



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY

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February 6, 2019

The Honorable Senator Sara Howard, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee
P.O. Box 94606
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Chairwoman Howard and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Lincoln and Lancaster County is writing to support LB255, a bill that would reduce the cliff effect of terminating Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits when people become employed or advance in their employment.

The League of Women Voters believes that one of the goals of social policy should be promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families and that the most effective programs are those that prevent or reduce poverty.

Benefit levels should be sufficient to provide decent and adequate standards for food, clothing and shelter. Work should be encouraged and participants' total income should increase as earning increase. There should be financial incentives for job advancement and success.

Revising the income tests and consideration of expenses provides an incentive for success in achieving and maintaining independence from public assistance programs rather than slamming the door shut when gross earnings reach 130% of poverty.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose candidates. We work to increase understanding of public policy issues and to increase voter participation in elections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Boschult".

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