

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 366

Introduced by Day, 49.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine opportunities under the medical assistance program to improve state beneficiaries' social determinants of health by allowing coverage of clinically appropriate interventions that address enrollees' health-related social needs.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recognize the important links between health-related social needs, health coverage, and health outcomes. Health-related social needs are an individual's unmet adverse social conditions that contribute to poor health such as food insecurity, unemployment, and housing instability. These needs can account for as much as fifty percent of health outcomes, drive health disparities, and increase costs.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have demonstrated commitment to supporting states in efforts to improve population health, reduce disability, and lower overall health care costs through coverage of health-related social needs. A study of state medicaid programs that integrate health-related social needs services is appropriate to understand the potential outcomes of adopting this type of program in Nebraska.

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

(1) Research on how social determinants of health and health-related social needs affect health services utilization, health care costs, health disparities, and health outcomes;

(2) Eligible populations and covered services in states that have integrated health-related social needs services into medicaid state plans;

(3) The results of integrating health-related social needs services into medicaid state plans in other states, including health outcomes, access,

equity, cost savings, and cost-effectiveness of health care services and interventions;

(4) What the most appropriate medicaid authority is for health-related social needs services;

(5) How to align health-related social needs services with existing assistance programs available to the target populations; and

(6) Service delivery requirements, fiscal policies, and other federally mandated conditions for health-related social needs services.

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