

March 15, 2018

Dear Senators:

Disability Rights Nebraska, the designated Protection and Advocacy organization for people with disabilities in Nebraska. We support LB 1027.

Voting rights are constitutionally provided and are sacrosanct. Persons who have a felony conviction should not be denied their constitutional right to vote while waiting out the 2-year period after they are released. We are aware of no quality policy argument justifying delaying the resumption of voting rights; there is no inherent quality of a person who has fulfilled their felony sentence that would foul the voting process or their individual vote. Furthermore, individuals who have completed their felony sentence have paid their debt to society and deserve the right to resume the actualization of their constitutional rights. Restoring voting rights upon completion of a felony sentence or probation is only right and fair.

Disability Rights recommends this legislation be advanced.

For further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience: brad@drne.org, or 402-474-3183.

Sincerely,

Brad Meurrens

Public Policy Director
Disability Rights Nebraska