

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2—Assemblymen Cegavske, Tiffany, Giunchigliani, Chowning, de Braga, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Bache, Beers, Berman, Brower, Brown, Buckley, Carpenter, Claborn, Collins, Dini, Freeman, Gibbons, Goldwater, Gustavson, Hettrick, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Ocegüera, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Smith, Von Tobel and Williams

Joint Sponsors: Senators Titus, Rawson, Wiener, Porter, Washington, Amodei, Care, Carlton, Coffin, Jacobsen, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O'Connell, O'Donnell, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Shaffer and Townsend

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging support for the Women's Health Care Platform: Campaign 2000 initiated by the Women in Government Task Force.

WHEREAS, Women in Government, a national, bipartisan, nonprofit, educational association of elected and appointed women in state government, introduced the Women's Health Care Platform: Campaign 2000 in Washington, D.C., on May 17, 2000, to serve as a call to action by policymakers nationwide to lead the way to equality in women's health care; and

WHEREAS, The Women's Health Care Platform is an initiative that highlights the inequalities in health care provided to men and women and outlines goals to eliminate those disparities by focusing on care, research and education that are relevant for women; and

WHEREAS, Women are different, metabolically, hormonally and physiologically from men and have different patterns of health and disease, with some diseases being more common in women than in men; and

WHEREAS, More than one in five women have some form of cardiovascular disease, and it is estimated that over half of all postmenopausal women will develop a spontaneous fracture as a result of osteoporosis; and

WHEREAS, Women are three times more likely to develop rheumatoid arthritis and two to three times more likely to suffer from depression; and

WHEREAS, Women are less often referred for diagnostic tests and less often treated for heart disease than men with the same disease; and

WHEREAS, Women who smoke are 20 to 70 percent more likely to develop lung cancer, and, during unprotected sex, women are 10 times more likely than men to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus; and

WHEREAS, Women outnumber men three to one in long-term care facilities; and

WHEREAS, Most men and women agree that women are entitled to have quality medical treatment and to have access to the latest technologies and appropriate diagnostic tests; and

WHEREAS, Even though the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration were required to include women in clinical trials 10 years ago, women remain under-represented in health studies; and

WHEREAS, While there has been some national attention on women's health care issues and some legislative activity by the Congress of the

United States on appropriate access, there remains little change in the vitally important issues of preventive care and treatment; and

WHEREAS, An increase in state support for women's health can make a significant difference in improving the status of women's health; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That every state agency and institution of learning or recipient of state grants or funding in the State of Nevada is urged to take appropriate action to achieve improved and equal access for women to quality health care, including, without limitation, measures to:

1. Provide equal access for women to quality health care, including state-of-the-art medical advances and technology;
2. Increase the number of women covered by comprehensive health care insurance, including primary and preventive health care;
3. Promote strategies to prevent serious health problems by increasing patient access to recommended diagnostic and screening tests, preventive health regimens and recommended treatments;
4. Encourage unimpeded access to women's specialty health providers and improve communications between providers and patients;
5. Create and promote partnerships to develop programs designed to improve the scope and quality of women's health care;
6. Continue to expand participation of women in clinical trials;
7. Increase government and private research on women's health issues with special attention to the differences between men and women and how those differences affect quality health care;
8. Conduct more research on the outcomes of health care interventions and preventive measures to demonstrate the long-term and short-term value to women's health;
9. Expand medical and nursing school curricula in the area of women's health with increased emphasis on gender biology;
10. Support public education campaigns to increase women's awareness about their unique health risks and to help them learn how to negotiate the complexities of today's health care system and obtain the best care available;
11. Conduct public health campaigns to focus on key preventive health issues for women and expand screening programs targeted at lower-income women to include a full range of known risk factors;
12. Urge the establishment of permanent offices of women's health within the State of Nevada to raise awareness of women's special health care needs and advocate initiatives to address them; and
13. Foster development and dissemination of publicly available information on the quality of health care and health outcomes that improve women's ability to choose the best women's health care plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the organization Women in Government be commended for its leadership in calling for action on these urgent issues concerning women's health in the State of Nevada and throughout the United States and for outlining meaningful steps that can be taken to attain improved and equal access for women to quality health care, technologies and treatments, to promote the education of researchers concerning gender

differences and to gain unimpeded access to women's health providers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the State Board of Health, the Director of the Department of Human Resources, the State Health Officer, the Board of Medical Examiners, the State Board of Nursing, the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada, the University of Nevada School of Medicine and Joy Newton, the Executive Director of Women in Government.