



4600 Valley Road  
Suite 306  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
402-475-1411  
[www.lwv-ne.org](http://www.lwv-ne.org)

September 16, 2019

Senator Sara Howard, Chair  
Health and Human Services Committee

Re: LR 170 (Morfeld) Medicaid Expansion Waiver

Dear Senator Howard and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska strongly supports Senator Morfeld's resolution to conduct the proposed interim study on the basic question of why implementation of Medicaid Expansion should not proceed, according to the wishes of Nebraskans who voted to approve Initiative 427.

Many years of struggle to provide health insurance to ALL Nebraskans underscore the need to proceed in a more timely way. Nebraska has lost out on significant funding from the federal government, while uninsured patients have cost communities and taxpayers significant amounts as they have resorted to emergency care for their primary care.

The League of Women Voters believes that every Nebraskan should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education, primary care (including prenatal and reproductive health), and acute care. Preventive care and promotion of good health practices would serve to reduce significantly emergency room visits and their financial burden on communities.

Therefore, we urge you to adopt LR 170 and move quickly to begin the study of the questions proposed by Senator Morfeld in the resolution. The number of uninsured in our state climbs significantly from year to year, from 70,000 in 2013 to well over 90,000 by 2016. It's time to reverse this unnecessary disturbing statistic.

In addition to those numbers already well documented, how many farm families are at risk of losing insurance due to loss of income from cataclysmic weather and the tariff wars? How many Nebraskans could be helped to avoid suicide and overdose deaths? It's time to find out!

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Miller, VP for Action  
LWVNE

Phyllis Salyards, M.D., Health Director  
LWVNE