

LB 592
General Affairs Committee
Testimony of Chris Wagner
Project Extra Mile
March 25, 2019

Good afternoon, Vice Chairman Lowe and members of the committee. My name is Chris Wagner, and I am the Executive Director of Project Extra Mile, a network of community partnerships across the state working to prevent excessive alcohol consumption and its tragic consequences. We are here today in support of LB 592 and would like to thank the committee for prioritizing this bill.

Currently, our statutes give the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission the discretion to impose mandatory days of closure for second and subsequent violations of sales to minors and allowing minors to consume/possess on their premises within the four-year lookback period.

LB 592 would extend this discretion to second and subsequent violations of other violations of the Nebraska Liquor Control Act. The purpose of this change is to impress upon repeat violators the importance of operating within the law. The current system of allowing businesses to pay off days of suspension as fines simply does not send a strong enough message and is generally seen as the cost of doing business.

We ask that the committee advance LB 592. Thank you for your consideration.