

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 370

Introduced by Hansen, 26.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this interim study is to conduct a review of issues arising from the lack of mental health treatment for those in the criminal justice system across the state and possible options for expanding services.

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

(1) The short-term and long-term effects of housing inmates with mental health needs at county facilities, where resources are often lacking;

(2) The long wait times for openings at the Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) for defendants who have been ruled incompetent to stand trial, and the effect that has on Nebraska counties and their practice of housing those waiting for beds at the LRC; and

(3) Options for expanding treatment alternatives for defendants found incompetent to stand trial and other inmates with mental health needs, including outpatient and community treatment options and the reopening of regional centers outside Lincoln.

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