

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL 302**

Introduced by Ashford, 20.

Read first time January 12, 2011

Committee: Judiciary

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to courts; to provide for an analysis and
- 2 restructuring plan for the court system by the Supreme
- 3 Court.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to  
2 consider implementation of laws for the restructuring of the court  
3 system of the State of Nebraska in order to maximize efficiency and  
4 maintain access to justice for all Nebraska residents. The  
5 Legislature acknowledges the Supreme Court's inherent and  
6 constitutional administrative authority over all courts in this state  
7 and its duty to ensure the proper and efficient administration of  
8 justice. The Legislature finds and declares that an analysis and  
9 restructuring plan by the Supreme Court is essential to the  
10 Legislature's consideration of this matter.

11           (2) The Legislature calls on the Supreme Court to analyze  
12 the structure of the entire court system of the State of Nebraska,  
13 including the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, district courts,  
14 county courts, separate juvenile courts, Nebraska Workers'  
15 Compensation Court, and specialty courts including drug court  
16 programs and problem solving court programs. The analysis shall  
17 include:

18           (a) Determining whether the court system meets the needs  
19 of the residents of Nebraska;

20           (b) Determining whether the present multi-tier court  
21 system is the most efficient system or whether alternative systems  
22 could improve the efficiency and quality of the court system;

23           (c) Identifying inefficiencies in the court system and  
24 determining workable solutions;

25           (d) Finding ways to reduce the costs of the court system

1 and to enhance the efficiency of the court system with information  
2 and other technology; and

3 (e) Identifying ways to reduce unnecessary duplication  
4 and to improve court procedures and administration.

5 (3) A comprehensive, cohesive restructuring plan for the  
6 entire court system of the state shall be developed by the Supreme  
7 Court that utilizes the analysis to create an efficient, high-  
8 functioning court system to serve the residents of the State of  
9 Nebraska. The restructuring plan shall be presented to the  
10 Legislature by January 1, 2012.