

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB358**

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**Hearing Date:** Thursday February 16, 2017  
**Committee On:** Health and Human Services  
**Introducer:** McCollister  
**One Liner:** Change income eligibility provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 4 Senators Crawford, Howard, Linehan, Williams  
**Nay:** 2 Senators Erdman, Riepe  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:** 1 Senator Kolterman

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**Verbal Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator John McCollister  
Sarah Comer  
Kaitlin Reece  
Jennifer Creager  
David Piester  
James Goddard

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Food Bank of Lincoln  
Voices for Children in Nebraska  
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce  
Center for People in Need  
Nebraska Appleseed

**Opponents:**

Doug Weinberg

**Representing:**

DHHS

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 358 increases the gross income limit for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. In FY 2017-18, the gross income limit is increased to 158% of the Federal Poverty Limit and in FY 2018-19 and beyond to 185% of Federal Poverty Limit but leaves the net income eligibility limit the same.

**SECTION BY SECTION:**

Section 1: Amends Section 68-1017.02 to update the date to October 1, 2017 for the Department of Health and Human Services to create a TANF-funded program, establishes eligibility for food assistance. In FY 2017-2018, increase the gross income limit to one-hundred and fifty-eight percent of the Federal Poverty Level. In FY 2018-2019 and forward, increase the gross income limit to one-hundred and eighty-five percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

Section 2: Repeals Section 68-1017.02.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 493 strikes the increase to 185% for FY 2018-2019 and beyond for gross income eligibility.

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Merv Riepe, Chairperson