

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 293—ASSEMBLYMEN GERHARDT, LESLIE, ANDERSON, BUCKLEY, CONKLIN, ATKINSON, BEERS, BOBZIEN, CLABORN, DENIS, GOICOECHEA, GRADY, HARDY, HOGAN, HORNE, KIHUEN, KIRKPATRICK, KOIVISTO, MANENDO, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, OCEGUERA, PARKS, PARNELL, PIERCE, SEGERBLOM, WEBER AND WOMACK

MARCH 13, 2007

Referred to Concurrent Committees on
Health and Human Services and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Makes an appropriation to the Legislative Fund for the Legislative Auditor to enter into a contract with a consultant to conduct a performance audit of agencies which provide child welfare services. (BDR S-706)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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

AN ACT making an appropriation to the Legislative Fund for the Legislative Auditor to enter into a contract with a consultant to conduct a performance audit of agencies which provide child welfare services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

- 1 **Section 1.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
- 2 General Fund to the Legislative Fund created by NRS 218.085 the
- 3 sum of \$200,000 for the Legislative Auditor to enter into a contract
- 4 with a qualified, independent consultant to conduct a performance
- 5 audit of each agency which provides child welfare services.
- 6 2. The consultant shall perform random unannounced visits to
- 7 the agencies which provide child welfare services. During such



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1 visits, the consultant shall review files of open and closed cases
2 concerning children who have been abused or neglected. The
3 consultant also shall:

4 (a) Review the manner in which the agencies which provide
5 child welfare services document, respond to and report cases of
6 child abuse or neglect;

7 (b) Review the procedures used by the agencies which provide
8 child welfare services to determine whether to close a case;

9 (c) Determine whether the agencies which provide child welfare
10 services are complying with federal and state laws in the manner in
11 which they carry out their responsibilities with respect to child
12 abuse or neglect;

13 (d) Evaluate the effectiveness and availability of appropriate
14 intervention services;

15 (e) Determine the frequency with which the agencies have direct
16 contact with children placed in foster homes or emergency shelters;

17 (f) Determine whether the agencies have successfully
18 incorporated the recommendations set forth in the Report of the
19 Clark County Blue Ribbon Panel for the Review of Child Deaths
20 and of the Northern Blue Ribbon Panel for the Review of Child
21 Deaths, as applicable; and

22 (g) Evaluate the progress and efforts made towards meeting the
23 requirements set forth in the federally approved Performance
24 Improvement Plan and Corrective Action Plan.

25 3. Each agency which provides child welfare services shall:

26 (a) Cooperate with the consultant;

27 (b) Allow the consultant to inspect, review and copy any
28 records, reports and other documents relevant to the duties of the
29 consultant;

30 (c) Provide access to the consultant to any facility within its
31 jurisdiction which has custody of children pursuant to court order;
32 and

33 (d) Allow the consultant to interview members of the staff of
34 such facilities and children who are in the custody of such facilities.

35 4. As used in this section, "agency which provides child
36 welfare services" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 432B.030.

37 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

