

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 207

Introduced by Wayne, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine public health issues related to drugs, alcohol, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in Douglas County.

The study committee shall:

(1) Collect, examine, and analyze data on drug and alcohol usage and STDs and related health conditions in Douglas County;

(2) Collect, examine, and analyze data on access in Douglas County to detoxification, treatment facilities, telehealth, distance learning, and other health and education resources for those affected by these issues, including affected children;

(3) Collect, examine, and analyze data on children in Douglas County who are at risk of continuing a cycle of alcoholism or drug abuse unless outside intervention is made available;

(4) Encourage participation and obtain input from academic and medical experts, including, but not limited to, the University of Nebraska Medical Center;

(5) Encourage and obtain input from nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions, and city, county, and other public officials to evaluate and develop strategies and solutions to address these issues;

(6) Study, evaluate, and report on the status and effectiveness of policies, procedures, and programs implemented by other states directed toward preventing and combating these issues;

(7) Evaluate the adequacy of interagency data sharing and policy coordination and recommend changes as necessary;

(8) Examine sources of federal, state, and private funds that may be

available for prevention, detoxification, treatment, rehabilitation, and economic development;

(9) Create a long-range strategic plan containing measurable goals and benchmarks, including future action needed to attain those goals and benchmarks, for decreasing the incidence of alcohol and drug-related health problems and STDs through prevention programs and increasing treatment, access to detoxification services, sex education and contraceptives, and economic growth in Douglas County and the surrounding areas; and

(10) Recommend data-supported changes to policies, procedures, and programs to address the needs of children affected by these issues, including the steps that will be required to make the recommended changes and whether further action is required by the Legislature or local governments.

The study committee shall assemble a description of the policies, procedures, and programs that have already been implemented or modified to help rectify the issues raised in this study and shall develop a long-range strategic plan that contains recommendations on how to address these issues.

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