
SENATE BILL NO. 4—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

PREFILED DECEMBER 18, 1998

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Creates division of minority health within department of human resources.
(BDR 18-494)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to health care; creating the division of minority health within the department of human resources; creating an advisory committee to the division of minority health; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND
ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 232 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the
2 provisions set forth as sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act.
3 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act, unless the*
4 *context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 to 6,*
5 *inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*
6 **Sec. 3.** *“Administrator” means the administrator of the division.*
7 **Sec. 4.** *“Division” means the division of minority health of the*
8 *department.*
9 **Sec. 5.** *“Health care” includes mental health care.*
10 **Sec. 6.** *“Minority group” means a racial or ethnic minority group.*
11 **Sec. 7.** *The purposes of the division are to:*
12 1. *Improve the quality of health care services for members of minority*
13 *groups;*
14 2. *Increase access to health care services for members of minority*
15 *groups; and*
16 3. *Disseminate information to and educate the public on matters*
17 *concerning health care issues of interest to members of minority groups.*

1 **Sec. 8. 1. In accomplishing its purposes, the division shall:**

2 **(a) Provide a central source of information for the use of the public**
3 **concerning health care services for members of minority groups and health**
4 **care issues of interest to those members;**

5 **(b) Identify and use any available resources;**

6 **(c) Develop and coordinate plans and programs to improve the quality of**
7 **health care services for members of minority groups and to increase access**
8 **to health care services for those members, including, without limitation,**
9 **plans and programs that primarily serve local communities;**

10 **(d) Advocate on behalf of members of minority groups for the**
11 **improvement of the quality of health care services for those members and**
12 **for increased access to health care services for those members;**

13 **(e) Hold conferences and provide training concerning cultural diversity**
14 **in the workplace for public and private entities that offer services in the**
15 **field of health care, including, without limitation, providing**
16 **recommendations and opportunities for training for such public and private**
17 **entities to improve recruitment of members of minority groups;**

18 **(f) Whenever possible, incorporate the use of bilingual communication**
19 **in its programs and activities;**

20 **(g) Publicize health care issues of interest to members of minority**
21 **groups; and**

22 **(h) Develop such other programs and carry out such other activities as**
23 **appropriate.**

24 **2. In carrying out the duties set forth in subsection 1, the division may**
25 **cooperate with and seek assistance from a public or private entity.**

26 **Sec. 9. The division may:**

27 **1. Apply for any available grants and accept any gifts, grants,**
28 **appropriations or donations, and use any such gifts, grants, appropriations**
29 **or donations to carry out its purposes;**

30 **2. Contract with a public or private entity to assist in carrying out its**
31 **purposes; and**

32 **3. Adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of**
33 **sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act.**

34 **Sec. 10. The administrator must be appointed on the basis of his**
35 **education, training, experience, demonstrated abilities and interest in the**
36 **provision of health care services to members of minority groups and related**
37 **programs.**

38 **Sec. 11. The administrator shall:**

39 **1. Ensure that the purposes of the division are carried out;**

40 **2. Direct and supervise all the technical and administrative activities of**
41 **the division;**

42 **3. Report to the governor all matters concerning the administration of**
43 **the division;**

1 **4. Attend the meetings of the advisory committee created pursuant to**
2 **section 15 of this act, serve as secretary at those meetings and keep minutes**
3 **of the proceedings;**

4 **5. Request and consider the advice of the advisory committee**
5 **concerning matters of policy;**

6 **6. Serve as contracting officer to receive money from the Federal**
7 **Government or any other source; and**

8 **7. Act as liaison between the division, members of minority groups, and**
9 **public and private entities offering health care services primarily to those**
10 **members or offering health care information of interest to those members.**

11 **Sec. 12. On or before March 1 of each odd-numbered year, the**
12 **administrator shall submit a report to the governor and the director of the**
13 **legislative counsel bureau for transmittal to the legislature. The report must**
14 **outline the manner in which the division has accomplished its purposes**
15 **during the biennium, including, without limitation, information concerning**
16 **the activities, findings and recommendations of the division as they relate to**
17 **health care services for members of minority groups and to health care**
18 **issues of interest to those members.**

19 **Sec. 13. The administrator may:**

20 **1. Within the limits of legislative appropriations, appoint such**
21 **professional, technical, clerical and operational staff as necessary to carry**
22 **out his duties;**

23 **2. Perform any lawful act that he considers necessary or desirable to**
24 **carry out the purposes of his office; and**

25 **3. Delegate the performance of any of the powers or duties required**
26 **pursuant to sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of this act to any person within the**
27 **division.**

28 **Sec. 14. 1. The administrator may, within the limits of legislative**
29 **appropriations and other available money, award a grant of money to a**
30 **person for use consistent with the provisions of sections 2 to 17, inclusive, of**
31 **this act.**

32 **2. Before the administrator may award a grant of money pursuant to**
33 **subsection 1, he shall adopt regulations that set forth the:**

34 **(a) Procedure by which a person may apply for a grant of money from**
35 **the administrator;**

36 **(b) Criteria that the administrator will consider in determining whether**
37 **to award a grant of money; and**

38 **(c) Procedure by which the administrator will distribute the money that**
39 **the division receives pursuant to subsection 1 of section 9 of this act.**

40 **Sec. 15. 1. There is hereby created in the division an advisory**
41 **committee consisting of:**

42 **(a) At least 13 members appointed by the governor;**

43 **(b) One member of the senate appointed by the majority leader of the**
44 **senate; and**

1 (c) *One member of the assembly appointed by the speaker of the*
2 *assembly.*

3 2. *When appointing a member to the advisory committee, consideration*
4 *must be given to whether the members appointed to the advisory committee*
5 *reflect the ethnic and geographical diversity of this state.*

6 3. *Each member of the advisory committee serves a term of 2 years. A*
7 *member may be reappointed for an additional term of 2 years in the same*
8 *manner as the original appointment. A vacancy occurring in the*
9 *membership of the advisory committee must be filled in the same manner as*
10 *the original appointment.*

11 4. *At its first meeting, and annually thereafter, the advisory committee*
12 *shall elect a chairman from among its members.*

13 Sec. 16. 1. *Each member of the advisory committee who is not an*
14 *employee of the State of Nevada is entitled to receive a salary of not more*
15 *than \$80 per day, as fixed by the administrator in consultation with the*
16 *advisory committee, for each day spent on the business of the advisory*
17 *committee. Each member of the advisory committee who is an employee of*
18 *the State of Nevada serves without additional compensation. Each member*
19 *of the advisory committee is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and*
20 *travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally. A claim*
21 *for a payment pursuant to this section must be made on a voucher approved*
22 *by the administrator and paid as other claims against the State of Nevada*
23 *are paid.*

24 2. *Each member of the advisory committee who is an employee of the*
25 *State of Nevada or a local government must be relieved from his duties*
26 *without loss of his regular compensation so that he may prepare for and*
27 *attend meetings of the advisory committee and perform any work necessary*
28 *to carry out the duties of the advisory committee in the most timely manner*
29 *practicable. A state agency or local governmental entity shall not require an*
30 *employee who is a member of the advisory committee to make up the time*
31 *that he is absent from work or to take annual vacation or compensatory*
32 *time for the time that he is absent from work to carry out his duties as a*
33 *member of the advisory committee.*

34 Sec. 17. *The advisory committee shall:*

35 1. *Advise the administrator and division on matters concerning the*
36 *manner in which the purposes of the division are being carried out;*

37 2. *Review the manner in which the division uses any gifts, grants,*
38 *donations and appropriations to carry out the purposes of the division and*
39 *make appropriate recommendations; and*

40 3. *Review the reports to be submitted by the administrator to the*
41 *governor or the Federal Government and the report required pursuant to*
42 *section 12 of this act, and make appropriate recommendations.*

1 **Sec. 18.** NRS 232.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 232.290 As used in NRS 232.290 to 232.465, inclusive, **and sections 2 to**
3 **17, inclusive, of this act**, unless the context requires otherwise:
4 1. "Department" means the department of human resources.
5 2. "Director" means the director of the department.
6 **Sec. 19.** NRS 232.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:
7 232.300 1. The department of human resources is hereby created.
8 2. The department consists of a director and the following divisions:
9 (a) Aging services division.
10 (b) Health division.
11 (c) Mental hygiene and mental retardation division.
12 (d) Welfare division.
13 (e) Division of child and family services.
14 **(f) Division of minority health.**
15 3. The department is the sole agency responsible for administering the
16 provisions of law relating to its respective divisions.
17 **Sec. 20.** NRS 232.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:
18 232.320 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the director:
19 (a) Shall appoint, with the consent of the governor, chiefs of the divisions
20 of the department, who are respectively designated as follows:
21 (1) The administrator of the aging services division;
22 (2) The administrator of the health division;
23 (3) The state welfare administrator; and
24 (4) The administrator of the division of child and family services.
25 (b) Shall administer, through the divisions of the department, the
26 provisions of chapters 210, 423, 424, 425, 427A, 432A to 442, inclusive, 446,
27 447, 449 and 450 of NRS, NRS 127.220 to 127.310, inclusive, 422.070 to
28 422.410, inclusive, 432.010 to 432.139, inclusive, 444.003 to 444.430,
29 inclusive, and 445A.010 to 445A.050, inclusive, and all other provisions of
30 law relating to the functions of the divisions of the department, but is not
31 responsible for the clinical activities of the health division or the professional
32 line activities of the other divisions.
33 (c) Shall, after considering advice from agencies of local governments and
34 nonprofit organizations which provide social services, adopt a master plan for
35 the provision of human services in this state. The director shall revise the plan
36 biennially and deliver a copy of the plan to the governor and the legislature at
37 the beginning of each regular session. The plan must:
38 (1) Identify and assess the plans and programs of the department for the
39 provision of human services, and any duplication of those services by federal,
40 state and local agencies;
41 (2) Set forth priorities for the provision of those services;
42 (3) Provide for communication and the coordination of those services
43 among nonprofit organizations, agencies of local government, the state and the
44 Federal Government;

1 (4) Identify the sources of funding for services provided by the
2 department and the allocation of that funding;

3 (5) Set forth sufficient information to assist the department in providing
4 those services and in the planning and budgeting for the future provision of
5 those services; and

6 (6) Contain any other information necessary for the department to
7 communicate effectively with the Federal Government concerning
8 demographic trends, formulas for the distribution of federal money and any
9 need for the modification of programs administered by the department.

10 (d) May, by regulation, require nonprofit organizations and state and local
11 governmental agencies to provide information to him regarding the programs
12 of those organizations and agencies, excluding detailed information relating to
13 their budgets and payrolls, which he deems necessary for his performance of
14 the duties imposed upon him pursuant to this section.

15 (e) Has such other powers and duties as are provided by law.

16 2. The governor shall appoint the ***chiefs of the following divisions who***
17 ***serve at the pleasure of the governor and who are respectively designated as***
18 ***follows:***

19 (a) ***The*** administrator of the mental hygiene and mental retardation division
20 ***;*** and

21 (b) ***The administrator of the division of minority health.***

22 **Sec. 21.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 1999.