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February 2, 2023

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

RE: LB194 (Halloran) – Adopt the Second Amendment Preservation Act

**OPPOSE** – *Please include this position statement from the League of Women Voters of Nebraska as part of the public hearing record for LB194.*

Dear Senator Brewer and Members of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska believes that efficient and economical government requires coordination among the different agencies and levels of government. The purpose of LB194 is to provide for a possible future scenario in which Nebraska law could conflict with federal law. While there are certainly instances where a federal law changes, and it takes time for state laws to catch up, intentionally creating laws for the purpose of conflicting with federal ones is not in the best interest of Nebraska.

The taxpayers of our state trust the Unicameral to appropriate funds for the general good, not needless lawsuits. Section 7 states that if any portion of this bill were to be found unconstitutional, the remaining sections should still be considered valid, indicating that even in its writing this is a bill anticipating court challenges. Fruitless and expensive court battles do not serve the needs of our communities.

This bill also states that any public employee who knowingly violates this act, or in other words, follows the federal law, would be subject to civil penalties that include fines up to \$3,000 (collected as lien foreclosures if not paid in cash) and Class I misdemeanors. Not only does this bill open our state to frivolous lawsuits, it also would place our public employees in a very precarious position. Public employees may have to choose between following conflicting sets of orders at the peril of their jobs, financial stability, legal standing or homes.

Attempts to intentionally pit the state and its employees against the federal government can come to no good end. The LWNNE discourages this bill's further advancement. Thank you for considering our position and for all you do for Nebraska.

Sincerely,

Sara Lee, Social Policy Action Team, LWNNE  
Sheri St. Clair, Government Co-Director, LWNNE  
Jill McDermott, Social Policy Director, LWNNE  
Carol Dennison, Social Policy Action Team, LWNNE  
MaryLee Moulton, President, LWNNE