

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 339

Introduced by McKinney, 11.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to consider reforms to the parole process. This study should include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following potential reforms:

- (1) Early release from parole for those who are compliant with conditions;
- (2) A good-time calculation for the terms of parolees;
- (3) Statutory changes to limit parole revocations to serious violations of parole rather than technical or minor violations; and
- (4) Any other potential reforms.

Nebraska's prison population, anticipated growth of such population, and the state's current needs for facility construction have all been recently examined by the state. In 2021 and 2022, state officials partnered with the Crime and Justice Institute to examine trends in Nebraska's criminal justice system and various policies and operations relating to the Nebraska Criminal Code and prison population. The Crime and Justice Institute Working Group produced data-driven policy reforms to reduce the state's projected prison population growth while promoting public safety and reducing recidivism. There were seven general policy priorities, and one of those policies was directly related to enhancing parole supervision for people reentering society.

One of the suggested reforms identified by the Crime and Justice Institute was to better utilize the parole process. In 2020, only fifty-eight percent of eligible offenders were placed on parole. Trends going back to 2011 showed fewer people being granted parole and when released, they had been in prison longer. The Crime and Justice Institute recommended a number of reforms to parole, all of which recommended greater use of parole.

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.