



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY

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February 22, 2017

The Honorable Senator Carol Ebke, Chair
Judiciary Committee
State Capitol
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Re: LB 165 a bill to increase the regulation of private and small businesses in Nebraska.

Dear Senator Ebke and members of the Judiciary Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Lincoln and Lancaster County is a member of the Nebraska Coalition for Immigration Reform and we oppose, LB 165. This bill would require private and small businesses to register with the Nebraska Department of Revenue and use the federal E-Verify system to check immigration status of their employees. The bill increases the regulation and requirements for private and small businesses in Nebraska and creates complications for small business hiring new employees.

We recognize that immigration policy is the responsibility of the federal government and Congress has not yet adopted reforms to our nation's immigration policies even though efforts have been made for many years. We also recognize that the federal E-Verify system has improved but is not always accurate and can provide false positives, creating problems for business and families.

The League of Women Voters thinks that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families, meet the economic, business and employment needs of our country and be responsive to those facing political persecution.

This bill does not support those goals and it does not clearly state what problem that is the responsibility of the state, it is intending to spend nearly \$300,000 to solve.

We urge you to indefinitely postpone this bill.

Sincerely,

Mary Boschult, President
League of Women Voters of Lincoln and Lancaster County