

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 228

Introduced by Dierks, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine organic foods. Consumer demand for organic foods is rapidly increasing. Nebraska farmers have an opportunity to become leaders in the growth and marketing of organic foods as farmers markets, grocery stores, restaurants, and other businesses continue to add more organic products in response to the demand. Organic foods can provide economic development opportunities for Nebraska farmers, ranchers, and businesses. Organic products must maintain certain standards in order to be granted organic certification. This study shall include, but not be limited to, examination of the following:

- (1) Methods of increasing organic food production;
- (2) Whether incentives are necessary or effective in supporting organic food production;
- (3) Whether there are barriers to developing organic food production;
- (4) Whether policies are needed to protect organic agriculture from contamination by other agriculture which is not organic;
- (5) Methods of developing and expanding markets for organic foods; and
- (6) Policies of other states and the federal government

related to support for organic agriculture.

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

1. That the Agriculture 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.