

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 420**

Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this resolution is to propose an interim study to examine the budget needs of and funding sources for regional behavioral health authorities.

In 1974, the Legislature established the six behavioral health regions to address the diverse populations, resources, and needs of the state. State statutes set out the responsibility of each behavioral health region to plan, coordinate, develop, and evaluate the publicly funded behavioral health service system by addressing needs, gaps, and barriers and contracting with community-based service organizations to provide behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and prevention activities. Behavioral health regions are local units of government that the Division of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Human Services contracts with to engage in planning and service implementation.

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

- (1) The funding historically provided to the regions;
- (2) The impact of recent reductions in funding to the Division of Behavioral Health, as well as the impact of the unfunded provider rate increase, including program reductions across behavioral health regions;
- (3) Challenges faced by behavioral health regions and partner providers in dispersing funding, including the medical assistance program unwinding and continuing staff shortages;
- (4) The Lincoln Regional Center's staffing needs and challenges; and
- (5) Opioid settlement funding updates.

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

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations 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.