

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 166

Introduced by Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the impact of government-imposed mandates on school districts across the State of Nebraska.

Article VII, section 1, of the Constitution of Nebraska states that the "Legislature shall provide for the free instruction in the common schools of this state of all persons between the ages of five and twenty-one years." Understanding the accumulation of mandates over time from local, state, and federal governments imposed on local school districts and the changes, or lack thereof, in revenue is important to the State of Nebraska as both have a significant impact on the ability to maintain the strong education system of Nebraska.

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

- (1) History and impact of state and federal mandates on school districts;
- (2) History and impact of changes in revenue sources for school districts;
- (3) History and impact of the gap that may or may not exist between the historical change in cost of mandates and sources of revenue for school districts; and
- (4) Potential recommendations for legislation to address any such gap and the implications of such legislation.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the committee shall seek the input of the State Department of Education, school boards, school administrators, teachers, and educational service units of Nebraska.

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