

Disability Rights Nebraska

Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities

**Testimony on LB 1262
Before the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
Nebraska Legislature
February 28, 2024**

**Bradley A. Meurrens
Public Policy Director
Disability Rights Nebraska**

Good afternoon Senator Brewer and members of the committee. For the record, my name is Brad B-R-A-D Meurrens M-E-U-R-R-E-N-S and I am the Public Policy Director for Disability Rights Nebraska. We are the designated Protection and Advocacy organization for people with disabilities in Nebraska. I am here in support of LB 1262.

We are a private non-profit organization that works to protect and advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in Nebraska, including voting rights. We have expertise identifying barriers to voting for people with disabilities and have done extensive work in this area such as:

- Surveying accessibility at polling places. Every election we have staff visit polling places in person to make sure they are accessible and we reach out to county election staff when there are issues.
- Surveying all counties' websites for accessibility of voting information. We identified issues and they were addressed.
- Continuing collaboration with other non-profit organizations on a phone hotline to respond to problems voters with disabilities may encounter on Election Day.
- Working with the Secretary of State's office on raising awareness of voting rights, changes in election process (e.g., voter ID), and addressing accessibility or other barriers to voting for people with disabilities.
- Working to register people with disabilities to vote.

Disability Rights Nebraska recommends advancing the bill.