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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36—COMMITTEE ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH CARE (NRS 439B.200))

MAY 9, 2003

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Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Expresses support of Nevada Legislature for four long-term strategic plans developed by Department of Human Resources concerning health care needs of residents of Nevada. (BDR R-742)

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

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Expressing the support of the Nevada Legislature for the four long-term strategic plans developed by the Department of Human Resources concerning the health care needs of the residents of Nevada.

1 WHEREAS, On June 13, 2001, the Governor signed into law  
2 Assembly Bill No. 513 which provided funding for the development  
3 of four long-term strategic plans concerning the health care needs of  
4 the residents of Nevada; and

5 WHEREAS, The strategic plans to be developed were to address  
6 the basic needs of Nevada's senior residents, health care services in  
7 rural areas of Nevada, services to meet the needs of persons with  
8 disabilities, and rates paid by the State to contracted providers of  
9 health care services; and

10 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Resources established a  
11 task force to facilitate the development of each of the four strategic  
12 plans and a steering committee to provide guidance and coordinate  
13 the overall efforts of each task force; and

14 WHEREAS, Each task force conducted public hearings in many  
15 locations in this state to ensure information was received from all  
16 interested persons, including, without limitation, senior residents,  
17 rural Nevadans, persons with disabilities and their representatives,



1 governmental representatives and representatives of persons who  
2 provide institutional and community-based services to persons with  
3 disabilities, and developed each long-term strategic plan only after  
4 testimony and information presented by the interested parties had  
5 been fully considered; and

6 WHEREAS, The diligent work of the Senior Services Task Force  
7 in gathering comments and information from over 2,000 Nevada  
8 seniors, service providers and caregivers resulted in a  
9 comprehensive strategic plan for this state's senior residents which  
10 focuses on goals relating to independent living, engagement in the  
11 occupation of life, improvement of health, accessibility and  
12 affordability of housing, availability of transportation services, and  
13 receipt of needed benefits, services and support; and

14 WHEREAS, The perseverance of the Nevada Rural Health Care  
15 Task Force in holding stakeholder meetings with approximately 200  
16 persons, conducting interviews with those persons having a  
17 particular interest in rural health care and analyzing the data from  
18 over 250 surveys received from rural residents resulted in a long-  
19 range strategic plan to address health care services in the rural areas  
20 of Nevada, which focuses on goals relating to planning and  
21 coordination of rural health care, delivery of services to rural areas,  
22 sustainable financing of insurance coverage and development of  
23 adequate funding, and utilization and expansion of resources in rural  
24 communities; and

25 WHEREAS, The assiduous work of the Task Force on Disability  
26 and its subcommittees and the technical advisory group created to  
27 address issues relating to the *Olmstead* decision, *Olmstead v. L.C. ex*  
28 *rel. Zimring*, 119 S. Ct. 2176 (1999), resulted in a comprehensive  
29 strategic plan for persons with disabilities which focuses on goals to  
30 ensure the availability and accessibility of services for persons with  
31 disabilities, to support the ability of persons with disabilities to lead  
32 independent and active lives within their communities, to continue  
33 the efforts of this state to provide appropriate community-based  
34 services for persons with disabilities, and to ensure that persons with  
35 disabilities receive the services they are legally entitled to receive;  
36 and

37 WHEREAS, In addition to the goals identified by the Task Force  
38 on Disability to enable persons with disabilities to achieve  
39 maximum mainstream personal and economic independence,  
40 testimony from various advocates, agencies, organizations and  
41 persons with diverse interests, perspectives and expertise concerning  
42 the provision of services to persons with disabilities indicated that  
43 the allocation of 10 percent of the tobacco settlement funds that are  
44 designated to be used to address the needs of persons with



1 disabilities should continue to be made available in the Fund for a  
2 Healthy Nevada without interruption to focus on:

3 1. Providing home and environmental modifications and  
4 technology to allow community access, independent living or return  
5 from institutional care;

6 2. Providing permanent funding for the State's Positive  
7 Behavioral Support Program; and

8 3. Ensuring that families providing primary care to a severely  
9 disabled family member receive respite; and

10 WHEREAS, The arduous work of the Provider Rates Task Force  
11 in gathering information from representatives of county agencies,  
12 providers of certain health care services, persons who access the  
13 services and their families, as well as state personnel, resulted in the  
14 development of standardized rates for a variety of services,  
15 including, without limitation, community support services for  
16 persons with a disability or a mental illness, the elderly, community  
17 triage centers, supported living arrangements, targeted case  
18 management, personal assistance services, fiscal intermediary  
19 services, children and adult mental health rehabilitative services and  
20 therapies; and

21 WHEREAS, Based upon testimony presented from those persons  
22 who participated in providing input concerning the four areas of  
23 health care services on which the long-term strategic plans focused,  
24 permanent long-term funding is critically needed for the continued  
25 establishment and development of mental health services, including,  
26 without limitation, services for persons who are mentally ill and  
27 mentally retarded, and services for the prevention of alcohol abuse  
28 and alcoholism; and

29 WHEREAS, Each of the four long-term strategic health care plans  
30 identified goals and objectives or recommendations relating to the  
31 area studied and outlined strategies to carry out the goals, objectives  
32 and recommendations; and

33 WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature recognizes the importance  
34 of these long-term strategic plans in serving as invaluable guides in  
35 addressing the health care needs of the residents of this state; and

36 WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature further recognizes that each  
37 strategic plan is a blueprint to use in budgeting for health care  
38 services in this state; now, therefore, be it

39 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE  
40 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the Nevada  
41 Legislature express their support for the four long-term strategic  
42 plans developed by the Department of Human Resources concerning  
43 senior services, rural health care, persons with disabilities and  
44 provider rates; and be it further



1       RESOLVED, That the members of the Legislature acknowledge  
2 the recommendations provided in these long-term strategic plans  
3 concerning the health care needs of the residents of this state, as  
4 well as the recommendations concerning funding that were provided  
5 as a result of testimony presented during the preparation of these  
6 plans; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and  
8 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of the Department  
9 of Human Resources.

