

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 181**

Introduced by Kolterman, 24.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to study how to build Nebraska's workforce, especially in high-need areas, and support personal responsibility and professional growth for all Nebraskans. A first step in accomplishing this purpose is to identify and, if applicable, propose changes to state policies that serve as barriers to full-time employment. Some Nebraskans are forced to continue dependency on state-funded benefits rather than risk losing these supports if their work hours or income levels exceed the limits for these programs. While these programs fill an important need for families across the state, there may be improvements that can be made in order to enable workers to stay and grow within the workforce.

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

(1) Examining current state-funded financial assistance programs offered by the Department of Health and Human Services, including medicaid and other joint federal and state programs in which the state has discretion in setting limitations;

(2) Examining similar programs in other states; and

(3) Identifying potential improvements that can be made to current programs that would benefit Nebraska employers and employees, expand the available workforce in high-need areas, and contribute to the economic growth of Nebraska.

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