

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 202

Introduced by Fredrickson, 20; Walz, 15.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the mental and behavioral health care needs of Nebraskans, determine the severity of the shortage of mental and behavioral health care providers, services, and resources in Nebraska, and evaluate potential best practices to increase access to mental and behavioral health care.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to:

(1) An examination of the prevalence of mental and behavioral health care providers in Nebraska;

(2) An evaluation of methods to address work force shortages in mental and behavioral health care to increase access to services;

(3) An evaluation of policy strategies to improve mental and behavioral health care access within primary care services;

(4) A review of how disparities in access to mental and behavioral health care services impact specific underserved or at-risk populations;

(5) A review of best practices in other states in addressing access to and providing funding for mental and behavioral health care services; and

(6) A review of other barriers to mental and behavioral health care in Nebraska and solutions for addressing those barriers.

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

1. That the Health and Human Services 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.