

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE

SIXTY-FIRST SESSION
NEVADA STATE LEGISLATURE
FEBRUARY 11, 1981

The Senate Committee on Finance was called to order by Chairman Floyd R. Lamb, at 8 a.m., Wednesday, February 11, 1981, in Room 231 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator James I. Gibson, Vice Chairman
Senator Eugene V. Echols
Senator Lawrence E. Jacobsen
Senator Thomas R.C. Wilson
Senator Clifford E. McCorkle
Senator Norman D. Glaser

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald Sparks, Chief Fiscal Analyst
Dan Miles, Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Candace Chaney, Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Norma Woolverton, Rehabilitation Division
Allen Frenzel, " "
John Griffin " "
Roy Dowling " "
Maynard Yasmer " "
Merv Flander " "
Lucille Hall " "
Jack Penman " "
Rick Kuhlmeier, Nevada Council of the Blind
Kathleen Olson, GCEH, Rehabilitation Division

Del Frost, Administrator, State Rehabilitation Department, discussed the budget he was presenting, the Rehabilitation Administration Budget. The Administration Budget was responsible for providing all of the support services and the programs that are administered under the law. This included 15 budget accounts which they intend to reduce to 13 in 1982. They administer programs through 26 offices which they intend to reduce to 24 in 1982 throughout the State with a total personnel complement of 227.5 which they intend to reduce to 201.50 in 1982 for a net reduction of 21 state/federally funded positions and five 100 percent federally funded positions. They would also be asking for an increase of one and one quarter positions within two different budget accounts.

Their office provided a full range of administrative support services to the bureaus such as personnel training, personnel work, program planning, research and program evaluations and all fiscal support services. The administration is directly responsible for all the programs and directly supervises all the chiefs and program supervisors. With their budget account, they were going to delete two positions, a senior account clerk position which was based on approval by the legislature of legislation which would consolidate the Bureau of Services to the Blind and the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation.

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Another position that was to be deleted would be the Public Service Intern position. This is a position that works in the program planning and evaluation section.

Senator Jacobsen asked what contract services accounted for. Maynard Yasmer, Chief of Staff Services for Rehabilitation Services, stated the other contract services include the rental agreements for the MCST machines, maintenance agreements; it is all equipment.

Senator Jacobsen stated, I guess one other question that always concerns me is training. I do not know what that training amounts to, and every budget has it.

Del Frost responded, this particular budget was for the training of the staff in this particular budget account so they could stay current with federal regulations. It was training that was required by the federal government. Eighty percent was required by the federal government and 20 percent was training we required but it all has to do with tuitions and travel expenses.

Senator Jacobsen asked if it was all in-house training and Mr. Frost replied no, ususally it was training that was conducted by someone that was contracted by the Federal government.

Senator McCorkle said he had heard that the State Rehabilitation Department had given a priority to satisfy federal regulations rather than delivering service.

Mr. Frost responded, they have been more successful in challenging federal regulations. They have refused to carry out some of the redundant exercises that they require and what he was saying was exactly the opposite. The State Rehabilitation Department has been requested to visit other states to consult with them on how to bring their programs up to our level.

Mr. Frost noted that once the legislature goes home then it was up to the staff to write regulations of what they really intend and in the federal government, the federal staff write the regulations which are intended to tell the state agencies how to implement the programs so they meet the intent of Congress. It has now gotten out of hand and the staff have tended to write more into the regulations than Congress ever intended in the law which forces people in his position to challenge them.

Senator McCorkle stated he suspected they were approaching the time where the benefit derived from federal funds was not worth accepting the funds. He asked, was there an alternative method of relieving this burden.

Mr. Frost responded he did not really think so. He felt they should contract out everything they could as things could be done more competitively and at less cost.

Senator Glaser stated the governor's task force has recommended restructuring some of the divisions within the State Rehabilitation Department and the Services to the Blind and asked Mr. Frost to respond.

Mr. Frost stated he would speak more on this topic when they discussed the Services to the Blind.

Senator Echols asked Mr. Frost if the effort that was being put into the State Rehabilitation Department audits really accomplished anything and he asked for specifics. When the audit teams came in they had to have staff people working with them and showing them what they were doing, he stated.

Mr. Frost responded yes, and it is a time consuming thing but they

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have managed to keep this down as it requires three to five days a year per program. He felt they were making substantial progress with the regional office in terms of injecting themselves into the program and the federal government does not interfere with the programs.

Senator Jacobsen asked why the Buildings and Grounds Services were being discontinued in one category and started in another.

Ms. Nancy Wall responded that this was a technical thing to correct the general ledger number.

Vocational Rehabilitation (Pg. 375).

Mr. Frost explained that the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation returns disabled people to productive employment. They provide a service which will remove the disability or reduce it to the point where they can become employed and pay back the costs of the services provided them.

After rehabilitation and return to work, the 1054 individuals rehabilitated in 1980 will earn \$5,423,000 more in their first year of employment which is a 171% increase than they earned in the year prior to their application for services. Using a 20% tax base those same individuals will pay back \$1,084,00 in state and federal taxes the first year after rehabilitation and this meant they would pay back every cent spent on them within three years after their rehabilitation. In addition, 38 of these individuals were removed from the public assistance rolls for an annual savings of \$68,000.

In 1980 they served 5552 people and were estimating they would meet that same production this year. They also rehabilitated 1050.

Senator Wilson asked how they might stretch the dollar farther. How would they administer if there was a reduction; would they turn people away at the door; would they reduce services.

Mr. Frost stated yes, they would. They have never done this before but they would do it in the next biennial period. A waiting list would be started.

Senator Wilson asked is the problem was the fiscal extent to which they could put the financial resources they have in their budget or was the problem how they have to apply the resources under federal regulations.

Mr. Frost stated it was primarily the dollar and the resources they have to work with. They will try to come within the 7% of their present production goals.

Senator McCorkle asked if there was a way that the State Rehabilitation Department could use alternative delivery systems in using state money if they did not conform to federal standards.

Mr. Frost stated if he was talking about dollars and programs, the program of rehabilitating handicapped people had been in existence 60 years and they have a system that would be very costly to try and duplicate. What they were dealing with was a medically based program which are high cost programs.

Senator Wilson commented on the Industrial Rehabilitation Counseling being used in California. He stated a pilot project was being administered throughout the state. One was a system of exposing a limited number of handicapped high school children to a job environment for a five week period. The purpose was to take these children and show

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them what they could do despite their handicap. These children would not require placement in an institutional relocation process, they could be placed directly in the businesses when given the right exposure potential and that was the kind of innovation that could be done with innovative service money.

Mr. Frost stated they were doing that to a degree. It was one of the major emphasis of the Governor's committee on employment of the handicapped. Mr. Frost commented that in order for them to do that they would be asking for additional positions to set up that kind of program.

Senator Wilson stated that was why he asked that question, for exactly that reason. He was trying to get Mr. Frost to offer some innovation as the legislature needed alternatives for the high cost. Mr. Frost agreed but stated one of their biggest problems was trying to hire qualified clerical personnel who could spell, type and file which was misleading in regard to turnover rates.

Senator Wilson asked if that kind of system was done privately with guidance from the State Vocational Rehabilitation Department. Mr. Frost responded it was done by Goodwill Industries. They get state grants or federal grants under the California Rehabilitation Agency and are subsidized by several big corporations.

Senator Wilson asked what would be the cost and suggested Mr. Frost set it up.

Mr. Frost stated developmental costs would include a full time instructor, equipment, and cost approximately \$50,000 to set it up. Senator Wilson requested Mr. Frost send him a proposal to set up the project.

Senator Glaser asked Mr. Frost with the present mood in Washington, based on the experience he had there recently, what was the prognosis of the continuation of the federal funds for this program.

Mr. Frost stated he felt it looked good for a maintenance of effort type of approach. When he finalized the work on the transition team they exempted this program based on their arguments from the 2% mandatory cut that they were going to apply to all programs.

Senator Wilson asked what Mr. Frost's experience with the Southern Nevada Rehabilitation Center had been.

Mr. Frost stated, since the last legislative session he spent a considerable amount of time working with the chairman of the Nevada Industrial Commission. They went through a process of trying to extract information and find out what exactly was going on there. It was almost impossible to really figure out what kind of programs they offered. Under Joe Nusbaum things have really changed and they have had full cooperation.

Mr. Frost went on to say that there is such a drastic difference in the rehabilitation process, especially in being extremely limited in how many of their people Vocational Rehabilitation could take, and they are also limited in what kinds of people they could refer to the Industrial Commission Center because they have a limited range of services that they could provide. They found it less expensive to purchase these services in the community rather than in the Center.

Senator Wilson stated that was what he wanted to find out, and Mr. Frost said they shop for services and could buy the unit rather than the whole thing.

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Mr. Frost stated they will close the offices in West Las Vegas, Hawthorne and the learning laboratories in Reno and Las Vegas and refer their clients back to community colleges and the adult basic schools. This deletion will be a cost saving of \$474,000 with a total deletion of 13 positions.

Mr. Frost stated the case service budget on page 379 will be \$187,000 short of what has been recommended by the Governor and that was a critical problem and will effect the production levels they wish to achieve. It was a very critical problem and he felt they would be back to Interim Finance requesting the funds if the federal funds did not materialize.

Senator Jacobsen asked what other alternatives they had and Mr. Frost stated they did not have any other than cut the number of people served.

Senator Glaser stated it had been brought to his attention that one position was being cut out of Hawthorne left a big void in the central part of state; how did they propose servicing that area.

Mr. Frost stated they did not plan on servicing it as well as when they had the office there. They will serve it out of the Fallon office and Ely office through an overlap. That was just part of the cut they would have to absorb under the new budget.

Senator McCorkel asked, considering the decrease in employees, what was the reason for the increase in rent.

Mr. Frost stated they would have to ask the Budget Division and Building and Grounds. He stated they were not expanding in space at all, it was just a rate cost and said they were reducing space although the cost of rent per square foot was increasing.

Senator Wilson requested Mr. Frost to touch on contract services.

Mr. Frost said this was a line item they purchased, dental examinations, medical consultations and examinations.

Senator Gibson called upon Mr. Harry Poe, Chairman of the Mineral County Commissioners to speak at this time. (See Exhibit C.)

Senator Gibson asked Mr. Frost if most of his clients were primarily industrial and Mr. Frost stated no, those people were handled by the Nevada Industrial Commission (NIC).

Senator Jacobsen asked for the average of job openings that were available in the four counties.

Mr. Poe stated Tonopah could not accommodate the people that are moving into the area for work now and felt the area would continue its growth.

Senator Echols asked Mr. Poe to clarify the point of the input of new people in Tonopah. Mr. Poe stated the people could not be accommodated properly as housing was very limited.

Senator Jacobsen asked why, when the positions were decreasing, was the training increasing. Mr. Frost stated that was based on the fact they had over 100% increase in airfares and other per diem costs had gone up. They were projecting what they felt the cost would be when the people traveled to the training sessions.

Senator Gibson asked what would happen if the training money was reallocated to services. Mr. Frost stated it could not be because it was 90% federal funded and was provided to meet federal requirements for training.

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Social Services (Pg. 381).

Mr. Frost stated it was requested at the Interim Finance Committee to delete this budget and delete the program which has been done, and the people have been reassigned. The people were moved over to the basic program in working with welfare cases.

Homebound Industries (Pg. 393).

Mr. Frost stated the program was a pilot program that was started with 100% federal funding. The intent was to determine the feasibility of creating projects for clients who were bound in their homes because of their disability. At the end of three years it was determined it was not feasible to operate the program on a cost effective basis in terms of the benefits derived. This program was then moved over to the Rehabilitation Facilities which leads us to the next item.

Rehabilitation Facilities (Pg. 391).

Mr. Frost stated they require clients to earn enough money through their contract work to pick up the client payroll costs and the contract related equipment needs as well as the purchase of materials and supplies. The types of projects they involve themselves with are assembly of ball point pens, mailing and stuffing envelopes, tag designs, telephone assembly work. This provided them with real work situations, variety and earned income to offset costs. It was their plan to attempt to get the program to a self-supporting concept.

Independent Living (Pg. 392).

Mr. Frost said at the last legislative session, \$50,000 was appropriated to match the program. The federal funds had not materialized so he was asking if it would be possible for the State Rehabilitation Department to come back to Interim Finance and present it at that time.

Services to the Blind (Pg. 383).

Mr. Frost related the program was the branch of the State Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Program that served the blind and visually impaired. It was not strictly a vocationally oriented program and, it did have its basic primary emphasis but, it also provided some social support services for blind or severely impaired clients. Using a 20% tax rate, 153 individuals will pay \$52,000 more in state and federal taxes the first year of rehabilitation and six will be removed from state public assistance saving \$19,000 annually for a total tax impact of \$71,000 per year. The Services to the Blind Bureau administers special service programs and during the next biennium they are proposing to delete the diabetic education program which has been funded in the past as they felt their experience allowed them to pickup that costs from individual service costs. They are going to reduce the costs of the recreation program from \$46,000 to \$30,000 per year as a statewide project. They will have a recreational therapist who will work with the city and county recreation departments to try to get them to expand their recreation services for handicapped people.

He added that within this budget account there are positions that were being recommended for deletion which were directly related to legislation which would be introduced to consolidate the bureau into the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. If that legislation passes they will be deleting three district manager positions from the budget and one clerical position as a result of the reorganization. In addition, they were recommending the deletion of one recreation therapist position and recommending that they transfer the salary costs for one of the supervisors into the Business Enterprise Contingency fund account, Budget Account No. 3255. Mr. Frost said they felt they could transfer the cost of one of those positions into the contingency fund and still be able to meet their goal of building one new stand per year and remodeling one stand per year.

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Senator Gibson asked if they did away with the division, what did they plan on doing with the Chief of the Bureau.

Mr. Frost stated what the legislation would propose was the creation of an Office of Services for the Blind and the chief would perform the role of being an advocate for the blind and severely disabled, supervise the business enterprise program, provide ongoing training to the Vocational Rehabilitation staff throughout the state and maintain the vital elements of service they now have.

Senator Echols asked Mr. Frost just what kind of special skills was he speaking of and Mr. Frost stated, that when working with a client who has an interruption of his sensory system, it is dealing with a problem that is quite unique. It takes a person who is skilled in working with those people, one who understands the frustrations and can feel what they feel.

Senator Jacobsen asked how vital the recreational aspect was and Mr. Frost stated they primarily use that program for very severely disabled clients. If they are not mobile they cannot do anything else and they do not have any confidence in themselves. Senator Jacobsen asked about the rural areas and the senior citizens utilizing the county recreational facilities. Mr. Frost stated the people in this program are the extremely severely disabled and ones who would not be able to benefit from the recreational program as they need individual help and that is not feasible.

Senator Glaser asked about in-state travel and Mr. Frost stated they were deleting an administrative position but the budget account was primarily for counselors who serve the clients and they would move over to the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. Since the budget was contingent upon approval of legislation they went forward with the budget to try and clarify what was contingent on its passage.

Senator Glaser asked if the legislation of these budgets did not pass, which of the positions would be put back in.

Mr. Frost stated the three district managers and the one clerical. There was no way they could administer the bureau in accordance with the law without those positions.

Senator Gibson called for further questions from the committee, there being none he called upon Mr. Kuhlmeier from the State Organization of the Blind. Mr. Kuhlmeier is a volunteer lobbyist for the Nevada Council of the Blind, and state president of that organization.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that the Nevada Council of the Blind is comprised of 65% visually impaired individuals and the rest of the membership are friends of the blind. They first heard of the moving of the Bureau last October and they have been working since to oppose that merger. One of the principal items they were concerned with between the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Bureau of Services to the Blind, was its consumers. They find a very distinct difference in the philosophies of the two. The Bureau of the Services to the Blind takes in a client, assesses his needs and spends monies which can be obtained from the various accounts which in turn puts the client back into the work force and makes them independent. The Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation has the philosophy that they will obtain the most exposure possible to obtain a maximum number of closures possible. They felt with the mergery they would be put into the back row as far as service and help. The past history, they felt, showed some control of the Bureau of Services to the Blind that they did not like to see. The outreach program that the Bureau of Services to the Blind maintained was taken away from it in 1979 and given to the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. They felt that the severely visually impaired who are expensive and difficult to rehabilitation would be left out if the Bureau of Services to the Blind was merged with the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation.

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He further commented that individuals who were handicapped, who had psychological problems, were being sent to the Division of Mental Health and Mental Retardation for psychological counseling and, that the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation was taking successful closures on these individuals. They believed if the district managers were eliminated from the Bureau of Services to the Blind, no longer would there be a well qualified individual who would be able to deal with other groups in the community and maintain the programs that have been set up over the years.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated that the Nevada Council of the Blind asked that a separate independent state division be set up, independent of the Rehabilitation Division, reporting to the head of the Department of Human Resources. They felt there were financial advantages:

1. Elimination of the utilization of central support services.
2. Elimination of the agency personnel office for hiring.
3. Eliminate the utilization of the present computer services.
4. Eliminate the excessive central office space.
5. Keep the diabetic funds out.
6. Cancel the position of the staff of the Recreation Program in Northern Nevada.

Mr. Kuhlmeier asked that the deaf be included in the new service as they were in need.

Senator Wilson commented on the reference Mr. Kuhlmeier made on not being able to have access to certain information and Mr. Kuhlmeier stated they requested since December 15, when he spoke with the Governor personally, that they be provided with copies of the Rehabilitation Division's proposed budget. To date they still did not have copies of that information.

Senator McCorkle asked about the claim that Mr. Frost had padded his success number and asked for his comment.

Mr. Frost stated that was an absolute outright falsehood. He stated that anyone who stated that did not know what they were talking about and he invited them to come and look at every case and stated they have a better record on that than anyone in the country.

Senator McCorkle stated the files are confidential so how could they be checked. Mr. Frost stated they were bound by federal and state laws not to discuss those files. He stated there was no way padding could be done as the federal auditors would pick it up. They are authorized to open the files and they have the computer pull the files at random and they go through hundreds of files and they get a perfect score everytime. Also, they followup with the clients to verify what the files say.

Senator Gibson asked if they were limited in the amount of money that was available for the program, was that the best place to leave the money.

Mr. Kuhlmeier stated the district manager was the person who helped save the state money by keeping outside organizations working with the severely visually impaired and blind to lessen the cost to the state of those caseloads.

Senator Gibson asked Mr. Kuhlmeier if he felt there would not be anyone to do that if the district managers were eliminated and he stated yes.

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Senator McCorkle requested Mr. Kuhlmeier to present a formal proposal on his solution to the division, the structure and alternatives to eliminate the districts. Mr. Kuhlmeier stated he would be happy to do so.

Senator Gibson asked Mr. Frost how would they accommodate what the district managers had been doing.

Mr. Frost stated the two bureaus were duplicating the administrative structure. By eliminating the positions they proposed they were simply getting rid of the duplicated administrators. The Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation District managers would take on the responsibility of supervising the units.

Business Enterprise Program (Pg. 387).

Mr. Frost stated that this program had become very successful in terms of what they had started out to do. This provided a business opportunity for blind clients so they could earn a living from the proceeds of a stand. He stated they have 20 existing facilities and stated the business operation is sound enough that they could absorb the cost of one salary of a supervisor and still be able to build one new stand a year.

Senator Jacobsen asked was it true that the State furnished the area, the electricity and buildings where the stands are located. Mr. Frost said yes.

Senator McCorkle asked about all the income statements. Mr. Frost stated they could give it for overall but they could not release the information for individual stands as they were bound by federal law not to give out that information.

Senator McCorkle asked if they were getting a 2% of the gross profits now and Mr. Frost stated yes, it was a sliding scale kind of formula.

Senator McCorkle asked why not increase the 2% to 3%. Mr. Frost stated they reorganized the schedule with the Blind Vendors Association and it was found to be what was acceptable across the country. This was under the Randolph Sheherd Act, a federal program and they had to stay in compliance within the laws or they could wind up in arbitration.

Bureau of Service to the Blind Social Services Budget (Pg. 389).

Mr. Frost stated the budget was one they operated on a contract basis with the Welfare Agency. Under Welfare Social Service Regulations they were required to provide social services to the blind but for them to do that in the program they would have to duplicate their delivery system, duplicate staff and experience in working with the disabled. So they contract out with us. This was 75% federal and 25% state.

Senator Jacobsen asked where the rural district office was located. Mr. Frost stated it was in Carson City.

Senator Wilson asked what was the reason for the larger agency request from the regular appropriations.

Mr. Frost stated they had a problem with the budget where they had constant problems with Welfare. Welfare, in order to maintain strict adherence to federal laws, were very tough in terms of what they would reimburse and every fourth quarter of the fiscal year they would run out of their state money and would get the money reimbursed from Welfare. The lag in reimbursements was such that they would wind up the fourth quarter of a fiscal year without any money.

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Bureau of Disability and Adjudication (Pg. 395).

This is a 100% federally funded program that they administer under contract with Social Security Bureau of Disability Insurance. The purpose of the program was to adjudicate the claims for Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits and supplemental security income benefits that are forwarded to them from the Social Security District Offices. They must process all of the claims and in 1980 they processed 9026 claims and anticipate that to go up in the future. Through the bureau's adjudicating decisions, 40.3 million dollars in benefits will be awarded annually to disabled Nevadans.

Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse (Pg. 398).

Mr. Frost stated this bureau consisted of 14 positions. It was a monitoring agency in which all of the state and federal monies are funneled out into the programs at the community level. They anticipate they will have service activity in 26 federally and state supported programs throughout the state. They monitor the use of the funds and develop the standards for personnel and for facilities.

He stated in this budget they were recommending the deletion of a statistical clerk, which was 100% state funds, and asking for a 100% federally funded position of a training person to work with the personnel in the community treatment facilities throughout the state. Mr. Frost went on to state that in addition to the deletion of the one statistical clerk position, they were going to move the salary cost for the Education Prevention Coordinator position over to a federal grant and that would reduce the state funding for that salary.

Senator Gibson asked what was the prognosis for this federal money.

Mr. Frost stated it was not very good at all. They were estimating in the budget they would get 80% of the federal funds in the next biennium that they were currently receiving.

Senator Gibson then asked Mr. Frost if they had any way of measuring the effectiveness of the funds and Mr. Frost stated it was most difficult. They have more success in measuring the success of the program in the occupational area than anywhere else. They presently have 29 programs which are working in industry to work with the alcohol problem to save lost time.

Senator McCorkle requested supplemental information in regard to the alcoholism grant and the drug grant; also a listing of which agencies received the grants, how much they received and what percent of their whole budget they received.

Mr. Dick Ham responded that the Department was 40% matched on most of the federal grant programs and they expected to exceed that this year.

Senator McCorkle also asked for a list of the contacts the Drug Prevention Coordinator has made in efforts to establish prevention programs outside the state in the last year or two.

Mr. Frost stated they work with the local community programs.

Developmental Disabilities (Pg. 402).

Mr. Frost stated a developmental disability was a neurological disorder or other types of sensor neurological kinds of disorders and that has been expanded now to any kind of disorder that severely limits the person's capacity to lead an independent life up to age 21.

Mr. John Griffin stated that essentially if the onset of the disability was prior to age 22 and was extremely severe, someone would be classified as developmentally disabled for the purposes of this law. Mr. Frost added it was no longer primarily mental retardation.

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Senator Gibson asked what were extraordinary expenses and Mr. Frost stated they had to have a Developmental Disability Committee and the make-up of that board by law had to be 50% from consumers. He also stated that other governmental services were administrative assessments.

Mr. Frost stated one important point he wished to make was related to another agency. The Department of Commerce received a grant called Protection in Advocacy and it is a \$50,000 grant that comes to the state. The Protection and Advocacy project is one that engages in examining services that are available to clients taken on legal issues and testing agencies to see if they are providing the services as required. The budget has been recommended for \$41,725 the first year and \$50,434 in the second year of the biennium and that money has been recommended to come out of this developmental disabilities grant.

Mr. Frost stated they have been informed by the federal government that they cannot make a distribution as it would be illegal for them to move the funds.

Committee to Hire the Handicapped (Pg. 404).

Mr. Frost stated there were three people in this office, executive director, secretary in Carson City and an assistant to the executive director in Las Vegas. The executive director is Kathy Olson, the assistant is Suzanne Thomas.

He went on to state that these people were primarily involved in working with industry to create jobs for the handicapped. They also engage in a number of activities that are designed to focus the attention on the handicapped and the positive results of hiring the handicapped.

Mr. Frost said that in addition, the office has been required by the Governor to take on another responsibility, that is, become the experts in administering the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. This is the part of the act dealing with reasonable accommodation for handicapped people, the removal of architectural barriers and other barriers. The executive director has to chair and work with a committee made up of representatives from all federally funded state agencies to assist them in developing annual self-evaluation plans to insure that they are in compliance with the act and so they do not jeopardize receipt of federal funds.

Senator Gibson asked how many members were on the committee and Mr. Frost stated 13.

Senator Echols asked what effort was being made to place the handicapped in public positions versus state jobs. Mr. Frost stated that public employers were the primary employers because they have the easiest access to them.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Candace Chaney, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

DATED: _____

SENATE AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on FINANCE, Room 231.

Day (See Below), Date (See Below), Time 8:00 a.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1981

1. Division of Mental Hygiene and Mental Retardation (Pg. 472 - Jerome Griepentrog - ALL AGENCIES).
2. Regional Training (Pg. 554).
3. Rural Clinics (Pg. 524).
4. Las Vegas Mental Health Center (Pg. 502).
5. CBS - Las Vegas (Pg. 502).
6. Henderson Mental Health Center (Pg. 516)
7. Institute Land Exchange (Pg. 476).
8. Mental Health Institute (Pg. 477).
9. Facility for the Mental Offender (Pg. 486).
10. CBS - Washoe (Pg. 494).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1981

1. Genetics (Pg. 499 - Jerome Griepentrog - ALL AGENCIES).
2. Northern Mental Retardation Services (Pg. 529).
3. Southern Mental Retardation Services (Pg. 534).
4. Southern Mental Retardation Food Services (Pg. 521).
5. Community Training Centers (Pg. 540).
6. Resident Placement Fund (Pg. 550).
7. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (Pg. 543).
8. Senior Companions (Pg. 545).
9. Foster Grandparents (Pg. 547).
10. Community Awareness (Pg. 551).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1981

1. Bureau of Vocation Rehabilitation (Pg. 373-404...Del Frost).
(Beginning of the Health Division if time allows)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1981

1. Health Division (Pg. 406 - Dr. John Carr).
2. Radioactive Material Disposal (Pg. 336).

ATTENDANCE ROSTER FORM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: February 11, 1981

PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT
NAME	ORGANIZATION & ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Norma Prohman	Rehab Div. Carson City	885-4461
ALLEN FRENCH	" " " "	" "
John Griffin	" " " "	" "
Roy Dowling	" " " "	" 4470
Maynard Hasmer	" " " "	" 4460
Max Flander	" " " "	" 4440
Lucille Hall	" " " "	" 4440
Jack Penman	" " " "	" 4430
Rick Kuhmer	Nevada Council of the Blind	642-5856
Kathleen Olson	GCEH Rehab. Division	885-4440

Board of Mineral County Commissioners

P. O. BOX 1427

HAWTHORNE, NEVADA 89415

BILL M. WILLIAMS, Chairman

ALLEN E. CONELLY, Member

MAX CHILCOTT, Member

Governing Board for the Towns of
Hawthorne, Luning and Mina

LIQUOR BOARD

GAMING BOARD

February 10, 1981

Roger Bremner, Chairman
Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Carson City, Nevada

Dear Mr. Bremner:

The Commissioners of Mineral County would like to protest very strongly the proposed closing of the Hawthorne office of Vocational Rehabilitation which serves Lyon, Mineral, Esmeralda, and Nye Counties, for the following reasons:

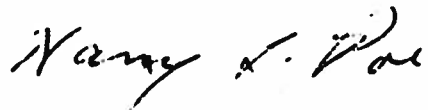
1. According to 1980 preliminary census figures, the Hawthorne office is serving 29,687 people per counselor as compared with the Las Vegas office of 27,000 per counselor and the Reno office 24,000 per counselor. These four counties experienced an estimated growth of 8.5 per cent last year and with the increase in mining and the possibility of the MX Missile system no one knows what the growth will be in the next year or five years.
2. The types of industry - mining, contracting, handling of explosives, agriculture - carried on in this four county area has a much higher potential for industrial accidents calling for Voc Rehab service than gambling and warehouse industries in Carson City, the Truckee Meadows and the Las Vegas Valley.
3. In the short one-half year history of the Hawthorne office it has become one of the most efficient offices in the state. Of the rural offices only Ely and Fallon have more active cases per counselor than the Hawthorne office. In the last six months of 1980 the Hawthorne office had more rehab plans developed and implemented per counselor than Carson City, Elko, Ely, Fallon, Gardnerville or Winnemucca.
4. We feel that the state of Nevada and the four counties involved cannot afford the cost of closing down the Hawthorne office of Voc Rehab. If those being served now and those who will need the services in the next two to five years are not returned to gainful employment, the U.S. Government through Social Security supplementary support, the State Welfare and county indigent fund will have to pick up the cost. Not to mention the costs to

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the families involved.

5. These areas cannot be served from other offices. To serve Hawthorne from Carson City would mean 3 counselors traveling a total of 15 hours to give 9 hours of service. To serve Tonopah from Las Vegas 5 counselors could leave Las Vegas at 8 a.m. and return at 5 p.m., 9 hours each. They would spend $\frac{1}{2}$ hour each for lunch and $\frac{1}{2}$ hour each serving people.
6. If for every dollar spent on Voc Rehab \$7.00 is returned to society in the form of wages etc, we of Nevada and the four counties involved cannot afford to close the Hawthorne Voc Rehab office.

Sincerely,



HARRY L. POE, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF MINERAL COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

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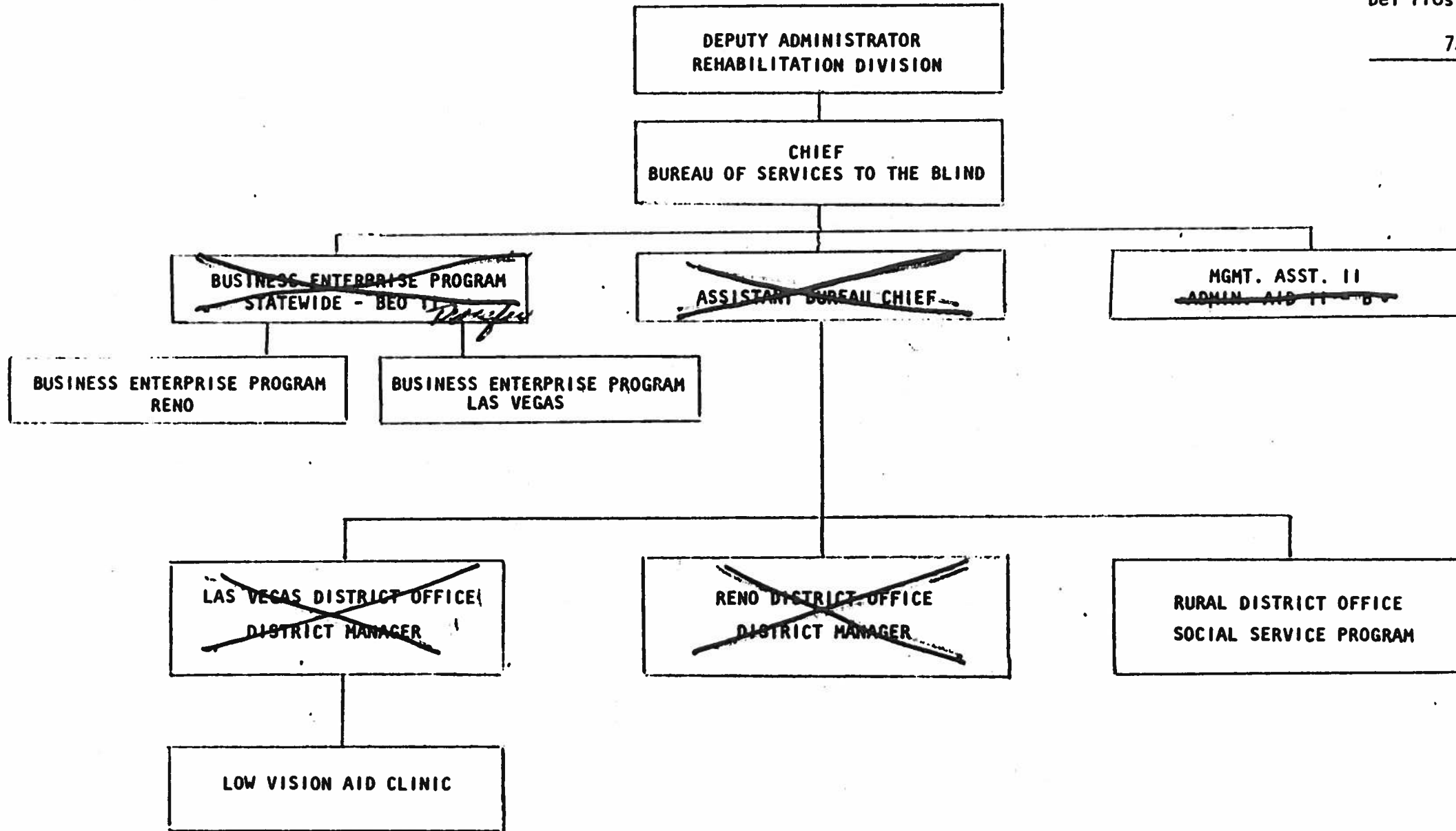
Governor Robert List
Assemblyman Robert E. Robinson
Assemblyman Kenneth Redelsperger
Senator Richard E. Blakemore
Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman
Senate Finance Committee

February 11, 1981 - Senate Finance Committee
 8 A.M. Attendance in support of saving the
 Hawthorne Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Rev. Stuart D. Campbell	P.O. Box 2486 Hawthorne	Maricopa County Humilitarian Association
Shere Poe	Box 103, Hawthorne	private citizen
Nancy S. Pitt	Box 103 Hawthorne	Chairman Nevada Humilitarian Assn.
W E Cuchina	Box 514 Hawthorne	W W A A
Karen M. Wilson	P.O. Box 931, Hawthorne	C.A.H.S. - Community Action Center
Earl Karsatz	Box 2051, HAWTHORNE	The Times of Mineral County
Dorothy Lee	Box 776 Balliet	C.A.H.S. Community Action Center
Grace LaCruze	Box 14 Lansing, W.V.	C.A.H.S. -
Anita Bray	Box 1849 Hawthorne Nev.	Private Citizen
Pr LaCruze	Box 14 Lansing, W.V.	Private Citizen

Approved: *Del Frost*
Del Frost, Administrator

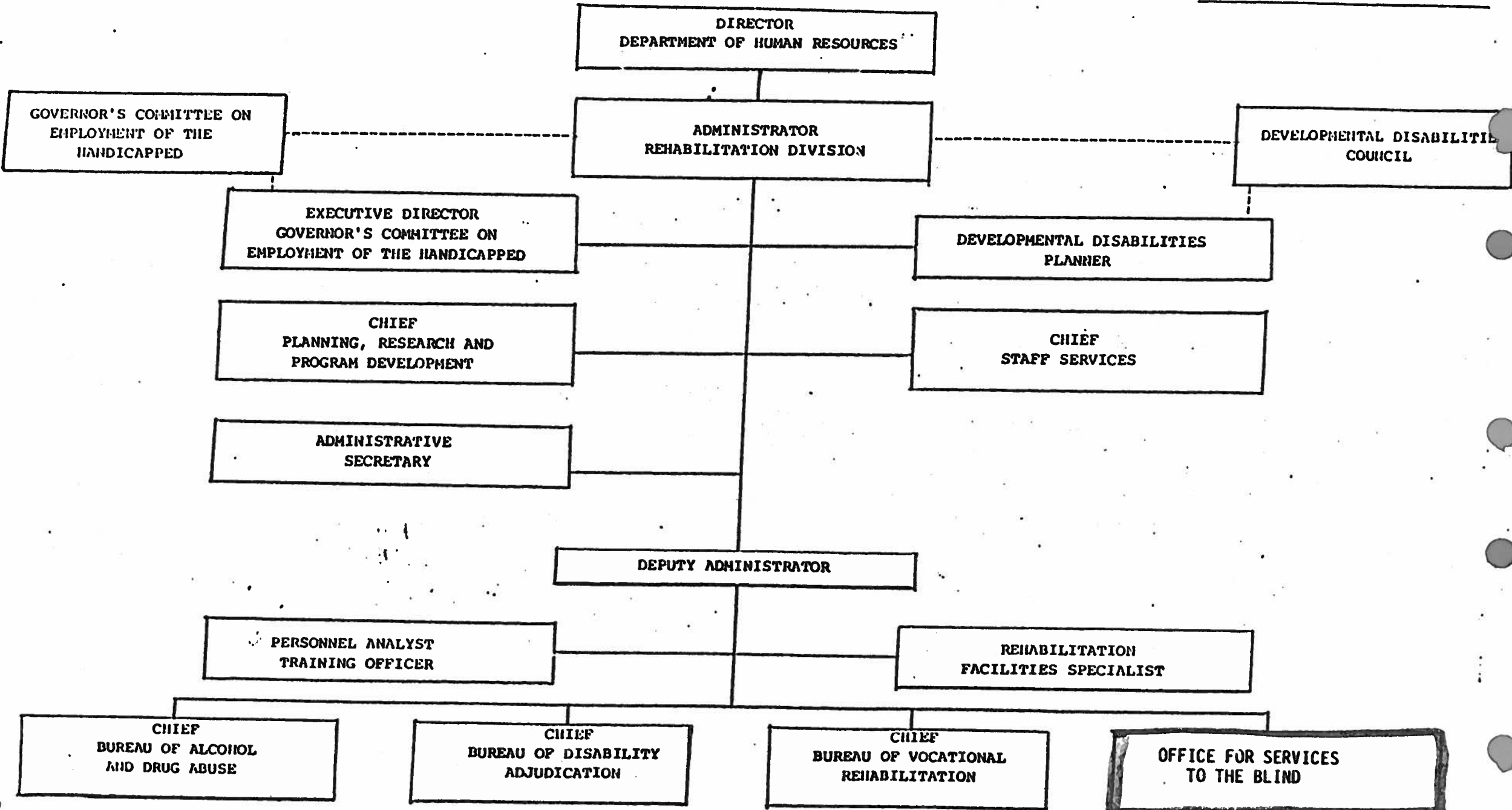
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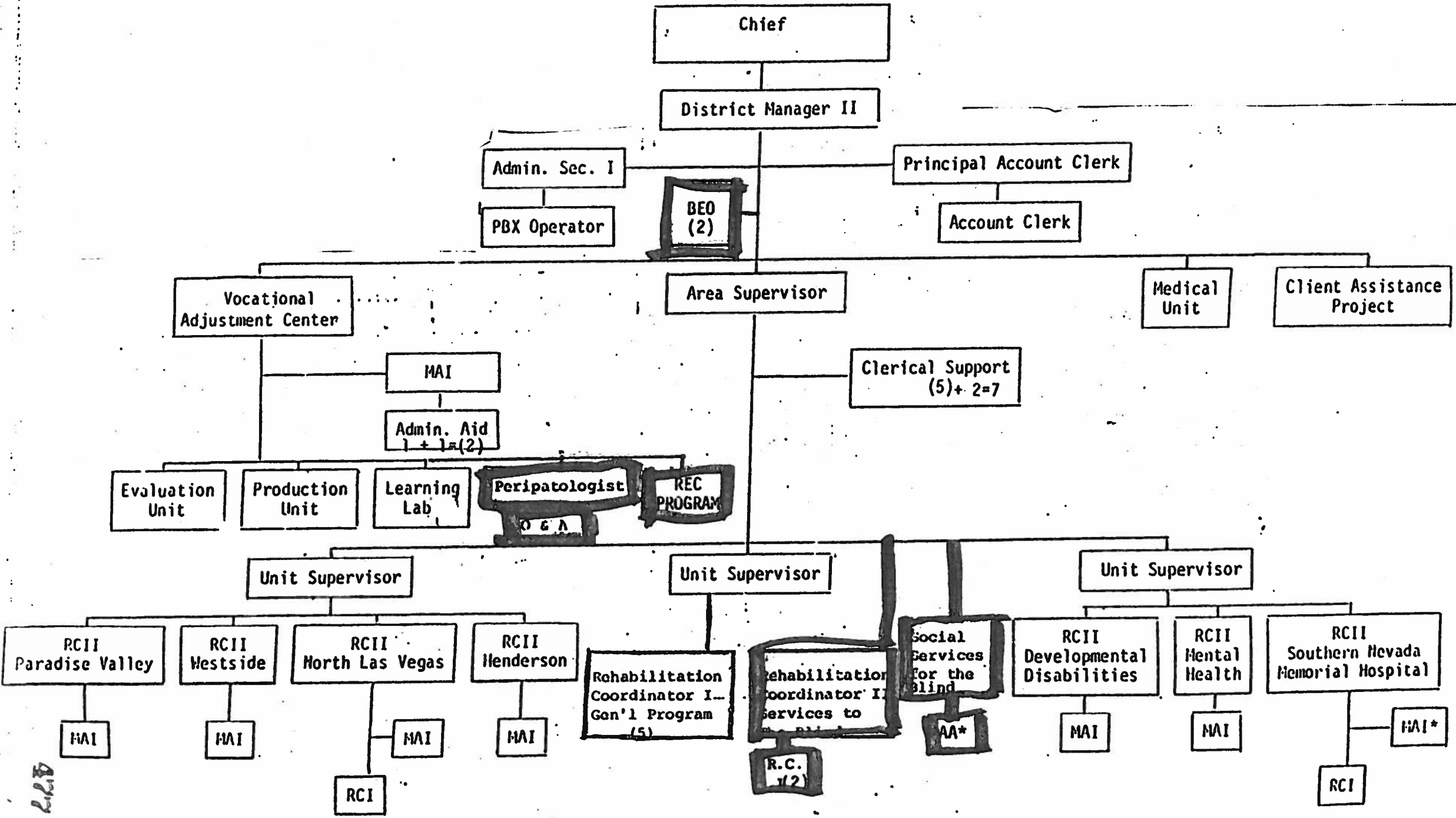
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR MERGER OF
BUREAU OF SERVICES TO THE BLIND AND
BUREAU OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

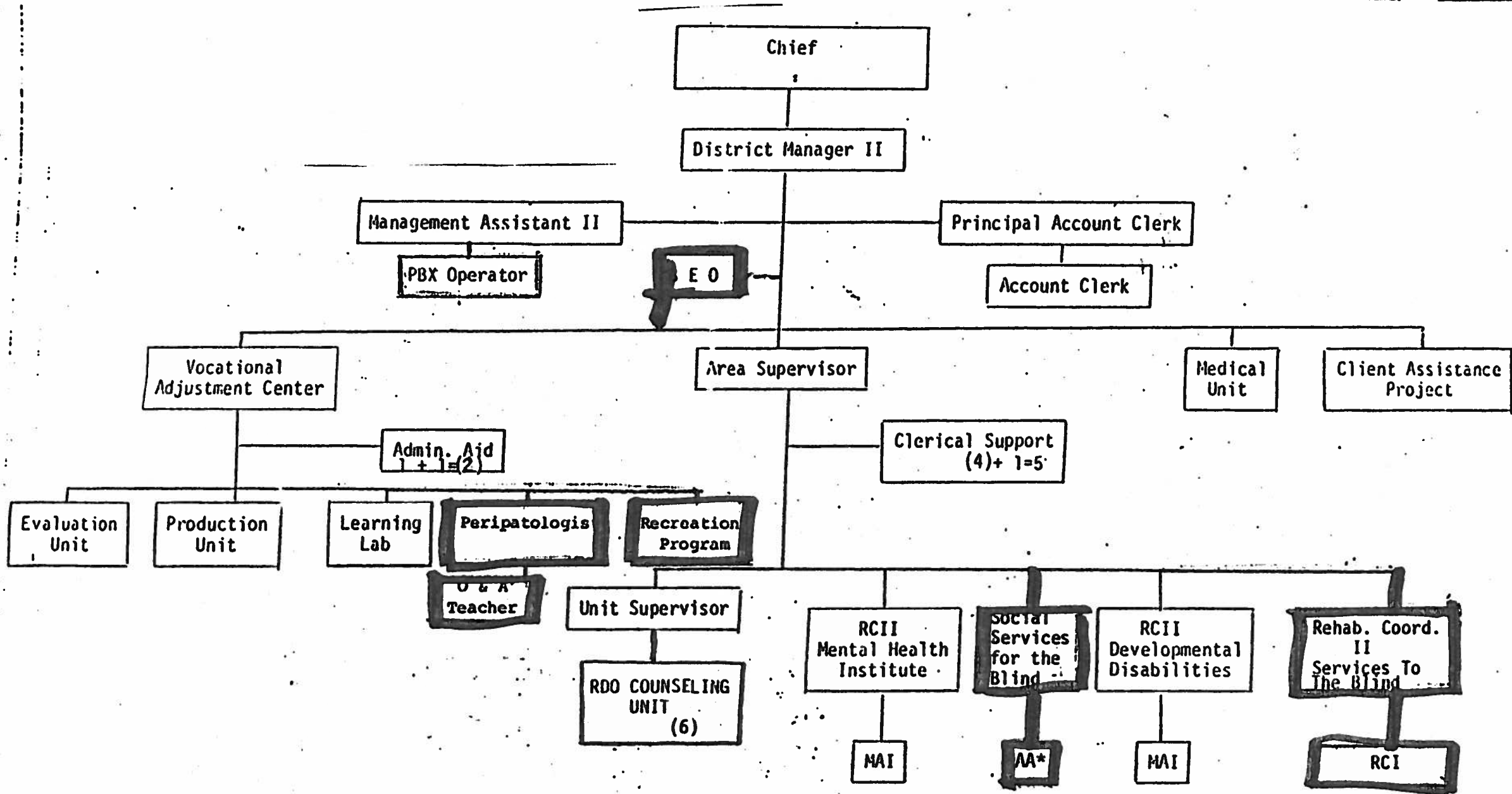
Approved: Del Frost
Del Frost, Administrator

Date: _____



N.A. I	BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
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*Provided by Host Agency

Approved: *Del Frost*
Del Frost, Administrator

