

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 372

Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine Nebraska's policies relating to the Board of Nursing and the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and to evaluate the effectiveness and usefulness of the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.

The nursing field has changed greatly since the statutory requirements for each of these boards were constituted. To accommodate all interested parties, it is essential to study the needs of the workplace in the field of nursing. Additionally, Nebraska is currently the only state with a Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, which represents certified registered nurse anesthetists, certified nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists.

Ensuring that Nebraska prioritizes the special role advanced practice registered nurses have in the state's health care system will make Nebraska a more appealing state for advance practice registered nurses to practice, thus dissipating some of the shortages in the state's health care system. An evaluation of the state's policies for these boards might help determine if combining the Board of Nursing with the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses will effectively represent all registered nursing interests in the state.

This study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The current requirements for members of the Board of Nursing compared to what would more accurately represent the nursing field in Nebraska;

(2) The current requirements for members of the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses compared to what would more accurately represent the field of

advanced practice registered nursing in Nebraska;

(3) The proportions of different types of nurses in the state, including, but not limited to, advanced practice registered nurses and licensed practical nurses;

(4) The percentage of registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses practicing in primarily rural communities versus urban communities; and

(5) What the makeup of a potential combined Board of Nursing and Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses should be.

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