



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY

4600 Valley Road
Suite 306
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-475-1411
www.lincolnleague.org

March 6, 2019

Senator Steve Lathrop, Chair
Judiciary Committee
Nebraska Legislature
State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509

Re: LB 44 A Bill to Eliminate the Death Penalty in Nebraska

Senator Lathrop and members of the Judiciary Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Lincoln and Lancaster County is writing to express our support for LB 44, a bill to eliminate the death penalty in Nebraska.

The League of Women Voters of the United States has long supported abolishing the death penalty. In 2016 our Lincoln/Lancaster League researched and developed a policy specific to Nebraska. The policy was adopted through review and concurrence of all members of the Lincoln/Lancaster League and further adopted by the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.

We are opposed to the death penalty in Nebraska. We believe that the State of Nebraska should not be executing or threatening to execute its own people. Almost all developed countries of the world have already abolished the death penalty. The death penalty should be abolished in Nebraska because-

1. The death penalty is applied arbitrarily.
2. Innocent people have been convicted and executed in Nebraska.
3. The costs associated with trying and executing an individual greatly exceed the cost of life sentence without parole.
4. Repeated studies regarding the death penalty have shown that the death penalty is no more a deterrent than life imprisonment without parole.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We do not endorse or oppose candidates or political parties. We work to increase understanding of major policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy.

We urge you to advance LB44 to General File.

Sincerely,

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

CC: Senator Ernie Chambers