

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 457

Introduced by McCollister, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study the Nebraska parole and pardons processes.

(1) With regard to the parole process, the study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(a) The current population of the Nebraska correctional system and their eligibility for parole;

(b) Programming available through the Department of Correctional Services to prepare individuals for parole;

(c) Existing constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions that relate to parole eligibility, release, and supervision; and

(d) Potential changes to constitutional, statutory, and regulatory provisions that would improve public safety, the conditions in Nebraska prisons, and the success of the parole system.

(2) With regard to the pardons process, the study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of:

(a) The number and frequency of meetings held by the Board of Pardons and the notice provided for such meetings;

(b) The clarity of requirements for pardon requests and the consideration given to each individual application;

(c) National best practices for the entities in each state responsible for pardons and how the practices of the Board of Pardons align with such best practices;

(d) The national average for the length of time that must elapse for a pardon to be considered;

(e) Standards for the web site for the Board of Pardons to clearly state

the dual obligation of the state to prosecute wrong doing and provide restorative justice to those who demonstrate meaningful progress toward rehabilitation; and

(f) The necessity for an annual report to the legislative and judicial branches of state government and to the public.

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.