Hearing Date: Thursday February 16, 2017
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: McCollister
One Liner: Change income eligibility provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 4 Senators Crawford, Howard, Linehan, Williams
Nay: 2 Senators Erdman, Riepe
Absent: 
Present Not Voting: 1 Senator Kolterman

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:
Senator John McCollister
Sarah Comer
Kaitlin Reece
Jennifer Creager
David Piester
James Goddard

Representing:
Introducer
Food Bank of Lincoln
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce
Center for People in Need
Nebraska Appleseed

Opponents:
Doug Weinberg

Representing:
DHHS

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:
LB 358 increases the gross income limit for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. In FY 2017-18, the gross income limit is increased to 158% of the Federal Poverty Limit and in FY 2018-19 and beyond to 185% of Federal Poverty Limit but leaves the net income eligibility limit the same.

SECTION BY SECTION:

Section 1: Amends Section 68-1017.02 to update the date to October 1, 2017 for the Department of Health and Human Services to create a TANF-funded program, establishes eligibility for food assistance. In FY 2017-2018, increase the gross income limit to one-hundred and fifty-eight percent of the Federal Poverty Level. In FY 2018-2019 and forward, increase the gross income limit to one-hundred and eighty-five percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

Section 2: Repeals Section 68-1017.02.

Explanation of amendments:
AM 493 strikes the increase to 185% for FY 2018-2019 and beyond for gross income eligibility.