

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 342

Introduced by Bosn, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider changes to the juvenile justice system to address impacted juveniles who have mental health and substance use diagnoses.

Sufficient and available mental health services are presently lacking for many Nebraskans, including for youth and adolescents. Behavioral health and mental health services are especially needed for system-involved youth and those youth who are subject to any filing under the Nebraska Juvenile Code, particularly those youth who are subject to potential liberty restriction or secure detention.

This study should examine potential investments and funding to provide for mental health treatment professionals, programs, and facilities to meet the needs of Nebraska youth, adolescents, and adults through community-based services and accessible residential and inpatient care. The study should also determine how the state can provide assistance in supporting measures to improve mental health care in Nebraska communities. The study should also examine any statutory changes necessary to effectuate providing services to system-involved youth in need of behavioral health services.

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