

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 530

Introduced by Nordquist, 7; Cook, 13.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study existing and proposed programs, policies, administrative rules, and statutes that impact the financial stability of working families in Nebraska. This study shall include a consideration of the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state and its population.

Despite historically high employment in our state and a high rate of parents in the workforce, the poverty rates of Nebraska families and individuals have risen significantly over the past decade. The median household income in Nebraska has declined by 5% between 2000 and 2012. It is in the state's best interest to take steps to ensure that employment provides economic stability for individuals and families in Nebraska. The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following issues:

1. A review of income, employment, and other related data to provide a comprehensive portrait of the economic well-being of working Nebraskans;

2. An evaluation of existing federally supported and state-supported programs and policies that affect Nebraskans working their way to economic stability; and

3. Best policies and practices that:

- a. Increase educational opportunities from birth to career;

b. Provide access to education and career-training opportunities to promote career advancement and progression;

c. Offer opportunities for quality jobs that meet private sector needs and provide economic stability for employees;

d. Address the sufficiency and effectiveness of work support programs and policies;

e. Build family assets as the basis for long-term economic stability;

f. Support employment and economic stability through individual and corporate tax policy; and

g. Promote economic and family stability through workplace policies.

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