

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 127**

Introduced by Hunt, 8.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to ensure youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system understand their rights, to ensure their rights are being upheld, and to explore the need for additional rights.

The issues addressed by this interim study shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) The frequency with which youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system are receiving a comprehensive bill of rights;

(2) The age and developmental appropriateness of the way in which such rights are explained to youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system;

(3) The role of a guardian ad litem and other attorneys in helping youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system understand their rights;

(4) The existing bill of rights shared with youth in foster care through the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services and with youth in the juvenile justice system through the Office of Probation Administration;

(5) Youth and stakeholder input, best practices, and additional rights that should be included in a bill of rights for youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system;

(6) The inclusion of rights specifically for youth in the foster care system and juvenile justice system who are pregnant, parenting, or accessing family planning services;

(7) Rights that may be neglected for youth who are disproportionately represented in the foster care system and the juvenile justice system, including, but not limited to, youth of color and youth with other marginalized

identities; and

(8) The grievance processes for youth in the foster care system and the juvenile justice system who feel their rights are not being protected and their access to such grievance processes.

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

1. That the Judiciary 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.