



## Support Improving Access to Palliative Care in Nebraska

### **LB 345 (Introduced by Senator Armendariz)**

Palliative care is specialized medical care for people living with a serious illness that carries a high risk of mortality or negatively impacts quality of life. This type of care addresses the symptoms and stress of a serious illness, including pain. Palliative care is a team-based approach to care, providing essential support at any age and stage of a serious illness. It can be provided across care settings and along with curative treatment. The goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life for both the patient and the patient's family or care partner. The impact of quality palliative care is improved symptom management, patient and family satisfaction and cost savings.

**LB 345** creates a definition of palliative care within Nebraska statute. The organizations noted here represent thousands of Nebraskans facing serious, acute and chronic health conditions; and we are all working to improve the lives of the patients we serve. Creating a definition of palliative care within Nebraska statute, one that is legally and practically distinguishable from hospice care, is the first step in making this care accessible to every Nebraskan who needs it.

***Please support LB 345 to improve access to palliative care for Nebraskans with serious illness.***

