



February 21, 2020

Senator Sara Howard, Chair
Members of the Health and Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature

RE: LB1185

Chairwoman Howard and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

My name is Adam Feser and I am a policy associate for First Five Nebraska. I am here to testify in support of LB1185. I want to thank the committee for your efforts to dig into complex issues to bring Nebraska into compliance with the Child Care and Development Block Grant Reauthorization of 2014. The fingerprinting legislation moved forward by this committee and passed by the body last session was an important demonstration of Nebraska's commitment to CCDBG compliance. The ongoing efforts of this committee, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and Child Care Development Fund Administrator, Nicole Vint, to fully comply are laudable.

Section 98.42(a)(1)(i) of the CCDBG Reauthorization Final Rule stipulates that any provider of child services for compensation who receives CCDF funds must undergo background checks. In Nebraska, license-exempt providers are eligible to receive CCDF funds, making it necessary that they follow the same background check guidelines as licensed child care providers if they want to serve families that utilize the child care subsidy. These regulations are necessary to ensure the safety of our youngest, most vulnerable children.

Again, thanks to all involved for your hard work on LB1185 and we support efforts to keep the bill moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Feser". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Adam Feser
Policy Associate
First Five Nebraska