

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 318

Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive study of Nebraska's state and local roads system, including current and potential funding sources dedicated to highways, roads, and bridges. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following subjects:

(1) A review of the needs of the state highway system, including preservation of the current system, rural and urban needs, bridge conditions, and proposals to accelerate the completion of the state expressway system;

(2) A review of the needs of county and municipal roads, including bridge needs and the allocation of state funding to counties and municipalities;

(3) A review of current statutory restrictions on the use of roads funding allocated to counties and municipalities and the need to provide for further restrictions on the allowed expenditures of such funding;

(4) An examination of the sustainability of current funding sources dedicated to state and local highways;

(5) An examination of alternative or expanded highway funding sources and practices including, but not limited to, vehicle fees, vehicle miles traveled fees, non-motor vehicle related revenue sources, highway bonding, vehicle tolling, and the utilization of design-build projects and public-private partnership programs. The examination of the feasibility of authorizing the use of public-private partnership programs shall include the feasibility of using this method for three pending projects: (a) The south Lincoln beltway; (b) the east Lincoln beltway; and (c) the completion of the four lane expansion of Highway 275; and

(6) The existing management structure and overall efficiency of the Department of Roads and any statutory changes required to increase productivity

and the financial efficiency of the department in project development, design, and delivery.

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