

## ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 172

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PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to analyze the education and training available that could lead to careers in high-demand industries in Nebraska. The Department of Labor predicts gaps in the labor force in several high-demand industries, such as health care, information technology, insurance, and green jobs. These industries are a cornerstone of Nebraska's future economic development and require higher-skilled labor. Only thirty-six percent of Nebraska adults have a postsecondary educational degree and one in ten do not have a high school diploma or GED. Other states, such as California, Massachusetts, and Kentucky, have developed pipeline programs to build worker skills for high-demand industries. The general objective of this study is to examine high-demand industries, the skills and education of the current workforce, the programs currently in place for worker education and training, and the opportunities to align systems and programs to meet business and worker needs.

The study shall include, but not be limited to, the following topics:

(1) Examination of high-demand industries with high earning and economic development potential in Nebraska and the

education, training, and skills required for workers to fill those high-demand jobs;

(2) Analysis of the current skills and education levels of Nebraska's current workforce, specifically using a regional analysis;

(3) A catalog of current major education and training opportunities in high-demand career fields;

(4) Models of career pipeline programs in other states that may be appropriate for Nebraska;

(5) Barriers to education and training, particularly adult basic education; and

(6) Opportunities to align or improve systems to improve Nebraska's workforce.

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

1. That the Education 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.