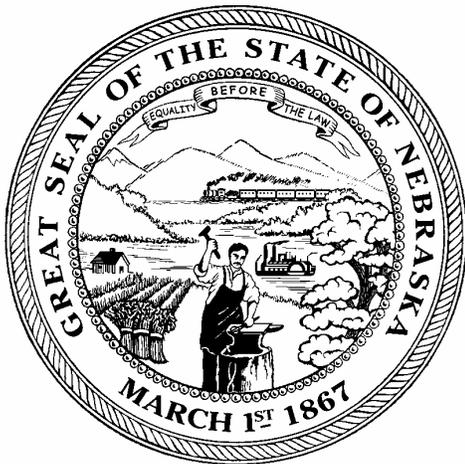


**INTERIM
STUDY
RESOLUTIONS**

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

2012



03-02-01-2012

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2012**

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INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS**Numerical List**Recommended by the Executive Board

*Studies being considered jointly.

- LR387 Interim study to analyze the feasibility, process, and profitability of selling Omaha's Metropolitan Utilities District from the public domain to a private entity
Urban Affairs
- LR452 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement System
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR462 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended to address the sale of ancillary service contracts and ancillary protection product warranties
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR464 Interim study to examine the procurement procedures of governmental units with respect to contracts for publicly funded construction projects
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR465 Interim study to examine the impact of the pulse oximetry procedure in testing for critical congenital heart disease in newborns
Health and Human Services
- LR476 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's business entity statutes should be updated
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR478 Interim study to examine the issue of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Nebraska
Judiciary
- LR479 Interim study to examine Nebraska's laws and regulations on radon gas exposure, particularly the effect of radon gas on children
Health and Human Services
- LR480 Interim study to examine how Nebraska's public power utilities can partner with private energy efficiency companies to offer "On Bill Pay," a process in which a consumer contracts with an

energy service company to audit, finance, and manage energy efficiency
Natural Resources

- LR481 Interim study to examine funding sources for the United States Dept. of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program
Revenue
- LR482 Interim study to examine the use of eminent domain by political subdivisions for the taking of private land for the use of development or management of recreational trails or corridors
Natural Resources
- LR483 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should update the Uniform Commercial Code with regard to rejection or removal of fraudulent or otherwise improper financing statements or other records offered for filing with the Secretary of State
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR486 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding state procurement policies
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR487 Interim study to examine issues surrounding restrictions on registered sex offender participation in state and federal holiday activities that are centered around children
Judiciary
- LR488* Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of state settlement funds
Appropriations and Judiciary
- LR489 Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska
Education
- LR490 Interim study to examine funding for educational service units
Education
- LR491 Interim study to examine the effectiveness of seeking medicaid reimbursements for certain services and expanding special education services
Education
- LR492 Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska
Education

- LR493 Interim study to examine the use of the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund and to make recommendations on future use
Appropriations
- LR494 Interim study to examine uninsured and unlicensed drivers and associated penalties
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR495 Interim study to examine the flood control needs of Omaha and the greater Omaha metropolitan area
Natural Resources
- LR496 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR498 Interim study to examine the processes, legislative and administrative, necessary for the establishment in Nebraska of a health insurance exchange in response to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR500 Interim study to examine the purchasing policies and practices of school districts and educational service units
Education
- LR501 Interim study to examine intergovernmental relations between municipal and state governments in Nebraska
Urban Affairs
- LR502 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding governmental transparency
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR503 Interim study to examine issues surrounding project labor agreements
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR504 Interim study to examine Nebraska's statutes and regulations on hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking
Natural Resources
- LR505 Interim study to examine methods of ensuring that medical professionals, who as part of their scope of practice provide injections to human patients, are following safe injection practices
Health and Human Services

- LR506 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the moratorium on long-term beds under the Nebraska Health Care Certificate of Need Act
Health and Human Services
- LR507 Interim study to examine establishing a statewide Farm to School initiative in Nebraska to encourage partnerships between farmers and school districts to increase fresh local food availability in schools
Agriculture
- LR508 Interim study to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation and sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act
Health and Human Services
- LR509 Interim study to examine the feasibility of a hydroelectric dam on the Platte River near Interstate 80
Natural Resources
- LR510 Interim study to provide that a select committee gather information and provide recommendations for an early childhood learning and development reform agenda
Education
- LR511* Interim study to examine Nebraska's kindergarten through twelfth grade education standards and curricula to determine whether agriculture is incorporated as an essential component
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- LR512 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR513 Interim study to examine ways in which health benefit policies and contracts could provide coverage for patient-centered medical homes
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR514 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the laws governing the process for sales of real property for delinquent real property taxes
Revenue
- LR515 Interim study to examine new ways to pay for and deliver health care services through the medicaid program that improve the quality of care and health of participants while lowering costs
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- LR517 Interim study to examine the benefits of adult day service programs currently provided to Nebraska seniors
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- LR518 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the investment of state funds
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR519 Interim study to examine wage subsidy programs
Health and Human Services
- LR520* Interim study to examine issues relating to land banking
Revenue and Urban Affairs
- LR521* Interim study to evaluate whether the courts are utilizing the provision which provides that a court may order a parent to pay a reasonable sum to cover support, study, and treatment of a juvenile in the custody of the Dept. of Health and Human Services
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- LR538 Interim study to examine eminent domain authority and judicial approval and interpretation of the public interest determination
Judiciary
- LR539 Interim study to examine ways in which to manage water and provide benefits to landowners and other entities for their ability to store and manage water in recharge areas
Natural Resources
- LR540 Interim study to examine the concept of a philanthropic entity investing in an area of state government instead of investing in the capital market
Appropriations
- LR541 Interim study to examine changing the percentage of municipal sales and use tax receipts given to municipalities to accommodate those that have been adversely affected by large municipal sales and use tax refunds
Revenue
- LR542* Interim study to examine issues surrounding the creation of a state infrastructure bank
Revenue and Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR543 Interim study to examine the potential adoption of an energy efficiency resource standard in Nebraska
Natural Resources

- LR544 Interim study to examine economic development programs designed to promote international trade
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR545 Interim study to examine statutes and regulations that deal with the Nebraska Power Review Board's approval of major investments in electric utility power plants
Natural Resources
- LR546* Interim study to examine the potential impact of implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the state budget in upcoming years
Appropriations and Health and Human Services
- LR547 Interim study to gather information about what health benefits are important to Nebraskans, evaluate benchmark plan options available to our state, and allow public input into the process of selecting what benefits will be available
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR548 Interim study to examine the Nebraska state 529 educational savings plan and make recommendations on ways to increase plan participation
Education
- LR549* Interim study to determine the range of investment returns on the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund over the next ten years and the actual demands upon the current recipients of the funds over the next ten years
Appropriations and Health and Human Services
- LR550 Interim study to examine the impact of the federal cuts to Nebraska anticipated due to the Budget Control Act of 2011
Appropriations
- LR551 Interim study to assess the effectiveness of ACCESSNebraska for clients, community-based partners, and workers using qualitative and quantitative analysis
Health and Human Services
- LR552 Interim study to examine economic development in the more rural areas of the state, with a focus on cities of the first class and second class and villages
Urban Affairs
- LR553* Interim study to examine strategies to promote the restoration and revitalization of historic business districts throughout Nebraska
Revenue and Urban Affairs

- LR555 Interim study to review and examine the ongoing issues within Nebraska's Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities, also known as Nebraska's Medicaid Buy-In, enacted in 1999
Health and Human Services
- LR556 Interim study to examine the current ground water policy contained in Nebraska's statutes
Natural Resources
- LR557 Interim study to examine the progress of the creation of a blender fuel pump infrastructure in Nebraska
Agriculture
- LR558 Interim study to examine legislation that has been proposed or enacted in several states to protect against disruptions of agricultural operations
Agriculture
- LR559 Interim study to examine potential structural models for commodity development programs to enhance flexibility, resources, and accountability to producers
Agriculture
- LR560 Interim study to review federal and state laws on the practice of businesses such as gas stations, hotels, or other businesses, placing holds on credit cards for more than the amount of the purchase
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR561 Interim study to examine the feasibility of a merger between the Dept. of Economic Development and the Dept. of Labor, as proposed in LB971
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR562 Interim study to examine the impact of the banking and finance industry on the economy of the state
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR563 Interim study to examine the constitutionality of AM1603 to LB514, which would provide an additional recovery amount for compensatory or actual damages sustained due to an unreasonable delay or denial by an insurance company
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR564 Interim study to examine the constitutionality of creating standing secondary surface water appropriation rights to unappropriated surface water for interbasin transfers to mitigate

flood damage which are inferior in right to any future surface water appropriations that may be issued in the basin of origin
Natural Resources

- LR565 Interim study to examine issues pertaining to tax incentives for affordable housing, including, but not limited to, whether other states allow such tax incentives to be used for graffiti removal and abatement
Revenue
- LR566 Interim study to examine a funding mechanism for all cities and villages to assist in the financing of new projects that will address the need for Nebraska residents currently leaving the state to experience tourist and other destinations that are currently not located in Nebraska
Revenue
- LR567 Interim study to examine tax burdens and fiscal conditions in Nebraska communities
Revenue
- LR568 Interim study to examine any aspect of the state tax structure and tax policy
Revenue
- LR569 Interim study to examine implementation of utilization and treatment guidelines in cases before the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
Business and Labor
- LR571 Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee
Judiciary
- LR572 Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR573 Interim study to examine reporting provisions for tax incentives and analysis methods used to analyze the impacts of tax incentives
Revenue
- LR574 Interim study to review the anticipated disease traceability final rule by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Dept. of Agriculture
Agriculture

- LR575 Interim study to examine the interests and any role of the Dept. of Agriculture relating to incidents of livestock neglect and abandonment, particularly with respect to safeguarding livestock health
Agriculture
- LR576 Interim study to conduct a review of the laws governing the powers of a court appointed representative of a deceased individual to take control of or terminate any accounts or message services that are considered digital assets
Judiciary
- LR577* Interim study to research needs and resources related to food insecurity in Nebraska
Agriculture and Health and Human Services
- LR578* Interim study to assess the State of Nebraska's compliance with both the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act, and to make recommendations for improvements
Health and Human Services and State-Tribal Relations
- LR579 Interim study to examine issues pertaining to statutory and constitutional limitations on bond indebtedness of municipalities
Revenue
- LR580 Interim study to examine the potential for research, development, and deployment of liquid fluoride thorium reactors in the State of Nebraska
Natural Resources
- LR581 Interim study to analyze the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation in workers' compensation cases in Nebraska
Business and Labor
- LR582 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the laws governing powers of a city to enter into a redevelopment project for property within a radius of three miles of the boundaries of a city
Urban Affairs
- LR583 Interim study to examine the structure, authority, and mission of the Public Service Commission in its administration of transportation by passenger motor carriers
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR584 Interim study to examine the authority and execution of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings
Judiciary

- LR585 Interim study to examine the structure, maintenance, and mission of the parole system and the Board of Parole
Judiciary
- LR586 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the General Affairs Committee
General Affairs
- LR587 Interim study to determine if there is a need for safeguards to protect adults with developmental disabilities, who require a guardian or conservator, from being unduly influenced in certain situations
Judiciary
- LR588 Interim study to encourage ways to encourage tourism throughout the State of Nebraska
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR589 Interim study to analyze the Nebraska Advantage Act
Revenue
- LR590 Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee
Education
- LR591 Interim study to examine the progress toward the development of a state longitudinal education data system
Education
- LR592 Interim study to examine autism and the ways in which the educational, medical, and insurance industries can collaborate to provide successful treatment to children
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR593 Interim study to examine the taxing of flavored malt beverages at a separate, higher rate category than the current beer rate under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
Revenue
- LR594 Interim study to examine several policy issues regarding the definition of a flavored malt beverage
General Affairs
- LR595 Interim study to examine possible methods to increase direct investment from both domestic and foreign sources in Nebraska's economy
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

- LR596* Interim study to examine methods of enhancing the budgetary coordination between the Revenue Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature
Revenue and Appropriations
- LR597 Interim study to examine methods to enhance educational and employment opportunities involving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in Nebraska
Education
- LR598 Interim study to examine methods to more equitably value agricultural lands for tax purposes in Nebraska
Revenue
- LR600 Interim study to examine the Municipal Equalization Fund, including the formula and the sources of funding
Revenue
- LR601 Interim study to determine the workforce training opportunities that renewable energy projects can provide in Nebraska communities and how Nebraska can be more strategic and competitive in its job training approaches
Business and Labor
- LR602 Interim study of the intent of LB919, and the current fees paid to sheriffs for performing their statutory responsibilities and increasing docket fees to cover the actual costs associated with using the court system
Judiciary
- LR608 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding the One-Call Notification System Act
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR628 Interim study to examine the pensions provided to firefighters in cities of the first class
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR644 Interim study to examine alternative sources of county revenue if the inheritance tax is repealed
Revenue

EXECUTIVE BOARD POLICY

Executive Board Referral

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

Committee Action

Legislative rules (Rule 4, Section 3(c)) require study resolutions be prioritized by the chairperson of the committee to which they are referred, and a report on those priorities shall be filed with the Clerk. This prioritization will in no way limit the committee's traditional prerogative to conduct hearings and oversee matters that are within their subject matter jurisdiction. Each committee may file with the Clerk, his or her committee's study plan for the highest prioritized interim studies referenced to such committee.

Rule 4, Section 3(g) of the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature requires that on or before December 1 of each year, each standing and select interim committee file a report on the disposition of the study resolutions referred to them.

(The following referral list reflects the committee prioritization of the resolutions referred to them.)

INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE REFERRALS

Committee Priority Designations

*Studies being considered jointly.

Agriculture: Carlson (C), Wallman (VC), Bloomfield, Brasch, B. Harr, Karpisek, Larson, Lathrop

- LR557 Interim study to examine the progress of the creation of a blender fuel pump infrastructure in Nebraska
Agriculture
- LR559 Interim study to examine potential structural models for commodity development programs to enhance flexibility, resources, and accountability to producers
Agriculture
- LR511* Interim study to examine Nebraska's kindergarten through twelfth grade education standards and curricula to determine whether agriculture is incorporated as an essential component
Agriculture and Education
- LR558 Interim study to examine legislation that has been proposed or enacted in several states to protect against disruptions of agricultural operations
Agriculture
- LR574 Interim study to review the anticipated disease traceability final rule by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Dept. of Agriculture
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- LR575 Interim study to examine the interests and any role of the Dept. of Agriculture relating to incidents of livestock neglect and abandonment, particularly with respect to safeguarding livestock health
Agriculture
- LR507 Interim study to examine establishing a statewide Farm to School initiative in Nebraska to encourage partnerships between farmers and school districts to increase fresh local food availability in schools
Agriculture
- LR528 Interim study to evaluate whether Knox County producers and sales facilities would benefit from the entire county being either inside or outside the brand inspection area
Agriculture

LR577* Interim study to research needs and resources related to food insecurity in Nebraska
Agriculture and Health and Human Services

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

LR546* Interim study to examine the potential impact of implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the state budget in upcoming years
Appropriations and Health and Human Services

LR550 Interim study to examine the impact of the federal cuts to Nebraska anticipated due to the Budget Control Act of 2011
Appropriations

LR549* Interim study to determine the range of investment returns on the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund over the next ten years and the actual demands upon the current recipients of the funds over the next ten years
Appropriations and Health and Human Services

LR493 Interim study to examine the use of the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund and to make recommendations on future use
Appropriations

LR488* Interim study to examine issues surrounding the use of state settlement funds
Appropriations and Judiciary

LR596* Interim study to examine methods of enhancing the budgetary coordination between the Revenue Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature
Revenue and Appropriations

LR540 Interim study to examine the concept of a philanthropic entity investing in an area of state government instead of investing in the capital market
Appropriations

Banking, Commerce and Insurance: Pahls (C), McCoy (VC), Christensen, Gloor, Langemeier, Pirsch, Schilz, Schumacher

LR513 Interim study to examine ways in which health benefit policies and contracts could provide coverage for patient-centered medical homes
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

- LR476 Interim study to determine whether Nebraska's business entity statutes should be updated
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
- LR483 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska should update the Uniform Commercial Code with regard to rejection or removal of fraudulent or otherwise improper financing statements or other records offered for filing with the Secretary of State
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- LR544 Interim study to examine economic development programs designed to promote international trade
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Banking, Commerce and Insurance

LR462 Interim study to examine whether Nebraska's insurance laws should be amended to address the sale of ancillary service contracts and ancillary protection product warranties
Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Business and Labor: Lathrop (C), Cook (VC), Ashford, Carlson, B. Harr, Smith, Wallman

LR601 Interim study to determine the workforce training opportunities that renewable energy projects can provide in Nebraska communities and how Nebraska can be more strategic and competitive in its job training approaches
Business and Labor

LR569 Interim study to examine implementation of utilization and treatment guidelines in cases before the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
Business and Labor

LR581 Interim study to analyze the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation in workers' compensation cases in Nebraska
Business and Labor

Education: Adams (C), Howard (VC), Avery, Cornett, Council, K. Haar, Seiler, Sullivan

LR489 Interim study to examine early childhood education programs in Nebraska
Education

LR492 Interim study to examine the system of financing public education in Nebraska
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Education
- LR510 Interim study to provide that a select committee gather
information and provide recommendations for an early childhood
learning and development reform agenda
Education
- LR590 Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the
Education Committee
Education
- General Affairs:** Karpisek (C), Krist (VC), Bloomfield, Brasch, Coash,
Lambert, Larson, McGill
- LR594 Interim study to examine several policy issues regarding the
definition of a flavored malt beverage
General Affairs
- LR586 Interim study to examine issues under the jurisdiction of the
General Affairs Committee
General Affairs

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

- LR502 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding governmental transparency
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
- LR561 Interim study to examine the feasibility of a merger between the Dept. of Economic Development and the Dept. of Labor, as proposed in LB971
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- LR503 Interim study to examine issues surrounding project labor agreements
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Health and Human Services: Campbell (C), Gloor (VC), Bloomfield, Cook, Howard, Krist, Lambert

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- LR525* Interim study to examine how Nebraska's system for screening, assessing, and investigating reports of child abuse and neglect contributes to Nebraska's rates of out-of-home care
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- LR479 Interim study to examine Nebraska's laws and regulations on radon gas exposure, particularly the effect of radon gas on children
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LR602 Interim study of the intent of LB919, and the current fees paid to sheriffs for performing their statutory responsibilities and increasing docket fees to cover the actual costs associated with using the court system
Judiciary

LR585 Interim study to examine the structure, maintenance, and mission of the parole system and the Board of Parole
Judiciary

Natural Resources: Langemeier (C), Schilz (VC), Carlson, Christensen, Dubas, K. Haar, McCoy, Smith

LR495 Interim study to examine the flood control needs of Omaha and the greater Omaha metropolitan area
Natural Resources

LR556 Interim study to examine the current ground water policy contained in Nebraska's statutes
Natural Resources

LR504 Interim study to examine Nebraska's statutes and regulations on hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking
Natural Resources

LR564 Interim study to examine the constitutionality of creating standing secondary surface water appropriation rights to unappropriated surface water for interbasin transfers to mitigate flood damage which are inferior in right to any future surface water appropriations that may be issued in the basin of origin
Natural Resources

LR480 Interim study to examine how Nebraska's public power utilities can partner with private energy efficiency companies to offer "On Bill Pay," a process in which a consumer contracts with an energy service company to audit, finance, and manage energy efficiency
Natural Resources

LR539 Interim study to examine ways in which to manage water and provide benefits to landowners and other entities for their ability to store and manage water in recharge areas
Natural Resources

- LR545 Interim study to examine statutes and regulations that deal with the Nebraska Power Review Board's approval of major investments in electric utility power plants
Natural Resources
- LR580 Interim study to examine the potential for research, development, and deployment of liquid fluoride thorium reactors in the State of Nebraska
Natural Resources
- LR543 Interim study to examine the potential adoption of an energy efficiency resource standard in Nebraska
Natural Resources
- LR482 Interim study to examine the use of eminent domain by political subdivisions for the taking of private land for the use of development or management of recreational trails or corridors
Natural Resources
- LR509 Interim study to examine the feasibility of a hydroelectric dam on the Platte River near Interstate 80
Natural Resources

Nebraska Retirement Systems: Nordquist (C), Louden (VC), Heidemann, Karpisek, Lambert, Mello

- LR452 Interim study to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement System
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR518 Interim study to examine issues surrounding the investment of state funds
Nebraska Retirement Systems
- LR628 Interim study to examine the pensions provided to firefighters in cities of the first class
Nebraska Retirement Systems

Revenue: Cornett (C), Louden (VC), Adams, Brasch, Fischer, Hadley, Pirsch, Schumacher

- LR566 Interim study to examine a funding mechanism for all cities and villages to assist in the financing of new projects that will address the need for Nebraska residents currently leaving the state to experience tourist and other destinations that are currently not located in Nebraska
Revenue

- LR644 Interim study to examine alternative sources of county revenue if the inheritance tax is repealed
Revenue
- LR598 Interim study to examine methods to more equitably value agricultural lands for tax purposes in Nebraska
Revenue
- LR579 Interim study to examine issues pertaining to statutory and constitutional limitations on bond indebtedness of municipalities
Revenue
- LR573 Interim study to examine reporting provisions for tax incentives and analysis methods used to analyze the impacts of tax incentives
Revenue
- LR553* Interim study to examine strategies to promote the restoration and revitalization of historic business districts throughout Nebraska
Revenue and Urban Affairs
- LR596* Interim study to examine methods of enhancing the budgetary coordination between the Revenue Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature
Revenue and Appropriations
- LR542* Interim study to examine issues surrounding the creation of a state infrastructure bank
Revenue and Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR600 Interim study to examine the Municipal Equalization Fund, including the formula and the sources of funding
Revenue
- LR593 Interim study to examine the taxing of flavored malt beverages at a separate, higher rate category than the current beer rate under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act
Revenue
- LR565 Interim study to examine issues pertaining to tax incentives for affordable housing, including, but not limited to, whether other states allow such tax incentives to be used for graffiti removal and abatement
Revenue
- LR514 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the laws governing the process for sales of real property for delinquent real property taxes
Revenue

- LR481 Interim study to examine funding sources for the United States Dept. of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program
Revenue
- LR520* Interim study to examine issues relating to land banking
Revenue and Urban Affairs
- LR541 Interim study to examine changing the percentage of municipal sales and use tax receipts given to municipalities to accommodate those that have been adversely affected by large municipal sales and use tax refunds
Revenue
- LR589 Interim study to analyze the Nebraska Advantage Act
Revenue
- LR567 Interim study to examine tax burdens and fiscal conditions in Nebraska communities
Revenue
- LR568 Interim study to examine any aspect of the state tax structure and tax policy
Revenue

Transportation and Telecommunications: Fischer (C), Hadley (VC), Campbell, Dubas, Janssen, Lautenbaugh, Loudon, Price

- LR608 Interim study to examine the issues surrounding the One-Call Notification System Act
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR494 Interim study to examine uninsured and unlicensed drivers and associated penalties
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR583 Interim study to examine the structure, authority, and mission of the Public Service Commission in its administration of transportation by passenger motor carriers
Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR542* Interim study to examine issues surrounding the creation of a state infrastructure bank
Revenue and Transportation and Telecommunications
- LR572 Interim study to review matters under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
Transportation and Telecommunications

Urban Affairs: McGill (C), Coash (VC), Ashford, Cook, Krist, Lambert, Smith

- LR552 Interim study to examine economic development in the more rural areas of the state, with a focus on cities of the first class and second class and villages
Urban Affairs
- LR501 Interim study to examine intergovernmental relations between municipal and state governments in Nebraska
Urban Affairs
- LR520* Interim study to examine issues relating to land banking
Revenue and Urban Affairs
- LR553* Interim study to examine strategies to promote the restoration and revitalization of historic business districts throughout Nebraska
Revenue and Urban Affairs
- LR387 Interim study to analyze the feasibility, process, and profitability of selling Omaha's Metropolitan Utilities District from the public domain to a private entity
Urban Affairs
- LR582 Interim study to conduct a comprehensive review of the laws governing powers of a city to enter into a redevelopment project for property within a radius of three miles of the boundaries of a city
Urban Affairs

INTERIM STUDY RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 387. Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to analyze the feasibility, process, and profitability of selling Omaha's Metropolitan Utilities District from the public domain to a private entity. With the current climate of the United States and state economies, it has become necessary to find new ways of trimming government and reducing the burdens on municipalities. This study would be a step in that direction for the city of Omaha.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 452. Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the public employees retirement systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board, including the State Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the retirement system established pursuant to the County Employees Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement System, and the Nebraska Judges Retirement System as provided in the Judges Retirement Act. The study may also examine the retirement system established pursuant to the Class V School Employees Retirement Act.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 462. Introduced by McCoy, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska's insurance laws, particularly the Motor Vehicle Service Contract Reimbursement Insurance Act, should be amended to address the sale of ancillary service contracts and ancillary protection product warranties. The study should include a review of issues raised during consideration of

LB 1054 (McCoy), which was introduced in 2012 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee of the Legislature. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Department of Insurance and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 464. Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the procurement procedures of governmental units with respect to contracts for publicly funded construction projects. The study shall explore the processes utilized by all levels of government to ensure the efficient use of public funds and the effective administration and completion of such projects, including procurement procedures that give preference to a contractor or subcontractor's willingness to enter into or adhere to a collective-bargaining agreement.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 465. Introduced by Smith, 14.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the impact of the pulse oximetry procedure in testing for critical congenital heart disease (CCHD) in newborns. The study shall include an examination of the prevalence of newborns born with CCHD, the long-term costs associated with CCHD, the potential to decrease morbidity rates associated with delayed diagnosis, and the cost benefits of early detection. In addition, the study shall consider the costs associated with the pulse oximetry procedure, the ability of birthing facilities in areas with limited healthcare resources to carry out the procedure, the means for reimbursement of the costs associated with the procedure, and the appropriate entity to develop and enforce guidelines in carrying out the procedure and necessary follow-up evaluations for abnormal results.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 476. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska's business entity statutes should be updated. The study should include a review of the Model Entity Transactions Act, which is a collaborative effort of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) and the American Bar Association to provide the states with a recommended, comprehensive statutory framework governing mergers, interest exchanges, conversions, and domestications involving various business entities. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of Nebraska members of NCCUSL and the Secretary of State and should consider the input of interested persons, including the practicing bar, as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 478. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Ashford, 20; Avery, 28; Conrad, 46; Cook, 13; Cornett, 45; Council, 11; B. Harr, 8; Howard, 9; McGill, 26; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the issue of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Nebraska and to evaluate the need for legislation that would promote equal protection for all of our state's residents.

The committee shall conduct a study that includes, but is not limited to, an examination of the following issues:

- (1) The need to strengthen basic civil rights protections for all Nebraskans;
- (2) The need to provide legal recourse for persons discriminated against based upon their sexual orientation or gender identity;
- (3) The impact of laws that provide equal employment protections on employee recruitment and retention;

(4) The impact of laws that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in attracting new residents and businesses to the state;

(5) The impact of a lack of uniformity in antidiscrimination ordinances and policies across the state; and

(6) The need for an exemption for religious organizations.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 479. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's laws and regulations on radon gas exposure, particularly the effect of radon gas on Nebraska's children. The study should review the laws and regulations in place to protect children from harmful exposure in child care centers and similar places that children spend their time. The study should include a review of the issues raised during the consideration of LB 945 (Haar), which was introduced in 2012 and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek out the advice of the Nebraska Radon Program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and licensed child care providers and the committee should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 480. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how Nebraska's public power utilities can partner with private energy efficiency companies to offer "On Bill Pay." "On Bill Pay" is a process in which a consumer contracts with an energy service company (ESCO) to audit, finance, and manage energy efficiency. The ESCO retains all the risks, and the contract is paid by energy savings by the end user through his or her utility bill. The utility is the pass-through organization, is paid a fee for the service, and is not responsible for unpaid bills on the energy efficiency project. The committee

should look at examples of this practice working in Nebraska and other states and examine ways to make it available to all Nebraskans. In order to carry out the purpose of the resolution, the committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations, including energy efficiency businesses, public power providers, and others.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 481. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study funding sources for the United States Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CLCs) Program. CLCs are programs in which public schools participate in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate educational, developmental, family, health, and other comprehensive services through community-based organizations and public and private partnerships. They also provide access and services during the school year, including before-school and after-school hours and during the summer to students, families, and the community. CLCs are currently partially funded through grants from the federal government, but funding for those grants will end soon. The study should include a review of the issues raised during the consideration of LB 989 (Haar), which was introduced in 2012 and referred to the Revenue Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek out advice from public schools and community-based organizations and review funding approaches from other states. The committee should also consider the input of all interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 482. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the use of eminent domain by political subdivisions for the taking of private land for the development or management of recreational trails or corridors. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the eminent domain procedures to be used by natural resources districts for recreational trails or corridors under sections 2-3234 through 2-3234.09;

(2) A review of the eminent domain procedures to be used by other political subdivisions for recreational trails or corridors under sections 76-701 through 76-726; and

(3) An examination of recreational trail projects in Nebraska being undertaken by natural resources districts in partnership with another political subdivision.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 483. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether Nebraska should update and strengthen its statutes, particularly Uniform Commercial Code, article 9, part 5, with regard to rejection or removal of fraudulent or otherwise improper financing statements or other records offered for filing in the office of the Secretary of State. The study should include a review of issues raised during consideration of LB 982 (Harr), which was introduced in 2012 and referenced to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the Secretary of State and Nebraska members of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and should consider the input of interested persons, including financial institutions and the practicing bar, as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 486. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issues surrounding state procurement policies. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the current procurement procedures utilized by the Department of Administrative Services and other state agencies;

(2) A review of domestic and local preference requirements in other states and at the federal level;

(3) A review of existing state contracts' usage of services and products from outside of the United States; and

(4) A review of the potential economic benefits to Nebraska businesses and taxpayers of adopting domestic and local preference requirements.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 487. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding restrictions on registered sex offender participation in state and federal holiday activities that are centered around children. This study shall include an examination of such restrictions in other states, as well as potential logistical, procedural, and constitutional barriers to such restrictions.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 488. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding the use of state settlement funds. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of whether state settlement funds should be treated as fines or penalties subject to Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska;

(2) An examination of past and present procedures used by the office of the Attorney General to allocate state settlement funds, including settlements under the Consumer Protection Act, supplemental environmental project settlements, and multistate settlements to which the State of Nebraska is a party;

(3) A review of the use of the State Settlement Cash Fund and the State Settlement Trust Fund, including the extent to which both funds have been utilized for settlements which do not fall under the Consumer Protection Act; and

(4) A review of the mechanisms used in other states to allocate state settlement funds.

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

1. That the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 489. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: To study the provision of early childhood education programs in Nebraska. The study shall include a determination of the appropriate goals for the provision of publicly funded early childhood education programs and an examination of progress toward such goals. The study shall also include, as part of the examination of progress, an analysis of measurement instruments for assessing the skills of children who are entering kindergarten and who attended a publicly funded early childhood education program, who attended a privately funded early childhood education program, and who did not attend an early childhood education program.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 490. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: To study the system for funding educational service units.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 491. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study:

(1) The efficiency and effectiveness of the current systems for seeking medicaid reimbursements from the federal government for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and administrative claims; and

(2) The feasibility of expanding the special education services for which medicaid reimbursements from the federal government are sought.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 492. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: To study the system of financing public education in Nebraska.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 493. Introduced by Dubas, 34; Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the use of the Civic and Community Center Financing Fund and to make recommendations on future use. The Civic and Community Center Financing Fund is a cash fund in the Department of Economic Development that was established in 1999. The fund is intended to support the development of civic and community centers throughout Nebraska and to support projects that foster the maintenance and growth of communities. It is projected that the income received into the fund will increase in future fiscal years, so the opportunity now exists to examine the current use of the fund and to explore statutory revisions that will maximize the future use of the fund, especially to enhance the growth of communities in rural areas of Nebraska.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 494. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: To study uninsured and unlicensed drivers and associated penalties and make recommendations on potential changes to Nebraska law.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 495. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: To study the flood control needs of Omaha and the greater Omaha metropolitan area and examine the resources that are available or that may be utilized to meet such needs, including compliance with various federal regulatory requirements. The study should examine the role that a natural resources district may play to meet such needs and accompanying federal regulatory requirements.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 496. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issues surrounding the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the current procedures for the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations in the Administrative Procedure Act (APA);

(2) A review of policy changes that have been made by state agencies outside of the APA process;

(3) An examination of the enforcement of rules and regulations by state agencies, including whether agencies are enforcing rules and regulations prior to completion of the APA process;

(4) A review of possible statutory changes to the APA which would ensure that any policy changes made by state agencies occur within the rule and regulation adoption and promulgation process;

(5) An examination of administrative procedure policies at the federal and state levels, including methods used to monitor and prevent the enforcement of unpromulgated rules, regulations, policies, or directives, and whether such policies should be incorporated into the APA process; and

(6) An examination of regulatory flexibility policies at the federal and state levels and whether such policies should be incorporated into the APA process.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 498. Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the processes, legislative and administrative, necessary for the establishment in Nebraska of a health insurance exchange in response to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, as amended by the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Public Law 111-152.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 500. Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: To study purchasing policies and practices of school districts and educational service units.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 501. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine intergovernmental relations between municipal and state governments in Nebraska. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of incentives and disincentives to municipal economic development, including economic development tools made available to Nebraska municipalities;

(2) A review of past and present funding levels for federal and state aid to Nebraska municipalities;

(3) A review of possible strategies to address housing, mass transportation, infrastructure, environmental, and workforce challenges facing Nebraska municipalities;

(4) A review of services provided by Nebraska municipalities and possible strategies to consolidate, streamline, and otherwise achieve greater efficiencies; and

(5) An examination of strategies for collaboration and partnership between the state and its municipalities.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 502. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the issues surrounding government transparency. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of the implementation and effectiveness of the Taxpayer Transparency Act in providing Nebraskans with information about state government spending;

(2) A review of transparency efforts at the local level in Nebraska, with an emphasis on city and county governments and public power districts; and

(3) An examination of whether local governments should be subjected to requirements similar to those in the Taxpayer Transparency Act.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 503. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding project labor agreements. This study shall include an examination of the benefits and cost savings of using project labor agreements to political subdivisions and Nebraska taxpayers.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 504. Introduced by K. Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska's statutes and regulations on hydraulic fracturing, also known as "fracking." This process could be used in Nebraska, and a comprehensive examination of Nebraska's laws, rules, and regulations should be undertaken. This study should assure that adequate protections are in place and that Nebraska's laws are in accordance with best practices and should address other relevant concerns. The committee should seek and consider input from the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and other interested persons and organizations.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 505. Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine methods of ensuring that medical professionals who, as part of their scope of practice, provide injections to human patients are following safe injection practices as prescribed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Public Health Service of the United States Department of

Health and Human Services. The committee shall conduct a study that includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) An examination of the availability of educational opportunities, licensing requirements, and any other method of ensuring safe injection practices currently being utilized in Nebraska;
- (2) An examination of how other states ensure medical professionals are using safe injection practices; and
- (3) Recommendations for legislative or administrative actions.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 506. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding the moratorium on long-term care beds found in section 71-5829.04.

This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the statutory process utilized by the Department of Health and Human Services to determine whether new long-term care beds are needed;
- (2) A review of long-term care beds sold or transferred since LB 195 became law in 2009;
- (3) A review of long-term care facility closures since LB 195 became law in 2009;
- (4) A review of the economic impact of long-term care facility closures or potential closures on communities, families, and the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (5) A review of the issues raised during the public hearing on LB 1002, introduced in 2012.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 507. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the possibility of establishing a statewide Farm to School initiative in Nebraska similar to

the Oklahoma Farm to School Program enacted in 2006, to encourage partnerships between Nebraska farmers and school districts to increase fresh local food availability in schools, and to provide students with hands-on agricultural learning opportunities. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A review of the Oklahoma Farm to School Program Act to determine the feasibility of a similar program in Nebraska;
- (2) A review of Farm to School projects and programs in other states;
- (3) A survey of Nebraska's school district food service directors to determine interest in purchasing locally produced food for use in school breakfast and lunch menus;
- (4) A review of potential public and private agencies to partner and collaborate in developing a statewide Farm to School program that builds upon the pilot projects sponsored by the University of Nebraska Rural Initiative and the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society;
- (5) A review of potential hands-on agricultural learning opportunities for students, which could include farm visits, school gardens, indoor learning labs, and tasting and cooking demonstrations combined with educational and nutritional curriculum; and
- (6) A review of the potential fiscal cost and impact of such a program at the state and local level.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 508. Introduced by Gloor, 35; Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review, assess, and provide recommendations relating to the implementation and sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act. The issues addressed by the study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The distribution of funding under the act and the priority of such funding;
- (2) The outcomes achieved from such funding in fulfilling the purpose of the act, which is to provide for the use of dedicated revenue for health-care-related expenditures; and
- (3) The future sustainability of the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 509. Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: To conduct a comprehensive study of the feasibility of a hydroelectric dam on the Platte River near Interstate 80. This study would address the various recreation and tourism benefits for constructing a lake in the Platte River valley. The study would also address the benefit of a hydroelectric dam in retaining the state's surface water and to the state's tax revenue.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 510. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Campbell, 25; Conrad, 46; Council, 11; Harms, 48; Howard, 9; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: Over forty-seven thousand Nebraska children five years of age and younger are subject to risk factors that threaten their ability to succeed in school and beyond. These children can be found in every county throughout the state and are growing at a faster rate in rural areas. Science shows that meeting a child's cognitive, emotional, and social needs in their first five years, during the period of rapid brain growth, is imperative for the success of the child and provides for the state a greater return on investment than investments at any other time in a person's life.

The purpose of this interim study is for a select committee to gather information and provide recommendations for an early learning and development reform agenda and to develop a preliminary budget to implement and sustain the agenda. The committee should examine the early learning and development system across the state to determine how to make the current system more effective in preparing children to succeed in school and later in life.

This study shall be conducted by a select committee consisting of three members of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, three members of the Education Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee, and three members of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature appointed by the chairperson of the committee. The chairperson of the select committee shall be selected by the members of the committee.

In conducting the study, the select committee shall consult with licensed and license-exempt child care practitioners, parents, early childhood professionals, business leaders, the Department of Health and Human

Services, the State Department of Education, members of higher education, and other interested parties.

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

(1) Developing shared decisionmaking processes between the Department of Health and Human Services and the State Department of Education regarding early childhood;

(2) Aligning and coordinating early learning and development standards and practices across the state;

(3) Developing, promoting, rating, monitoring, and increasing access to high-quality, accountable programs;

(4) Reviewing barriers posed by family income and geography to the accessibility of high-quality early childhood care and learning opportunities;

(5) Addressing, supporting, and promoting early learning and development outcomes for children;

(6) Supporting and incentivizing the early childhood workforce in the development of their knowledge, skills, and abilities;

(7) Developing standards for early childhood provider education and staff development;

(8) Measuring outcomes and progress to improve instruction, practices, services, and policies; and

(9) Developing innovative funding strategies to maximize early childhood outcomes for children.

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

1. That the select committee shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 511. Introduced by Sullivan, 41.

PURPOSE: To study Nebraska's kindergarten through twelfth grade (K-12) education standards and curricula to determine whether agriculture is incorporated as an essential component at all grade levels in a consistent and thorough manner to provide students with agricultural literacy. For purposes of this study, agricultural literacy means a basic understanding and knowledge of agriculture and agricultural industries, social and environmental aspects of agriculture, agriculture's contributions to the health, safety, and welfare of Nebraska citizens, and the economic impact of agriculture on the state economy.

The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) An examination of existing statutes relating to education standards and curricula;

(2) An examination of education standards and curricula for K-12 students, including an analysis of the process, resources, research, technical

data, and studies used by the State Department of Education to develop K-12 standards and curricula;

(3) An examination of K-12 education standards and curricula in surrounding states to determine whether the standards and curricula incorporate agriculture in a substantive manner; and

(4) The development of policy recommendations designed to direct and assist the State Department of Education with the incorporation of agriculture in future K-12 education standards and curricula.

The study shall be conducted by a joint committee consisting of the Agriculture and Education Committees of the Legislature. The chairpersons of the joint committee shall be the chairperson of the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature or a member of the Agriculture Committee selected by the chairperson of the Agriculture Committee and the chairperson of the Education Committee or a member of the Education Committee selected by the chairperson of the Education Committee.

In conducting the study, the joint committee shall consult with the State Department of Education, the Department of Agriculture, the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom Program, representatives from agricultural groups, including commodity boards, representatives from education groups, including educators, administrators, and local school board members, and any other groups the joint committee deems appropriate.

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

1. That the Agriculture and Education Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the joint committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 1, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 512. Introduced by Avery, 28.

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

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 513. Introduced by Wightman, 36; Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study ways in which health benefit policies and contracts could provide coverage for patient-centered medical homes. A patient-centered medical home means a team-based way to care for a patient led by a personal primary care physician who provides coordinated preventative care throughout the patient's life. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations, including physicians, nurse practitioners, hospitals, and insurance carriers.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 514. Introduced by Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the laws governing the process for sales of real property for delinquent real property taxes, including procedures for issuing tax sale certificates, bidding down interests in tax-delinquent parcels, and treatment of parcels not sold for want of bidders at foreclosure. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations, including, but not limited to, county treasurers, county attorneys, lienholders, and purchasers of tax sale certificates.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 515. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Conrad, 46; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine new ways to pay for and deliver health care services through the medicaid program that improve the quality of care and health of participants while lowering costs. This study shall identify and evaluate service delivery initiatives and payment strategies for medicaid eligibles with high needs and high costs.

The study shall consider the implementation of preventive measures and identify efficiencies in the medicaid program. The study shall also evaluate measures to improve program integrity through new options and resources to prevent and detect medicaid fraud. The study shall examine innovative policies and programs which have been proven to improve the quality of care and the health of Nebraskans, while also generating efficiencies or reducing the cost of the medicaid program to the state.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of innovative policies and programs proposed or implemented by other states;
- (2) A review of policies, programs, and new funding opportunities made available by the federal government for innovative medicaid initiatives; and
- (3) Input from various categories of medicaid providers as to how to improve the quality of care and the health of Nebraskans and lower the costs to the medicaid program.

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

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

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 516. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Howard, 9; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding the crime of destruction of property through the use of graffiti and to develop recommendations to prevent, combat, and abate graffiti in communities throughout the state.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of the impact of graffiti-related crimes throughout the state;
- (2) A review of the effectiveness of current tools and potential programs available to Nebraska municipalities to address graffiti-related crimes, destruction of property, and graffiti abatement;
- (3) An assessment of the impact of enhanced penalties for graffiti and property defacement and other graffiti-related provisions as enacted by the passage of LB 63 (2009);
- (4) Recommendations for changes to current penalties for graffiti, vandalism, the sale of spray paint or markers, and destruction of property, including:
 - (a) Possible enhanced penalties for graffiti-related crimes;
 - (b) Possible enhanced penalties for gang-related graffiti; and
 - (c) Possible parental responsibility for crime prevention and restitution;

(5) An evaluation of the needs of law enforcement to combat graffiti-related crimes; and

(6) A survey of current programs and recommendations to implement best practices to prevent youth from engaging in graffiti-related crimes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND 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 on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 517. Introduced by Nelson, 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the benefits of adult day service programs currently provided to Nebraska seniors. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the nature and extent of adult day service programs across the State of Nebraska;

(2) The nature of the adult day services provided to participants in such programs;

(3) The extent to which adult day service programs constitute a viable alternative to nursing home placement for older Nebraskans;

(4) How adult day service programs might serve as an effective service and care alternative for small rural communities facing the closure of a nursing home; and

(5) The typical costs of adult day service programs and a projection of the anticipated savings, if any, in seeking to utilize adult day service programs as an alternative to nursing home care.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 518. Introduced by Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding investment of state funds. This study shall include an examination of whether section 72-1239.01 should be amended to allow the Nebraska Investment Council to invest or reinvest assets of Nebraska's retirement systems or the Nebraska educational savings plan trust into economic development within the State of Nebraska.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 519. Introduced by Mello, 5; Conrad, 46; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine wage subsidy programs. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the potential benefits of wage subsidy programs to Nebraska businesses, taxpayers, and program participants;

(2) An examination of the current use of funds in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families rainy day fund and potential use of the funds to support wage subsidy programs; and

(3) A review of other potential funding sources for wage subsidy programs.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 520. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues related to land banking. This study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the effects that vacant, abandoned, and tax-foreclosed properties have on Nebraska municipalities, and the role that land banks could play in addressing these effects;

(2) A review of land banks and land bank legislation in other states, with an emphasis on the third generation of land bank legislation;

(3) A review of potential funding sources for municipally created land banks, including ongoing funding streams which would allow land banks to be internally financed;

(4) An examination of land reutilization commissions created pursuant to section 77-3203 and the differences between land reutilization commissions and land banks; and

(5) An examination of the tax foreclosure system in Nebraska and the potential role that land banks could play in speeding up the conversion of tax-foreclosed properties into productive use.

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

1. That the Revenue and Urban Affairs Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 521. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether the courts are utilizing the specific provision in section 43-290 that provides that a court may order a parent to pay a reasonable sum to cover in whole or in part the support, study, and treatment of a juvenile in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services to promote parental responsibility and provide the most equitable use and availability of public money. This study shall determine whether the purposes of the statute are in fact being promoted by the courts with regard to ordering parents to provide financial support. Given the fiscal concerns regarding the child welfare system, it is important to look at the available options for funding adequate care of juveniles in the custody of the department. This study shall also evaluate whether sums ordered to be paid by a parent under this section are collected at an acceptable rate or if changes are necessary to provide the authority for garnishment of ordered support payments.

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

1. That the Judiciary and Health and Human Services Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 525. Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to investigate how Nebraska's current system for screening, assessing, and investigating reports of child abuse and neglect contributes to Nebraska's rates of out-of-home care that are twice that of the national average and to study how a differential response system to reports of child abuse and neglect could be implemented in Nebraska to safely reduce the number of children in out-of-home care and fulfill the family policy objectives prescribed in sections 43-532 to 43-534.

The study may include, but is not limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The core elements essential to a successful differential response system, including the steps taken by other states to successfully implement differential response systems and barriers overcome by such states;

(2) How other states have identified and engaged necessary stakeholders, worked out timelines of implementation, used pilot projects, partnered with service providers and the larger community, and coordinated differential response systems with law enforcement and juvenile or family courts;

(3) The number and type of differential responses or tracks used and the services offered to families and children in each of the tracks in other states;

(4) Information on how other states have examined outcomes and outcome measures, continuously monitor quality of differential response system services, and conduct ongoing evaluation and oversight; and

(5) Nebraska's current model of child abuse and neglect reporting, screening, and investigation, including coordination with law enforcement and the use of structured decisionmaking, and data on how many reports are received, investigated, and assessed and the types of services offered to children and families and how the services are funded.

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

1. That the Judiciary and Health and Human Services Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 528. Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: Under section 54-1,109, Knox County is one of the few counties where a portion of the county is included in the brand inspection area and a portion of the county is outside the brand inspection area. The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether Knox County producers and sales facilities would benefit from the entire county being either inside or outside the brand inspection area.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 529. Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to provide for the review and assessment and the making of recommendations relating to the entry of children into the child welfare system. The issues addressed by the study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the process of child protection removals, including the utilization and interaction between the centralized hotline reporting system, law enforcement, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services, child advocacy centers, and the courts;

(2) An analysis of the data available regarding the relationship between poverty, including housing, financial support, and access to health care, and child welfare placement in Nebraska compared to states with lower poverty-related child welfare placements;

(3) An examination of the availability and need for family support and family preservation services to assist families with addressing issues early to prevent involvement with the child welfare system;

(4) A review of the child welfare safety assessment process, including structured decision making, to assess training, implementation, outcomes, and effectiveness of current practices;

(5) An analysis of the correlation between mental health treatment for children and custody relinquishment;

(6) A review of family group conferencing for effectiveness and the level of utilization;

(7) An examination of differential response programs and the resources and implementation requirements needed to effect successful change; and

(8) An analysis of national and state data to understand how statistics are used to compare performance in child welfare systems.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 532. Introduced by Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to assess mechanisms in place for school districts to detect any cause and correlation of unusual health patterns and complaints among staff and students arising during construction, renovation, or other school projects in public school buildings or otherwise. The study should review observation, collection, recording, and reporting requirements so that preemptive and curative action can be taken.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 533. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether there are enough resources currently present in schools to detect and treat mental illness in school-age children. The study should include an examination of issues surrounding bullying, harassment, teen suicide, and trauma. The study should include an examination of the following, including whether there are any cultural or racial disparities present in the data:

(1) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder and what the procedure is if staff of the school suspect a child has a mental health disorder;

(2) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that are receiving treatment for a mental health disorder;

(3) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that lack insurance for mental health treatment and what other barriers, if any, might prevent a child from receiving mental health treatment;

(4) The types of mental health treatment offered in Nebraska schools and whether there is a formal process for mental health screenings in such schools and if so, what that process is; and

(5) Which Nebraska schools have mental health and social services staff and the responsibilities of such staff.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 534. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to determine what services are available in Nebraska for victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

The committee should identify and study the current practices of law enforcement, child protective services, immigration services, and other applicable services around the state to screen for sex and labor trafficking and the process for referral of victims to such services. The committee should examine how many victims are formally identified in Nebraska each year and what types of services those victims received.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 535. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the conditions, use, and effectiveness of Nebraska's youth rehabilitation and treatment centers. The study will also make policy recommendations to properly ensure high-risk youth have the secure treatment environment necessary for rehabilitation and that the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers are properly positioned in a comprehensive juvenile justice continuum of care. Elements of this interim study may include, but are not limited to:

(1) Information on the decision to place youth at a youth rehabilitation and treatment center, including data on the type of offense committed, use of risk assessments, and other significant factors that lead to their placements, as well as information on how other states make decisions on eligibility for placement at state correctional institutions;

(2) The safety of youth and staff at the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, including data on the number of youth assaulted by other youth, the number of youth assaulted by staff, the number of staff assaulted by youth, the youth placed in seclusion and the length of their seclusion, the frequency and type of restraints used, and information about youth who have at least three assaults or attempts to escape, including their age and other significant characteristics;

(3) Information on training and support provided to staff at both youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, especially as it relates to adolescent development and behavior, providing support and rehabilitation to youth, and resolving conflicts and maintaining safety. Data on the impact of training by the Department of Correctional Services shall also be included;

(4) The treatment model and opportunities for rehabilitation at each of the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, as well as information on how they compare to evidence-based practice and successful models in other states and how they take adolescent development into account;

(5) Information on the cost of providing services at the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, as well as information on the cost, availability, and effectiveness of community-based alternatives to placement

at the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers for low-risk and non-violent youth; and

(6) The current availability and effectiveness of services to facilitate reentry into the community and recidivism rates for both juvenile and adult court as compared to practices and models used in other states.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 536. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to explore the methods used by schools in Nebraska to foster creativity, critical thinking, and innovation in their students. The committee should determine if Nebraska schools are offering education in manufacturing and encouraging entrepreneurial skills in addition to properly educating their students in science, technology, mathematics, and engineering. The availability of classes and before and after-school programs offered by Nebraska schools, including business clubs, entrepreneurship classes, arts education, debate clubs, science fairs, theater performances, concerts, filmmaking programs, and independent research programs, should be examined. If the committee determines that such education is lacking, it should determine what resources are necessary to provide such education. The committee should seek input from interested persons.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 537. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to gather data and develop recommendations on the unmet needs of and gaps in services available to youth who transition or "age out" of Nebraska's foster care system. In conducting the study, the committee shall consult with youth with foster care experience, the Department of Health and Human Services, and other parties who may have relevant information. This interim study may include, but shall not be limited to:

(1) A collection of data on issues identified as part of LR 305 (2011), including those issues identified by youth who participated in LR 305, such

as gaps in the Former Ward Program and issues involving homelessness, access to health care, availability of independent living services, and lack of permanency. Methods of data collection may include gathering and analyzing existing data and conducting statewide focus groups of youth with foster care experience and other stakeholders;

(2) An examination of the experiences of other states that have extended foster care services to youth up to age twenty-one or that offer other extended services, which may include analyzing trends and outcomes in other states and seeking feedback from youth and young adults who received extended foster care services; and

(3) Consideration of how solutions to issues facing older youth in foster care and those who age out of the system may be incorporated into the statewide strategic plan discussed in LB 821 (2012), if LB 821 is adopted, and other child welfare reform efforts.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 538. Introduced by Dubas, 34.

PURPOSE: To study eminent domain authority and judicial approval and interpretation of the public interest determination.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 539. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: To study ways in which to manage water and provide benefits to landowners and other entities for their ability to store and manage water in recharge areas.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 540. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: To study the concept of a philanthropic entity investing in an area of state government instead of investing in the capital market. The State of Nebraska could repay a philanthropic investment, with interest, resulting in a cost savings for the state and a profit for the philanthropic entity. The study should include an exploration into what areas of state government such investments could be made and a calculation of the appropriate formula to provide such cost savings and profit.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 541. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: To study whether the reference to twenty-five percent given in subsection (2) of section 77-27,144 should be changed to a different percentage to more effectively accommodate those municipalities that have been adversely affected by large municipal sales and use tax refunds under sections 77-4105 and 77-5725. In determining the proper percentage to use, the study committee should look at the average size of municipal sales and use tax refunds under sections 77-4105 and 77-5725.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 542. Introduced by Mello, 5; Ashford, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine issues surrounding the creation of a state infrastructure bank. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the benefits of an infrastructure bank to the Department of Roads and counties and municipalities in Nebraska;

(2) An examination of potential funding sources for an infrastructure bank, including both initial capitalization and ongoing revenue; and
 (3) A review of infrastructure banks currently operating in other states.

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

1. That the Revenue and Transportation and Telecommunications Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 543. Introduced by Mello, 5; Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the potential adoption of an energy efficiency resource standard (EERS) in Nebraska. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the benefits of adopting an EERS, including lower energy costs, reduced air pollution, improved energy reliability, and reduced need to construct new power plants;

(2) A review of the unique opportunities and challenges to adoption of an EERS presented by the State of Nebraska's unique public power system; and

(3) A review of EERS targets that have been adopted in other states.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 544. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine economic development programs designed to promote international trade. The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of existing tax credits, tax exemptions, workforce development programs, and economic development programs designed to promote international trade and exportation of manufactured Nebraska goods;

(2) A review of tax credits, tax exemptions, workforce development programs, and economic development programs used in other states to promote international trade; and

(3) An examination of current international trade efforts utilized by the Department of Economic Development.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 545. Introduced by Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study Nebraska statutes and regulations that deal with the Nebraska Power Review Board's approval of major investments in electric utility power plants. Nebraska electric utilities are considering major investments to upgrade power plants and to meet new environmental regulations, and those investments could cost more than the cost of building the power plants originally. Although the Nebraska Power Review Board is charged with reviewing proposals to build new electrical generation, under current law it appears these major new investments will not be subject to Nebraska Power Review Board review even though they could have substantial impacts on ratepayers. The committee should study current laws and regulations in Nebraska, the treatment of similar investments in other states, and the need for changes to Nebraska statutes.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 546. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Campbell, 25; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: Under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, states will play a large role in the implementation of the major provisions of federal health care reform, including expanding medicaid eligibility, establishing health insurance exchanges, regulating private insurance, and developing coordinated eligibility and enrollment systems and processes. Reported fiscal impacts of the act on aggregate and individual state budgets have varied widely. While all estimates show some new costs for states associated with the large expansion of medicaid, the act also creates new savings and revenue for all states, along with opportunities for states to achieve further, often longer-term state savings. It is fiscally responsible to include projections of state spending and savings as a result of the act in future budgets.

The purpose of this interim study is to examine the potential impact of implementing the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the state budget in upcoming years. The interim study will examine health care financing and delivery options available through the act and prepare for new state funding obligations, as well as state savings or increased revenue that will occur as a result of the act.

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

(1) A review of existing funding obligations in state health safety net programs, the need for which will become obsolete once access to affordable health care and health insurance has been made available to all Nebraskans through various provisions of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act;

(2) An evaluation of federal grants and other funding opportunities to support the implementation of the act and various payment and service delivery reforms therein;

(3) An examination of the budgetary impact of the medicaid eligibility expansion and changes to the state children's health insurance program;

(4) A review of estimated costs to the state associated with the operation of a potential health insurance exchange; and

(5) An examination of the budgetary impact of the act on state employee health insurance and coverage.

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

1. That the Appropriations and Health and Human Services Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 547. Introduced by Nordquist, 7.

PURPOSE: The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, ensures Americans have access to quality, affordable health insurance. To achieve this goal, the law ensures health plans offered in the individual and small group markets offer a comprehensive package of items and services known as essential health benefits.

Recent federal guidance indicates that states will be given the flexibility to define essential health benefits by selecting a benchmark from certain existing employer-sponsored health plans offered in a state. This approach recognizes the differing needs and offers flexibility to states in defining what health benefits are essential to their residents. According to federal guidance, states can choose from the following benchmark plan types:

(1) The largest plan by enrollment in any of the three largest small group insurance products in the state's small group market;

(2) Any of the three largest state employee health benefit plans by enrollment;

(3) Any of the three largest Federal Employees Health Benefits Program options by enrollment; or

(4) The largest insured commercial non-medicaid health maintenance organization plan operating in the state.

The purpose of this interim study is to gather information about what health benefits are important to Nebraskans, to evaluate benchmark plan options available to our state, and to allow public input into the process of selecting what benefits will be available through individual and small group health plans.

Issues considered by the committee may include, but shall not be limited to: Comparing the benchmark options available to the State of Nebraska to choose what benefits the state deems to be essential; evaluating the benchmark plan choices based upon the needs of children and other vulnerable populations; and ensuring that the evaluation, selection, and updating of benchmark plans is conducted in a transparent manner, which includes input from the consumers and a wide variety of health care and health insurance stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND 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 on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 548. Introduced by Cook, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the Nebraska state 529 educational savings plan and make recommendations on ways to increase plan participation. In conducting the study, the committee shall consult with the office of the State Treasurer, the plan administrator, First National Bank, the Department of Revenue, and other interested parties. Issues considered by the committee shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Strategies for raising awareness about and encouraging plan participation, especially among lower income families;

(2) The relationship between educational savings and the likelihood of pursuing a higher education;

(3) Current plan participation rates and the demographics of plan participants with regard to family income, race, geographic location, and other variables; and

(4) The logistical details of allowing state tax refunds to be directly deposited into 529 educational savings accounts.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 549. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: Over the next several years the State of Nebraska health care delivery system will be absorbing 220,000 uninsured Nebraskans which will require significant allocation and reallocation of existing health care resources, and future health service needs will increase.

The state's major targeted health care financing resource supporting a wide array of health care services is the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. A comprehensive review of the financial stability of the fund and a review of the fund's ability to leverage federal funds and other revenue streams, endowment sustainability, and targeted investment is warranted.

The purpose of this study is to determine the range of investment returns on the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund over the next ten years and the actual demands upon the current recipients of the funds over the next ten years, especially related to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148, and to prepare two scenarios for consideration for the 2013 Legislature: (1) The formalization of a long-term endowment of the fund as opposed to the enhanced spending within the recipient categories and (2) a determination of ways in which to meet the future needs of each of the current recipients and their health care area.

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

1. That the Appropriations and Health and Human Services Committees of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 550. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the impact of the federal cuts to Nebraska anticipated due to the Budget Control Act of 2011, Public Law 112-25.

The study committee shall examine the potential impact of the Budget Control Act of 2011 to Nebraska. As part of the passage of this law, Congress raised the debt limit to pay its bills in exchange for direct budget cuts and spending control mechanisms. Funding cuts are expected to equal approximately two trillion dollars over the next decade. Just under half of the cuts will be achieved through spending limits; the other half will be taken by automatic cuts of about nine percent in 2013 followed by reductions in each of the following eight years.

Because the bipartisan "Super Committee" failed to come to agreement on how to achieve the cuts within the specified time, services are to be reduced

through across-the-board budget cuts, a process known as "sequestration." Sequestration is set to begin in January 2013. The cuts to programs in 2013 are to be across-the-board but allow Congress more flexibility in 2014 through 2021. It will therefore be harder for Nebraska to predict the impact of the Budget Control Act of 2011 in future years.

The purpose of this study is to improve the Legislature's understanding of these potential federal budget cuts. Specifically, the committee shall estimate Nebraska's potential loss of federal funds in 2013 and beyond at the program level, as well as any potential impact on the number of Nebraskans served.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 551. Introduced by Conrad, 46.

PURPOSE: Changes have been made in public benefits administration in Nebraska. These changes, called ACCESSNebraska, have made use of modern technology and new partnerships with community-based organizations.

The purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of ACCESSNebraska for clients, community-based partners, and workers using qualitative and quantitative analysis.

The study shall address, but shall not be limited to:

- (1) The experiences of clients in utilizing ACCESSNebraska;
- (2) The experiences of community-based partners in utilizing ACCESSNebraska;
- (3) The experiences of Department of Health and Human Services workers in utilizing ACCESSNebraska; and
- (4) Suggestions from clients, community-based partners, and workers in developing ongoing improvements.

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

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

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before November 15, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 552. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study economic development in the more rural areas of the state, with a focus on cities of the first and second class and villages.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 553. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Cornett, 45; B. Harr, 8; Howard, 9; McGill, 26; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: To examine strategies to promote the restoration and revitalization of historic business districts throughout Nebraska.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) An examination of existing tax incentives to generate private investment in historic properties and business districts; and
- (2) The potential utilization of business improvement districts to restore historic properties and business districts as a tool for sustainable community development, specifically to prevent property abandonment and revitalize economically distressed neighborhoods.

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

1. That the Revenue Committee and Urban Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 555. Introduced by Gloor, 35.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to review and examine the ongoing issues within Nebraska's Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities (MIWD), otherwise known as Nebraska's Medicaid Buy-in, which was enacted in 1999. The intent of the program is to address work disincentives, such as loss of medical benefits, by allowing states to expand medicaid coverage to working persons with disabilities whose income and assets would otherwise make them ineligible for coverage. The issues addressed by the study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A study of the original intent of Nebraska's Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities;

(2) Reoccurring implementation problems, including inaccurate disability determination and policy changes regarding social security; and

(3) A review of the difficulties in finding employment based on inaccurate implementation of MIWD and medicaid eligibility.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 556. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the current ground water policy contained in Nebraska's statutes.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 557. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the progress of the creation of a blender fuel pump infrastructure in Nebraska and programs utilized in other states to aid retailer deployment of ethanol blender pumps. The study shall further examine the role of state commodity promotion programs in helping to build this infrastructure.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 558. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine legislation that has been proposed or enacted in several states to protect against disruptions of agricultural operations, including acts of deliberate sabotage and false

representations of persons seeking agricultural employment for purposes of such disruptions. It is a goal of the study to examine means of balancing societal interests in whistleblowing and undercover investigations with the privacy and security of agricultural organizations.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 559. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine potential structural models for commodity development programs to enhance flexibility, resources, and accountability to producers. The study shall seek to develop data and comparisons of state commodity development programs with counterpart programs in other states and at the federal level.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 560. Introduced by Harms, 48.

PURPOSE: When a customer makes a purchase by credit card or debit card at a business such as a gas station, hotel, restaurant, or other business where the total bill is not immediately known, the business often places a hold on the card for more than the amount of the purchase. The hold can be significantly higher than the final total of the bill and can remain on the account for two to three days. This makes funds in the customer's account inaccessible until the hold is lifted and that is a problem for many Nebraskans who live on a tight budget and need that money immediately for necessary items.

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

(1) A review of federal and state laws and regulations currently in place on this subject;

(2) Testimony by constituents and businesses who are affected by these laws and regulations; and

(3) Possible solutions that would help customers have access to their money when they need it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND 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 on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 561. Introduced by Harms, 48; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the feasibility of a merger between the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Labor as proposed by LB 971, introduced in 2012. The two agencies have very different functions, funding sources, constituents served, general culture, legislative priorities, and core missions. The merging of these two agencies requires a definite plan for the specifics of how the merger will occur. The study should determine whether the merger should occur and if so, how best to accomplish it.

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

(1) Research into which states have similar agencies to the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Labor and whether any of these states have merged the two agencies and if so, how it was accomplished and whether the merger was successful;

(2) A review of positions, duties, core missions, funding sources, functions, general culture, constituents served, legislative priorities, and any other relevant areas within the two departments; and

(3) Whether it is advisable to merge the departments, and if so, recommendations for a plan to accomplish the merger.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND 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 on or before December 31, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 562. Introduced by Pahls, 31.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the impact of the banking and finance industry on the economy of the state.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 563. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study resolution is to examine the constitutionality of AM1603 to LB514 (2011) which would provide an additional recovery amount for compensatory or actual damages sustained due to an unreasonable delay or denial by an insurance company of a property and casualty insurance claim of up to one times the recovery award, including reasonable attorney's fees, as liquidated damages. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the issues in *Abel vs. Conover*, 170 Neb. 926, 104 N.W.2d 684 (1960) and any other relevant cases;

(2) A review of Colorado's laws regarding unreasonable delay or denial of insurance claims, and the effect of such laws since their enactment; and

(3) Research and development of findings on the appropriate changes necessary to ensure reasonable timeframes and treatment of claims.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 564. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study resolution is to examine the constitutionality of creating standing secondary surface water appropriation rights to unappropriated surface water for interbasin transfers to mitigate flood damage which are inferior in right to any future surface water appropriations that may be issued in the basin of origin as outlined in AM1844 to LB653 (2011). The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The review of laws and court cases regarding surface water appropriations; and

(2) Research and development of findings on any appropriate changes necessary to provide such transfers of unappropriated surface water to mitigate flood damages.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 565. Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues pertaining to tax incentives for affordable housing, including, but not limited to, whether other states allow such tax incentives to be used for graffiti removal and abatement.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 566. Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine a funding mechanism for all cities and villages in the State of Nebraska to assist in the financing of new projects that will address the need for Nebraska residents currently leaving the state to experience retail, dining, tourist, and other destinations that are currently not located in Nebraska. This leakage in sales tax dollars is estimated to exceed more than \$1.15 billion annually from the Omaha metropolitan statistical area alone. These new projects will provide opportunities to attract new-to-market retailers, hoteliers, entertainment, and other industries, as well as assist in the financing of community betterment projects through local philanthropists. The purpose of the redevelopment district is to grow the state and local tax base, promote tourism, create jobs, and stimulate economic development. This can also help retain and recruit young professionals, as identified in the October 2010 Batelle study prepared for the Department of Economic Development. In addition, these new projects will reinvigorate such communities and further attract non-Nebraska residents to the state, thereby creating new tax dollars.

The redevelopment districts will focus on developing outdated or blighted projects that currently experience a declining sales tax base, but, due to their location, have high potential for major redevelopment and economic growth.

The interim study shall, at a minimum, examine the following criteria for a redevelopment district and qualified project: District size; private investment; technology investment; total project cost; new jobs created; retail sales generated from outside the city or village; local support through interested businesses and developers; the city or county governing board and the school district; developer's annual marketing commitment to the

redevelopment district; and the impact on community betterment and philanthropy opportunities.

The interim study will also examine the authorization of cities to issue bonds, of which the proceeds will be issued to assist in partially financing the redevelopment project, as well as the ability of the state to "turnback" an increment of new sales tax created by the redevelopment project within that district.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 567. Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: To examine tax burdens and fiscal conditions in Nebraska communities.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 568. Introduced by Cornett, 45.

PURPOSE: To study and examine any aspect of the state tax structure and tax policy deemed necessary by the study committee.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 569. Introduced by Fulton, 29.

PURPOSE: The Legislature holds important interests in improving health care for employees who suffer work-related injuries, reducing medical costs, and ensuring best practices with regard to the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court. Utilization and treatment guidelines provide a framework for consistent and reliable decisionmaking regarding the

diagnosis, management, and treatment of an injury or illness and are not designed to serve as absolute prescriptions for care or to replace the judgment of individual healthcare practitioners.

At least twenty-three states have adopted utilization and treatment guidelines for workers' compensation cases using a variety of approaches, including the establishment of state specific guidelines to define treatment standards and ranges for specific injuries or disabilities and the adoption of external guidelines, including the Work Loss Data Institute's Official Disability Guidelines and Treatment in Workers' Compensation and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Practice Guidelines. It appears that the states that have experienced the greatest success with utilization and treatment guidelines have invested in a medical director to oversee and manage the development and implementation of the guidelines and to promote acceptance of the guidelines by the medical community. The study committee should conduct a study regarding the implementation of utilization and treatment guidelines in cases before the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 571. Introduced by Ashford, 20.

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

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 572. Introduced by Fischer, 43.

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

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 573. Introduced by Hadley, 37.

PURPOSE: To examine reporting provisions for tax incentives and analysis methods used to analyze the impacts of tax incentives.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 574. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to monitor and review the anticipated disease traceability final rule by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture associated with the Animal Disease Traceability Comprehensive Report and Implementation Plan. The study shall further examine any role of registered livestock brands in meeting identification requirements for livestock moving in interstate commerce, and particularly technological advancements that may enhance brand registration and inspection in meeting the disease traceability goals of the pending rule.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 575. Introduced by Carlson, 38.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the interests and any role of the Department of Agriculture relating to incidents of livestock neglect and abandonment, particularly with respect to safeguarding livestock health. The study shall seek to identify public and private resources and authorities regarding the disposition of seized animals that are available to local officials and to recommend means to assist counties in responding to such incidents.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 576. Introduced by Wightman, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the laws governing the powers of a court-appointed personal representative of a deceased individual to take control of or terminate any accounts or message services that are considered digital assets. The committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations in reviewing this issue.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 577. Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Council, 11; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to research needs and resources related to food insecurity in Nebraska. In particular, the study will address ways to improve the food security of working families. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A review of the current food insecurity rates of low-income families and children in Nebraska;

(2) The participation rates of low-income families in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Commodities Supplemental Food Program, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children;

(3) The demand for food assistance in families in consultation with emergency food providers, emergency food recipients, and SNAP participants;

(4) Opportunities to leverage agricultural commodities to address emergency food needs; and

(5) Opportunities to leverage federal food assistance programs to address hunger in families.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 578. Introduced by Bloomfield, 17.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to review, investigate, and assess the State of Nebraska's compliance with both the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act, referred to collectively herein as ICWA, and to make recommendations for improvements. The State of Nebraska has four Native American tribes, namely, the Ponca, Omaha, Santee Sioux, and Winnebago tribes, and may be impacted by any cases in which ICWA applies. The study committee may consult with a broad array of tribal, public, and private stakeholders, utilize existing and past studies, reports, and data relating to compliance with ICWA, and, if possible, hold public hearings by utilizing the authority provided by section 50-406 and the Rules of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. If possible, at least one public hearing should be conducted on a Native American reservation to ensure the study committee has full access to the tribes' collective experience and expertise in effectuating the ICWA.

The study shall consider issues related to the State of Nebraska's compliance with the ICWA including, but not limited to:

- (1) Outcome measures;
- (2) Coordination between the state and tribes;
- (3) Percentage of Native American children placed in Nebraska's child welfare system;
- (4) Percentage of Native American children placed with Native American foster parents;
- (5) Percentage of Native American children placed with relatives as defined by ICWA;
- (6) Number of Native American foster parents in Nebraska;
- (7) What active efforts are being utilized to reunify Native American families;
- (8) What culturally appropriate services are available and being utilized; and
- (9) The fulfillment of the legislative intent of ICWA.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee and the State-Tribal Relations Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 579. Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine issues pertaining to statutory and constitutional limitations on bonded indebtedness of municipalities.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 580. Introduced by K. Haar, 21; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the potential for research, development, and deployment of liquid fluoride thorium reactors (LFTR) in the State of Nebraska. The LFTR is a thermal breeder reactor which uses the thorium fuel cycle in a fluoride-based molten salt fuel to achieve high operating temperatures at atmospheric pressure. Thorium is currently an unused byproduct of rare earth mining operations and may have mining potential in Nebraska. The development of LFTR technology could produce new research opportunities for the University of Nebraska and new industrial opportunities for Nebraska businesses. The committee should study Nebraska's statutes on nuclear energy to see if new laws are needed to encourage the research, development, and use of liquid fluoride thorium reactors in Nebraska.

The study should include the investigation of potential public and private partnerships that would create research and industrial opportunities for this untapped energy source. The committee should pursue input from Nebraska's public power districts, the University of Nebraska, private industry, and other interested persons and organizations.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 581. Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to analyze the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation in workers' compensation cases in Nebraska. One of the main goals of the workers' compensation system in Nebraska is to return injured employees to work in a timely manner. The intent of this study is to determine the effectiveness of vocational rehabilitation by examining the outcomes of those persons in the system who receive vocational rehabilitation.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 582. Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of the laws governing the powers of a city to enter into a redevelopment project for property within a radius of three miles of the boundaries of the city as described in section 18-2123. In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee should seek and consider the input of interested persons and organizations.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 583. Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the structure, authority, and mission of the Public Service Commission in its administration of transportation by passenger motor carriers. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A determination of the definition of public convenience and necessity;
- (2) An examination of the certification process of passenger motor carriers;
- (3) An examination of the structure and approval of rates, routes, and services of such carriers;
- (4) An examination of the commission's role in formulating rules, regulations, and public policy with respect to motor carriers; and

(5) A determination of the accountability, transparency, and disclosure of passenger motor carrier application proceedings to municipalities and the public at large.

Based on these findings, the committee shall make a recommendation with respect to the commission's application of rules, regulations, and public policy with regard to issues brought forth by LB 889 introduced in 2012.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 584. Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: This study will examine the authority and execution of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings as authorized by sections 76-701 to 76-726. The inquiry shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Historical authority and use of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings in Nebraska;

2. The definition and role of public purpose in eminent domain and condemnation proceedings;

3. Review and analysis of the use of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings by cities of the primary and metropolitan classes;

4. Review and analysis of the use of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings by other agencies, commissions, districts, utilities, transportation authorities, political subdivisions, and school districts; and

5. Review and analysis of oil and petroleum pipeline land acquisition proceedings in other states.

Based upon these findings, the Judiciary Committee shall make recommendations with respect to authority and use of eminent domain and condemnation proceedings.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 585. Introduced by Avery, 28.

PURPOSE: To study the structure, maintenance, and mission of the parole system and the Board of Parole as authorized by Article IV, section 13, of

the Constitution of Nebraska and section 83-188 in its capacity as adviser to the Board of Pardons. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The average number, age, gender, race, and ethnicity of parole-eligible inmates and parolees at a given time;
- (2) Historical trends within the Nebraska parole system;
- (3) The requirements, conditions, readiness standards, and board reviews of parole-eligible inmates;
- (4) The conditions of parole revocation;
- (5) The role played in formulating rules, regulations, and public policy with respect to administration of parole within the corrections system; and
- (6) Accountability, transparency, and disclosure, when applicable, of the Board of Parole.

Based on these findings, the study committee shall make a recommendation with respect to the Board of Parole's structure, maintenance, and mission and its administration of the parole system.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 586. Introduced by Karpisek, 32.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 587. Introduced by Coash, 27.

PURPOSE: To determine if there is a need for and what kinds of safeguards are needed to protect adults with developmental disabilities, who require a guardian or conservator, from being unduly influenced to change their guardian or conservator for the financial benefit of another person rather than for the best interests of such adult. Such adults may qualify for habilitative services that are paid for by the State of Nebraska. The adult with developmental disabilities may choose which provider he or she will receive services from, and this decision is most often made in conjunction with their guardian or conservator because such persons can be vulnerable.

Recently, habilitative services for such adults have expanded from the group home model of providers to the extended family home (EFH) model in which individuals subcontract with the provider to care for and provide services to an adult with developmental disabilities in the individual's personal home. The individual providing EFH services may now be in a position to unduly influence the adult with developmental disabilities who requires a guardian or conservator to change guardian or conservator to someone who would work with the EFH provider to change service providers or contracts to the benefit of the individual providing EFH services. The court asked to change the guardian or conservator may be without accurate or complete information regarding the situation and such information is needed for the court to reach the result which is in the best interests of the adult with developmental disabilities who requires a guardian or conservator.

In addition to the Judiciary Committee, those participating in the study shall include, but not be limited to, adults with developmental disabilities receiving services, providers of services, the Department of Health and Human Services, court-appointed guardians and conservators, and developmental disability advocates. The study shall include a hearing to investigate the issue and, if it is determined that a problem exists, recommend changes in court procedures, provider contracts, ethical standards, or other solutions to the problem.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 588. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study ways to encourage tourism throughout the State of Nebraska.

As tourism is the third largest industry in the state, an opportunity exists to grow destination marketing for communities across the state through a collaborative assessment of the tourism industry. Tourism has changed significantly in the past decade, and it is an untapped resource in our state. Nebraska offers experiences that cannot be found in other states or countries, and people will pay for these experiences.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, developing a statewide strategic plan to cultivate and promote tourism in Nebraska, including:

(1) A review of the existing and potential sources of funding for tourism at the state and local levels;

(2) An examination of other states' funding models for tourism;

(3) Marketing strategies for promoting tourism;

(4) A proposal for creating new or expanding existing tourism capacity; and

(5) Recommended legislation or funding requirements.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of tourism-related entities within state government, the Nebraska Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, and anyone else the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 589. Introduced by B. Harr, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to analyze the Nebraska Advantage Act. The study committee shall analyze the following:

(1) What other states are doing to make their state more attractive for business expansions, to attract new small businesses, and to grow small businesses;

(2) How other states are effectively using sales tax refunds, job credits, and other investment credits to encourage growth;

(3) How other states are using private and public partnerships;

(4) How Nebraska businesses are using the money from the act currently; and

(5) What Nebraska can do to be more effective in the area of economic development.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 590. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: To investigate and review matters and issues arising during the interim which are within the jurisdiction of the Education Committee of the Legislature.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 591. Introduced by Adams, 24.

PURPOSE: To study the progress toward the development of a state longitudinal education data system.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 592. Introduced by McCoy, 39.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study autism and the ways in which the educational, medical, and insurance industries can collaborate to provide successful treatment for children with autism.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 593. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the taxing of flavored malt beverages at a separate, higher rate category under the Nebraska Liquor Control Act than the current beer rate. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Reviewing reasons for creating a separate taxation rate for flavored malt beverages; and

(2) Research and development of findings on the appropriate level of taxation of flavored malt beverages.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 594. Introduced by Christensen, 44.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine several policy issues regarding the definition of a flavored malt beverage. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Examining the federal regulatory language of the United States Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau under 27 C.F.R. 25.55 to determine whether portions of such regulations would provide a better definition based on the processes used in making a flavored malt beverage instead of categories based on volume of alcohol content; and

(2) Examining whether to categorize any flavored malt beverages with an alcohol content by volume greater than six percent as a spirit for purposes of taxation.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 595. Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: To examine possible methods to increase direct investment from both domestic and foreign sources in Nebraska's economy.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 596. Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: To examine methods of enhancing the budgetary coordination between the Revenue Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 597. Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: To examine methods to enhance educational and employment opportunities involving STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in Nebraska.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 598. Introduced by Pirsch, 4.

PURPOSE: To examine methods to more equitably value agricultural lands for tax purposes in Nebraska.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 600. Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the Municipal Equalization Fund (MEF), the MEF formula, and the MEF's sources of funding.

The MEF was structured to provide aid to those communities with low per capita valuations and high property tax levies. It is currently funded by both the insurance premium tax and a three percent administrative fee that the State of Nebraska collects from those cities with a local options sales tax. This three percent administrative fee represents a significant loss of revenue, particularly for those communities that do not receive any MEF payments.

LB 1114 (2012), as amended, proposes to modify the MEF formula in such a way that would benefit some first-class cities and smaller communities. The hearing on LB 1114 included testimony urging the Legislature to conduct a comprehensive review of the MEF program and

formula, including consideration of whether a state source of revenue should replace the three percent administrative fee.

The study should consider whether changes to the MEF formula are necessary, as well as whether alternative, more equitable sources of revenue should be identified to continue the program.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 601. Introduced by Lathrop, 12.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to determine the workforce training opportunities that renewable energy projects can provide in Nebraska communities and how Nebraska can be more strategic and competitive in its job training approaches. The study may include, but is not limited to, an examination of the following:

1. Information contained in the Nebraska Department of Labor's 2010 "Green Jobs" Survey that focused on how Nebraska can stay competitive in renewable energy industries and better understand how "green" activities are evolving within the workforce;

2. Information contained in the Nebraska Department of Economic Development's and Nebraska Department of Labor's 2010 "Growing Jobs, Industries and Talent" Report that found that the most effective way to advance the economic development of primary industries is to focus on industry clusters found within a state's economic base industries;

3. A review of the industry clusters that provide a balanced portfolio of growth opportunities, such as precision metals manufacturing, biosciences, and renewable energy;

4. Efforts made by the Nebraska Department of Labor, colleges, universities, and others to develop and train workers in renewable energy industries; and

5. An examination of what Nebraska can do to continue to grow the renewable energy industry, increase the number of renewable energy jobs, and cultivate the workforce talent necessary to fill those positions.

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

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 602. Introduced by Schilz, 47.

PURPOSE: To study the intent of LB 919 (2012), including an evaluation of:

- (1) The current fees paid to sheriffs for performing their statutory responsibilities; and
- (2) Increasing docket fees to cover the actual costs associated with using the court system.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 608. Introduced by Transportation and Telecommunications Committee: Fischer, 43, Chairperson; Campbell, 25; Dubas, 34; Hadley, 37; Lautenbaugh, 18; Price, 3.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine the issues surrounding the One-Call Notification System Act.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 628. Introduced by Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee: Nordquist, 7, Chairperson; Karpisek, 32; Loudon, 49; Mello, 5.

PURPOSE: To study the pensions provided for firefighters from cities of the first class.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 644. Introduced by Revenue Committee: Cornett, 45, Chairperson; Adams, 24; Brasch, 16; Fischer, 43; Hadley, 37; Louden, 49; Pirsch, 4; Schumacher, 22.

PURPOSE: To examine alternative sources of county revenue if the inheritance tax is repealed.

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

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