

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 164

Introduced by Campbell, 25.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to examine the federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 and its implementation in Nebraska. The act was passed by the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate in September of 2008 and signed into law by President Bush in October of 2008. The law includes, among other things, provisions to promote permanent families for foster children through relative guardianships and adoptions, to enhance adoption incentives, to increase federal support for adoption assistance regardless of income, to increase support for youth who age out of foster care, to improve education and health care for foster children, to require early identification of potential relative placements for children, to extend federal support for children in foster care after age eighteen, and to offer federal assistance and support to American Indian children.

The committee shall examine:

(1) The implementation of the act in Nebraska, specifically the various optional and mandatory provisions of the act and which optional provisions of the act the State of Nebraska has chosen to carry out;

(2) The various benefits and implications of the act for

Nebraska; and

(3) Whether any changes should be made to current state statute in accordance with the act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST 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.