

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 329

Introduced by Nantkes, 46.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine state policy changes that should be pursued in order to ensure that state economic development efforts fully leverage the state's public and private research capacity. Research provides the basis for innovation, which will continue to be a vitally important factor for state competitiveness in developing higher wage jobs and a more diversified economic base. Additionally, the University of Nebraska's proven record of success in securing competitive federal grants for research in areas such as biotechnology, bioscience, physics, crop genetics, nanotechnology, computer science, transportation, energy, drought, climate change, and many others hold great potential for economic growth across the state. The general objective of this study is to examine ways to align and enhance tax policies, economic development policies, and state appropriations in order to fully leverage research and strengthen state innovation. The study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Examination of how state investment and job incentives might be utilized to leverage public and private research and build innovation capacity;

(2) Examination of how the state refundable research and development tax credit might be enhanced to assist with public and

private research;

(3) Examination of how the state might more fully participate in federal programs for enhancing research and building innovation capacity;

(4) Examination of Nebraska's competitiveness with other states in developing innovation capacity;

(5) Examination of policies that encourage the location, expansion, or creation of "new economy" businesses and technology-based entrepreneurship; and

(6) Examination of any other policy issues under the general objectives of the study.

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

1. That the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and Revenue Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct a joint interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.