

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 521

Introduced by Larson, 40.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether the courts are utilizing the specific provision in section 43-290 that provides that a court may order a parent to pay a reasonable sum to cover in whole or in part the support, study, and treatment of a juvenile in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services to promote parental responsibility and provide the most equitable use and availability of public money. This study shall determine whether the purposes of the statute are in fact being promoted by the courts with regard to ordering parents to provide financial support. Given the fiscal concerns regarding the child welfare system, it is important to look at the available options for funding adequate care of juveniles in the custody of the department. This study shall also evaluate whether sums ordered to be paid by a parent under this section are collected at an acceptable rate or if changes are necessary to provide the authority for garnishment of ordered support payments.

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

1. That the Judiciary and Health and Human Services Committees 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.