



February 5, 2025

Senator Rita Sanders, Chair  
Members of the Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Nebraska Unicameral Legislature

RE: LB74

Chairwoman Sanders and Members of the Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee,

I am writing on behalf of First Five Nebraska, a statewide public policy organization focused on supporting policies that promote the early care and education of our state's youngest children.

Thank you for your consideration of LB74, a bill that would allow public officeholders to use campaign funds to cover the costs of child care and travel expenses for their minor child(ren) incurred as part of their official duties.

The data is very clear about child care needs in Nebraska, with 75% of children under age 6 in Nebraska having all available parents in the workforce. (Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 5 Year ACS Data, Table B23008](#)) Additionally, among all 50 states, Nebraska is ranked #1 in the country with the highest rate of children under age 6 living with a mother in the labor force. (Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 5 Year ACS Data, Table B23008](#))

The child care needs facing Nebraska are not unique to one population or geographic location. Public officeholders are no exception. LB74 takes into account that those who serve their local communities and our great state may have child care needs of their own. By allowing the use of campaign funds to cover the cost of child care and travel expenses for their minor children, these public officeholders are respected as both parents and public servants.

We are grateful for Senator Hunt's efforts to secure ways that parents who are or wish to be public officeholders can meet their child care needs while performing official duties of public service.

Please advance LB74 for full consideration by the Legislature.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer M. Goettemoeller Wendl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer M. Goettemoeller Wendl, MSW  
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