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February 10, 2021

Senator Bruce Bostelman, Chair
and Members of the Natural Resources Committee
State Capitol, Lincoln NE

RE: LB 266 (McCollister) Adopt the Renewable Energy Standards Act.

Support

Please include this position statement from the League of Women Voters of Nebraska as part of the public hearing record for LB 266.

Dear Senator Bostelman and Members of the Natural Resources Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports energy conservation legislation that reduces our reliance on fossil fuels by switching to renewable energy sources to meet net-zero carbon emissions. It is scientifically proven, through comprehensive and authoritative reporting, that humans are causing climate change. This means the amount and way we use energy is warming the earth, subsequently causing glacier ice melt which causes sea-rise that causes coastal land flooding. Other extreme weather events in the U.S. include flooding, droughts, extended fire seasons and increasing summer temperatures.

As stated in this bill, public power utilities are uniquely positioned to lead by example in meeting a net-zero carbon emissions goal. Clean energy, such as solar and wind, present opportunities for employment, low-costs for consumers and rural economy revitalization. Nebraska is one of the few states that does not have a renewable energy standards plan. We cannot continue to rely on old ways that are proven to pollute our world. We must be innovative and lead the energy sector.

Please advance this bill to General File for full floor debate.

Sincerely,

Janelle Stevenson and Megan Lyons
Co-Directors, Natural Resources and Energy
Dianne Bystrom and Linda Duckworth
Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters of Nebraska