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To: Members of the Health and Human Services Committee

From: Aubrey Mancuso, Executive Director

Re: Support for LB 447 relating to immunizations for licensed child care programs

Voices for Children supports LB 447 because of the importance of vaccinations for healthy child development. Vaccines are critical to a healthy population and this is especially true for children because disease can interfere with healthy development.

LB 447 ensures that there is a statewide standard for licensed child care in tracking vaccines and ensuring that exceptions are medically necessary. The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated how devastating a lack of vaccines can be. Not only have thousands of Nebraskans lost their lives, but the economy and businesses across the state have been significantly impacted.

LB 447 helps ensure that our children in our licensed child care facilities are vaccinated except when there is a medical exception and ensures that information is uniformly tracked. We urge the committee to advance this bill. Thank you.