

Senate Bill No. 491—Committee on Legislative
Operations and Elections

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to persons with disabilities; establishing the preferred manner of referring to such persons in Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

This bill establishes the preferred manner of referring to persons with disabilities in Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. This bill requires the Legislative Counsel, to the extent practicable, to ensure that persons with physical, mental or cognitive disabilities are referred to in Nevada Revised Statutes using language that is commonly viewed as respectful and sentence structure that refers to the person before referring to his disability, and provides that it is the policy of this State that such persons are referred to in a similar manner in the Nevada Administrative Code.

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

Section 1. Chapter 220 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Legislative Counsel shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that persons with physical, mental or cognitive disabilities are referred to in Nevada Revised Statutes using language that is commonly viewed as respectful and sentence structure that refers to the person before referring to his disability.

2. Words and terms that are preferred for use in Nevada Revised Statutes include, without limitation, “persons with disabilities,” “persons with mental illness,” “persons with mental retardation” and other words and terms that are structured in a similar manner.

3. Words and terms that are not preferred for use in Nevada Revised Statutes include, without limitation, “disabled,” “handicapped,” “mentally disabled,” “mentally ill,” “mentally retarded” and other words and terms that tend to equate the disability with the person.

Sec. 2. NRS 233B.062 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233B.062 1. It is the policy of this State that every regulation of an agency be made easily accessible to the public and expressed in clear and concise language. To assist in carrying out this policy:

(a) The Attorney General must develop guidelines for drafting regulations; and



(b) Every permanent regulation must be incorporated, excluding any forms used by the agency, any publication adopted by reference, the title, any signature and other formal parts, in the Nevada Administrative Code, and every emergency or temporary regulation must be distributed in the same manner as the Nevada Administrative Code.

2. *It is the policy of this State that persons with physical, mental or cognitive disabilities are to be referred to in the Nevada Administrative Code using language that is commonly viewed as respectful and sentence structure that refers to the person before referring to his disability, in the same manner as provided in section 1 of this act for Nevada Revised Statutes.*

3. The Legislative Counsel shall:

(a) Include each permanent regulation in the Nevada Administrative Code; and

(b) Distribute in the same manner as the Nevada Administrative Code each emergency or temporary regulation,
➡ that is required to be adopted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and which is adopted by an entity other than an agency.

~~3-1~~ 4. The Legislative Commission may authorize inclusion in the Nevada Administrative Code of the regulations of an agency otherwise exempted from the requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 3. The Legislative Counsel shall:

1. In preparing the reprint and supplements to Nevada Revised Statutes in 2007, appropriately change any words and terms in Nevada Revised Statutes in the manner that the Legislative Counsel determines necessary to conform those words and terms to the provisions of section 1 of this act.

2. In preparing supplements to the Nevada Administrative Code, appropriately change any words and terms in the Nevada Administrative Code in the manner that the Legislative Counsel determines necessary to conform those words and terms to the provisions of subsection 2 of NRS 233B.062, as amended by section 2 of this act.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

