

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to child welfare; authorizing the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to create an interagency committee to evaluate the child welfare system; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

This bill authorizes the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to create an interagency committee to review the child welfare system and make recommendations for changes in the system. This bill further authorizes such an interagency committee to submit one request for the preparation of a bill draft directly to the Legislative Counsel by September 1 of an even-numbered year. This bill also requires such an interagency committee to prepare a written report to be submitted to the Legislature.

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

Section 1. Chapter 432B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services may create an interagency committee to evaluate the child welfare system in this State. Any such evaluation must include, without limitation, a review of state laws to ensure that the state laws comply with federal law and to ensure that the state laws reflect the current practices of each agency which provides child welfare services and others involved in the child welfare system.

2. The Director may appoint as many members to the interagency committee as he deems appropriate except that the members of such a committee must include, without limitation, at least one person to represent:

(a) Each agency which provides child welfare services;

(b) The Department of Education;

(c) The juvenile justice system;

(d) Law enforcement; and

(e) Providers of treatment or services for persons in the child welfare system.

3. The interagency committee created pursuant to subsection 1 may directly request the Legislative Counsel and the Legal Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau to prepare one legislative measure for a regular legislative session if it determines that changes in legislation are necessary. Any such request must be submitted to the Legislative Counsel on or before September 1



preceding the commencement of a regular session of the Legislature. Upon completion of the proposed legislation, the Legislative Counsel shall transmit any legislative measure prepared pursuant to this subsection to the appropriate standing committee of the Assembly or Senate within the first week of the next regular legislative session for introduction.

4. The interagency committee created pursuant to subsection 1 shall, on or before January 1 of each odd-numbered year after it is created, submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau a written report for transmittal to the Chairmen of the Assembly and Senate Standing Committees on Judiciary, the Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Education.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2009.

20 ~~~~~ 09

