

SENATOR MACHAELA CAVANAUGH

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Nebraska State Legislature



COMMITTEES
Telecommunications and
Transportation
Health and Human Services

August 11, 2021

Governor Pete Ricketts
P.O.Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

Dear Governor Ricketts:

Since the State shut down the COVID-19 Dashboard on June 30, 2021, Nebraska has seen a rise in infections and hospitalizations. We respectfully ask that the Department of Health and Human Services reinstate the COVID-19 dashboard at once and that all 93 counties across Nebraska be required to report data to the state. Businesses, organizations, and school districts are struggling to make informed decisions about how best to run their day-to-day activities, as well as make long-term plans based on existing incomplete data.

During the past year, Nebraskans relied on the previous dashboard to make decisions about their health. The current weekly report is lacking crucial detailed information, including county by county infection rates, COVID-19 related deaths, daily available hospital beds, respirators and overall staffed beds.

Local governments, businesses, school districts, and childcare facilities are once again trying to create up-to-date safety measures for students, just as healthcare workers and hospitals are expressing increasing concern about capacity for COVID-19 patients. All are eager to return to "life as usual" as quickly as possible, but also safely.

Basic numbers shared on a weekly basis is not enough. Please reinstate the dashboard, with the daily updates from all 93 counties, to enable all Nebraskans to make informed decisions with the most up-to-date information.

Sincerely,



Senator Machaela Cavanaugh
District 6



Senator Jen Day
District 49



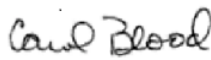
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District 8



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District 14



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