YOUR VOICE MATTERS / SPECIAL SESSION ADVOCACY KIT

Protect Nebraska Disability Services

Stakeholder advocacy kit

On November 20, 2026, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announced significant changes to Medicaid waiver services that could affect people with disabilities, their families, caregivers, and the organizations that support them.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska is deeply concerned about the potential impact of these changes on access to services, independence, and quality of life for Nebraskans with disabilities.

Nebraska state senators have initiated a request for a special legislative session to address these changes. A special session would provide lawmakers an opportunity to review the announced changes, consider their impact, and explore alternatives.

Take action in three simple steps

1. Find your senator. Identify who represents you and how to contact their office.

nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_find.php

2. Check their status. Contact their office to confirm whether they have signed the special session request.

nebraskalegislature.gov/senators/senator_list.php

3. Make your voice heard. Choose a letter, email or phone script from this packet. Ask your senator to sign, or thank them if they have already signed.

Your story makes a difference

Share your connection to disability services, why the services matter, and what could happen if they are reduced. Share only what you are comfortable sharing. Replace the bracketed text with your own information.

A special session provides an opportunity for legislative review and possible action. It does not guarantee that the changes will be delayed or reversed.

See page 7 for the list of senators who have signed as of November 25, 2026.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS / SPECIAL SESSION ADVOCACY KIT

Ask your senator to sign

Sample letter

Dear Senator [Last Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I live in [City], Nebraska. I am writing to ask you to sign the request for a special legislative session to address the Medicaid changes announced by DHHS on November 20, 2026.

I am concerned about how these changes could affect people with disabilities, their families, caregivers, and service providers.

The planned funding cuts and changes to disability services could make it harder for people to receive dependable care, live independently, and participate in their communities.

[Share your personal story. Explain your connection to disability services, why these services matter to you, and how the changes could affect you or someone you care about.]

I understand that Nebraska faces difficult budget decisions. These changes deserve careful review and an opportunity for the people affected to be heard.

With some changes scheduled to begin January 1, 2027, please support a special session so lawmakers can consider their impact and explore alternatives.

I would appreciate knowing whether you will support this request.

Thank you for your time and service to Nebraska.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[City, Nebraska]

[Email Address or Phone Number]

Ask your senator to sign

Sample email and phone script

Subject: Please Sign the Petition for a Special Legislative Session

Dear Senator [Last Name],

As a resident of [City], Nebraska, I am asking you to sign the request for a special legislative session to address the Medicaid changes announced by DHHS on November 20.

I am concerned about how these changes could affect people with disabilities, their families, caregivers, and service providers.

[Briefly share why this issue matters to you.]

Please support a special session so lawmakers can better understand the impact and consider alternatives. I would appreciate knowing whether you will support this request.

Thank you for your consideration.

[Your Name] | [City, Nebraska]

Phone call or voicemail script

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City], Nebraska.

I am calling to ask Senator [Last Name] to sign the request for a special legislative session to address the recently announced Medicaid changes.

This issue is important to me because [briefly share your personal story or concern].

Can you tell me whether the senator has signed the request or plans to sign it?

Thank you for your time.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS / SPECIAL SESSION ADVOCACY KIT

Thank your senator for signing

Sample letter

Dear Senator [Last Name],

My name is [Your Name], and I live in [City], Nebraska. I am writing to thank you for signing the request for a special legislative session to address the Medicaid changes announced by DHHS on November 20, 2026.

I am concerned about how these changes could affect people with disabilities, their families, caregivers, and service providers.

The planned funding cuts and changes to disability services could make it harder for people to receive dependable care, live independently, and participate in their communities.

[Share your personal story. Explain your connection to disability services, why these services matter to you, and how the changes could affect you or someone you care about.]

I appreciate your willingness to support further discussion of these changes.

Please continue working with your fellow senators to ensure that affected Nebraskans have an opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for your time and service to Nebraska.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[City, Nebraska]

[Email Address or Phone Number]

YOUR VOICE MATTERS / SPECIAL SESSION ADVOCACY KIT

Thank your senator for signing

Sample email and phone script

Subject: Thank You for Supporting a Special Legislative Session

Dear Senator [Last Name],

Thank you for signing the request for a special legislative session to address the recently announced Medicaid changes.

As a resident of [City], Nebraska, I appreciate your willingness to listen to the concerns of people with disabilities, their families, caregivers, and service providers.

[Briefly share why this issue matters to you personally.]

Please continue working with your fellow senators to ensure affected Nebraskans have a voice in these decisions.

Thank you for your support and service to our community.

[Your Name] | [City, Nebraska]

Phone call or voicemail script

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City], Nebraska.

I am calling to thank Senator [Last Name] for signing the request for a special legislative session to address the recently announced Medicaid changes.

This issue is important to me because [briefly share your personal story or concern].

Please pass along my thanks and encourage the senator to continue working with fellow lawmakers.

Thank you for your time.

Frequently asked questions

Additional resources

What is a special legislative session?

A special session brings Nebraska's Legislature together outside its regular schedule to address specific issues.

Does signing the request mean the Medicaid changes will be stopped?

No. A special session provides an opportunity for legislative review and possible action. It does not guarantee that changes will be delayed or reversed.

What if I do not know what to say?

Use one of the sample messages above and personalize it if you wish.

What if my senator has not announced a position?

Contact their office and ask whether they have signed or intend to sign.

What if a staff member answers the phone?

Share your message with the staff member and ask them to pass it along.

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services: dhhs.ne.gov

Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska: goodwillne.org

Our mission is to help people with disabilities or barriers reach their goals and improve their quality of life.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS / SPECIAL SESSION ADVOCACY KIT

Senators who have signed

As of November 25, 2026 | 19 senators

The following senators have signed the request for a special legislative session, according to the list provided to Goodwill for this update.

Senator	District	Community
Eliot Bostar	29	Lincoln
Tom Brandt	32	Plymouth
John Cavanaugh	9	Omaha
Machaela Cavanaugh	6	Omaha
Danielle Conrad	46	Lincoln
Wendy DeBoer	10	Bennington
Myron Dorn	30	Adams
George Dungan	26	Lincoln
John Fredrickson	20	Omaha
Dunixi Guereca	7	Omaha
Megan Hunt	8	Omaha
Margo Juarez	5	Omaha
Terrell McKinney	11	Omaha
Jason Prokop	27	Lincoln
Dan Quick	35	Grand Island
Jane Raybould	28	Lincoln
Merv Riepe	12	Ralston
Victor Rountree	3	Bellevue
Ashlei Spivey	13	Omaha

Additional senators may sign after this date. Contact your senator’s office to confirm their current status before using the templates in this packet.

Nebraska Legislature – Senator contact information