

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 172

Introduced by Vargas, 7.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the occupation taxes imposed on wireless telecommunication services.

Nebraska has the fourth highest rate of taxation on wireless telecommunication consumers in the country with a rate of 19.49% as of July 2022, partly due to occupation taxes. There is no limit on the occupation tax rate that may be imposed on wireless telecommunication services. The occupation tax is a regressive tax, burdening lower-income customers at the same rate as higher-income customers. Occupation taxes burden the development of new wireless telecommunication services and the growth of existing wireless telecommunication services. The State of Nebraska covers a large geographic area, and it is in the interest of all Nebraskans to have affordable statewide wireless telecommunication services.

This interim study should focus on the occupation taxes imposed on wireless telecommunication services in Nebraska and determine ways the state can maintain and advance the efficiency and availability of telecommunication services in the state.

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