

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 377

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to complete a comprehensive study on the reform of policing in Nebraska. The study shall focus on, but not be limited to, the feasibility of steps that the Legislature could take to establish, or promote the establishment of, governmental entities that would provide oversight of law enforcement agencies and that would be separate from and independent of the law enforcement agencies being overseen. The study committee shall obtain input from experts and interested parties.

The study shall include an examination of:

(1) Other oversight mechanisms that have been established in Nebraska and elsewhere;

(2) Those features that would work best to make law enforcement oversight entities as independent as possible from the law enforcement agencies being overseen;

(3) The legal responsibilities of law enforcement agencies that are subject to such oversight to provide the oversight entities with all needed evidence or relevant information; and

(4) The feasibility of a system whereby all law enforcement agencies would be required by law to publicly disclose all disciplinary actions taken by such agencies against their officers.

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

(1) Whether it is desirable to reform law enforcement practices, including, but not limited to: (a) The use of chokeholds, electroshock weapons, sprays or other chemical irritants, batons, and high impact munitions for crowd control or for the arrest and restraint of suspects; and (b) the use of deadly force;

(2) Whether improvements can be made in the staffing and hiring practices of law enforcement agencies; and

(3) Whether improvements can be made in the training of law enforcement officers.

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