SENATE BILL NO. 317—SENATORS SCHEIBLE, SPEARMAN, DONATE, NEAL, D. HARRIS; DALY, LANGE, OHRENSCHALL AND PAZINA

MARCH 20, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Establishes provisions relating to resources for persons experiencing homelessness. (BDR 38-981)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public welfare; authorizing a provider of homeless services to authorize the use of the provider's address as a temporary mailing address by a person experiencing homelessness for certain purposes; requiring the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services to publish a list of such providers; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide certain services to persons who are transient, at imminent risk of homelessness or homeless. (NRS 422A.680) **Section 7** of this bill authorizes a provider of homeless services to authorize a person experiencing homelessness to utilize the provider's address as a temporary mailing address, if that person is a Nevada resident receiving other services from the provider. A person authorized to use a temporary mailing address under section 7 may use that temporary mailing address for various purposes, including applying for public assistance, enrolling a family member in school, enrolling in an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education, obtaining housing and seeking or retaining employment. Section 7 requires a provider of homeless services to notify the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services within 30 days after authorizing a person experiencing homelessness to use the provider's address as that person's temporary address. Finally, section 7 requires the Division, within the limits of legislative appropriation, to publish on the Internet website maintained by the Division a list of providers of homeless services that authorize a person experiencing homelessness to use the provider's address as that person's temporary mailing address.

Section 8 of this bill authorizes the Administrator of the Division to adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of **sections 2-8** of this bill.





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20 21 22 23 **Sections 3-6** of this bill define terms relating to the provision of a temporary address for a person experiencing homelessness.

Section 1 of this bill makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **sections 2-8** in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

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

- **Section 1.** Chapter 422A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 2. As used in sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 to 6, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - Sec. 3. "Nevada resident" means a person who has:
 - 1. Actually resided in this State for at least 6 months; or
- A valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles of this State, other than such an identification card which indicates that the person is a seasonal resident.
- Sec. 4. "Person experiencing homelessness" means a person who is transient, at imminent risk of homelessness or homeless.
- Sec. 5. "Provider of homeless services" organization that:
- 1. Is a governmental entity or is exempt from taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 $U.S.C. \S 501(c)(3);$
 - 2. Operates in this State; and
- *3*. Primarily provides services to persons experiencing homelessness.
- Sec. 6. "Temporary mailing address" means a mailing address which a person experiencing homelessness is authorized to use pursuant to section 7 of this act.
 - Sec. 7. 1. A provider of homeless services may authorize a person to use the provider's address as that person's temporary mailing address for a period of time not to exceed 180 days if that person is:
 - (a) A Nevada resident;
 - (b) A person in crisis; and
 - (c) Receiving services from the provider of homeless services.
- 34 2. A person experiencing homelessness may use a temporary 35 mailing address to:
 - (a) Apply for public assistance;



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- (b) Enroll a family member in a school or other public educational facility;
- (c) Enroll in an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education;
- (d) Obtain permanent or temporary housing, including, without limitation, supportive housing;
 - (e) Seek or retain employment; or

- (f) Facilitate any other purpose prescribed by the Administrator of the Division.
- 3. A provider of homeless services that authorizes a person experiencing homelessness to use the provider's address as a temporary mailing address shall notify the Division within 30 days after the authorization is given.
- 4. Within the limits of legislative appropriation, the Division shall publish a list of all the providers of homeless services that authorize a person experiencing homelessness to use the provider's address as the person's temporary mailing address on an Internet website maintained by the Division.
- Sec. 8. The Administrator may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act.
- **Sec. 9.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 1 to 8, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.





