Adams, 24; Dierks, 40; Hadley, 37; Louden, 49; Pirsch, 4; Utter, 33; White, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine various methods of financing interstate water compacts and agreements, including existing taxes, new taxes, charges, or fees. The enforcement of current funding provisions and potential refunds of current tax provisions will also be examined.

- 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 568.** Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Gay, 14, Chairperson; Campbell, 25; Gloor, 35; Howard, 9; Pankonin, 2; Stuthman, 22; Wallman, 30.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to review and assess the implementation of reforms by the Department of Health and Human Services regarding how children and families are served by the child welfare and juvenile services system in Nebraska

The interim study will be conducted in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services and with the participation of stakeholders representing state and local government, professionals, provider organizations, consumers, consumer advocates, and other parties, and any other information deemed helpful.

Issues considered for the interim study may include, but shall not be limited to:

- (1) The coordination of out-of-home reform initiatives by the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (2) The effectiveness of the public-private partnership in providing services to children and families involved with the department;
- (3) The funding of services by the department to children and families; and
- (4) The effect of the child welfare reform initiatives on meeting the federal Child and Family Service Reviews of outcomes and indicators, including safety, permanency, and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST 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 on or before December 31, 2010.

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 571.** Introduced by Judiciary Committee: Ashford, 20, Chairperson; Christensen, 44; Coash, 27; Council, 11; Rogert, 16.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the implementation of LB 63 (2009) with respect to the creation of the Office of Violence Prevention and to study the implementation of LB 800 (2010).

- 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.

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