

Dear Chairman Linehan and Members of the Revenue Committee,

On behalf of **(Insert Business Name or Name Here)** I would ask you to support, LB18, a bill to clarify how the residency requirements for jobs created under the ImagiNE Act are defined.

Good jobs grow communities, and all jobs created under the ImagiNE Act are Nebraska jobs. State and local economies do not stop cleanly at state borders. Instead, regional economic ecosystems of cross-border commerce, talent attraction and natural resources create unique competitive advantages. Communities all along Nebraska's vast borders depend on a regionalized economy and workforce to spur growth.

To be eligible for incentive credits employers must be physically located in Nebraska and the job they create must be physically located in Nebraska. However, a well-intentioned provision in ImagiNE Nebraska required all new, full-time jobs created under the economic incentive program be filled by Nebraska residents. History shows this provision inhibits a community's ability to compete for economic development projects and discourages an important pipeline of talent and in-migration to the state.

LB18 would preserve in-state job creation requirements under ImagiNE Act and ensure equal opportunity for community growth. The bill would replace the residency requirement for jobs created under ImagiNE Nebraska with a requirement that only new jobs located in Nebraska and subject to Nebraska income tax are eligible for incentives. This technical fix is in line with past legislative remedies and amendments to ImagiNE Nebraska. It preserves legislative intent that incentive benefits only be applied to in-state job creation.

Your support of LB18 is for in-state job creation only, but it would support the economic development needs of all Nebraska communities, help build a robust pipeline of skilled workers into the state and help attract new residents and families. Please advance LB18 from committee for consideration by the full legislature.

Sincerely,

(Insert Business Name or Name Here)