

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 245

Introduced by Vargas, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine juvenile detention costs and necessary updates to the juvenile detention facility standards or the Nebraska Juvenile Code.

At a time when state and local governments face rising costs of goods and services it is imperative that policy makers have access to informed estimates of the costs of juvenile detention. There are numerous ways to calculate the cost of detention and detention administrators within the state arrive at their costs through different methods. This study seeks to realize a standardized model for calculating the average cost of housing a youth in detention. This study will assist policy makers understand what components are typically included in a detention cost estimate, why one would or would not choose to include these elements, and what additional costs and revenue could be incorporated in the calculation of costs to detain youth. Additionally, the committee should consult the National Juvenile Justice Network Fiscal Policy Center's toolkit, publications, or staff for possible guidance.

The study should also consider specific content areas of the minimum juvenile detention facility standards that require updates. In addition, alignment or changes in the Nebraska Juvenile Code as it relates to juvenile detention facilities should also be examined.

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