

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 37—Committee on  
Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Expressing support for the goals of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program and the contract compliance programs of the Nevada Department of Transportation and urging the creation of a statewide task force to expand diversity in the work force on highway construction projects.

WHEREAS, This nation is best served by the full participation of all persons in meaningful, productive, well-compensated and challenging employment; and

WHEREAS, The increased participation of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women in the skilled trades will result in a high-quality work force, reduced welfare dependency, and enhanced productivity and competitiveness of the nation and the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, The State of Nevada has a rapidly growing population and a public policy that supports the integration of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women into all areas of the work force and economy; and

WHEREAS, The skilled trades are invaluable to the continued successful growth of the State of Nevada and its residents; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Department of Transportation has made considerable efforts to encourage the participation of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women in all aspects of highway construction through its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program and contract compliance programs; and

WHEREAS, Despite the efforts of the Nevada Department of Transportation, the number of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women represented in the skilled trades on Federal-Aid highway construction projects in the State of Nevada is still very low; and

WHEREAS, Similar state transportation agencies, such as the California Department of Transportation, (“CALTRANS”), have had great success in bringing minorities, disadvantaged persons and women into the skilled trades through cooperative efforts with labor unions, community agencies, minority advocacy organizations and business agencies, women’s groups, state government apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs and similar groups; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Department of Transportation works in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration to construct Federal-Aid highways and has statutorily consented to the provisions of the Federal Highway Act; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Highway Administration has expressed its policy to require full utilization of all available training and skill-improvement opportunities to ensure the increased participation of minority groups, disadvantaged persons and women in all phases of the highway construction industry; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Highway Administration requires all Federal-Aid subcontracts over \$10,000 and all Federal-Aid contracts to contain the same specific equal employment opportunity requirements that are set by the United States Department of Labor; and

WHEREAS, Contractors and most subcontractors on Federal-Aid highways are required to submit the Federal-Aid Highway Construction

Contractors Annual Equal Employment Opportunity Report in July of each year during which work is performed so that the Nevada Department of Transportation may submit its required summary for all active contractors and subcontractors to the Federal Highway Administration; and

WHEREAS, A statewide task force, composed of representatives of all parties who are knowledgeable about the skilled trades or who could provide valuable referrals from and connections to the communities of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women in the State of Nevada, to develop and implement statewide and regional plans to carry out the stated policy of the Federal Highway Administration and the United States Department of Labor through the referral, recruitment, pre-apprenticeship programs, training and hiring of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women in the skilled trades involved in highway construction would be an invaluable tool to bring minorities, disadvantaged persons and women into the skilled trades; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the members of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature do hereby commend the Nevada Department of Transportation for its efforts to bring diversity to the work place; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature urge the Nevada Department of Transportation and the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation to create a statewide task force to find additional ways to increase the number of minorities, disadvantaged persons and women in the skilled trades involved in highway construction through statewide and regional plans for referral recruitment, pre-apprenticeship programs, training and hiring; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature urge the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation and the Labor Commissioner to work with representatives of the construction industry, state and local governments, labor unions, minority and women's groups, apprenticeship programs, the State Apprenticeship Council, the skilled trades, high school and college guidance and career counselors and other knowledgeable persons to achieve the goal of bringing minorities, disadvantaged persons and women into the skilled trades involved in the highway construction industry; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature urge the Nevada Department of Transportation in its capacity as the administrator of the equal employment opportunity policy of the Federal Highway Administration for Federal-Aid highway construction in Nevada to ensure that contractors continue to file the required employment reports and that subcontractors with contracts over \$10,000 submit annual reports; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Labor Commissioner and the Director of the Nevada Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation.