

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11—COMMITTEE
ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

JUNE 2, 2017

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Urges the Legislative Commission to take certain actions to provide additional services in the Legislative Building for persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired. (BDR R-1229)

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging the Legislative Commission to take certain actions to provide additional services in the Legislative Building for persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired.

1 WHEREAS, Persons who are differently abled make up a
2 significant part of the population of this State; and

3 WHEREAS, Persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing or
4 speech impaired contribute significantly to the general welfare of
5 the people of this State; and

6 WHEREAS, Assisting persons who are blind, deaf, hard of
7 hearing or speech impaired to communicate effectively is necessary
8 to maximize such contributions and allow such persons to achieve
9 equality in education, employment and socialization; and

10 WHEREAS, Services that persons who are blind, deaf, hard of
11 hearing or speech impaired receive from state and local
12 governmental agencies help them communicate effectively,
13 maximizing their contributions and allowing them to achieve greater
14 equality; and

15 WHEREAS, Persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing or
16 speech impaired need the ability to communicate effectively with
17 state and local governmental entities to ensure that such persons
18 receive services that are helpful to them in a manner that ensures
19 their dignity and equality; and



1 WHEREAS, Persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing or
2 speech impaired often have difficulties participating in the
3 legislative process; and

4 WHEREAS, The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42
5 U.S.C. §§ 12101, requires that no individual with a disability shall,
6 by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be
7 denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of a public
8 entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity; and

9 WHEREAS, A state government is required under the Americans
10 With Disabilities Act of 1990 to make reasonable modifications in
11 policies, practices and procedures that deny equal access to
12 individuals with disabilities; and

13 WHEREAS, A person with a disability, including, without
14 limitation, a person who is blind, deaf, hard of hearing or speech
15 impaired and who is unable because of his or her disability to obtain
16 equal access to the services, programs and activities of a state
17 government may bring a lawsuit to enforce their rights and may be
18 awarded attorney's fees as well, resulting in costly litigation for the
19 state government; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
21 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Committee on
22 Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special Needs is hereby
23 directed to study and make recommendations to the Legislative
24 Commission regarding the manner in which the Legislature may
25 make the Legislative Building and legislative proceedings more
26 accessible to persons who are blind, deaf, hard of hearing and
27 speech impaired; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission is hereby urged to:

29 1. Consider such recommendations from the Legislative
30 Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special
31 Needs made pursuant to this resolution; and

32 2. Direct the Legislative Counsel Bureau to adopt as soon as
33 possible any such recommendations and other protocols that the
34 Legislative Commission deems appropriate, including, without
35 limitation:

36 (a) Providing closed captioning services for all legislative
37 hearings and floor sessions;

38 (b) Making reasonable accommodations to provide interpreters
39 for those who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired;

40 (c) Developing and providing auxiliary aids and services for
41 those who are blind or who have low or limited vision; and

42 (d) Outfitting the Legislative Building in ways that increase
43 accessibility and civic engagement for persons who are blind, deaf,
44 hard of hearing or speech impaired; and be it further



1 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission is hereby
2 authorized to approve expenditures of not more than \$2,000,000
3 from the Legislative Fund created by NRS 218A.150 to allow the
4 Legislative Counsel Bureau to implement as many
5 recommendations and protocols provided in this resolution as
6 possible before the 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Counsel Bureau prepare and
9 submit a report to the 80th Session of the Legislature regarding the
10 recommendations and protocols that were adopted and implemented
11 and identifying the effect of such adoption and implementation.

