

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 409

Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee: Howard, 9, Chairperson; Arch, 14; Cavanaugh, 6; Hansen, B., 16; Murman, 38; Walz, 15; Williams, 36.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to examine the drug testing protocol in the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services for families involved in the child welfare system.

This interim study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of the following:

(1) The experience of other states with drug testing protocols related to child welfare systems;

(2) Drug testing for initial assessments and structured decisionmaking safety and risk assessments;

(3) The use of a new drug testing protocol in high-risk cases and for families subject to a safety plan;

(4) The use of substance use disorder evaluations when the structured decisionmaking assessment outcome is safe or conditionally safe;

(5) The benefits of allowing infants and children who may have been exposed to drugs to be tested;

(6) The current laws related to drug testing policies in the child welfare system;

(7) The impacts of possible drug use on children after the drug testing protocol change;

(8) The process for holding parents and guardians accountable under a safety plan or case plan; and

(9) The efforts by the department to find a compromise solution with stakeholders regarding drug testing protocols.

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