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Chairperson Sen. Lathrop and Judiciary Committee Members
District #12, Room 1103 State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

February 9, 2021

RE: LB499

Dear Senator Lathrop and Judiciary Committee Members,

My name is Jasmine L. Harris. I am the Director of Public Policy & Advocacy for RISE. I request that this letter be included as part of the public hearing record that shows RISE is in support of LB499.

RISE is a non-profit that works with people who are currently and formerly incarcerated. We run a six-month program that focuses on employment readiness, character development and entrepreneurship. We serve people incarcerated at seven of the Nebraska Correctional Facilities with this program and offer reentry case management services as people return home.

We support LB499 because we believe that accurately reported data assists with making informed decisions at all levels when working with people who are involved with the criminal justice system at any juncture. Knowing how many people are actively being monitored and the breakdown of demographics allows for us to see more of the picture of Nebraska's criminal justice system. As we improve data collection throughout our systems, we will be able to craft better, evidence-based solutions that will specifically work for the populations we serve.

RISE supports LB499 and asks that committee members vote this bill out of committee to General File.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jasmine L. Harris".

Jasmine L. Harris, MPH, CHES
Director of Public Policy & Advocacy, RISE