



voices for children

IN NEBRASKA

Telling the whole story.

January 30, 2014

To: Members of the Appropriations Committee

From: Aubrey Mancuso, Policy Coordinator

Re: LB 974

Voices for Children would like to express our support for LB 974. As the committee is aware, the Department of Health and Human Services has experienced numerous challenges over the past several years related to the management of the ACCESSNebraska system, the child welfare system, and others.

DHHS has already been using performance-based budgeting for children's services. This has been a part of a greater package of improvements made in this division. The challenges over the past several years have made it clear that there's a need to ensure greater effectiveness in our public systems. LB974 also helps increase the transparency of the budget process and we particularly like the requirement of a public hearing that is included in LB974. This will allow for the public and other organizations to be better informed on how agencies are using funds and how they're working to make improvements. Overall, we believe that LB974 is the measure that helps ensure better government and we would urge the committee to advance this bill.

Thank you.

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