

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13—ASSEMBLYMEN
PARKS, ANDERSON, ANDONOV, ANGLE, ARBERRY,
ATKINSON, BEERS, BROWN, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER,
CHOWNING, CHRISTENSEN, CLABORN, COLLINS, CONKLIN,
GEDDES, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOICOECHEA,
GOLDWATER, GRADY, GRIFFIN, GUSTAVSON, HARDY,
HETTRICK, HORNE, KNECHT, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MABEY,
MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MCCLEARY,
MORTENSON, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PERKINS,
PIERCE, SHERER, WEBER AND WILLIAMS

MARCH 31, 2003

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS RAWSON, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON,
CEGAVSKE, COFFIN, HARDY, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS,
NEAL, NOLAN, O'CONNELL, RAGGIO, RHOADS,
SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TIFFANY, TITUS, TOWNSEND,
WASHINGTON AND WIENER

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Designates March 31, 2003, as Homeless Awareness
Day in Nevada. (BDR R-1327)

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

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Designating
March 31, 2003, as Homeless Awareness Day in Nevada.

1 WHEREAS, The *2002 Needs Assessment* report from the Division
2 of Mental Health and Developmental Services of the Department of
3 Human Resources indicates there were 7,612 people in homeless
4 shelters in Las Vegas and Reno in the year 2000, with a need to
5 serve at least 16,049 people, and with 42 percent of these being
6 families with children under 18 years of age; and

7 WHEREAS, Recent estimates from service and housing providers
8 indicate there are at least 16,300 literally homeless and precariously
9 housed people in the greater Las Vegas area and approximately



1 6,500 literally homeless and precariously housed people in the Reno
2 and Sparks area; and

3 WHEREAS, Nationally, approximately 11 percent of homeless
4 people are veterans, but nearly one-third of the homeless population
5 in Clark County are veterans; and

6 WHEREAS, In Nevada, approximately 55 percent of the
7 homeless population are white, 35 percent are African-American
8 and 10 percent are Latino; and

9 WHEREAS, Studies indicate that between 70 and 80 percent of
10 the homeless people in Nevada are unemployed, while those who
11 are employed work day-labor jobs earning less than \$400 a month;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, According to service and housing providers, the
14 major barriers homeless people face in trying to find employment
15 are the lack of child care, unmet needs regarding transportation,
16 disqualifying criminal backgrounds, inability to afford a Sheriff's
17 card or other costs, and potential employers' distrust and lack of
18 understanding about their situation; and

19 WHEREAS, The "Focus on Homeless Families with Children
20 Policy Academy," a federally sponsored program consisting of key
21 state and local administrators, state Legislators and nonprofit
22 executives has prepared a "State Action Plan," and continues to
23 meet and gather data on various aspects of homelessness, including
24 establishing baseline data on the homeless client population,
25 developing an inventory of affordable housing units, and developing
26 an inventory of services for homeless clients; and

27 WHEREAS, The Task Force for the Fund for a Healthy Nevada
28 awarded Community Chest, Inc., a grant of \$89,000 for Fiscal Year
29 2003-2004 and \$25,000 for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 to create a
30 documentary on homeless youth in Nevada; and

31 WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature recognize
32 the outstanding efforts of the numerous state and local governmental
33 agencies and various nonprofit entities dedicated to fighting the
34 homeless problem in the State of Nevada; now, therefore, be it

35 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
36 SENATE CONCURRING, That March 31, 2003, is hereby designated
37 as Homeless Awareness Day in Nevada; and be it further

38 RESOLVED, That the members of the 72nd Session of the
39 Nevada Legislature hereby express their commitment to creating a
40 greater public awareness of the problem of homelessness in Nevada
41 and to continue to work cooperatively to solve this problem; and be
42 it further

43 RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and
44 transmit a copy of this resolution to Marybel Batjer, Chief of Staff



- 1 to Governor Kenny C. Guinn and Chairman of the Nevada Policy
- 2 Academy Team on Homeless Families with Children.

