

March 6, 2013

Senator Kathy Campbell, Chairperson  
Health and Human Services Committee  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Senator Campbell:

I am writing to oppose LB 430, which would increase the resource maximum for Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) and Child Care subsidy eligibility from the current \$6,000 to \$25,000 in liquid resources. DHHS currently considers the value of various non-liquid resources when determining eligibility; this bill requires that only liquid resources be considered when determining eligibility.

LB 430 is an expansion of eligibility. There would be an increase in the number of families eligible for ADC and Child Care subsidy and, of more significant impact, is the disregard of non-liquid resources such as real estate, motor vehicles and equipment from the resource limit.

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) is not an entitlement program. It is a block grant, meaning that Nebraska receives a specific amount of federal funding for the program. In past years, the Department did not fully expend the TANF Block Grant and, therefore, a balance accumulated. In Fiscal Year 2011, the Department requested, and the Legislature approved, using some of these funds for TANF-funded programs in the Department that had previously been funded with State General Funds.

Beginning in fiscal year 2011, the Department expended more than the annual Block Grant Award of \$57.5 million and has continued that level of spending during the current biennium, and in the budget requested for the next biennium.

Sincerely,



Thomas D. Pristow, MSW, ACSW, Director  
Division of Children & Family Services  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: Senator Crawford