

Disability Rights Nebraska

Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities

April 6, 2021

Dear Senators:

Disability Rights Nebraska is the designated Protection and Advocacy organization for people with disabilities in Nebraska. Disability Rights Nebraska was created to assist individuals with disabilities and their families in protecting and advocating for their rights. We are writing in support of LB 527.

A majority of states allow the development of an individualized transition plan beginning at age 14 or at the beginning of freshman year. LB 527 would bring Nebraska in line with the national consensus. Earlier transition planning provides more time for students to develop proper skills and learn from educational, vocational, and community experiences. Both skill development and experiential learning are fundamental for a successful transition to adult life. Currently, many students are not getting the opportunity to take advantage of these benefits to their fullest, potentially worsening college and work readiness. Given that their planning process is typically more complex, students with disabilities would benefit from additional planning time.

Disability Rights Nebraska recommends LB 527 be advanced.

Sincerely,

Brad Meurrens
Public Policy Director