



February 19, 2025

Senator R. Brad von Gillern, Chairman  
Members of the Revenue Committee  
Nebraska Legislature

RE: LB710

Chairman von Gillern and Members of the Revenue Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit online comment for the public record as a proponent of LB710.

Nebraska's workforce is among the most dependable and industrious in the nation. As a result, Nebraska has the [fifth lowest](#) unemployment rate in the country. A dedicated labor force is not just the engine that drives our economy- it represents our core values of hard work and resiliency that are passed on to the next generation. Yet, many Nebraskans struggle to climb out of poverty despite their hard work.

Poverty has negative impacts that span far beyond adults, leading to adverse outcomes such as low-weight births and lower academic outcomes for children living in economic insecurity. Of Nebraska's 151,066 children under 6 in 2023, 13.1% lived below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and 31.0% lived below 185% FPL. This represents a critical mass of infants and toddlers living in economic insecurity. Therefore, it is critical that the state implement policies to alleviate economic insecurity for the state's workforce and the young children that depend on them.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is one such way to help low and moderate-income workers achieve greater economic security and provide stable environments for their young children. Enhancing Nebraska's EITC from 10% to 20% of the federal EITC, as proposed in LB710, is a simple yet effective way to alleviate poverty and other adverse outcomes.

State policy that allows low and moderate-income Nebraskans to keep more of their earned income will increase parent employment, reduce child poverty, and mitigate other adverse outcomes. The enhanced EITC in LB710 will help ensure that Nebraska's core values of hard work and resiliency are passed on to the next generation by providing children in lower-income households with the opportunities afforded to those in higher earning households.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment. I encourage the Committee to advance LB710 to General File.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitchell Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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