

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 251

Introduced by Vargas, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct a comprehensive review of food deserts in Nebraska and make recommendations to combat the rise of food deserts and increase access to healthy, affordable food. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following issues:

(1) National best practices relating to state and local efforts to provide healthy, affordable food to low-income areas;

(2) Resources the state may use to combat food deserts;

(3) A review of the Department of Economic Development's ability to establish a financing program involving public, private, and nonprofit sectors to increase access to healthy food;

(4) The ways in which food insecurity affects thousands of Nebraska families; and

(5) The benefits of access to healthy, affordable food for rural, low-income, and predominantly minority communities.

The interim study shall obtain input from interested parties including the Department of Economic Development and statewide stakeholders in providing healthy, affordable food.

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

1. That the Agriculture 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.