

FIFTIETH DAY - MARCH 26, 2024**LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL****ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION****FIFTIETH DAY**

Legislative Chamber, Lincoln, Nebraska
Tuesday, March 26, 2024

PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Michael Davis, United Methodist, Gretna.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered by Colonel Ben "Felix" Ungerman, Airforce Combat Veteran, Bellevue.

ROLL CALL

Pursuant to adjournment, the Legislature met at 9:00 a.m., Speaker Arch presiding.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Day, Hunt, Jacobson, Slama, and Walz who were excused until they arrive.

CORRECTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

The Journal for the forty-ninth day was approved.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 407. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

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

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

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 408. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, and the Nebraska Judges Retirement System. The study may also examine the retirement system administered under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. The study shall examine issues as they relate to the funding needs, benefits, contributions, and the administration of each retirement system.

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

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 409. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

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

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

1. That the Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

WITHDRAW - Amendments to LB1412

Senator Clements withdrew [FA261](#), found on page 1006, to LB1412.

Senator Clements withdrew [FA262](#), found on page 1006, to LB1412.

Senator Clements withdrew [FA263](#), found on page 1006, to LB1412.

MOTION(S) - Return LB1412 to Select File

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved to return LB1412 to Select File for the following specific amendment:

[FA314](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Pending.

RESOLUTION(S)

Pursuant to Rule 4, Sec. 5(b), LRs 327, 328, 329, 330, and 331 were adopted.

SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LRs 327, 328, 329, 330, and 331.

MOTION(S) - Return LB1412 to Select File

Senator M. Cavanaugh renewed her motion, found and considered in this day's Journal, to return LB1412 to Select File for her specific amendment, [FA314](#), found in this day's Journal.

The M. Cavanaugh motion to return failed with 4 ayes, 28 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator M. Cavanaugh offered the following motion:

[MO1307](#)

Reconsider the vote on FA314.

Speaker Arch offered the following motion:

[MO1309](#)

Invoke cloture pursuant to Rule 7, Sec. 10.

Senator M. Cavanaugh requested a roll call vote on the motion to invoke cloture.

The Arch motion to invoke cloture prevailed with 37 ayes, 5 nays, 6 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The M. Cavanaugh motion to reconsider failed with 5 ayes, 39 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The M. Cavanaugh amendment, FA314, was not considered.

BILL ON FINAL READING

Dispense With Reading at Large

Pursuant to Rule 6, Section 8, the Legislature approved the dispensing of the reading at large of LB1412 with 41 ayes, 3 nays, 4 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The following bill was put upon final passage:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1412. With Emergency Clause.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to amend Laws 2023, LB243A, section 2; Laws 2023, LB583A, section 1; and Laws 2023, LB814, sections 21, 26, 52, 68, 71, 76, 78, 79, 83, 85, 87, 90, 91, 94, 95, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 113, 115, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 124, 130, 132, 133, 136, 165, 173, 198, 219, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 228, 229, 230, 232, 235, 236, 241, 254, 255, 267, 268, 280, 285, 301, 302, 306, and 307; to define terms; to provide, change, and eliminate appropriations for operation of state government, postsecondary education, state aid, and capital construction; to provide, change, and eliminate appropriations of funds allocated to the State of Nebraska from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, 42 U.S.C. 802, as amended; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

Senator M. Cavanaugh requested a roll call vote.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass with the emergency clause attached?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 42:

Aguilar	Brandt	Fredrickson	Linehan	Sanders
Albrecht	Brewer	Halloran	Lippincott	Slama
Arch	Clements	Hansen	Lowe	Vargas
Armendariz	Conrad	Hardin	McDonnell	von Gillern
Ballard	DeBoer	Holdcroft	Meyer	Walz
Blood	DeKay	Hughes	Moser	Wishart
Bosn	Dorn	Ibach	Murman	
Bostar	Dover	Jacobson	Raybould	
Bostelman	Erdman	Kauth	Riepe	

Voting in the negative, 6:

Cavanaugh, J.	Day	McKinney
Cavanaugh, M.	Dungan	Wayne

Excused and not voting, 1:

Hunt

A constitutional two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed with the emergency clause and the title agreed to.

SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LB1412e.

BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills were read for the first time by title:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1344A. Introduced by Wayne, 13.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 1344, One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 71A. Introduced by Sanders, 45.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 71, One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, 2024.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 410. Introduced by Dorn, 30.

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

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

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

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

- (1) The funding streams and potential new sources of money for sustaining the health care workforce;
- (2) Grants and funding opportunities to assist in training costs for the health care workforce;
- (3) Current data on the significant workforce challenges facing hospitals and health care facilities across the state and the impact of housing and child care shortages on the health care industry;
- (4) Partnerships between health care organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies to address such challenges and develop innovative solutions;
- (5) Programs and initiatives aimed at recruiting and retaining health care professionals, especially in rural and underserved areas;
- (6) Funding and resources for health care workforce development programs, scholarships, loan repayment programs, and other incentives to attract and retain health care professionals in Nebraska;
- (7) Collaborations between government agencies, health care organizations, and educational institutions for identifying barriers to workforce development and implementing strategies to overcome workforce challenges;
- (8) Relevant stakeholders to prioritize the expansion of health care education and training programs, with a focus on meeting the evolving needs of Nebraska's health care employees; and
- (9) The progress of efforts to address hospital workforce challenges and exploring additional legislative measures as needed to support such efforts.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 411. Introduced by Dungan, 26.

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

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

- (1) How many airports and airlines require sustainable aviation fuel to be used instead of traditional jet fuel;
- (2) What the environmental impact of sustainable aviation fuel is compared to traditional jet fuel;
- (3) What existing infrastructure Nebraska has to support sustainable aviation fuel production;
- (4) The economic impact increased use of sustainable aviation fuel would have on Nebraska;
- (5) What policies Nebraska needs to enact to attract sustainable aviation fuel producers; and
- (6) What other states have implemented to help increase sustainable aviation fuel production.

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

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

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 412. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine possible changes to state law regarding the use of artificial

intelligence in political campaigns. Generative artificial intelligence technology has rapidly developed in recent years and audio and visual depictions of public figures created using artificial intelligence are becoming more common.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 413. Introduced by Cavanaugh, J., 9.

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

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

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

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 414. Introduced by Meyer, 41; Albrecht, 17; Dover, 19; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39; Lippincott, 34; Sanders, 45; von Gillern, 4.

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

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

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 415. Introduced by Cavanaugh, M., 6.

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

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

(1) Eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination policies and practices for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program during the unwinding period;

(2) Lessons learned from continuous coverage and unwinding; and

(3) Opportunities and plans to improve the systems utilized in eligibility, enrollment, application, renewal, and redetermination processes for the medical assistance program and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 416. Introduced by Dover, 19.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) Housing starts;

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

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

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose a study that includes a comprehensive examination of the funding structure of Nebraska's transportation system and to identify possible alternatives to supplement or replace traditional methods and strategies that have historically been employed to fund highway maintenance and construction. The study shall include a reevaluation and update of the results of the LR152 in 2009, including the impact of subsequent legislation such as the Build Nebraska Act (Laws 2011, LB84), the Transportation Innovation Act (Laws 2016, LB960) and changes to the fuel tax in Laws 2015, LB610.

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

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

(1) An analysis of the current funding for highways and streets in Nebraska and the emphasis on user fees;

(2) An analysis of the overall effectiveness of the fuel tax in today's economic environment, including factors such as increased vehicle fuel efficiency and electric vehicles;

(3) An analysis of construction inflation in recent years, increasing the cost of business;

(4) An analysis of how local governments have fared under the state's highway revenue structure; and

(5) A review of other states' alternative methods of funding and financing highways, including, but not limited to, bonding, financing, implementing a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) system, tolling, using public-private partnerships, the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program, and redistributing current state revenue.

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

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

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

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

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

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 419. Introduced by Hughes, 24.

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

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

(1) How the adoption of the community eligibility provision impacts the funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act of participating schools or school districts;

(2) The adequacy and appropriateness of using free and reduced-price lunch data and data collected by the Internal Revenue Service to calculate the poverty allowance within the funding formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act;

(3) The adequacy and appropriateness of the state's current community eligibility provision multiplier which is used to determine funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act for schools and school districts and which is based on a school's or school district's direct certification population;

(4) How past, current, and projected future funding under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act impacts schools and school districts participating in or eligible for the community eligibility provision using the existing community eligibility provision multiplier and other options, with consideration for schools and school districts with large enrollments versus schools and school districts with smaller enrollments;

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

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

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

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

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 420. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

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

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

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

- (1) The funding historically provided to the regions;
- (2) The impact of recent reductions in funding to the Division of Behavioral Health, as well as the impact of the unfunded provider rate increase, including program reductions across behavioral health regions;
- (3) Challenges faced by behavioral health regions and partner providers in dispersing funding, including the medical assistance program unwinding and continuing staff shortages;
- (4) The Lincoln Regional Center's staffing needs and challenges; and
- (5) Opioid settlement funding updates.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 421. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

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

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

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

- (2) Gaps, challenges, and opportunities to better support current primary prevention policies and programs;
- (3) Evidence-based practices in primary prevention;
- (4) Funding sources for addiction-related services; and
- (5) Harm reduction strategies and the funding sources and evidence-based strategies available for harm reduction programs.

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

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

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 422. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 423. Introduced by Hansen, 16.

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

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

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

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 424. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

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

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

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 425. Introduced by Murman, 38; Albrecht, 17; Conrad, 46; Linehan, 39; Meyer, 41; Sanders, 45; Walz, 15; Wayne, 13.

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

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

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 426. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

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

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

requests, what the resolutions of the requests were, and how many such requests were made and served in the last several years.

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

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

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 427. Introduced by Fredrickson, 20; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39.

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

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

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

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

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

- (4) Potential statutory and administrative changes necessary to implement a child care subsidy program for child care employees in Nebraska;
- (5) The anticipated cost of implementing a child care subsidy program for child care employees in Nebraska; and
- (6) The anticipated outcomes should Nebraska implement a child care subsidy program for child care employees.

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

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

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 428. Introduced by Hardin, 48; Bostelman, 23.

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

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

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

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

- (1) Exploring rural emergency medical services funding streams and researching potential new sources of funding;
- (2) Exploring how to maintain and replace expensive ambulance and emergency medical equipment for rural emergency medical services;
- (3) Exploring grants and funding opportunities to assist in training and certification costs for rural emergency medical services providers;
- (4) Researching how other states with similar demographics to Nebraska fund rural emergency medical services;
- (5) Examining ways to remove barriers for emergency medical technicians and paramedics in rural Nebraska and ensure they are working at the top of their scope;

(6) Assessing the current state of emergency medical services infrastructure, resources, and capabilities across Nebraska, in both urban and rural areas;

(7) Evaluating response times, transport protocols, and coordination of health care providers and emergency response agencies;

(8) Examining workforce challenges, training requirements, and opportunities for professional development within the emergency medical services sector;

(9) Reviewing funding mechanisms, reimbursement models, and financial sustainability of emergency medical services agencies and providers; and

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

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 429. Introduced by Hardin, 48.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 430. Introduced by Bostar, 29.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 431. Introduced by Jacobson, 42.

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

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 432. Introduced by Jacobson, 42.

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

The study shall include an examination of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 433. Introduced by Day, 49.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 434. Introduced by Brandt, 32.

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

(1) The current state of agritourism activities in Nebraska, including the types of activities offered, visitor demographics, and economic impact;

(2) The regulatory and permitting processes governing agritourism operations in the state and recommendations for streamlining and improving such processes;

(3) Best practices and successful models of agritourism from other states and countries that could be adapted for use in Nebraska;

(4) Marketing and promotional efforts aimed at promoting agritourism in Nebraska and recommendations for enhancing such efforts to attract more visitors; and

(5) Opportunities for collaboration between agritourism operators, local communities, and state agencies to support and promote agritourism initiatives.

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veteran Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 435. Introduced by Raybould, 28.

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

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

1. That the Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 436. Introduced by Hansen, 16.

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Government, Military and Veteran Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)

Natural Resources
Room 1525 12:15 PM

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

John Shadle - Nebraska Natural Resources Commission

(Signed) Bruce Bostelman, Chairperson

WITHDRAW - Amendments to LB1413

Senator Clements withdrew [FA264](#), found on page 1006, to LB1413.

Senator Clements withdrew [FA265](#), found on page 1007, to LB1413.

Senator Clements withdrew [FA266](#), found on page 1007, to LB1413.

MOTION(S) - Return LB1413 to Select File

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved to return LB1413 to Select File for the following specific amendment:

[FA315](#)

Strike the enacting clause.

Pending.

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 437. Introduced by Urban Affairs Committee: McKinney, 11, Chairperson; Blood, 3; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Day, 49; Hardin, 48; Lowe, 37.

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

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

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 438. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to review the occupational regulations for fire alarm inspectors. Such a review is required by section 84-948, and this study fulfills the requirements of the Occupational Board Reform Act. The study shall include an examination of the guidelines issued by the State Fire Marshal to determine qualifications for fire alarm inspectors pursuant to section 28-1251.

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

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 439. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

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

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

(1) What are the prevailing trends in student performance and academic outcomes over the past decade in the Class V school district?

(2) How do such trends compare to regional, state, and national benchmarks?

(3) What is the total student population of the Class V school district?

(4) What percentage of students in the Class V school district are classified as living below the poverty line?

(5) What is the racial and ethnic composition of the student body in the Class V school district?

(6) What is the socioeconomic status distribution among the student population in the Class V school district?

(7) How many schools are within the Class V school district?

(8) What is the geographical size of the Class V school district?

(9) What is the student-to-teacher ratio in the Class V school district?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 440. Introduced by McKinney, 11.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(9) Whether students have access to rigorous academic programs, advanced coursework, extracurricular activities, and support services, such as counseling and special education, in the Class V school district to see if there is equitable access for all students, regardless of background;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 441. Introduced by Armendariz, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of local housing regulations on Nebraska's housing supply. Nebraska has been experiencing a severe shortage of housing options for its residents across the state and at all income levels. Residents of Nebraska are faced with skyrocketing rents and home prices. Despite the Legislature appropriating funds for a variety of housing grants, including for the rural workforce and middle income workforce, more needs to be done. In recent years, states across the country have explored and passed bipartisan legislation addressing the regulatory matters deemed necessary to help increase housing affordability and supply.

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

(1) Local zoning regulations that may impede the quantity of new housing being built;

(2) Local building codes that may increase the costs of new housing being built;

(3) Local permitting and planning processes in place that may impact the cost and time for new housing being built; and

(4) Potential ways to incentivize municipalities to reduce the regulatory burdens imposed on new housing being built.

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

1. That the Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

VISITOR(S)

Visitors to the Chamber were Janet Davis, Gretna; students from Rohwer Elementary, Omaha.

RECESS

At 11:58 a.m., on a motion by Senator Murman, the Legislature recessed until 1:30 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The Legislature reconvened at 1:30 p.m., Speaker Arch presiding.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called and all members were present except Senators Armendariz, Bostar, Conrad, Hunt, Kauth, McKinney, Raybould, Walz, Wayne, and Wishart who were excused until they arrive.

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Ibach filed the following amendment to [LB1368](#):

[AM3202](#)

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM3002)

- 1 1. On page 2, line 28, strike "shall" and insert "may".
- 2 2. On page 3, line 8, strike "shall" and insert "may".

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 442. Introduced by Ballard, 21.

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

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

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

Referred to the Executive Board.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Revenue

The Revenue Committee desires to report favorably upon the appointment(s) listed below. The Committee suggests the appointment(s) be confirmed by the Legislature and suggests a record vote.

Sarah Scott, Property Tax Administrator - Department of Revenue

Aye: 8. Albrecht, Bostar, Dungan, Kauth, Linehan, Meyer, Murman, von Gillern. Nay: 0. Absent: 0. Present and not voting: 0.

(Signed) Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson

MOTION(S) - Return LB1413 to Select File

Senator M. Cavanaugh renewed her motion, found and considered in this day's Journal, to return LB1413 to Select File for her specific amendment, [FA315](#), found in this day's Journal.

Senator M. Cavanaugh withdrew her motion to return.

The M. Cavanaugh amendment, [FA315](#), was not considered.

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved to return LB1413 to Select File for the following specific amendment:

[FA316](#)

Strike Section 1.

Senator M. Cavanaugh withdrew her motion to return.

The M. Cavanaugh amendment, [FA316](#), was not considered.

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved to return LB1413 to Select File for the following specific amendment:

[FA317](#)

Strike Section 2.

Senator M. Cavanaugh withdrew her motion to return.

The M. Cavanaugh amendment, [FA317](#), was not considered.

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved to return LB1413 to Select File for the following specific amendment:

[FA318](#)

Strike Section 3.

Speaker Arch offered the following motion:

[MO1310](#)

Invoke cloture pursuant to Rule 7, Sec. 10.

The Arch motion to invoke cloture prevailed with 35 ayes, 7 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

The M. Cavanaugh motion to return failed with 1 aye, 40 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The M. Cavanaugh amendment, FA318, was not considered.

BILL ON FINAL READING

Dispense With Reading at Large

Pursuant to Rule 6, Section 8, the Legislature approved the dispensing of the reading at large of LB1413 with 37 ayes, 6 nays, 5 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

The following bill was put upon final passage:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1413. With Emergency Clause.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to funds; to amend sections 2-1507, 45-930, 48-621, 48-622.01, 58-703, and 59-1608.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, sections 55-901, 61-405, 68-996, 71-812, 79-810, 81-1201.21, 81-12,146, and 81-12,157, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, and sections 37-1804, 48-622.02, 71-5328, 71-7611, 72-819, 79-1054, 81-12,147, 81-12,221, 81-12,222, 81-12,243, 84-612, and 86-324, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; to define and redefine terms; to provide for, change, and eliminate fund transfers; to create, rename, and change the use of certain funds; to provide powers for the Auditor of Public Accounts; to change provisions of the Shovel-Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act and the Business Innovation Act relating to requests for grants; to change provisions relating to a museum and visitor center honoring Chief Standing Bear; to require prioritization of certain grant applications under the Water Sustainability Fund; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

Whereupon the President stated: "All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, 'Shall the bill pass with the emergency clause attached?' "

Voting in the affirmative, 37:

Aguilar	Bostelman	Erdman	Kauth	Sanders
Albrecht	Brandt	Halloran	Linehan	Vargas
Arch	Brewer	Hansen	Lippincott	von Gillern
Armendariz	Clements	Hardin	Lowe	Walz
Ballard	Conrad	Holdcroft	McDonnell	Wishart
Blood	DeKay	Hughes	Meyer	
Bosn	Dorn	Ibach	Moser	
Bostar	Dover	Jacobson	Murman	

Voting in the negative, 8:

Cavanaugh, J.	Day	Dungan	McKinney
Cavanaugh, M.	DeBoer	Fredrickson	Slama

Present and not voting, 3:

Hunt	Riepe	Wayne
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Excused and not voting, 1:

Raybould

A constitutional two-thirds majority having voted in the affirmative, the bill was declared passed with the emergency clause and the title agreed to.

SPEAKER SIGNED

While the Legislature was in session and capable of transacting business, the Speaker signed the following: LB1413e.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 840. Placed on Select File with amendment. [ER102](#) is available in the Bill Room.

(Signed) Beau Ballard, Chairperson

Business and Labor

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1408. Placed on General File with amendment. [AM3190](#)

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:
3 Section 1. Section 81-1430, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
4 2022, is amended to read:
5 81-1430 (1) A task force is hereby established within the Nebraska
6 Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for the purposes of
7 investigating and studying human trafficking, the methods for advertising

8 human trafficking services, and the victimization of individuals coerced
9 to participate in human trafficking.

10 (2) The task force shall examine the extent to which human
11 trafficking is prevalent in this state, the scope of efforts being taken
12 to prevent human trafficking from occurring, and the services available
13 to victims of human trafficking in this state. The task force shall
14 utilize information and research available from the Innocence Lost
15 National Initiative. The task force shall research and recommend a model
16 of rehabilitative services for victims of human trafficking that includes
17 input from the areas of law enforcement, social services, the legal
18 profession, the judiciary, mental health, and immigration. The task force
19 shall also investigate the limitations upon victims who wish to come
20 forward and seek medical attention; investigate the potential to stop
21 human trafficking; and investigate the potential to promote recovery, to
22 protect families and children who may be profoundly impacted by such
23 abuse, and to save lives.

24 (3)(a) The Department of Labor shall work with the task force to
25 develop or select informational posters for placement around the state.
26 The posters shall be in English, Spanish, and any other language deemed
27 appropriate by the task force. The posters shall include a toll-free
1 telephone number a person may call for assistance, preferably the
2 National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline ~~(888) 373-7888~~ (888)
3 373-7888.

4 (b) Posters shall be placed in rest stops, strip clubs, ~~and~~ casinos,
5 ~~and hotels and similar public lodging establishments~~. The task force
6 shall work with local businesses and nonprofit entities associated with
7 the prevention of human trafficking to voluntarily place additional signs
8 in high schools, postsecondary educational institutions, gas stations,
9 ~~hotels~~, hospitals, health care clinics, urgent care centers, airports,
10 train stations, bus stations, and other locations around the state deemed
11 appropriate by the task force.

12 (4) The task force shall consist of the following members:

13 (a) The Attorney General or his or her designee;

14 (b) The executive director of the Nebraska Commission on Law
15 Enforcement and Criminal Justice;

16 (c) The Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety or his
17 or her designee;

18 (d) The Director of Correctional Services or his or her designee;

19 (e) The chief of police or director of public safety of a city of
20 two hundred thousand inhabitants or more as determined by the most recent
21 federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by
22 the United States Bureau of the Census;

23 (f) The chief of police or director of public safety of a city of
24 less than two hundred thousand inhabitants as determined by the most
25 recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified
26 count by the United States Bureau of the Census;

27 (g) A county sheriff;

28 (h) A county attorney;

29 (i) A county commissioner;

30 (j) A mayor or city manager;

31 (k) A person involved with the control or prevention of juvenile
1 delinquency;

2 (l) A person involved with the control or prevention of child abuse;

3 (m) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;

4 (n) The director of the Commission on Latino-Americans or his or her
5 designee; and

6 (o) Six members, at least three of whom shall be women, from the
7 public at large.

8 (5) The Governor shall appoint the members of the task force listed
9 in subdivisions (4)(e) through (l) and (o) of this section for terms as

10 provided in subsection (6) of this section. The membership of the task
11 force shall represent varying geographic areas and large and small
12 political subdivisions. One member from the public at large shall be a
13 professional representing child welfare, and one member of the public at
14 large shall represent juvenile pretrial diversion programs.

15 (6) The members of the task force appointed by the Governor shall
16 serve six-year terms, except that of the members first appointed, four
17 shall serve initial two-year terms, four shall serve initial four-year
18 terms, and six shall serve initial six-year terms from January 1 next
19 succeeding their appointments. Thereafter, all members shall serve six-
20 year terms. A member may be reappointed at the expiration of his or her
21 term. Any vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall
22 be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as the
23 original appointment.

24 (7) No member shall serve beyond the time when he or she holds the
25 office, employment, or status by reason of which he or she was initially
26 eligible for appointment. Any member of the task force appointed by the
27 Governor may be removed from the task force for cause upon notice and an
28 opportunity to be heard at a public hearing. One of the causes for
29 removal shall be absence from three regularly scheduled meetings of the
30 task force during any six-month period when the member has failed to
31 advise the task force in advance of such meeting that he or she will be
1 absent and stating a reason therefor.

2 (8) The chairperson of the task force shall be designated by the
3 Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The chairperson shall
4 be the chief executive officer of the task force but may delegate such of
5 his or her duties to other members of the task force as may be authorized
6 by the task force.

7 (9) Notwithstanding any provision of law, ordinance, or charter
8 provision to the contrary, membership on the task force shall not
9 disqualify any member from holding any other public office or employment
10 or cause the forfeiture thereof.

11 (10) The members of the task force shall serve on the task force
12 without compensation, but they shall be entitled to receive reimbursement
13 for expenses incurred incident to such service as provided in sections
14 81-1174 to 81-1177.

15 (11) Eleven members of the task force shall constitute a quorum for
16 the transaction of any business or the exercise of any power of the task
17 force. The task force shall have the power to act by a majority of the
18 members present at any meeting at which a quorum is in attendance.

19 (12) Every July 1 and December 1, the task force shall report
20 electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature the results of its
21 investigation and study and its recommendations, if any, together with
22 drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect
23 by filing the report with the clerk.

24 Sec. 2. Section 81-1431, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
25 amended to read:

26 81-1431 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that law enforcement
27 agencies, prosecutors, public defenders, judges, juvenile detention
28 center staff, and others involved in the juvenile justice system and the
29 criminal justice system and other relevant officials be provided
30 mandatory training regarding issues in human trafficking. The task force
31 established in section 81-1430 shall work with such agencies, persons,
1 and staff to develop a proper curriculum for the training and to
2 determine how the training should be provided. ~~The determination and
3 accompanying legislative recommendations shall be made by December 1,
4 2012.~~ Such training shall focus on:

- 5 (a) State and federal law regarding human trafficking;
- 6 (b) Methods used in identifying victims of human trafficking who are
7 United States citizens and foreign nationals, including preliminary

8 interview techniques and appropriate questioning methods;
9 (c) Methods for prosecuting human traffickers;
10 (d) Methods of increasing effective collaboration with
11 nongovernmental organizations and other relevant social service
12 organizations in the course of investigating and prosecuting a human
13 trafficking case;
14 (e) Methods for protecting the rights of victims of human
15 trafficking, taking into account the need to consider human rights and
16 the special needs of women and minor victims;
17 (f) The necessity of treating victims of human trafficking as crime
18 victims rather than as criminals; and
19 (g) Methods for promoting the safety and well-being of all victims
20 of human trafficking.
21 (2) Employees of hotels and similar public lodging establishments
22 may be provided training regarding issues in human trafficking. The task
23 force established in section 81-1430 may work with the Department of
24 Labor and hotels and similar public lodging establishments to approve
25 such training and determine how such training should be provided. Such
26 training may include:
27 (a) The definition of human trafficking and the commercial
28 exploitation of children;
29 (b) Guidance on how to identify individuals at risk for human
30 trafficking;
31 (c) Guidance on how to identify the signs of human trafficking and
1 any individual potentially engaged in human trafficking;
2 (d) Differences between labor trafficking and sex trafficking,
3 specific to the hotel and public lodging sector;
4 (e) Guidance on the role of hospitality employees in reporting and
5 responding to potential or suspected human trafficking; and
6 (f) The contact information for the National Human Trafficking
7 Resource Center Hotline toll-free telephone number and text line and
8 contact information for local law enforcement.
9 (3) (2) The task force shall also seek the input and participation
10 of appropriate nongovernmental organizations and other relevant
11 organizations regarding the provision, preparation, and presentation of
12 the training called for in this section.
13 Sec. 3. (1) For purposes of this section:
14 (a) Hotel means any facility in which the public may, for a
15 consideration, obtain sleeping accommodations. Hotel includes hotels,
16 motels, tourist homes, campgrounds, courts, lodging houses, inns, state-
17 operated hotels, and nonprofit hotels but does not include hospitals,
18 sanitariums, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, or dormitories or
19 facilities operated by an educational institution and regularly used to
20 house students; and
21 (b) Human trafficking means labor trafficking, labor trafficking of
22 a minor, sex trafficking, or sex trafficking of a minor as those terms
23 are defined in section 28-830.
24 (2) Any person, firm, or corporation that owns or operates a hotel
25 or similar public lodging establishment may:
26 (a) Provide to all employees of such hotel or public lodging
27 establishment within the State of Nebraska training on human trafficking
28 that has been approved pursuant to subsection (2) of section 81-1431
29 within one hundred eighty days of being employed at such hotel or public
30 lodging establishment;
31 (b) Implement procedures for the reporting of suspected human
1 trafficking to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline or
2 to a local enforcement agency; and
3 (c) Implement a human trafficking prevention policy for employees of
4 the hotel or establishment within the State of Nebraska.
5 (3) An owner, operator, or employee of a hotel or similar public

6 lodging establishment who implements the training and policies as
7 prescribed in subsection (2) of this section shall not be liable for any
8 act or omission arising out of or related to human trafficking committed
9 by a third party occurring at such hotel or establishment unless the
10 owner, operator, or employee of the hotel or establishment knowingly
11 assists in the commission of human trafficking.
12 (4) The Department of Labor may adopt and promulgate rules and
13 regulations to carry out this section.
14 Sec. 4. Original section 81-1431, Reissue Revised Statutes of
15 Nebraska, and section 81-1430, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
16 2022, are repealed.

(Signed) Merv Riepe, Chairperson

Revenue

LEGISLATIVE BILL 388. Placed on General File with amendment.
[AM3203](#) is available in the Bill Room.

(Signed) Lou Ann Linehan, Chairperson

BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills were read for the first time by title:

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1317A. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 1317, One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 388A. Introduced by Linehan, 39.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 388, One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1363A. Introduced by McDonnell, 5.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations; to appropriate funds to aid in carrying out the provisions of Legislative Bill 1363, One Hundred Eighth Legislature, Second Session, 2024.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE HEARING(S)

Natural Resources
Room 1507 12:15 PM

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Seth B. Harder - Environmental Quality Council

(Signed) Bruce Bostelman, Chairperson

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Holdcroft filed the following amendment to LB876:

AM3211

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
 2 sections:
 3 Section 1. Sections 1 and 2 of this act and section 29-121 shall be
 4 known and may be cited as the Newborn Safe Haven Act.
 5 Sec. 2. (1) Subject to available funding, it is the intent of the
 6 Legislature to appropriate sixty-five thousand dollars to the Department
 7 of Health and Human Services for fiscal year 2024-25 and ten thousand
 8 dollars each fiscal year thereafter, to develop, implement, and maintain
 9 a public information program to inform the general public of the Newborn
 10 Safe Haven Act.
 11 (2) Components of the program shall include, but not be limited to:
 12 (a) Creation and maintenance of a permanent, interactive website
 13 that provides information to the public about the Newborn Safe Haven Act,
 14 including authorized drop-off locations;
 15 (b) Distribution of literature at statewide locations, as determined
 16 by the department, including the toll-free telephone number of the
 17 National Safe Haven Alliance;
 18 (c) Development of educational, promotional, and informational
 19 materials in print, audio, video, electronic, and other media formats
 20 which includes the toll-free telephone number of the National Safe Haven
 21 Alliance; and
 22 (d) Training to carry out the provisions of the Newborn Safe Haven
 23 Act for emergency care providers, 911 operators, hospital staff,
 24 firefighters, law enforcement officers, or any member of the public
 25 expressing an interest in such training.
 26 Sec. 3. Section 29-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
 27 amended to read:
 1 29-121 (1) No person shall be prosecuted for any crime based solely
 2 upon the act of leaving a child ~~ninety~~ ^{thirty} days old or younger in the
 3 custody of an employee on duty at: (a) ~~A~~ a hospital licensed by the State
 4 of Nebraska; (b) a staffed fire station; (c) a staffed law enforcement
 5 agency; or (d) an emergency care provider.
 6 (2) The hospital, staffed fire station, staffed law enforcement
 7 agency, or emergency care provider shall promptly contact appropriate
 8 authorities to take custody of the child.
 9 Sec. 4. Original section 29-121, Reissue Revised Statutes of
 10 Nebraska, is repealed.

SENATOR DORN PRESIDING**SELECT FILE**

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1188. ER103, found on page 1245, was offered.

ER103 was adopted.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Expedite LB1188

Speaker Arch asked unanimous consent to expedite LB1188. No objections.
 So ordered.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 20A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 37 ayes, 1 nay, 10 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 126A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 262A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 37 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 484A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 876A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 1 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1023A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1027A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 33 ayes, 0 nays, 14 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1031A. Title read. Considered.

SENATOR DEBOER PRESIDING

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 36 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1074A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 35 ayes, 0 nays, 12 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1200A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 37 ayes, 0 nays, 10 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1284A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 32 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 2 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1301A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 32 ayes, 0 nays, 14 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1306A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 30 ayes, 0 nays, 16 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1329A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 28 ayes, 0 nays, 17 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1368A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 29 ayes, 0 nays, 16 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

Presented to the Governor on March 26, 2024, at 3:40 p.m. were the following: LBs 1412e and 1413e.

(Signed) Jamie Leishman
Clerk of the Legislature's Office

RESOLUTION(S)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 443. Introduced by Wishart, 27.

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

Assisted-living facilities provide crucial care to members of the community as they age, from those with minor health risks to those with severe memory loss. Nebraska currently provides different medicaid reimbursement rates based on a facility's urban or rural location. Presently,

the rural reimbursement rate is higher than the urban reimbursement rate due to the higher staffing shortages in rural communities. However, the reimbursement rate for memory-care facilities and assisted-living facilities, regardless of location, remains the same, despite memory-care facilities offering more secure and constant care. Further study is required for how memory-care reimbursement rates may be structured differently, based on the type of care provided and the staffing services required.

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

(1) How reimbursement rates for assisted-living facilities in rural and urban communities compare;

(2) What reimbursement rates for memory-care facilities would be comparable to the rates for assisted-living facilities, based on percentage of reimbursement;

(3) The benefits provided to assisted-living facility residents and their families, memory-care facility residents and their families, assisted-living facilities, and memory-care facilities, in both urban and rural communities, when reimbursement rates are adjusted;

(4) The benefits and further services insurance companies are able to provide when reimbursement rates differ between memory-care facilities and assisted-living facilities; and

(5) The prevalence of medicaid waiver assisted-living services across Nebraska specific to memory care.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 444. Introduced by Wishart, 27.

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

Health care staffing agencies play a crucial part in Nebraska's health care system by directing people to jobs required for the system to operate. With widespread shortages throughout the state in every section of health care, the roles of staffing agencies are more pronounced than ever. However, the oversight provided to staffing agencies is limited. Requiring health care staffing agencies to register with the Department of Health and Human Services, confirm insurance-holder status, and verify that staff meet requirements would provide guardrails beneficial not only to the state but to

the health of Nebraska residents. Further study is required of how such requirements would benefit the overall health care system of Nebraska.

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

(1) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding the agencies' insurance certificates or policies;

(2) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding verification of qualifications, certifications, and requirements of staff;

(3) How a database of registered health care staffing agencies operated by the Department of Health and Human Services would benefit Nebraska's health care system as a whole;

(4) The potential benefits of creating a system that the public could use to report complaints about health care staffing agencies; and

(5) The requirements health care staffing agencies should have regarding annual registration with the Department of Health and Human Services and what information should be provided along with such registration.

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

1. That the Business and Labor Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.

Referred to the Executive Board.

SELECT FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 130A. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 204A. Senator Riepe withdrew [AM2844](#), found on page 888.

Senator Riepe withdrew [AM2871](#), found on page 938.

Senator Riepe offered the following amendment:
[AM3222](#) is available in the Bill Room.

The Riepe amendment was adopted with 29 ayes, 0 nays, 17 present and not voting, and 3 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 926. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 880. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1167. [ER96](#), found on page 1136, was offered.

ER96 was adopted.

Senator DeBoer offered [AM3118](#), found on page 1156.

The DeBoer amendment was adopted with 30 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1270. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1095. Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 484. [ER95](#), found on page 1136, was offered.

ER95 was adopted.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 932. [ER91](#), found on page 1074, was offered.

ER91 was adopted.

Senator Blood offered [AM3149](#), found on page 1264.

The Blood amendment was adopted with 30 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1069. [ER92](#), found on page 1074, was offered.

ER92 was adopted.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1344. Senator Wayne offered [AM3191](#), found on page 1264.

SENATOR DEBOER PRESIDING

Senator Wayne offered the following amendment to his amendment:

[AM3232](#)

(Amendments to AM3191)

- 1 1. On page 3, line 31, strike "The activities described in" and insert an underscored semicolon.
- 3 2. On page 4, strike lines 1 through 3.
- 4 3. On page 13, line 6, after the period insert "The maximum amount of credits per program or project shall not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars per year for the first congressional district and one hundred fifty thousand dollars per year for the third congressional district".
- 8 4. On page 24, line 12, strike "three" and insert "five".

The Wayne amendment, to his amendment, was adopted with 28 ayes, 0 nays, 15 present and not voting, and 6 excused and not voting.

The Wayne amendment, as amended, was adopted with 30 ayes, 3 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 5 excused and not voting.

Senator Wayne offered the following amendment:

[FA320](#)

Strike subsection (d) on page 10, line 2 through 10, starting with "contribution of services" ending with "provided;".

The Wayne amendment was adopted with 37 ayes, 1 nay, 7 present and not voting, and 4 excused and not voting.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review for Engrossment.

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 164. Committee [AM2105](#), found on page 441 and considered on page 507, was renewed.

Senator Wayne withdrew [AM2175](#), found and considered on page 507, to the committee amendment.

Senator McKinney offered [AM3104](#), found on page 1216, to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER ARCH PRESIDING

Pending.

EASE

The Legislature was at ease from 6:03 p.m. until 6:35 p.m.

SENATOR DORN PRESIDING

AMENDMENT(S) - Print in Journal

Senator Holdcroft filed the following amendment to [LB876](#):
[AM3224](#)

(Amendments to AM3211)

1 1. Insert the following new section:

2 Section 1. Section 28-394, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
 3 amended to read:

4 28-394 (1) A person who causes the death of an unborn child
 5 unintentionally while engaged in the operation of a motor vehicle in
 6 violation of the law of the State of Nebraska or in violation of any city
 7 or village ordinance commits motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child.

8 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, motor
 9 vehicle homicide of an unborn child is a Class I misdemeanor.

10 (3)(a) If the proximate cause of the death of an unborn child is the
 11 operation of a motor vehicle in violation of section 60-6,213 or
 12 60-6,214, motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child is a Class IIIA
 13 felony.

14 (b) Except as provided in subdivision (3)(c) of this section, if the
 15 proximate cause of the death of an unborn child is the operation of a
 16 motor vehicle in violation of section 60-6,196 or 60-6,197.06, motor
 17 vehicle homicide of an unborn child is a Class IIA HA felony and the
 18 court shall, as part of the judgment of conviction, order the person not
 19 to drive any motor vehicle for any purpose for a period of at least sixty
 20 days and not more than fifteen years after the date ordered by the court
 21 and shall order that the operator's license of such person be revoked for
 22 the same period. The revocation shall not run concurrently with any jail
 23 term imposed.

24 (c) If the proximate cause of the death of an unborn child is the
 25 operation of a motor vehicle in violation of section 60-6,196 or
 26 60-6,197.06 and the defendant has a prior conviction for a violation of
 1 section 60-6,196 or a city or village ordinance enacted in conformance
 2 with section 60-6,196, motor vehicle homicide of an unborn child is a
 3 Class II HA felony and the court shall, as part of the judgment of
 4 conviction, order the person not to drive any motor vehicle for any
 5 purpose for a period of at least sixty days and not more than fifteen
 6 years after the date ordered by the court and shall order that the
 7 operator's license of such person be revoked for the same period. The
 8 revocation shall not run concurrently with any jail term imposed.

9 (4) The crime punishable under this section shall be treated as a
 10 separate and distinct offense from any other offense arising out of acts
 11 alleged to have been committed while the person was in violation of this
 12 section.

13 2. Renumber the remaining sections, correct internal references, and
 14 correct the repealer accordingly.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1188. Placed on Final Reading.

(Signed) Beau Ballard, Chairperson

GENERAL FILE

LEGISLATIVE BILL 164. Committee [AM2105](#), found on page 441 and
 considered on page 507 and in this day's Journal, was renewed.

Senator McKinney renewed [AM3104](#), found on page 1216 and considered in this day's Journal, to the committee amendment.

Senator McKinney moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 17 ayes, 1 nays, and 31 not voting.

SENATOR FREDRICKSON PRESIDING

The McKinney amendment, to the committee amendment, was adopted with 30 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 6 excused and not voting.

The Chair declared the call raised.

The committee amendment, as amended, was adopted with 32 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 6 excused and not voting.

Senator McKinney withdrew [AM2075](#), found on page 328.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 31 ayes, 0 nays, 11 present and not voting, and 7 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 164A. Title read. Considered.

Advanced to Enrollment and Review Initial with 26 ayes, 0 nays, 13 present and not voting, and 10 excused and not voting.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1092. Title read. Considered.

Committee [AM2585](#), found on page 1086, was offered.

Senator Murman asked unanimous to withdraw the following motions:

[MO1292](#), found on page 1202, to bracket.

[MO1293](#), found on page 1202, to recommit to committee.

[MO1294](#), found on page 1202, to indefinitely postpone.

No objections. So ordered.

Senator Murman withdrew [FA305](#), found on page 1203, to the committee amendment.

Senator Murman offered [FA306](#), found on page 1203, to the committee amendment.

Senator M. Cavanaugh offered the following motion:

[MO1312](#)

Bracket until April 11, 2024.

Senator M. Cavanaugh moved for a call of the house. The motion prevailed with 15 ayes, 1 nay, and 33 not voting.

The M. Cavanaugh motion to bracket failed with 5 ayes, 29 nays, 7 present and not voting, and 8 excused and not voting.

Pending.

COMMITTEE REPORT(S)
Enrollment and Review

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1329. Placed on Select File with amendment. [ER105](#) is available in the Bill Room.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1074. Placed on Select File with amendment. [ER99](#) is available in the Bill Room.

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1301. Placed on Select File with amendment. [ER104](#) is available in the Bill Room.

(Signed) Beau Ballard, Chairperson

MOTION(S) - Print in Journal

Senator M. Cavanaugh filed the following motion to [LB1092](#):
[MO1314](#)
Reconsider the vote on MO1312.

Senator M. Cavanaugh filed the following motion to [LB1092](#):
[MO1313](#)
Recommit to the Judiciary Committee.

Senator M. Cavanaugh filed the following motion to [LB1092](#):
[MO1311](#)
Indefinitely postpone.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Senator Linehan announced the Revenue Committee will be holding a briefing on the LB388 tax package Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 8:15 a.m., in Room 1524.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT - Add Cointroducer(s)

Unanimous consent to add Senator(s) as cointroducer(s). No objections. So ordered.

Senator Dungan name added to LR336.

VISITOR(S)

The Doctor of the Day was Dr. Christi Keim of Lincoln.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:58 p.m., on a motion by Senator Lowe, the Legislature adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

Brandon Metzler
Clerk of the Legislature

