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FIRST REPRINT S.C.R. 32

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32—
SENATORS TITUS AND RAWSON

APRIL 11, 2001

Referred to Committee on Legislative Affairs and Operations

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study concerning Nevada's program for providing services to persons with disabilities. (BDR R-937)

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study concerning Nevada's program for providing services to persons with disabilities.

- 1 WHEREAS, The State of Nevada ranks 51st among all of the states and
2 the District of Columbia in providing per capita support services for
3 persons with disabilities, as published in *The State of the States in*
4 *Developmental Disabilities, 2000 Study Summary* by the University of
5 Illinois at Chicago; and
6 WHEREAS, Persons with disabilities represent greater than 21 percent of
7 Nevada's population; and
8 WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court has determined that the
9 unnecessary segregation and institutionalization of persons with disabilities
10 constitutes discrimination and violates the requirements for integration set
11 forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act; and
12 WHEREAS, It is the goal of the State of Nevada to enable persons with
13 disabilities to live in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs;
14 and
15 WHEREAS, There is an enormous fragmentation of services provided to
16 persons with disabilities in this state, with programs scattered across state
17 government—the Aging Services Division and the Division of Mental
18 Health and Developmental Services of the Department of Human
19 Resources, and the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of
20 Employment, Training and Rehabilitation—and dozens of other state,
21 county and local programs; and
22 WHEREAS, One agency providing services to persons with disabilities
23 may not be aware of the services provided by another agency, resulting in
24 the duplication of services; and
25 WHEREAS, The Governor, in his recent State of the State Address before
26 this body, urged the creation of an Office of Disability to combine the
27 many existing services in one location and develop a long range plan to



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1 better provide services to persons of all ages who have disabilities; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY
4 CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to
5 appoint a study committee, consisting of three members of the Senate and
6 three members of the Assembly, to conduct an interim study of Nevada's
7 program for providing services to persons with disabilities; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That the study committee shall review the state's
10 compliance with and the impact of federal initiatives, such as the
11 Americans with Disabilities Act, the Individuals with Disabilities
12 Education Act, the Workforce Investment Act, the Rehabilitation Act, the
13 Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act, the Medicaid Act,
14 the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act, the
15 Developmental Disabilities Act, and all federal block grants to the state;
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the study committee shall conduct a full review of the
18 current system in Nevada which delivers services to persons with
19 disabilities, including, employment, social services, medical and personal
20 assistance, education, public transportation, handicapped parking, housing,
21 child care and respite services, and the state laws relating to persons with
22 disabilities; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the study committee shall examine the possible options
24 to improve the delivery of those services to maximize resources,
25 consolidate duplicating and overlapping services, expand community-
26 based services, increase consumer choice, input and review, increase
27 outcomes per cost of service, unify advocacy and appeal processes, and
28 increase cooperation between state and local programs and community
29 providers; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the study must also include an in-depth examination of
31 the coordination of the various services offered to persons with disabilities
32 in this state to ensure that a full range of services is provided to such
33 persons, that available funding is used to its maximum advantage and that
34 services provided by the state are coordinated with community services
35 that are available through such organizations as the United Way, the
36 Nevada Community Enrichment Center and Opportunity Village for
37 Retarded Citizens; and be it further

38 RESOLVED, That the study committee shall also explore the feasibility
39 of establishing a single state agency to coordinate services provided to
40 persons with disabilities including careful study and substantial public
41 input on a wide range of related issues to ensure that no interrelated
42 services are overlooked; and be it further

43 RESOLVED, That it is the intent of the Nevada Legislature for the results
44 of the study to be used to develop a comprehensive, effective working plan
45 to ensure that qualified persons with mental and physical disabilities and
46 pervasive developmental disorders receive services in the least restrictive
47 setting appropriate to their needs; and be it further

48 RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the study
49 committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the Senate



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1 and a majority of the members of the Assembly appointed to the study
2 committee; and be it further
3 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a report of
4 the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the
5 72nd session of the Nevada Legislature.

