

SENATE BILL NO. 272—SENATOR NEAL

MARCH 1, 1999

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes appropriation to Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County for replacement of its paratransit fleet that provides transportation for certain persons. (BDR S-1497)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~for omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT making an appropriation to the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County for the replacement of its paratransit fleet that provides transportation for certain persons; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

1 WHEREAS, During the 6-month period from July 1, 1998, to December
2 31, 1998, the cost of repairs and maintenance for the paratransit fleet of the
3 Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County increased from \$31,594.23
4 to \$74,447.69; and

5 WHEREAS, This 36 percent increase in the cost of repairs and
6 maintenance is exorbitant for the 13 vehicles in the fleet, averaging 10
7 years old, and accounts for 10.4 percent of the overall expenses of the
8 Economic Opportunity Board's Transportation Department, not including
9 the cost of labor; and

10 WHEREAS, Every year, the Economic Opportunity Board Transportation
11 Services saves the State of Nevada an estimated \$186,290 because the
12 Economic Opportunity Board is a nonprofit provider and only charges the
13 State of Nevada approximately \$18 per round trip for transportation of
14 persons on Medicaid, compared to the average round-trip cost of other
15 providers at approximately \$27; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 89 percent of the transportation provided by
17 the Economic Opportunity Board is directly or indirectly provided for
18 persons receiving benefits from the State of Nevada, including

1 approximately 470 Medicaid rides per week for clients with mental health
2 problems, patients in wheelchairs, senior citizens needing adult day care
3 and patients receiving dialysis treatments; and

4 WHEREAS, Additionally, the Economic Opportunity Board transports
5 approximately 101 children per week for Southern Nevada Child and
6 Adolescent Services and 65 children per week for the Nevada Children's
7 Center; and

8 WHEREAS, During 1998, a total of approximately 2,556 rides were
9 provided per month by the Economic Opportunity Board's Transportation
10 Department and of those, 2,283 were a direct benefit to the State of
11 Nevada; and

12 WHEREAS, For 34 years, the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark
13 County has provided excellent services within the State of Nevada, and an
14 investment in reliable transportation now will save the Economic
15 Opportunity Board and the State of Nevada money tomorrow; and

16 WHEREAS, An investment in a replacement paratransit fleet will also
17 preserve the quality of the transportation services provided to seniors,
18 children and disabled persons from this state, which is certainly a
19 worthwhile investment in the future for the State of Nevada; now, therefore,
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21 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
22 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
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24 **Section 1.** There is hereby appropriated from the state general fund to
25 the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County the sum of \$350,000 for
26 the replacement of its paratransit fleet that provides transportation for
27 senior citizens, children and persons with disabilities.

28 **Sec. 2.** Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by section 1
29 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2001, and
30 reverts to the state general fund as soon as all payments of money
31 committed have been made.

32 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.