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*PHOTO OP & COMMUNITY COMMENT OPPORTUNITY BELOW*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Since its creation in 2008, Nebraskans for Civic Reform has worked to promote policies and procedures to make voting more accessible for every citizen. Advocating new policies that modernize our elections has seen some success with the passage and scheduled implementation of online voter registration this month. However other policies, like Election Day Registration and Online Vote-by-Mail requests, remain stuck in committee.

“We’ve brought some innovative policies to the Legislature, but this year, after experiencing voter disenfranchisement in Omaha in 2012 and from other states and national partners, we realized legislation may not be enough” states Bri McLarty, director of voting rights with Nebraskans for Civic Reform. “In 2012 we heard stories of voters in north and south Omaha being turned away for not knowing their voter registration numbers – something they don’t need to recite to receive a ballot. Those individuals that walked away discouraged don’t get that Election Day back. They don’t get a second chance to have their voice heard.”

In an effort to protect every Nebraskan’s voting rights, NCR has created its *Know Your Rights* campaign, a comprehensive guide to Nebraska’s voting laws and regulations for voter registration, early voting and Election Day rules. The campaign includes printed materials, online social media, and radio spots.

“On Election Day, legislation is not be enough. When election administration falters, we want to ensure that every voter is equipped with the knowledge and power to protect themselves from disenfranchisement in future elections,” says McLarty. “That empowerment, that’s the goal of our *Know Your Rights* campaign.”

The campaign provides general information of Nebraska’s voting and registration process, as well as information on possible challenges to eligibility. *Know Your Rights* also provides information specifically for students, felons or voters with disabilities. The guide will be available in five languages including English, Spanish, Arabic, Kurdish, and Karen. Additional translations will be added as needed.

*Know Your Rights* will launch on Constitution Day, September 17<sup>th</sup> and will include distribution events in Omaha and Lincoln. It is a part of year long election protection and observation program NCR is running statewide.

Lincoln: 5pm – 6:30pm, NonProfit Hub, 211 N. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Lincoln NE

Omaha: 9am – 10:30am, Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 231,  
6100 Dodge St., Omaha NE

Please contact Bri McLarty, Director of Voting Rights, Nebraskans for Civic Reform,  
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*Nebraskans for Civic Reform is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing K-12 civic engagement and community engagement, veterans job readiness, and protecting voting rights for all Nebraskans. NCR works to create a more modern and robust democracy for all Nebraskans. More information on NCR's programs is available at [www.nereform.org](http://www.nereform.org)*