

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 533

Introduced by McGill, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study whether there are enough resources currently present in schools to detect and treat mental illness in school-age children. The study should include an examination of issues surrounding bullying, harassment, teen suicide, and trauma. The study should include an examination of the following, including whether there are any cultural or racial disparities present in the data:

(1) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder and what the procedure is if staff of the school suspect a child has a mental health disorder;

(2) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that are receiving treatment for a mental health disorder;

(3) The number of children attending Nebraska schools that lack insurance for mental health treatment and what other barriers, if any, might prevent a child from receiving mental health treatment;

(4) The types of mental health treatment offered in Nebraska schools and whether there is a formal process for mental health screenings in such schools and if so, what that process is; and

(5) Which Nebraska schools have mental health and social services staff and the responsibilities of such staff.

In order to carry out the purpose of this resolution, the study committee should seek the assistance of the State Department of Education

and the Department of Health and Human Services and should consider the input of interested persons as the committee deems necessary and beneficial.

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