

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 187

Introduced by Howard, 9.

PURPOSE: The Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services provides for five primary service areas that are aligned with the judicial districts as set forth by the Nebraska Supreme Court. The Division of Children and Family Services serves abused and neglected children, juvenile offenders, and vulnerable adults. The service areas, while aligned by judicial district, are geographically unique and have different service needs. The purpose of this study is to determine the strengths and weaknesses of each service area and how best practices may be shared among the five service areas.

The study committee shall examine issues including, but not limited to:

(1) Identifying specific services available for children, juvenile offenders, and vulnerable adults in each service area with the following descriptions:

- (a) What concerns services are designed to address;
- (b) Availability of evidence-based services;
- (c) Accessibility and transportation;
- (d) Wait times; and
- (e) Time limitations on amount of service provided;

(2) If needed services are not available in a service area, an explanation of why a given service is not available;

(3) Availability of written reports for the services being performed;

(4) Whether programs or services are goal-driven and outcome-oriented, and who determines the goals and whether progress is being made in each program or service provided;

(5) Services for prevention and early intervention for families,

including:

- (a) Types of services currently available; and
- (b) Services still needed; and
- (6) Cost differentiation for services by area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH 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.