

## MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

Name of Organization: Legislative Committee on Health Care  
(*Nevada Revised Statutes 439B.200*)

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, June 6, 2000  
9:30 a.m.

Place of Meeting: Legislative Building  
Room 3138  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada

Note: Some members of the committee may be attending the meeting and other persons may observe the meeting and provide testimony, through a simultaneous video conference conducted at the following location:

Grant Sawyer State Office Building  
Room 4401  
555 East Washington Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada

*If you cannot attend the meeting, you can listen to it live over the Internet. The address for the Legislative Web site is <http://www.leg.state.nv.us>. For audio broadcasts, click on the link "Listen to Meetings Live on the Internet."*

## AGENDA

- I. Opening Remarks  
Assemblywoman Ellen M. Koivisto, Chairman
- \*II. Approval of Minutes of Meetings Held on March 7, 2000, and April 18, 2000
- \*III. Presentation Concerning the Proposed Establishment of a School of Pharmacy at the University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM)  
Dr. David Westfall, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor  
of Pharmacology, UNSOM
- \*IV. Update Concerning the Nevada Check-Up Program  
John Yacenda, M.P.H., Ph.D., Deputy Director, Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- \*V. Presentation Concerning Work Place Safety, Particularly as it Relates to "Needle Sticks," for Nurses and Other Health Care Workers

Lisa M. Black, R.N., B.S.N., American Nurses Association Delegate, and Member, Nevada Nurses Association

- \*VI. Presentations Concerning Efforts to Prevent a Person's Loss of Medicaid Coverage As it Relates to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, and Activities Concerning Placing Eligibility Workers at Locations other than Welfare District Offices  
Michael J. Willden, Administrator, Welfare Division, DHR  
Roger Volker, Executive Director, Great Basin Primary Care Association
- \*VII. Presentation and Consideration of Proposed Funding for the Treatment of Breast and Cervical Cancer for Women in Underserved Areas of Nevada, and Proposed Funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers That Provide Services to Persons Who Do Not Have Health Insurance  
Dr. Michael Rodolico, Executive Director, Health Access Washoe County, and President, Great Basin Primary Care Association  
Roger Volker, Executive Director, Great Basin Primary Care Association
- \*VIII. Presentation and Recommendations Concerning Medicaid Billing, Reimbursement, and Enforcement Issues and Costs As They Affect Certain Nursing Home Facilities In Nevada  
Daniel Kearns, Regional Vice President, Integrated Health Systems, Inc.  
Tom Hathaway, Administrator, Washoe Care Center, Reno
- IX. Public Testimony, Including Testimony Related to Items on the Agenda and Recommendations for Consideration in the Work Session Document
- \*X. Work Session – Discussion and Action on Final Recommendations (See Attached “Work Session Document” for a Summary of Proposals)
- XI. Adjournment

\*Denotes items on which the committee may take action.

Note: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Research Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, in writing, at the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747, or call Kennedy at (775) 684-6825 as soon as possible.

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following Carson City, Nevada, locations: Blasdel Building, 209 East Musser Street; Capitol Press Corps, Basement, Capitol Building; City Hall, 201 North Carson Street; Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street; and Nevada State Library, 100 Stewart Street. Notice of this meeting was faxed for posting to the following Las Vegas, Nevada, locations: Clark County Office, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; and Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue.

## **WORK SESSION DOCUMENT** **June 6, 2000**

### **Legislative Committee on Health Care** **(Nevada Revised Statutes 439B.200)**

This Work Session Document was prepared by staff of the Legislative Committee on Health Care. It contains a summary of recommendations for legislation that will be considered by members of the committee at the June 6, 2000, meeting. Items with an asterisk (\*) include an appropriation for which estimates may be available at the June 6 meeting.

1. **Pediatric Diabetes and Endocrinology Center, University of Nevada School of Medicine:**

Appropriate from the State General Fund to the University of Nevada School of Medicine the following amounts for the continued operations of the program administered by the Pediatric Diabetes and Endocrinology Center:

For the fiscal year 2001-2002: \$379,500

For the fiscal year 2002-2003: \$379,500

The sums appropriated should be available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2003, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

The money appropriated by this measure must be used to: (a) pay the salaries of professional and support personnel on the multidisciplinary team of the Pediatric Diabetes and Endocrinology Center, including, without limitation, pediatric endocrinologists, licensed clinical social workers, exercise physiologists, psychologists, health analysts, biostatisticians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, and registered dietitians; (b) purchase equipment; and (c) fund general operational costs, including travel expenses.

The Center must continue the activities of the advisory board, which consists of eight members of the executive committee of the Nevada Diabetes Council and three additional members who are medical and allied health professionals in the field of diabetes to provide advice to the Pediatric Diabetes and Endocrinology Center regarding the collaboration between the various state agencies, focusing primarily on the care and treatment of children with diabetes.

The Center must ensure that a data analysis is conducted to evaluate the financial situation of the program administered by the center and the medical results of patients who receive care under the program. The advisory board shall monitor and review the data analysis and provide advice based on the results of the analysis.

(Proposed by Dr. Bernard Feldman at the April 18, 2000, meeting of the committee. See Dr. Feldman's testimony at Tab A.)

## 2. **Medicaid Enhancements and New Programs:**

- A. **Diabetes care:** Require the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to establish podiatry services as a Medicaid benefit. Further, require the division to pay for insulin pump therapy for patients whose physicians have indicated that such treatment is medically necessary for the patient.

Appropriate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the division for the initial establishment of this requirement.\*

(Proposed by Mylan Hawkins, Executive Director, Nevada Diabetes Association for Children and Adults. See supporting materials at Tab B.)

- B. **Presumptive eligibility:** Require the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy and the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources, to allow for presumptive eligibility determinations by eligible health care providers for the Medicaid and the Nevada Check-Up Programs. Such funding shall be used for administrative and medical costs associated with these determinations. Administrative costs include the expenses that are associated with training eligible health care providers to make presumptive eligibility determinations. Medical costs shall include expenses that are incurred for services provided to persons who were subsequently determined to be ineligible for these programs.

Appropriate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the division for the initial establishment of this requirement.\*

(Proposed by Jon Sasser, Legal Services Representative; Bobbi Gang, Lobbyist, Nevada Women's Lobby; and Roger Volker, Executive Director, Great Basin Primary Care Association.)

- C. **Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999:** Require the Division of Health Care

Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to establish the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act to allow disabled Nevadans who receive Medicaid services to be employed.

Appropriate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the division for the initial establishment of this requirement.\*

(Proposed by Jon Sasser; John Chambers, Chairman, Nevada Forum on Disability; and Jack Mayes, Executive Director, Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center, Inc. See proposed language at Tab C, which was provided by Mr. Chambers.)

- D. Cost-based reimbursement: Require the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to allow the division to pay rural hospitals at their cost for providing care to Medicaid patients.

Appropriate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the division for the initial establishment of this requirement.\*

(Proposed by Grant Asay, President, Nevada Rural Hospital Project.)

- E. Assets test: Require the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to eliminate the assets test as a requirement for eligibility for pregnant women and children in the Medicaid Program.

Appropriate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the division for the initial establishment of this requirement.\*

(Proposed by Jon Sasser, Bobbi Gang, and Roger Volker.)

### 3. **Medicaid Services and Other Issues:**

- A. Waiting lists: Encourage, by resolution, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to eliminate the waiting lists for existing Medicaid waiver programs, including the Community Home-based Initiatives Program, the Physically Disabled Waiver Program, and the Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded Waiver, by seeking funding from the Nevada Legislature for the 2003-2004 biennium.

(Proposed by Jon Sasser and Jack Mayes.)

- B. Personal care assistance: Encourage, by resolution, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to provide effective personal care assistant services and personal care assistant for the disabled services pursuant to suggestions that have been provided to the division during the course of public hearings concerning regulations that govern these services.

(Proposed by Jon Sasser and Jack Mayes.)

### 4. **Nevada Check-Up Program:**

Encourage, by resolution, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Department of Human Resources, to access the total amount of federal funding that is available to the state to provide health insurance coverage to children through the Nevada Check-Up Program by: (a) hiring a sufficient number of personnel to process applications for the Nevada Check-Up Program; (b) revising the division's existing outreach efforts for the program; (c) expanding the division's marketing campaign; and (d) eliminating the six-month waiting period between a child's loss of health insurance coverage and eligibility for coverage by the Nevada Check-Up Program.

(Proposed by Jon Sasser and Bobbi Gang.)

### 5. **Medicaid and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program:**

Encourage, by resolution, the Welfare Division, Department of Human Resources, to comply with federal

directives to ensure that persons who lose cash assistance, pursuant to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, do not lose Medicaid coverage. Further, encourage the division to locate and assist persons who have lost such coverage for the purpose of reestablishing the coverage.

(Proposed by Jon Sasser.)

**6. Institutionalization of Persons Who Are Disabled:**

Encourage, by resolution, the Department of Human Resources, to take all reasonable steps to comply with the *Olmstead v. L.C. ex rel. Zimring*, 119 S.Ct. 2176 (1999), court decision for the purpose of ensuring that a person who is disabled is not institutionalized if his physician specifies that his condition does not require institutional placement.

(Proposed by Jon Sasser and Jack Mayes.)

**7. Kids Count Project:**

Require the Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, to compile primary data concerning the number of children in Nevada who do not have health insurance coverage and to publish the *Kids Count Databook*. If feasible, data in the book should reflect whether programs that currently provide services to children in Nevada are able to serve all children who are eligible for such services. For those programs that are not able to provide services to all children who are eligible for such services, data reported in the book should illustrate the number of children who are in this category.

Appropriate \$150,000 for each year of the biennium to the Center for Business and Economic Research for salaries, research, and publication costs.

(Proposed by Dr. R. Keith Schwer, Executive Director, Center for Business and Economic Research, UNLV.)

**8. Autism:**

Establish the Commission on Autism within the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, Department of Human Resources. The commission will establish two Autism Centers for Excellence, and it will assess current services relating to the treatment of autism in Nevada. The commission will have the authority to make programmatic changes in the delivery of current programs that are administered by the Departments of Education and Human Resources. The commission will have the authority to request the drafting of bills to each session of the Nevada Legislature for purposes of establishing new services or restructuring existing programs.

Appropriate \$700,000 to the division for the establishment of the Commission and the two centers.

(Proposed by Florence LaRoy, Training Services Director, Nevada Parents Empowering Parents, Inc. See Tab D for more details about this proposal.)

**9. Medical Errors:**

The Nevada Legislature must establish an interim committee to develop a “mandatory health care errors reporting system.” The committee will be authorized to request one bill draft request, which seeks to establish the reporting system. The work of the subcommittee shall be completed by June 30, 2002.

(Proposed by Assemblywoman Ellen M. Koivisto, Chairman, Legislative Committee on Health Care. See Tab E for more details about this proposal.)