

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5—Senator Cegavske

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study concerning the laws of this State governing the protection of children.

WHEREAS, Current national standards encourage the provision of child and family services which focus on the preservation of the family while ensuring the safe protection of children; and

WHEREAS, Current child welfare practices include the implementation of a comprehensive and systematic method for family-centered support and intervention by agencies which provide child welfare services; and

WHEREAS, During the 2007-2008 interim, the Legislative Commission created a Subcommittee to Study the Placement of Children in Foster Care, which recommended a comprehensive review of the laws set forth in chapter 432B of NRS governing the protection of children in this State; and

WHEREAS, The laws governing the protection of children in this State were largely enacted in the 1980s and have not been systematically reviewed since being enacted; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature hereby recognizes the need for a review of the system for the protection of children to ensure that the system and relevant laws of this State are consistent with current child welfare practices, allow for the implementation of improvements to the system and standardize the criteria for the placement of children into foster care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to appoint a committee composed of three members of the Senate and three members of the Assembly, one of whom must be appointed as Chair of the committee, to conduct an interim study of the system and laws governing the protection of children in this State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee should solicit the input and recommendations of persons and entities concerned with the system of child welfare, including, without limitation, children and families who are provided services by child welfare agencies and any agencies and organizations which provide child welfare and related services in this State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee shall recommend such action as may be necessary to provide:



1. Clear standards for the protection of children in this State, including, without limitation, reviewing the definition of “abuse or neglect of a child” to ensure it conforms with such standards; and

2. For the effective and efficient implementation of strategies to preserve and build safe families; and be it further

RESOLVED, That any recommended legislation proposed by the committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the Senate and a majority of the members of the Assembly appointed to the committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission shall submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the 77th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

