

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 438**

Introduced by Friesen, 34.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to continue to monitor the activities of the Rural Broadband Task Force that was created by Laws 2018, LB994. The task force is charged with studying issues relating to broadband availability, quality, and affordability in rural areas and comparability to broadband services in urban areas. The task force presented initial findings and recommendations in a report to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council in 2019, and the task force continues to examine issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability of broadband services in rural Nebraska.

In addition, the study committee shall review:

(1) Actions of the Governor and the Department of Economic Development in providing money from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act for broadband development in Nebraska; and

(2) The progress of the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Phase I Auction Procedures in Nebraska. The study committee shall determine whether the RDOF method that weights bids for services with faster speeds and lower latency more heavily in an auction would be appropriate for Nebraska law relating to reverse auctions.

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

1. That the Transportation and Telecommunications 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.