

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 596

Introduced by Watermeier, 1.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study and evaluate the potential use of Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) and the potential use of out-of-hospital Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) protocols.

POLST are used to convert patients' medical treatment preferences into medical orders. It is completed based upon conversations among health care professionals with the patient, or with a designated proxy decision maker if identified in an advance medical directive. One of the main components of POLST is the development and use of a standardized form that provides specific medical treatment orders for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, medical intervention, artificial nutrition, and antibiotics. The standard form is designed to transfer across treatment settings so it is readily available to medical personnel, including emergency medical technicians, emergency physicians and nurses, and nursing facility staff.

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.