

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 296**

Introduced by Bolz, 29.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the financing of Nebraska's child welfare system. This study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) Nebraska's utilization of federal funding to support child welfare services such as medicaid, the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, and Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act;

(2) How Nebraska can more effectively use federal funds to allow state child welfare dollars to fill in funding gaps and implement approaches to improve outcomes for children and families;

(3) The status of funding within Nebraska's Title IV-E demonstration project;

(4) The use of state funds appropriated for child welfare services as part of Budget Program 354 and how Nebraska can increase transparency and accountability in this program and others that utilize state dollars to fund child welfare;

(5) The savings Nebraska has captured as a result of the federal government decoupling adoption assistance and aid to families with dependent children income standards as part of the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008; and

(6) How Nebraska is reinvesting those savings in post-adoption and post-guardianship services or reunification services required by federal law.

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