

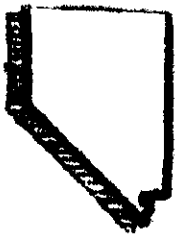
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NEVADA HEALTH CARE REFORM PROJECT

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March 3, 2003

STATEMENT TO THE NEVADA STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMERCE COMMITTEE ON AB79 EXTERNAL REVIEW

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND
REHABILITATION
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF LABOR-CIO
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
CLARK COUNTY MINISTERIAL
ASSOCIATION
CULINARY WORKERS UNION
LOCAL #226
HEALTH INSIGHT
HEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION
OF NEVADA
LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS OF NEVADA
LUTHERAN ADVOCACY
MINISTRY IN NEVADA
MEN'S CRUSADE AGAINST
BREAST CANCER
NATIONAL MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS SOCIETY
(NEVADA CHAPTER)
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN
NEVADA COMMUNITY
ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
NEVADA COUNTY HUMAN
SERVICES ADMINISTRATORS
NEVADA DIETETIC
ASSOCIATION
NEVADA HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION
NEVADA HEALTH CENTERS
NEVADA LAWYERS FOR
PROGRESSIVE POLICY
NEVADA NURSES
ASSOCIATION
NEVADA OPINION LEADERS
FORUM ON DISABILITY
NEVADA SERVICE
EMPLOYEES UNION
SEIU 1107
NEVADA STATE
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
NEVADA STATE MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
NEVADA TRIAL LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION
NEVADA WOMEN'S LOBBY
PILOT INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION
PLANNED PARENTHOOD
(NEVADA CHAPTER)
(MAR MONTE)
PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP
ALLIANCE OF NEVADA
RELIGIOUS ALLIANCE IN NEVADA
SENIORS UNITED
SOHOPTOMIST
INTERNATIONAL OF
GREATER LAS VEGAS
STEROID WARNING NETWORK
WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT CENTER

My name is Ruth Mills. I am president of the board of the Nevada Health Care Reform Project. Our project will be ten years old this year. We started with about a dozen organizations organized by the League of Women Voters and now have ninety-seven member organizations representing over one half million Nevadans.

We are a coalition of consumers, organized labor, seniors, disability groups, religious organizations and health care professionals. Our mission is to assure all Nevadans comprehensive and affordable health care coverage and improve the quality of health care.

As the last part of the Patient Protection Act you enacted six years ago we have written legislation, AB79 to further protect the individual with an external review of their situation in the event they are denied insurance coverage. It minimizes the need for law suits to resolve conflict. Thirty-four states already have such legislation and the Nevada insurance industry has agreed it is necessary.

It is our understanding that we have negotiated any differences we may have had with the insurance industry over this legislation and are now united in our request for acceptance of AB 79.

Nevada's health care needs are numerous and we face many challenges in meeting those needs. This bill is one step in the right direction toward insuring the quality of health care in our state. We look forward to working with the committee on the other health care issues we face.

Please pass AB79.

To your good health,

Ruth A. Mills

Ruth A. Mills

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE & LABOR

DATE: 3/03/03 ROOM: 4100 EXHIBIT E

SUBMITTED BY: Ruth A. Mills