

AMENDMENTS TO LR34

Introduced by Executive Board.

1           1. Strike the original provisions and insert the following new  
2 provisions:

3           WHEREAS, the Department of Correctional Services Special  
4 Investigative Committee of the Legislature was created in LR424, One  
5 Hundred Third Legislature, Second Session; and

6           WHEREAS, the committee, having completed its work and issued its  
7 report on December 15, 2014, discovered additional problems within the  
8 Department of Correctional Services during the course of its LR424 study;  
9 and

10          WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that further study and oversight  
11 of the department is necessary in order to prevent additional mistakes  
12 and to correct inadequate department procedures and policies.

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

15          1. That the Legislature hereby calls for the Executive Board of the  
16 Legislative Council to meet forthwith and reappoint the Department of  
17 Correctional Services Special Investigative Committee of the Legislature.  
18 The committee shall consist of up to eleven members of the Legislature  
19 appointed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall appoint the  
20 chairperson and vice-chairperson of the committee. The Executive Board is  
21 hereby authorized to provide the committee with a legal counsel,  
22 committee clerk, and other staff as required by the committee from  
23 existing legislative staff. The Executive Board is also authorized to  
24 hire outside legal counsel, consultants, and investigators as required by  
25 the committee. The committee shall be an investigative committee and is  
26 hereby authorized to hold hearings and issue subpoenas as deemed  
27 necessary by the committee.

1           2. That the Department of Correctional Services Special  
2 Investigative Committee of the Legislature is hereby authorized to study  
3 the following with respect to the Department of Correctional Services:

4           (a) The adequacy of programs designed to rehabilitate inmates;

5           (b) The funding history of programs designed to rehabilitate  
6 inmates;

7           (c) The availability of mental health care and the policies and  
8 procedures in place to ensure that inmates receive appropriate mental  
9 health care or confinement through the civil commitment process;

10          (d) The policies relating to the solitary confinement, segregation,  
11 or other isolation of inmates;

12          (e) The transition of inmates from incarceration to the community at  
13 large;

14          (f) The administration of good time laws; and

15          (g) Any evaluation or study made of the department's policies and  
16 practices, whether or not any recommendations were adopted as a result of  
17 the evaluation or study, and the reasons if any recommendations were not  
18 adopted.

19          3. That the Department of Correctional Services Special  
20 Investigative Committee shall brief the Judiciary Committee of the  
21 Legislature by December 15, 2015, and December 15, 2016, and issue a  
22 report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature as  
23 circumstances warrant.

24          4. That the Department of Correctional Services Special  
25 Investigative Committee is hereby authorized to continue its work until  
26 the beginning of the One Hundred Fifth Legislature, First Session.