

## ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 526**

Introduced by Haar, 21.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to examine options to provide incentives for professional growth and development of teachers as the means to increased student achievement and success in Nebraska public schools.

Research indicates that well-trained, mentored, supported, and motivated teachers do improve the likelihood of student success. Currently the state recognizes teachers who take the initiative to improve their teaching skills and knowledge through programs for mentoring, by achieving master teacher status through National Board Certification, and through acquisition of a master's degree in a shortage area through the tuition loan forgiveness program. Lottery funds, but no state General Funds, are expended for these programs. School districts also reward teachers for the acquisition of college credit hours through progression on the salary schedule.

The study committee will explore strategies to encourage growth in classroom teaching skills and knowledge, as research indicates such improvements correlate positively to student growth for different populations of students, including students at risk because of poverty, language deficiency, or behavioral issues. The study committee will also assess state aid incentives or accreditation requirements that will encourage teachers to invest the time and money to acquire such teaching skills and knowledge.

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

1. That the Education 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.