

SENATE BILL NO. 522—COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE)

MARCH 26, 2007

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Makes appropriations for the provision of various health care services. (BDR S-311)

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 appropriations for the provision of various health care services; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 **Section 1** of this bill appropriates \$3,000,000 to the Committee on Emergency
- 2 Medical Services to make grants of money relating to the provision of emergency
- 3 medical services in rural areas of Nevada. The grants may, without limitation, be
- 4 used for ambulances, communications and other equipment, the construction of
- 5 decontamination facilities and helipads, and training programs.
- 6 **Section 4** of this bill appropriates \$10,000,000 to the Department of Health and
- 7 Human Services to make grants of money to support the expansion of federally
- 8 qualified health centers and rural health clinics in Nevada.
- 9 **Section 6** of this bill appropriates \$2,000,000 to the Department of Health and
- 10 Human Services to provide funding to support access to health care for uninsured
- 11 persons in Nevada.

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 Committee on Emergency Medical Services the
- 3 sum of \$3,000,000 to make grants of money relating to the



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1 provision of emergency medical services in rural areas of this State
2 pursuant to section 2 of this act.

3 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by
4 subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30,
5 2009, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
6 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
7 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
8 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
9 September 18, 2009, by either the entity to which the money was
10 appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently
11 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General
12 Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

13 **Sec. 2.** 1. The Committee on Emergency Medical Services
14 shall create and administer a grant program to provide grants of
15 money to nonprofit organizations that provide emergency medical
16 services and to the emergency departments of public hospitals and
17 nonprofit hospitals:

18 (a) Located in rural counties in this State; or

19 (b) Located in rural areas of urban counties in this State, as
20 determined by the Nevada Office of Rural Health within the
21 University of Nevada School of Medicine.

22 2. Grants made pursuant to the grant program may be used for:

23 (a) Ambulances and equipment used in ambulances;

24 (b) Communications and other equipment used for emergency
25 medical services;

26 (c) Capital investment in infrastructure related to emergency
27 medical services, including, without limitation, the construction of
28 decontamination facilities and helipads; and

29 (d) Training programs for volunteers in emergency medical
30 services.

31 3. To be eligible to receive a grant pursuant to the grant
32 program, the applicant for the grant must provide matching money
33 or in-kind contributions equal to at least 25 percent of the amount of
34 the grant.

35 **Sec. 3.** 1. The Administrator of the Health Division of the
36 Department of Health and Human Services shall appoint an advisory
37 committee to assist the Committee on Emergency Medical Services
38 in carrying out its duties under the grant program created pursuant to
39 section 2 of this act. The advisory committee must consist of:

40 (a) Two members of the Committee on Emergency Medical
41 Services;

42 (b) The Director of the Nevada Rural Hospital Flexibility
43 Program of the Nevada Office of Rural Health of the University of
44 Nevada School of Medicine;



(c) The Emergency Medical Services Coordinator of the Nevada Rural Hospital Flexibility Program;

(d) Two persons who represent providers of emergency medical services in rural counties in this State; and

(e) A representative of the Nevada Rural Hospital Partners.

2. The advisory committee shall:

(a) Develop criteria for eligibility to receive a grant pursuant to the grant program;

(b) Specify the process for applying for a grant;

(c) Review applications for grants; and

(d) Provide recommendations to the Committee on Emergency Medical Services concerning the making of grants.

3. The Administrator shall appoint one member of the advisory committee to serve as chairman and one member to serve as vice chairman.

4. The advisory committee shall meet at the call of the chairman.

5. The chairman or, in his absence, the vice chairman, shall preside at each meeting of the advisory committee. A majority of the members of the advisory committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of a quorum present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by the advisory committee.

6. The Administrator shall designate an employee of the Health Division to serve as secretary for the advisory committee and may assign such other employees of the Health Division as he deems necessary to assist the advisory committee in its duties.

7. Members of the advisory committee serve without compensation. If sufficient money is available, members are entitled to travel allowances provided for state officers and employees generally while attending meetings of the advisory committee.

Sec. 4. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to make grants of money to support the expansion of federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics pursuant to section 5 of this act:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008.....\$5,000,000

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009.....\$5,000,000

2. Any balance of the sums appropriated by subsection 1 remaining at the end of the respective fiscal years must not be committed for expenditure after June 30 of the respective fiscal years by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after



September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 19, 2008, and September 18, 2009, respectively.

Sec. 5. 1. The Department of Health and Human Services shall create and administer a grant program to support the expansion of federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics in this State.

2. Grants made pursuant to the grant program may be used to assist with capital or operational costs that enhance or expand the ability of a federally qualified health center or rural health clinic to provide primary care services, including, without limitation, dental services.

3. As used in this section:

(a) "Federally qualified health center" has the meaning ascribed to it in 42 U.S.C. § 1395x(aa)(4).

(b) "Rural health clinic" has the meaning ascribed to it in 42 U.S.C. § 1395x(aa)(2).

Sec. 6. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services to provide funding to support access to health care for uninsured persons pursuant to section 7 of this act:

For the Fiscal Year 2007-2008.....\$1,000,000

For the Fiscal Year 2008-2009.....\$1,000,000

2. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any remaining balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2009, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 18, 2009, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 18, 2009.

Sec. 7. 1. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide funding for programs of shared responsibility for access to health care for uninsured persons in this State.

2. The Department may provide funding to any organization that offers a medical discount plan in this State which:

(a) Provides that, to be eligible to participate in the medical discount plan, a person must:

(1) Be employed but not have been offered health insurance by his employer;



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(2) Have a household income that is between 100 and 250 percent of the federally designated level signifying poverty; and

(3) Not be eligible for any other state or local health insurance program; and

(b) Requires the payment of annual fees by participants in the medical discount plan and their employers for costs of administering the plan.

3. Any amount paid by an employer pursuant to subsection 2 must be allowed as a deduction pursuant to NRS 363A.135 or 363B.115.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 695H.100 and 695H.110 to the contrary, a recipient of funding from the Department pursuant to this section shall transfer any amount of that funding which remains unexpended at the end of the fiscal year in which it is received to a patient care account to be used to pay for major health care costs incurred by participants in the medical discount plan who have exhausted their personal resources. The governing body of the recipient shall, in consultation with the Department, develop criteria for the expenditure of the money in the patient care account.

5. A recipient of funding from the Department pursuant to this section shall provide a quarterly performance and fiscal report to the Department concerning the use of the funding received.

6. As used in this section, "medical discount plan" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 695H.050.

Sec. 8. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

