

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 368

Introduced by Cavanaugh, M., 6.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to identify deficiencies and inefficiencies in Nebraska public policy surrounding disability related service provision and discuss policy reforms that would increase the ability of families that have children with disabilities to access necessary disability related services statewide. Many Nebraska families that have children with disabilities struggle to arrange necessary disability related services for their child with a disability. Families of children with disabilities often face a lack of appropriate services, especially at a nursing level of care, through agency or independent providers. Therefore, family members are forced to provide this care without compensation or reimbursement and are unable to acquire or maintain employment.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(1) The adequacy of staffing for direct service professionals by agency providers and independent providers with an emphasis on the availability of service providers for children;

(2) Opportunities to eliminate the barriers to family member guardians as paid caretakers for those with a nursing level of care or higher;

(3) How other states have best leveraged the flexibility in medicaid waivers to expand opportunities to find additional providers; and

(4) Appropriate policies and procedures that will protect the rights of individuals with disabilities who have guardians that provide care in order to minimize potential conflicts of interest without overly invasive regulation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND 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.