

Dear Members of the Nebraska Legislature:

As people of faith, we believe that each one of us has a moral duty to care for one another. That can mean a kind word, an offer of bread, or a helping hand. It also means we choose to create a state where each person has the opportunity to live a healthy life. The faith community has a big role in reaching for this goal, but our state policy makers do, too.

We know that right now tens of thousands of working Nebraskans are falling into a health care coverage gap. They are not eligible for existing programs of public health insurance coverage, but also cannot get help to pay for private coverage. This means that some of the working poor among us are unable to access health insurance. They live every day hoping they do not get sick or put off treatment for symptoms until they are so severe they can no longer be ignored. This lack of access to basic physical and mental health care creates much suffering in our communities.

But there is a solution.

We have an opportunity to ensure everyone in our state has access to health insurance through the Medicaid Redesign Act, under Legislative Bill 472. This bill would create a Nebraska-specific plan for better, cost-effective care and would close the coverage gap, providing health insurance to working Nebraskans with low incomes who cannot afford it under the current systems. And closing the coverage gap would bring almost \$1.8 billion back to our state to be used for redesigning Medicaid and health care innovation while providing a healthy boost to local economies.

It's a smart investment in our neighbors, our communities, our workforce, and our economy. And it is simply the right thing to do.

We, therefore, offer our support for LB 472, and we ask our State Senators to support LB 472 to provide access to life-saving health care through the Medicaid Redesign Act. We ask them to join us in this support so that everyone in our state can get the health care they need.

We, the undersigned:

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| Fr. Mike Eckley | St. Pius X Catholic Church | Omaha |
| The Right Rev. J. Scott Barker | Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska | Omaha |
| Bishop Brian Maas | Nebraska Synod ELCA | Omaha |
| Pastor Dan Flanagan | Superintendent, United Methodist Missouri River District | Omaha |
| Rev. T. Michael Williams | President, Interdenominational Min. Alliance | Omaha |
| Rabbi Aryeh Azriel | Temple Israel | Omaha |
| Rev. Patricia Kelley | The United Methodist Church | Alliance |
| Pastor Jerry Yount | Barada United Methodist Church | Barada |
| Trista Boling | The United Methodist Church | Callaway |
| Jamie Snyder | First United Methodist Church | Columbus |
| Rev. Cynthia Stewart | First United Methodist Church | Columbus |
| Rev. Michael A. Davis | Elgin United Methodist Church | Elgin |
| Rev. John Hogue | First United Methodist Church | Falls City |
| Rev. Andrew Chavanak | St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church | Falls City |
| Rev. Fay Ann Blaylock | Falls City Cooperative Ministry | Falls City |
| Fr. Larry Parrish | St. Thomas Episcopal Church | Falls City |
| Rev. John Sipf | St. Peter's Lutheran Church St. Mark's Lutheran Church | Falls City Verdon |
| Rev. Michael McGregor | First United Methodist Church | Fremont |

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| Rev. Don Botic | Retired Presbyterian Minister | Fremont |
| Rev. Mr. Lauren D. Ekdahl | Gering United Methodist Church | Gering |
| Pastor Cathy Cole | Faith United Church | Gibbon |
| LeEllen Haynes | Trinity United Methodist Church | Grand Island |
| Rev. Dean Joy | United Methodist Church | Humboldt |
| Ms. Sandra Streit | United Methodist Church | Julian |
| Rev. H. Eduardo Bousson | Nebraska Wesleyan University | Lincoln |
| Rev. Jennifer Strickland | Westminster Presbyterian Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Jamie Norwich McLennan | New Visions Community UMC | Lincoln |
| Mrs. Mary Lou Gaddis | First United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Stephen Griffith | Saint Paul United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Professor Margery Ambrosius | Saint Paul United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Nancy Kaye-Skinner | Trinity United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Kimberly Morrow | First-Plymouth Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede | South Gate United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Rev. Lyn Seiser | Prairie View United Methodist Church | Lincoln |
| Pastor Charles Murithi | Nebraska City Methodist Church | Nebraska City |
| Andrea Paret | First United Methodist Church | Norfolk |
| Retired Pastor Earl Reed | United Methodist Church | Norfolk |
| Rev. Benjamin Finnell | Presiding Elder, Omaha District of the African Episcopal Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Robert Buschkemper | Augustana Lutheran Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Keith Nelson | Augustana Lutheran Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Jan Peterson | Augustana Lutheran Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Zach Anderson | Hanscom Park United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Pastor Michael Ostrom | Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Damon Laaker | Grace Lutheran Church | Omaha |
| Pastoral Associate Joyce Glenn | Sacred Heart Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Jane Florence | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Loren Mullins | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Carol Windrum | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Ron Roemmich | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Donald Bredthauer | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Dr. Fred Richart | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Susan P. Davies | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Mark Kemling | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Ms. Dottie Deines | United Methodist Women, First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Elizabeth Boyer | Co-President, United Methodist Women, First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Ms. Jessica Thacker | Director of Youth and Child Ministry, First United Methodist Church | Omaha |

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| Ms. Susan Rood | Diaconal Minister, First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Ms. Miriam Chapman | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Mary Spurgeon | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Victoria Porter | First United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rabbi Josh Brown | Temple Israel | Omaha |
| Rev. Grant Story | St. Luke United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Portia Cavitt | Clair Memorial United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Thomas Emmett | Metropolitan Community Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Victoria Parker | Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Debra McKnight | Urban Abbey | Omaha |
| Sr. Celeste Wobeter, ND | Notre Dame Sisters | Omaha |
| Sr. Margaret Hickey, ND | Notre Dame Sisters | Omaha |
| Sr. Anita Rolenc, ND | Notre Dame Sisters | Omaha |
| Sr. Joy Connealy, ND | Notre Dame Sisters | Omaha |
| Sr. Rosalee Burke | Notre Dame Sisters | Omaha |
| Pastor Wayne Banks | Pleasant Green Baptist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Chad Anglemyer | St. Luke United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Keith Johnson | St. Paul United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. William Williams | Rockbrook United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Pamela Owens | Metropolitan Community Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Dr. Scott Jones | First Central Congregational Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Charlene Wozny | United Church of Christ | Omaha |
| Sr. Virginia Silvestri | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Hogan | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. M. Gabriel Lawler | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Haley | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Joy Weidman | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Justina Tsoku | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Lucille Beauliou | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Joyce | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Therese Lux | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Rita Marie Morrissette | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Carolyn Foley | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Ellen Doyle | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Patricia Legault | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Derina Marie McCargill | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Iris Deprez | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Elizabeth Hakel | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Linda Hess | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Evangeline Wilkinson | Servants of Mary | Omaha |

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| Sr. Valeria Lewandowski | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Zita Sharrow | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Carol Kowalski | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Evangela Dorris | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Sr. Margaret Stratman | Servants of Mary | Omaha |
| Ms. Jaimee Trobough | United Methodist Ministries | Omaha |
| Deacon Ray Jackson | Catholic Deacon | Omaha |
| Deacon Donald Dunn | Catholic Deacon | Omaha |
| Deacon Albert Aulner | Catholic Deacon | Omaha |
| Rev. James Gilg | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Donald Stortz | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Ralph Lammers | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Fr. Patrick McCaslin | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Roland Peschel | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Hugh Schwartz | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Frank Dvorak | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Mel Rempe | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Msgr. Robert Nienaber | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Wayne Schlautman | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Thomas Furlong | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Fr. Ken Vavrina | Catholic Priest | Omaha |
| Rev. Glenn Schacht | Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | Omaha |
| Fr. Vitalis Anyanike | Holy Name Church | Omaha |
| Rabbi Steven Abraham | Beth El Synagogue | Omaha |
| Pastor Kenneth Allen | Zion Baptist Church | Omaha |
| Mr. Mike Poulin | Director, Sisters of Mercy Justice Office | Omaha |
| Sr. Susan Severin | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Rosalina Wilkinson | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Johanna Burnell | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Ellen Devereaux | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Juddith Frikker | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Kathy Thornton | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Ms. Marylyn Felion | Sisters of Mercy Associate | Omaha |
| Ms. Mary Schlueter | Sisters of Mercy Associate | Omaha |
| Sr. Maria Klowskowsk | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Jeaninne Sutton | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Mary Ward | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Delores Hannon | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Madeleva Comiskey | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |
| Sr. Kathleen Erickson | Sisters of Mercy | Omaha |

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| Rev. Dennis Hamm, S.J. | St. John's Catholic Parish | Omaha |
| Rev. Kevin Kersten S. J. | St. John's Catholic Parish | Omaha |
| Rev. Greg Carleson S.J. | St. John's Catholic Parish | Omaha |
| Rev. Luis Rodriguez S.J. | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Rev. Renzo Rosales S. J. | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Rev. John Montag S.J. | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Rev. Michael Flecky S.J. | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Prof. Emeritus Don Doll, S.J. | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Rev. Phil Amidon | Society of Jesus | Omaha |
| Mr. Nathan Morgan | Exec. Director United Methodist Ministries | Omaha |
| Assoc. Pastor Marshall Johnson | St. Luke United Methodist Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Jason Emerson | Episcopal Church of the Resurrection | Omaha |
| Rev. Lowen Kruse | Methodist Clergy | Omaha |
| Archdeacon Betsy Bennett | Episcopal Church of the Resurrection / Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska | Omaha |
| Pastor Terry Arvie | Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church | Omaha |
| Sr. Jean Marie Faltus | Sister for Christian Community | Omaha |
| Rev. Frank Rivas | First Unitarian Church | Omaha |
| Rev. Frieda Gillespie | Second Unitarian Church | Omaha |
| Assoc. in Ministry Jean Johnson | Trinity Lutheran Church | Omaha |
| Pastor Sergio Amaya | Iglesia Luterana San Andres | Omaha |
| Mr. John Seyfarth | St. Paul's United Methodist Church | Papillion |
| Pastor Marta Wheeler | United Methodist Church | Pleasanton |
| Rev. Gregory Berger | Messiah Lutheran Church | Ralston |
| Rev. Gina Gile | United Methodist Church | South Sioux City |
| Fr. Thomas Glennon | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Tim Mulroy | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Tom Glennon | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Paul Joseph White | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Charles O'Rourke | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Tom Schaughnessy | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. John Comiskey | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Colin Stanley | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Charles Duster | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. John Wanaurny | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Fr. Otto Imholtz | Columban Fathers | St. Columbans |
| Rev. Dr. Larry Adams | UMC of Weeping Water/Nehawka | Weeping Water |