
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13—COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

MARCH 29, 2005

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Education

SUMMARY—Urges Congress to preserve Community Services
Block Grant program as independent federal
program. (BDR R-1396)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging Congress to preserve the
Community Services Block Grant program as an
independent federal program.

1 WHEREAS, The Community Services Block Grant program,
2 administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, was
3 created by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981
4 and is designed to provide a range of services to address the needs
5 of low-income persons to ameliorate the causes and conditions of
6 poverty; and

7 WHEREAS, The money allocated by the program is used to
8 provide services that assist such persons in attaining the skills,
9 knowledge and motivation necessary to achieve self-sufficiency and
10 may also be used to provide the immediate necessities of life such as
11 food, shelter and medicine; and

12 WHEREAS, Throughout the nation, local governments have
13 created more than 1,080 Community Action Agencies as public or
14 private entities to channel the money provided by the Community
15 Services Block Grant program into communities to coordinate
16 resources and empower communities in rural and urban areas; and

17 WHEREAS, In Nevada, each dollar received by Community
18 Action Agencies leverages at least \$19 brought in from other
19 sources, and this money is reinvested in the business communities



1 of Nevada, thus enhancing the economic vitality as well as the
2 social fabric of the entire State; and

3 WHEREAS, Using money provided by the Community Services
4 Block Grant program, Community Action Agencies in this State not
5 only assist low-income persons in obtaining employment, training,
6 education, including participation in Head Start, energy assistance,
7 senior services, and health and nutrition benefits, but the Agencies
8 also acquire the infrastructure to develop affordable housing
9 projects, assist first-time home buyers in paying down-payment and
10 closing costs, and help senior citizens repair their homes; and

11 WHEREAS, When such activities relating to housing are
12 considered, the leverage for each federal dollar received by the State
13 of Nevada increases up to \$29; and

14 WHEREAS, The proposed federal budget for Fiscal Year 2006
15 recommends the elimination of the Community Services Block
16 Grant program; and

17 WHEREAS, The elimination of the program would negatively
18 impact not only the residents of Nevada but citizens all across the
19 United States and would significantly hinder the ability of
20 Community Action Agencies and other businesses to improve the
21 economic viability of families and businesses, hurting those in need
22 and lessening their ability to live a decent life; now, therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
24 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 73rd Session of the
25 Nevada Legislature urge Congress to preserve the Community
26 Services Block Grant program as an independent program
27 administered by the Department of Health and Human Services and
28 to appropriate money for the program for Fiscal Year 2006 that
29 meets or exceeds the funding level for Fiscal Year 2005; and be it
30 further

31 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
32 transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United
33 States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the
34 House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Department of Health
35 and Human Services, and each member of the Nevada
36 Congressional Delegation; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
38 passage.

