

1      **Senate Bill #14**

2      **2025 - 2026**

3      Divest for Humanity Act

4

5      **WHEREAS**, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and Association of Students of the  
6      University of Nebraska (ASUN) are committed to the safety, wellbeing, and educational opportunities of  
7      students worldwide and in oppressed nations; and

8      **WHEREAS**, UNL has a moral imperative to divest from regimes engaged in apartheid, ethnic  
9      cleansing, and/or genocide; and,

10     **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the  
11    Occupied Palestinian Territory's investigation has concluded that Israel is committing a genocide in  
12    Palestine (United Nations Human Rights Office of the High-Commissioner); and,

13     **WHEREAS**, Israel has destroyed and bombed all universities in Gaza (Euro-Med Human Rights  
14    Monitor); and,

15     **WHEREAS**, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a Resolution on September  
16    18, 2024 that calls on states to take steps towards ending the “transfer of arms, munitions and related  
17    equipment to Israel, the occupying Power, in all cases where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that  
18    they may be used in the Occupied Palestinian Territory” (UNGA 7);

19     **WHEREAS**, there is a desire to consider how the University of Nebraska System can support the  
20    UNGA's Resolution in a meaningful way; and,

21     **WHEREAS**, the University of Nebraska System currently has over \$9,000,000 invested in the  
22    top 100 arms producing and military services companies in the world such as General Dynamics, Boeing,  
23    and Caterpillar corporations, listed from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which  
24    supply weaponry and military aid used to sustain the occupation, profit from violence against  
25    Palestinians, and manufacture the genocide of Palestinians in Gaza, **alongside companies that facilitate  
26    and enable violations of international law and human rights in Palestine, Guatemala, Myanmar, Yemen,  
27    the Philippines, the United States-Mexico border, or anywhere in the world**; and,

28     **WHEREAS**, UNL students are concerned with the moral implications in investing in weapons  
29    manufacturers that are contributing to Israel's destruction of the Gaza strip and other actors' use of  
30    university-invested weapons such as the Rapid Support Forces in Sudan (Carter); and,

31     **WHEREAS**, the UNL's Role, Mission, and Values states that “many of the university's teaching,  
32    research, and service activities have an international dimension in order to provide its students and the  
33    state a significant global perspective” (UNL) and,

34     **WHEREAS**, the University claims a core value of “Stewardship of the human, financial, and  
35    physical resources committed to our care” (UNL); and,

36     **WHEREAS**, continued investment in these weapons companies contradicts UNL's stated values  
37    and undermines its responsibility as a global institution committed to ethical conduct, transparency, and  
38    integrity; and,

39           **WHEREAS**, ASUN is “sensitive to the needs of UNL students” according to ASUN Bylaws  
40           (27), Section 3B; and,

41           **WHEREAS**, ASUN is a “strong advocate for minority and underrepresented student issues” to  
42           ensure that all students are “afforded a safe, respectful, and inclusive university environment, and  
43           challenge intolerance and misinformation” according to ASUN Bylaws (27), Section 3B; and,

44           **WHEREAS**, students at UNL have the rightful concern and desire to ensure that their university  
45           system’s endowments are not invested in military violence and/or companies that violate international law  
46           and human rights; and,

47           **WHEREAS**, one of ASUN’s purposes is to “serve as an agency through which the relationship  
48           between the administration, faculty, and students” be maintained per Article II of ASUN’s Constitution  
49           (1); and,

50           **WHEREAS**, continuing the University of Nebraska System’s investment in these companies  
51           without a concern from ASUN contradicts ASUN’s stated values in advocating for the needs of students  
52           and advocacy for underrepresented student issues; and,

53           **WHEREAS**, according to Board of Regents Policies, one of the primary investment objectives of  
54           investing the endowment funds is to “consistently integrate environmental, social and governance factors  
55           into investment management strategies, processes and practices in the belief these factors can benefit the  
56           endowment’s performance and provide a qualitative impact consistent with the values, culture and  
57           mission of the University of Nebraska” (RP-6.64).

58           **WHEREAS**, it is financially possible and sustainable for the University of Nebraska System to  
59           consider changing and reviewing its investment policies to exclude weapons manufacturers from its  
60           investment portfolios. Moreover, it is possible to do the aforementioned without harming the University  
61           of Nebraska’s System’s profits by investing in alternative non-arms producing companies; and,

62           **WHEREAS**, divestment is a historic student movement associated with the divestment of South  
63           Africa in the 20th century, and the University of Nebraska System has divested from certain fossil fuel  
64           companies in 2025; and,

65           **THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED**, the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska–  
66           Lincoln (ASUN) urges that the University of Nebraska System change its investment policy to exclude  
67           weapons manufacturer companies that provide weapons, military aid, and military technology ~~to the state~~  
68           ~~of Israel~~ in order to make its endowment consistent with the values, culture, and mission of the University  
69           of Nebraska and the needs of students.; and,

70           **THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ENACTED**, ASUN assigns the ASUN Executives to serve  
71           as an agency and partner with Students for Justice in Palestine at UNL to discuss the viability of  
72           divestment; to discuss the logistics in advocating for divestment at the University of Nebraska-System;  
73           and to take steps towards recommending the Board of Regents to change the University of Nebraska  
74           System’s investment policy to exclude the aforementioned weapons manufacturers ensuring that it aligns  
75           with the policies of the Board of Regents while also reflecting the needs of students; and,

76           **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY ENACTED**, physical AND digital copies of this bill shall be  
77           delivered to the following recipients for the purpose of documentation and ensuring that all recipients are  
78           aware of this new bill and the concerns of students and ASUN:

79     ● President of the University of Nebraska System, Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold  
80  
81     ● UNL Interim Chancellor, Katherine S. Ankerson  
82  
83     ● Vice Chancellor for Student Life, Dr. Dee Dee Anderson  
84  
85     ● Interim Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources and Interim Harlan Vice Chancellor  
86     for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss  
87  
88     ● Executive Vice Chancellor, Dr. Mark Button  
89  
90     ● Vice Chancellor for Institutional Strategy and External Relations, Dr. **Matt Blomstedt**  
91  
92     ● Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Dr. Jennifer Nelson  
93  
94     ● Chief Financial Officer of the University of Nebraska System, Senior Vice President, and Interim  
95     Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance, Anne Barnes  
96  
97     ● Assistant Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students, Tyre “T.J.” McDowell Jr.  
98  
99     ● All current members of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents (Timothy Clare, Jack Stark,  
100     Jim Scheer, Robert Schafer, Paul Kenney, Kathy Wilmot, Barbara Weitz)  
101  
102     ● Current Student Regents for UNO, UNMC, UNL, and UNK (Drew Leisy, Brock Calamari, Libby  
103     Wilkins, and Sam Schroeder)  
104  
105     ● Chief Investment Officer of the University of Nebraska Foundation, Brian Neale, and members of  
106     the Foundation’s Investment Committee

107

108     SUBMITTED BY : DEI \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 1/28/2026

109     AUTHORED BY: Students For Justice in Palestine, Tia Chism, and Brittani Perez

110     DATE: 1/28/2026

111

112     FLOOR ACTION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

113     PRESIDENTIAL SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE