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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL NO. 289 FIRST REPRINT

MAY 6, 2003

PREPARED BY THE LEGAL DIVISION

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SHOWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS IN CONCEPTUAL FORM. THE LANGUAGE AND ITS PLACEMENT IN THE OFFICIAL AMENDMENT MAY DIFFER.

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) blue bold italics is new language in the original bill; (2) green bold underlining is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) red strikethrough is deleted language in the original bill; (4) green bold double strikethrough is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment and (5) green bold dashed underlining is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. 1. The Legislative Commission shall conduct an interim study of the current challenges of ensuring that adequate health care is available to all of the residents of Nevada, now and in the future. The study must include a search for innovative ways to expand the availability of health care in Nevada including a determination of the feasibility of establishing a State Health Authority to plan for a single payer health care system, the expansion of coverage for persons who are employed but are not able to find affordable health insurance and for the expansion of the Medicaid program. The Legislative Commission shall create a subcommittee to carry out the study.

2. The subcommittee must consist of:

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- (a) Two members of the Assembly appointed by the Legislative Commission;
- (b) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Legislative Commission; and

(c) Four members appointed by the Governor.

- The study must include, without limitation, the feasibility of 17 establishing a State Health Authority to: 18
- (a) Plan for the provision of health care services to the residents of 20
- (b) Develop a plan-for the State of Nevada to purchase all health 21 care services for residents of this state, including, without limitation, a 22 method for funding the plan; 23
 - (e) Develop a plan to expand Medicaid to provide all optional services that it is authorized to provide pursuant to federal law; and

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——(d)—Develop a plan to provide health insurance to residents of this state whose incomes are under 300 percent of the federally designated level signifying poverty and who but for their income are otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to Medicaid.

(a) An examination of the unique characteristics of the health care market in the State of Nevada that may contribute to the increasing costs of health insurance and health care services in this state;

(b) An examination of the future health care needs of the residents of Nevada including the need for providers of health care, medical

facilities, medical equipment and other medical services;

(c) A search for ways to expand health care coverage for all

12 residents of Nevada including:

(1) The feasibility of establishing a State Health Authority to coordinate a single-payer system in the State of Nevada, including a review of the different forms of single-payer systems implemented or contemplated by other states such as employer mandates, "play or pay," tax incentives and state purchasing plans;

(2) An examination of the number and distribution of uninsured residents of this state, including a review of the demographics of persons who are employed but are not able to find affordable health insurance and a determination of the feasibility of expanding employment-based health insurance in Nevada;

(3) An examination of changes that have occurred in the affordability of health insurance policies for persons residing in Nevada, including a review of the increases in cost-sharing among health insurance plans; and

(4) An examination of the feasibility of expanding state sponsored health insurance including an expansion of Medicaid eligibility for those who fall just outside of the requirements for eligibility and the option of expanding Medicaid to cover all optional services.

4. Members of the subcommittee who are appointed by the Governor serve without salary, but are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally while engaged in the business of the subcommittee.

5. The subcommittee shall submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the Legislative Commission on or before September 1, 2004.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003.