

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 418

Introduced by Hansen, M., 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the categorization of criminal offenses. Currently, discussion and debate about criminal laws often include terms such as drug related crimes or violent crimes, of which there are not consistent definitions within Nebraska statutes. Nebraska's classification of crimes into misdemeanors and felonies does not serve as a viable proxy for these terms. For instance, some misdemeanors may be seen as more serious than some felonies.

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

(1) Whether the criminal offenses in Nebraska can be categorized into drug-related and non-drug-related within the existing classification system;

(2) Whether the criminal offenses in Nebraska can be categorized into violent and nonviolent offenses within the existing classification system; and

(3) Whether any other potential categorization would be necessary or helpful in drafting future legislation relating to criminal justice issues.

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.