

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 161

Introduced by Erdman, 47;

PURPOSE: To examine the manner in which agencies of Nebraska state government are providing public notice of their intention to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule or regulation under the Administrative Procedure Act. The state has an obligation to formulate policy and conduct business at all times in an open and transparent manner that assures an informed public. Recently, state agencies have begun to take advantage of technology and electronic communications to augment or replace printed notices of proposed rule or regulation changes. Given the complexity of accessing electronic information, the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall undertake an overall examination of the manner of notification to ensure adequate public access and public notice to interested parties.

This study shall include, but not be limited to, reviewing whether current methods of notice are adequate to reach, as far as practicable, all interested parties and whether the current electronic information formats are sufficiently user friendly to facilitate public access to both existing and proposed agency rules and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee request from the several agencies of state government information on the manner in which they are undertaking the public notice requirement under the Administrative Procedure Act.

3. 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.