

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

(ON BEHALF OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE)

FEBRUARY 4, 1999

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Urges Department of Human Resources to improve access to home-based and community-based waiver programs for recipients of Medicaid. (BDR R-1127)

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging the Department of Human Resources to improve access to home-based and community-based waiver programs for recipients of Medicaid.

1 WHEREAS, Medicaid programs have typically provided reimbursement
2 for medical services only; and

3 WHEREAS, As a result, the only option that has been available to
4 recipients of Medicaid who are in need of assistance with certain activities
5 of daily living has been to move into long-term care facilities, which are
6 considered medical facilities that provide medical services, to receive the
7 care they require; and

8 WHEREAS, The Health Care Financing Administration of the
9 Department of Health and Human Services grants waivers to states so that
10 Medicaid programs may provide reimbursement for certain nonmedical
11 services and provide long-term care services in the community rather than
12 in a nursing home or other institutional setting; and

13 WHEREAS, Services provided as a result of the home-based and
14 community-based waivers are considered by many to be a preferable
15 alternative to long-term institutional care because they provide greater
16 choice and independence for the recipient and are less expensive than the
17 cost of institutional care; and

18 WHEREAS, The Medicaid program in this state has received four home-
19 based and community-based waivers to provide alternative services to
20 persons who are disabled, elderly or mentally retarded; and

1 WHEREAS, Although services are available to certain recipients of
2 Medicaid in this state through the home-based and community-based
3 waiver programs, a person who applies for such services is often placed on
4 a waiting list for 6 months to 2 years before his application is evaluated to
5 determine whether he is eligible to receive such services; and

6 WHEREAS, Because of the long period of waiting to enroll in the
7 Medicaid waiver programs and the uncertainty concerning eligibility, some
8 recipients of Medicaid choose to enter long-term care facilities to receive
9 the assistance they require; and

10 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes the importance of making the
11 home-based and community-based waiver programs available to all
12 eligible recipients of Medicaid; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY
14 CONCURRING, That the Nevada Legislature hereby encourages the
15 Department of Human Resources to:

16 1. Take the actions necessary to eliminate waiting lists for
17 participation in its home-based and community-based waiver programs;

18 2. Streamline the process to determine eligibility of Medicare
19 recipients for participation in waiver programs; and

20 3. Conduct regular evaluations to assess the satisfaction of recipients
21 of Medicaid who apply to waiver programs and who receive waiver
22 services; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Department of Human Resources is hereby
24 directed to submit a report of the progress it has made toward carrying out
25 these goals to the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a
27 copy of this resolution to the Director of the Department of Human
28 Resources.