



Dear Legislators,

On behalf of Nebraska Cures, an organization committed to promoting health-related research and education in Nebraska, I am writing to express our strong opposition to LB1330. This bill, which seeks to prohibit public educational institutions from taking certain actions related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), represents a significant step backward in our collective efforts to foster an inclusive and innovative scientific community.

DEI initiatives are not merely symbolic gestures; they are essential components of a robust educational framework that prepares students to thrive in a diverse global economy. Programs specifically designed to support women in STEM are critical for breaking down the barriers that have historically excluded many from participating fully in these fields. By undermining these programs, LB1330 would not only stifle the progress towards gender equity in science and technology but would also hinder our ability to attract and retain the best researchers and educators to our state.

The presence of diverse perspectives enriches scientific inquiry and innovation. It is through a commitment to DEI that we can ensure a wide range of experiences and viewpoints are brought to bear on the complex health challenges facing our society. Limiting the capacity of our educational institutions to promote these values will directly impact the quality of research and education in Nebraska, making it difficult to recruit top talent and to prepare students to be leaders in their fields.

Moreover, the proposed legislation sends a discouraging message to potential faculty and students—particularly women and underrepresented groups in STEM—that Nebraska is not a welcoming place for diverse talents and ideas. At a time when competition for skilled researchers and educators is more intense than ever, LB1330 risks positioning our state at a disadvantage, both nationally and globally.

Nebraska Cures believes that fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion is not only the right thing to do but is also essential for advancing scientific research and innovation. We urge you to consider the detrimental impact LB1330 would have on the STEM community and on Nebraska's reputation as a forward-thinking leader in education and research.

We respectfully ask that you oppose LB1330 and support the continuation and enhancement of DEI programs within our public educational institutions. Let us work together to ensure that Nebraska remains a place where science and education can flourish, enriched by the contributions of all individuals, regardless of their background.

Thank you for your consideration and for your dedication to the future of Nebraska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Crouse". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Crouse

Nebraska Cures Board President