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February 8, 2021

Senator Tom Brewer, Chair  
and Members of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee  
State Capitol, Lincoln NE

Re: LB 482 (J. Cavanaugh) Change provisions relating to use of public resources by public officials and public employees

*Please include this position statement from LWWNE as part of the public hearing record for LB482.*

### **SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Brewer and Members of the Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports LB 482 to prohibit the use of public resources for the purpose of contribution to a candidate or campaign committee. Political subdivisions should be prohibited from making a contribution to a candidate or campaign committee by way of transfer of public funds to a private cooperative, corporation, association, or other entity which in turn contributes those funds to a candidate or campaign committee

The League believes that methods of financing political campaigns should ensure transparency including the public's right to know who is using money to influence elections and the source of those monies. The League supports meaningful campaign finance reform and remains opposed to the use of secret dark money while supporting enhanced disclosure of campaign financing sources. Advancement of LB 482 would serve to alleviate concerns regarding the use of public funds to promote specific candidates, an issue which was identified prior to the November 2020 election. ([NPPD directors, ratepayers question donation from electric co-op to political committee | Local Government | journalstar.com](#), [Questions arise over cooperative's donation to election campaign | News | norfolkdailynews.com](#)).

We urge the Committee to advance LB 482 to General File for full floor debate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheri St. Clair".

Sheri St. Clair  
Government Director, LWWNE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dianne Bystrom".

Dianne Bystrom  
Co-President LWWNE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Duckworth".

Linda Duckworth  
Co-President LWWNE