



4600 Valley Road
Suite 306
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-475-1411
<https://lwnnebraska.org>

February 2, 2022

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

RE: LB861 (McCollister) Require an email address on candidate filing forms under the Election Act

SUPPORT

Dear Senator Brewer and Members of the Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Nebraska strongly supports LB861 to require an email address on candidate filing forms under the Election Act and thanks Senator McCollister for introducing it.

The LWNNE offers an online voters' guide every election cycle to citizens in Nebraska. VOTE411.org is a "one-stop-shop" of nonpartisan information, both general and state-specific, for the public – including a nationwide polling place locator, absentee ballot information and ballot measure language. VOTE411.org also offers information on up-to-date election rules for all 50 states. Candidates are invited by the LWNNE to use VOTE411.org as part of their campaign at no cost to the candidate. Like other advocacy groups, the LWNNE poses questions to candidates based on its positions. Candidates are asked to upload their responses directly to the VOTE411.org website without vetting or editing by the LWNNE.

In Nebraska, VOTE411.org has expanded access to information about candidates at the state and local levels, from the offices of governor, state legislature and county commissioners to all the way down ballot to Nebraska Resources Districts, municipal races, and school and hospital boards. We appreciate the cooperation of county election commissioners and clerks in accessing candidate filings.

VOTE411.org has been very successful in providing this service to candidates and voters for many years. However, it demands hundreds of hours of volunteer time to contact candidates for their campaign email addresses. The process of contacting candidates will be greatly improved by having access to email addresses, giving candidates more time to compose their responses and get more exposure with voters at no cost to their campaigns. Conversely, voters can find candidate information in a timelier way.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, non-governmental organization dedicated since 1920 to informing voters on their rights and choices at the polls. VOTE411.org is an easy-to-use online tool for candidates and voters. Let's make it easier for everyone by advancing LB861 for full debate.

Thank you,

Joanna Lindberg
Government Director, LWNNE