

**Revised 2010 AAUW-NE Legislative Program
Bills Dealing with Economic Security for Women and Families
Adopted by Executive Committee, February 13, 2010**

LB 370 (Conrad) –Require a Medicaid waiver for Family Planning Services
2009 carry over bill that has AAUW, LWV and BPW **support**.
Health and Human Services Committee

LB 431 (McGill)—Change Delayed Deposit Services Licensing provisions
2009 carry over bill that has AAUW and BPW **support**; LWV is neutral.
Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee

LB 918 (Hadley)—Redefine certain terms and provide certain tax incentives under the
Nebraska Advantage Act

(Note: Updates the state’s two main economic incentive laws: the Nebraska
Advantage Act (2006) and the Super Advantage Act (2008) to attract businesses
to locate in Nebraska. The latter attracted the \$100,000,000 Yahoo facility to
La Vista which created at least 100 jobs for the Omaha metropolitan area. More
jobs mean more opportunities to provide economic security to women and families.)
Revenue Committee Hearing: January 29
AAUW position: support

LB 958 (Giese)—Exempts retirement benefits and social security benefits from the state
income tax. The first \$20,000 of retirement income (whether from Social Security;
public or military pension; tax-qualified retirement account; or a combination of all
three) would be exempt from income tax. To ensure a gradual change in state revenues,
the exemption would not begin until 2011. Also, the amount would be phased in over
four years, with no exemption for 2010. The exemption would be \$10,000 in 2011,
\$15,000 in 2012, and \$20,000 in 2013 and thereafter.

(LB 958 is the product of LR 106 which AAUW-NE **supported**. The study examined
the economic impact of retirement income on the State of Nebraska and the most
appropriate way to tax such income. Susan Goos and I testified at the Revenue
Committee hearing on LR 106 on December 10, 2009.)
Retirement Committee Hearing: January 29
AAUW position: support

LB 1001 (Janssen) –Removes existing state laws that grant in-state tuition to undocumented
Nebraska high school graduates who have lived in Nebraska for three years, graduated
from a Nebraska high school, and signed an affidavit stating he or she will file an
application seeking legal status when eligible to do so.
Education Committee Hearing: February 1
AAUW position: oppose

LB 1014 (Haar)—Increase Teacher Compensation—establishes the Teacher Performance
Pay Fund using revenues generated from wind and solar leases on school lands.
The bill would provide a stream of revenue to be used exclusively for additional
pay for public school teachers, with provisions that any performance pay be locally
negotiated.

(Note: LB 235 passed and was presented to the governor for his approval on 2-5-10. The bill gives the Board of Educational Lands and Funds the authority to issue leases on school lands relating to solar and wind energy.)

Education Committee Hearing: February 8 (on LB 1014)

AAUW position: support

LB 1040, LB 1041, LB 1042 (Fulton) –significant changes to the Commission on Industrial Relations, comparability analysis in wage cases, and inclusion of “reasonableness” or “ability to pay” in CIR wage cases.

(Note: Because Nebraska is a right-to-work state, public employees like teachers, firefighters, and members of police forces do not have the right to strike. Instead, the Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR) was established to settle wage disputes, as a last resort. Going to the CIR has been an effective avenue for public employees, especially for teachers, the majority of whom are female. LB 1040, LB 1041, and LB 1042 would seriously erode the comparability analysis currently in use by the CIR to settle wage disputes involving public employee groups.)

Business and Labor Committee Hearing scheduled for all three February 22

AAUW position: oppose all three

LB 1071 (Adams) –Tuition Reimbursement for Current Teachers—gives the State Board of Education broader authority to approve graduate programs eligible for tuition reimbursement. It builds on the success of the popular 2009 Enhancing Excellence in Teaching Program. The bill contains an emergency clause. LB 1071 needs to get speedy legislative approval to allow the State Board of Education to adopt the rules governing the program in time for teachers to apply for summer classes.

Education Committee Hearing: February 8

AAUW position: support