

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 251

Introduced by Dover, 19; Aguilar, 35; Armendariz, 18; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Cavanaugh, J., 9; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Fredrickson, 20; Hardin, 48; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Ibach, 44; Linehan, 39; Lippincott, 34; Moser, 22; Sanders, 45; Vargas, 7; von Gillern, 4.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to explore the development of registered apprenticeship program sponsors within Nebraska's education system for early childhood care and education. Nationally, the apprenticeship model has been shown to be an effective tool for training students in early childhood care and education. Apprenticeships offer a unique mode of instruction and an avenue for earning pay while training on the job.

In Nebraska, seventy-four percent of children under six years of age live in households with all available parents in the workforce, which is the sixth highest amount among all states. Nebraska's current workforce capacity for early childhood care and education is insufficient to meet the needs of working families. The apprenticeship model is an effective way to serve both the interests of prospective students in early childhood care and education and the needs of Nebraska families.

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

- (1) The growing need for early childhood care and education in Nebraska;
- (2) The registered apprenticeship programs for early childhood care and education at the United States Department of Labor;
- (3) The available federal resources for the establishment of such programs;
- (4) The education infrastructure in the state to support such programs and existing state resources for such programs; and
- (5) Any public-private partnership opportunities for expanding the instruction and training infrastructure of early childhood care workers and

educators, including an examination of similar initiatives in other states.

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.