

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2025
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB656

Hearing Date: Thursday February 27, 2025
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Andersen
One Liner: Change work requirements under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	4	Senators Hardin, Ballard, Hansen, Meyer
Nay:	3	Senators Fredrickson, Quick, Riepe
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Bob Andersen
Clay Rhodes

Representing:

Opening Presenter
FGA Action Foundation for Government
Accountability

Opponents:

Tiffany Friesen Milone
Andrea Evans
Eugene DeCora
Alicia Christensen
Katie Nungesser
Taylor Givens-Dunn
Ken Smith

Representing:

Open Sky Institute
self
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
Together
Voices for Children in Nebraska
I Be Black Girl
Nebraska Appleseed

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 656 prohibits DHHS from requesting a work requirement waiver under SNAP, unless required by federal law. DHHS, under authority of a general work requirement (seeking work), is required to assign all individuals, ages 16 to 60, to an employment and training program with certain exceptions.

Sec. 1: Unless expressly required by federal law, DHHS shall not seek, apply for, accept, or renew a waiver of any work requirement established by SNAP.



DHHS shall not exercise the state's option to provide an exemption from the work requirement.

Under the authority given to a state agency to operate the general work requirement, DHHS shall assign all individuals who are 16 years old and younger than 60 years old to an employment and training program unless the individual is: currently subject to, and complying with, a work registration requirement under the federal Social Security Act or federal/state unemployment compensation system; a parent or other member of a household who is responsible for the care of a dependent child or an incapacitated person; a student enrolled at least half-time in an school, training program, or higher education institution unless enrolled in higher education and ineligible under federal work requirements; an inpatient participant in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program; employed a minimum of 30 hours per week or receiving weekly earnings equivalent to the minimum hourly rate, multiplied by 30 hours; or a person who is at least 16 years old and younger than 18 years old who is not head of a household or who is attending school or enrolled in an employment training program on at least a half-time basis.

Sec. 2: This act becomes operative on January 1, 2026.

Sec. 3: Repealer

Explanation of amendments:

AM 424 removes the specific exemptions to the employment and training program and replaces it with the language, "unless specifically exempted by federal regulations or law".

Brian Hardin, Chairperson

