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February 9, 2023

Senator Tom Briese, Chair, and Members of the Executive Committee  
State Capitol, Lincoln, NE

RE: LB254 (Brewer) – Require the Legislative Council to develop and maintain a publicly accessible digital Internet archive of closed-captioned video coverage of the Legislature and change powers and duties of the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

**SUPPORT** – *Please include this letter from the League of Women Voters of Nebraska as part of the record in support of LB254.*

Dear Senator Briese and Members of the Executive Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports LB254 because the second house of the Legislature should have access to the legislative sessions and hearings. Many Nebraska citizens are unable to attend legislative sessions and hearings and have daytime obligations that prevent them from watching or attending legislative activities. Having access to the legislative sessions and hearings will give the second house the opportunity to be involved and better educated in the process.

In addition, these official video recordings should be easily accessible, free, searchable and closed captioned, which will help Nebraskans keep a better eye on their Legislature.

Many will talk about the cost – e.g., what does it cost to store proceedings now, how much storage space is utilized, and how much time and labor does it take to research information? So yes, setting up a digital Internet archive of video coverage has costs. But once it is done, this historical data will help educate and enlighten our voters and preserve information for future generations.

Please vote LB254 out of committee to General File for debate.

Sincerely,

Walta Sue Dodd, Voter Services Co-Director, LWWNE  
MaryLee Moulton, President, LWWNE