

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

The Senate Committee on Human Resources and Facilities was called to order by Chairman Joe Neal, at 8:09 a.m., Wednesday, April 29, 1981, in Room 323 of the Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada. Exhibit A is the Meeting Agenda. Exhibit B is the Attendance Roster.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joe Neal, Chairman
Senator James N. Kosinski, Vice Chairman
Senator Richard Blakemore
Senator James Bilbray
Senator Wilbur Faiss
Senator Virgil Getto

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joy-el McBride, Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 575

Mr. Delbert Frost, Administrator of the Rehabilitation Division, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 575. His testimony is Exhibit C.

Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Frost what had happened within the bureau recently to change the operation and if there were changes in the federal programs. Mr. Frost said they are anticipating block funding. He said the change was a result of the governmental efficiency task force which studied state government and made recommendations on how to achieve greater efficiency in state government.

Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Frost how services in rural areas would be increased. Mr. Frost said one counselor serves all of the rural areas, and it is impossible to cover too many square miles of community and population centers. The department needs another counselor in Reno. If the rural counselor moved over to Reno, they would get another full counselor production out of that person and

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would still be serving the same people and the same case load in rural Nevada by having the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation pick those up.

Senator Neal asked what would take the place of the Las Vegas District Office. Mr. Frost said the district manager position would be redlined but the entire office would stay intact and simply move over under the supervision of the district manager who presently supervises the Vocational Rehabilitation office in Las Vegas.

Senator Neal said that in looking at one of the charts on page 2, the Office for Services for the Blind is under the Deputy Administrator. That is just an office and is not consistent with blind services. Mr. Frost said in many states the blind services are integrated into the general program. There are no unique separate services at all. He said they want an office that shows the blind there is a person who will be a full time expert and advocate their needs.

Senator Neal then stated he does not feel it is fair to scatter these services. His concern is how to make it easier for blind people to get to these various services.

Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Frost if someone went to the Office for Services to the Blind, if they would be referred to other relevant state and government agencies or would they be helped there. Mr. Frost said they would be served right there. That is his major point. They would not be changing anything except to abolish the district managers positions.

Mr. Frost said the Chief of Alcohol and Drug Abuse would be allowed to fix and collect reasonable fees for facility program or personnel certifications to offset cost of the certification program. Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Frost how much revenue they projected would be collected from these fees.

Mr. Richard Ham, chief of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, said they were spending between \$10,000 and \$12,000 a year to operate their certification process. About half of those funds are paid by federal training grants. The grant will continue

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for another year. After that they do not know where the funds will come from. The fees they charge will not exceed the cost of administration.

Mr. Rick Kuhlmeier, volunteer lobbyist for the Nevada Council of the Blind spoke in opposition to SENATE BILL NO. 575. He said no consumers or blind people were consulted regarding the bill. The council oppose merging both bureaus. He stated the language is broad in the bill. He said they believe the elimination of the district managers from the Bureau of Services to the Blind is going to be the elimination of a key person in the very fine team that exists in the bureau now.

Senator Kosinski asked Mr. Kuhlmeier if the language he had referred to as being broad were deleted, would their concerns be relieved. Mr. Kuhlmeier said only a minor portion of them. They do not approve of the bill as it repeals several statutes.

Mr. John Tait, Director of the Southern Nevada Sightless Blind Center, spoke in opposition to SENATE BILL NO. 575. He said he was convinced that a general agency does not do the job for blind people. He then submitted a paper to the committee that some people would like to see incorporated into a blind law. (Exhibit D)

Ms. Vern I. Sealund spoke in support of SENATE BILL NO. 575. She said the present chief of the bureau is tied up in trips. Senator Neal asked Ms. Sealund how the bill would help her. She said she would have direct access to Mr. Frost.

Mr. Kae Pohe, chairman of the Nevada Committee of Blind Vendors, testified in opposition to SENATE BILL NO. 575. His testimony is Exhibit E.

Mr. Dave Shell spoke in support of SENATE BILL NO. 575. He said the State of Nevada needs a vast improvement for the blind services.

Mr. John Collachi, Chief of Staff of the Churchill Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs spoke in support of SENATE BILL NO. 575, but would not be supportive of any additional fees.

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He said the terms of fees should be set on a schedule and kept reasonable.

Ms. Ruth Buckles spoke in opposition to SENATE BILL NO. 575. She said if the merge takes place they will surely be doomed.

SENATE BILL NO. 412

Senator Neal asked for a motion to pass out SENATE BILL NO. 412 and re-refer to Senate Finance. Senator Kosinski did not feel the issue was that simple and stated he could not do that.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Joy-ed McBride, Secretary

APPROVED BY:


SENATOR JOE NEAL, CHAIRMAN

DATE: May 20, 1981

SENATE AGENDA

EXHIBIT A

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee on Human Resources and Facilities , Room 323 .

Day Wednesday , Date April 29 , Time 8:00 a.m.

S. B. No. 575--Changes internal organization of rehabilitation division in department of human resources.

S.B. 575 TESTIMONY

DEL FROST:

INTRODUCTION

1. THIS BILL was prepared in response to the Governor's Management Task Force recommendation to "Restructure the Division."

According to the report, "administrative duplication exists between two of the bureaus - Vocational Rehabilitation and Services to the Blind - inflating overall operating costs."

S.B. 575 proposes to merge these two Bureaus.

Savings of state dollars the first year will exceed \$100,000 (\$107,714, four positions), with escalating savings each subsequent year.

2. IT HAS been the experience of the Division that many of the service needs of the blind are common to the general handicapped population.

For years now, programs originally designed for one bureau, such as Vocational evaluation and assessment, mobility instruction, and adjustment to daily living, have been utilized by the other bureau. BVR is currently serving BSB's blind and severely visually impaired clients in rural Nevada.

Keeping services to the blind in the Rehabilitation Division, and consolidating those services with those of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, will further ensure maximum utilization of resources.

NOTE: Refer to Organizational Chart.

3. THE EXPERTISE gained in operating the Business Enterprise Program and in the specialized needs of blind persons are totally recognized in this Bill.

As suggested by the Task Force there will continue to be a position in the Division responsible for assisting the Administrator and Division personnel in determining needs and services unique to the blind population, training staff in the unique needs of the blind, and advocating services for the blind.

That position is the Chief of the Office of Services For The Blind.

We expect that by retaining this type of expertise, performance of our programs for the blind will continue to improve, just as they have since Blind Services joined the Division in Fiscal Year '74.

The following figures give some idea of the improved program of services for the blind since the old Division of Services for the Blind was placed under the Rehabilitation Division.

Program Performance

<u>July, 1973</u>		<u>July, 1980</u>	<u>Change</u>
Clients served	293	642	119%
Clients rehabed	71	153	115%
Served per counselor	59	128	116%
Rehabed per counselor	14	31	121%

4. BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS are of critical importance regarding S.B. 575.

Not only will the merger save money, but the Governor's recommended budget, as presented to the Legislature, pre-supposes this merger.

Four (4) positions would have to be restored to the BSB Budget, should this Bill not pass.

5. BECAUSE OF SOME TECHNICAL problems resulting from the Bill drafting process, I will submit to you a list of amendments; they primarily clarify language regarding Division functions, but they are, we feel, critical.

I am requesting that these amendments be integrated as part of the Bill Passed out of this Committee.

6. S.B. 575, when amended, also establishes the "Bureau of Disability Adjudication" as independent from the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. (The Bill currently calls BDA "the bureau of benefits.")

EXHIBIT C

Existing statutes require that the Vocational Rehabilitation Bureau Chief disburse funds for the making of adjudications. In reality, disability adjudication is a distinctly separate function from that of vocational rehabilitation. The Bureau of Disability Adjudication, under an agreement with the Social Security Administration, determines disabilities only. BVR renders direct vocational rehabilitation services.

7. THIS BILL removes antiquated or duplicative language, and makes certain allowances for setting and collecting fees.

The Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse certifies facilities, programs, and personnel; the Bill allows the collection of reasonable fees to offset costs related to the certification program.

The Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation is also allowed, in this Bill, to set fees and collect monies where third-party benefits are available or where services are given under a cooperative agreement or contract with another agency.

8. IN READING the Bill in its entirety, it is quite evident that the special needs of the visually handicapped are recognized and specifically noted in the proposal, particularly in the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation statutes.

FISCAL NOTE INTRODUCTION

9. THE ATTACHED Fiscal Note extracts from Executive Budget Account #3254 (BSB) those monies needed for the personnel and operations of the proposed Office of Services For The Blind.

The remainder of Executive Budget #3254 (BSB) would be merged with Account #3265 (BVR) to complete the fiscal package for the Bill.

SPECIFICS OF THE BILL

Throughout all sections of the Bill are Legislative Counsel Bureau word changes to comply with current statutory format. I will not be addressing those changes in my testimony.

10. SECTIONS 1 THROUGH 3:

Existing statutes describing the Rehabilitation Division within the Department of Human Resources are changed to:

- a. Change the Bureau of Services to the Blind to "Office of Services For The Blind." Page 1, line 4.
- b. Create by statute the Bureau of Disability Adjudication (created administratively in 1973 when Rehabilitation Division was established). The Bill calls this the "Bureau of benefits." In our amendments we request that this be changed because the Bureau neither determines nor awards "benefits." Page 1, line 7.

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c. Other provisions for an Alcohol and Drug Abuse State Plan and for removal of antiquated language are discussed in AMENDMENTS, numbers 2 through 4.

11. SECTION 4:

Chapter 281, "General Provisions As To Officers And Employees," page 3, lines 8-11, which previously allowed employment as automobile drivers, of relatives of blind officers and employees of the bureau, is changed to "division"; it is possible BVR and the Office would have blind employees.

12. SECTION 5:

Chapter 331, "State Buildings And Property," page 4, lines 11-14, changes vending "stands" to vending "facilities": this change is proposed for all references to the Business Enterprise Program, to be consistent with federal law, specifically the 1974 Amendments.

13. SECTION 6:

Chapter 356, "Depositories Of Public Money And Securities," currently allows interest credits to certain specific funds.

The Bill adds to those funds, the Business Enterprise Contingent Fund For The Blind, the Grant and Gift Account For The Blind, and the Rehabilitation Gift Account. Page 4, lines 38-42.

EXHIBIT C

The BEP fund is made up of funds assessed by agreement from the Blind operators, and is to be used on their behalf, NRS 426. It makes sense that the blind should benefit from the interest derived from depositories on their account.

The Gift and Grant Accounts are from monies donated with the intent of helping blind and other disabled persons. Interest earned through depositories on these accounts should also go to help these persons.

Because of cuts in federal and state dollars in the Rehabilitation program, we are going to have to rely more and more on private donations and available resources such as earned interest.

A.B. 485 has been introduced which allows State Treasurer to charge a reasonable fee for collecting and crediting earned interest.

A.B. 399, also introduced, has been amended to include the BEP Fund (as we have done here) in Chapter 356.

14. SECTIONS 7 AND 8:

Chapter 361, "Property Tax," currently allows certain tax exemptions including the Blind Business Enterprise Program vending "stands."

The word "stands" is changed to "facilities" to be consistent with federal language, and "Bureau" is changed to "Office," consistent with the plan to have the Office of Services For The Blind administer the Business Enterprise Program.

15. SECTIONS 9 THROUGH 13:

These sections create a new Chapter of NRS to statutorally establish the Rehabilitation Division bureau that makes disability determinations under an agreement with the Social Security Administration (see page 6, lines 39-42).

Our AMENDMENTS, numbers 5 through 10, request that this bureau be called the "Bureau of Disability Adjudication," rather than "Bureau of Benefits," and that other wording changes be made reflecting the acutal functions of this bureau.

Existing statutes require that the Vocational Rehabilitation Bureau Chief disburse funds for the making of adjudications. Disability adjudication is a distinctly separate function from that of vocational rehabilitation and is a 100% federally funded program operated in accordance with applicable federal laws and regulations. The Bureau of Disability Adjudication, as it now exists, needs to be established in the statutes, with responsibilities defined.

16. SECTION 14: page 7, lines 28-31

This section authorizes the proposed "Office of Services For The Blind" Chief to purchase and sell at cost or cost plus the expense of administration special accessories needed by the blind.

EXHIBIT C

By maintaining certain accessories inhouse, the visually handicapped may receive needed accessories not otherwise immediately available in Nevada. Relatives, or non-VR but visually handicapped persons, may purchase accessories without undue waiting periods.

17. SECTIONS 15 AND 16: Pages 7 and 8.

Subsection 2, page 7, lines 36-43, revises the definition of "blind person" to address functional limitations, as well as the general federal definition.

Language inferring welfare-type provisions has been removed.

Subsections 3 through 7, pages 7 and 8, lines 45-3, remove the Bureau of Services to the Blind, and create the Office of Services For The Blind.

Note: All references to direct general vocational rehabilitation services are deleted in this Chapter.

18. SECTION 17 426.550: Page 8.

This section describes the qualifications for, and the responsibilities of the Chief of the Office of Services For The Blind. Lines 9-43.

Consistent with the intent to reduce costs through direct services from BVR, the defined Office functions retain the other responsibilities of advocacy, technical assistance, Business Enterprise Program expertise.

19. SECTION 18 426.555: Pages 8 and 9.

This section requires the Chief to report to the federal government regarding the Business Enterprise Program; this is consistent with Business Enterprise Program "Office" functions. Lines 45-3.

Number 11 of our AMENDMENTS, page 8, line 48, shows that "Randolph-Sheppard" is misspelled. Removal of line 2, page 9, is also requested as the preparation of reports is not related to receipt of "benefits."

20. SECTION 19 426.567: Page 9.

Subsection 1, page 9, lines 6-7, adds the revenues from the sale of accessories for the blind, as authorized in the new Section 14, page 7. The Grant and Gift Fund is appropriate for this since only the Chief is in charge of the accessories and their replacement, as well as this one fund in the proposed Office.

Subsection 2 page 9, lines 12-13, expands use of fund monies to the division since the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation will be serving the blind for general rehabilitation programs.

21. SECTIONS 20 THROUGH 28:

With the exception of page 9, lines 26-27, adding the Administrator of the Division to the definitions, the only changes are:

- a. From "bureau" to "office"
- b. From "stands" to "facilities"
- c. Standard bill draft wording changes

EXHIBIT C

These sections discuss required procedures for the Blind Business Enterprise Programs, administered by the Office Chief.

22. SECTION 29 426.680: Pages 12 and 13, lines 49-43.

This entire section provides for arbitration of licensing agency complaints in a manner generally prescribed by federal regulations and the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act. The existing language is not appropriate because the final decision is made by essentially the same entities who initially refused to have a vending facility. Also, federal law calls for an arbitration panel which is more equitable.

23. SECTION 30 426.685: Page 13, lines 45-49.

The language in the existing statute of establishing vending facilities in "privately owned buildings" is unclear, particularly with the large number of leased buildings.

New language "owned or leased by private business" clarifies this language.

24. SECTIONS 31 THROUGH 34: Page 14, lines 1-36.

These sections, still relating to the Business Enterprise Program, reflect standard bill draft wording changes.

25. SECTION 35: Page 14, lines 37-45.

Chapter 458, "Alcohol and Drug Abuse" is changed to allow the Chief of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse in the Rehabilitation Division to fix and collect reasonable fees for facility, program, or personnel certifications to offset costs of the certification program. We presently have a certification program; however, an A.G. opinion indicates we have no authority to collect fees.

Our AMENDMENT, number 12, suggests removal of the language contained on page 14, lines 40-42, "to receive state and federal money for participation in programs concerned with alcohol or drug abuse.": certification is not for purposes of receiving government money. It is to assure quality treatment whether public monies are involved or not.

26. SECTION 36 483.800: Pages 14 and 15, lines 46-28.

This section, relating to a Department of Motor Vehicles registry of blind, night-blind, or severely impaired vision persons, makes standard bill draft wording changes.

Our AMENDMENT, number 13, requests addition of "Chapter 615 of NRS" on page 15, line 27, following "inclusive."

Chapter 615, the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, will include services to the blind. Since subsection 5 relates to confidentiality of information on the blind, this chapter should be added to the list.

27. SECTION 37: Page 15, lines 29-33.

A new section is added to the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation chapter, providing the method of depositing monies received when third-party benefits (such as medical insurance) become available, or when fees are collected under cooperative agreements (such as with the VA).

28. SECTIONS 38 AND 39: Pages 15 and 16, lines 34-31.

Page 15, lines 45-49; page 16, lines 7-9; and page 16, lines 15-17, all add provisions relating to the special needs of blind persons.

This is to assure blind persons that services through the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation will be rendered in accordance with their needs and the policies adopted by this state, largely through their efforts.

29. SECTION 40 615.200: Pages 16 and 17, lines 32-15.

Added to the powers of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation are subsection 4, pages 16, lines 43-47, which speaks to the need to fix and collect reasonable fees for services given other agencies' clients when our services are unique to the community and a cooperative agreement exists.

Subsection 5, page 16, lines 48-49, relates to collection on insurance or other third-party benefits which may not be known or verifiable at the time of services.

EXHIBIT C

We are, by the way, already collecting on third-party benefits, but the new section at the beginning of this chapter discussion (Section 37) provides the method of depositing all such monies (therefore, there was a need to relate this authority).

30. SECTION 41: Page 17, lines 16-46.

The existing Vocational Rehabilitation Revolving Fund is merged with what is now the Bureau of Services to the Blind Revolving Fund.

The dollar amounts previously authorized (\$50,000, BVR and \$25,000, BSB) remain the same when merged (\$75,000).

Antiquated language page 17, lines 23-25, regarding drawing a warrant of \$40,000 is removed. That language related to the time when BVR was authorized for \$10,000 and \$40,000 was added.

Should the need arise for the new Office of Services For The Blind to use this account, the Administrator has been placed in charge of the account.

31. SECTION 42: Pages 17, lines 47-5.

Language in this section regarding the grant and gift account is in accordance with legislation passed this session, placing the account in a general Human Resources Fund.

EXHIBIT C

Subsection 2 was extracted from preferable wording in the BSB grant and gift account.

32. SECTION 43: Page 18, lines 7-32.

The hearing procedure for persons aggrieved by any action or inaction of the Bureau has been changed to reflect standard procedures adopted in this Legislative Session. Chapter 43.

33. SECTION 44: Page 18, lines 33-35.

All sections regarding direct general vocational rehabilitation services to the blind, contained in the current Bureau of Services to the Blind, are removed.

Other sections removed relate to antiquated references to rehabilitation acts or procedures.

34. SECTION 45: Page 18, lines 36-37.

Those sections effective at 12:01 a.m. refer to the grant and gift fund and the hearing procedure which, I have noted, have already been affected by legislation passed this session.

35. SECTION 45:

Our AMENDMENT, number 14, requests that this section become "46" and that a new section 45 be added to clarify the termination of the BSB Revolving

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EXHIBIT C

Fund, with the transfer of the funds to the BVR revolving fund. The language was requested by the Legislative Audit Office.

I will appreciate your careful consideration of S.B. 575 and our requested amendments.

The intent of this Bill is to save money and sustain and improve Division services to all handicapped persons through streamlined administration and maximum coordination of resources.

PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE FOR
SECTIONS OF S.B. 575

- 1) Section 1, 232.360, subsection 4
page 1; line 7
Change: "Bureau of benefits" to "Bureau of Disability Adjudication"
REASON: The Bureau determines whether a disability exists and the extent of disability. It does not determine actual benefits eligibility, nor the amount of benefits. It does not award benefits.
- 2) Section 2, 232.370, subsection 2
page 1; line 18
Remove: "and sections 2 to 15, inclusive of this act."
REASON: These sections include State Buildings and Property, Property Tax, etc., for which the Rehabilitation Division Administrator is not responsible. (They were addressed in this Act only because of minor references to the Division.)
- 3) Section 2, 232.370, subsection 3
page 2; line 3
Add: "for" following "alcohol and drug abuse."
REASON: Alcohol and Drug Abuse has a separate state plan that is not submitted to RSA (see line 6). "For" separates Alcohol and Drug Abuse state plan from the rehabilitation program plan.
- 4) Section 2, 232.370, subsection 3
page 2; lines 6-7
Change: "the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare." to "federal government."
REASON: "HEW" is antiquated language. Placement of RSA is uncertain. "federal government" is applicable.
- 5) Section 10, subsection 1
page 6; line 29
Change: "bureau of benefits" to "bureau of disability adjudication"
REASON: For the reasons stated above; the bureau does not award benefits.
- 6) Section 10, subsection 2
page 6; lines 39-42
Change To Read: "The governor may enter into agreements with the United States Social Security Administration allowing the department through the division, to make determinations of disability and to receive and expend federal money for making these determinations."
REASON: This wording, placing the governor responsible for agreements is in accordance with P.L. 96-265 enacted in the last Congressional session.
- 7) Section 12, subsection 1
page 6; line 43
Change: "bureau of benefits" to "bureau of disability adjudication"
REASON: Same as above.
- 8) Section 12, subsection 2(c)
page 6; lines 49-50
Change: "the determination of benefits for disabled persons and in related matters," to "disability adjudication and related matters."
REASON: The Bureau does not determine benefits.

EXHIBIT C

- 9) Section 13, subsection 1
page 7; lines 19-21
Change To Read: "Act expeditiously upon all applications submitted to it for social security disability insurance determinations and supplemental security income disability determinations made pursuant to the Social Security Act."
REASON: SSDI and SSI benefits are not determined by the bureau. We determine the disability, only.
- 10) Section 13, subsection 2
page 7; lines 22-23
Remove: "and eligibility of applicants for such benefits and income."
REASON: The bureau does not make these determinations.
- 11) Section 18
page 8; line 48
Change: "Randolf-Sheppard" to "Randolph-Sheppard"
page 9; line 2
Remove: "as a condition of receiving benefits under that act."
REASON: The preparation of reports is not related to receipt of "benefits."
- 12) Section 35, subsection 1
page 14; lines 40-42
Remove: "to receive state and federal money for participation in programs concerned with alcohol or drug abuse."
REASON: Certification is not for purposes of receiving government money. It is to assure quality treatment whether public monies are involved or not.
- 13) Section 36, subsection 5
page 15; line 27
Add: "chapter 615 of NRS" after "inclusive"
REASON: Chapter 615 contains the provisions for the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. Direct services to the blind, under this Act, will be rendered by this Bureau.
- 14) Section 45
page 18; lines 36-37
Change: Make this Section 46.
Add: "Sec. 45. Upon the effective date of this act, funds in the amount of \$25,000 previously made available under NRS 426.575, as amended by Statutes of 1979, Chapter 211, will be transferred to the vocational rehabilitation revolving fund, authorized by NRS 615.255, as amended by Section 41 of this act."
REASON: This addition was requested by the Legislative Audit Office to clarify the transfer of funds from the BSB revolving fund to the BVR revolving fund.

EXHIBIT C

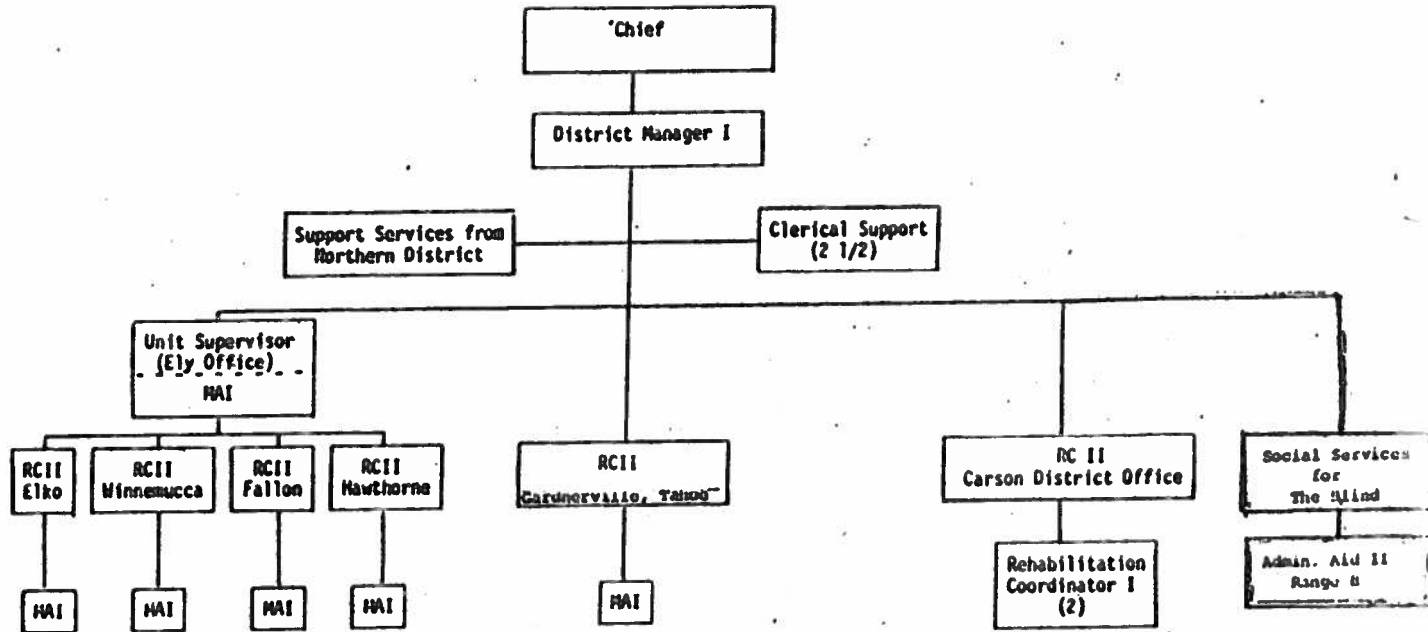
OFFICE OF SERVICES FOR THE BLIND, PROPOSED BUDGET
February 2, 1981

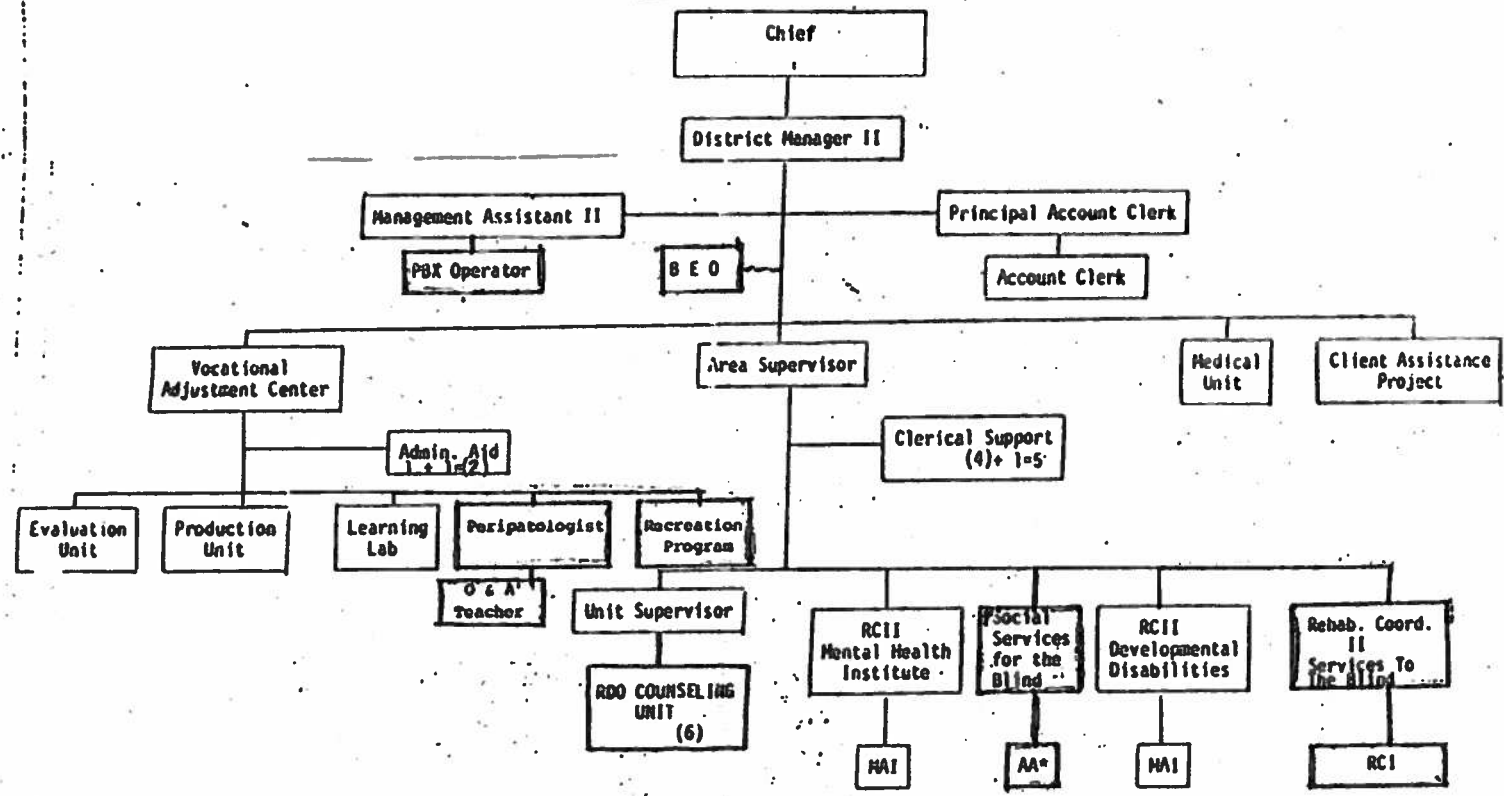
	<u>1981-82</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
<u>Salaries:</u>		
Chief, Services to the Blind	\$ 29,267	\$ 29,267
Management Assistant II	16,181	16,181
Business Enterprise Officer I (3)	58,852	59,626
Fringe Benefits	<u>16,262</u>	<u>17,094</u>
TOTAL CATEGORY 01	<u>\$120,562</u>	<u>\$122,168</u>
<u>Out-of-State Travel:</u>		
Governor's Travel Account		
<u>In-State Travel:</u>		
1. Chief to Las Vegas, 6 times per yr.	\$ 1,869	\$ 1,869
2. Chief to Reno, monthly	454	454
3. Chief to Rural, 2 times per yr.	892	892
4. Business Enterprise Officers	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
TOTAL CATEGORY 03	<u>\$ 7,215</u>	<u>\$ 7,215</u>
<u>Operating:</u>		
Office Supplies	\$ 720	\$ 756
Operating Supplies	311	327
Postage	600	630
Telephone Equipment	2,000	2,100
Telephone Tolls	3,500	3,675
Printing	1,000	1,050
Copying	500	525
Insurance	1,500	1,575
Equipment Repair	100	105
State-Owned Building Rent *	3,352	3,099
Other Building Rent **	288	288
Advertising/Public Relations	300	315
Dues and Registrations	<u>550</u>	<u>578</u>
TOTAL CATEGORY 04	<u>\$ 16,721</u>	<u>\$ 17,023</u>
<u>Administrative Assessment:</u>	<u>\$ 25,523</u>	<u>\$ 25,167</u>
TOTAL AGENCY EXPENDITURES	<u>\$170,021</u>	<u>\$171,573</u>
Regular Appropriation	\$ 59,507	\$ 60,051
Federal Funds - Sect. 2	\$110,514	\$111,522
Total Funds Available ***	\$170,021	\$171,573

* Carson City, 540 sq.ft. at \$6.39 for 1982 and \$6.09 for 1983.

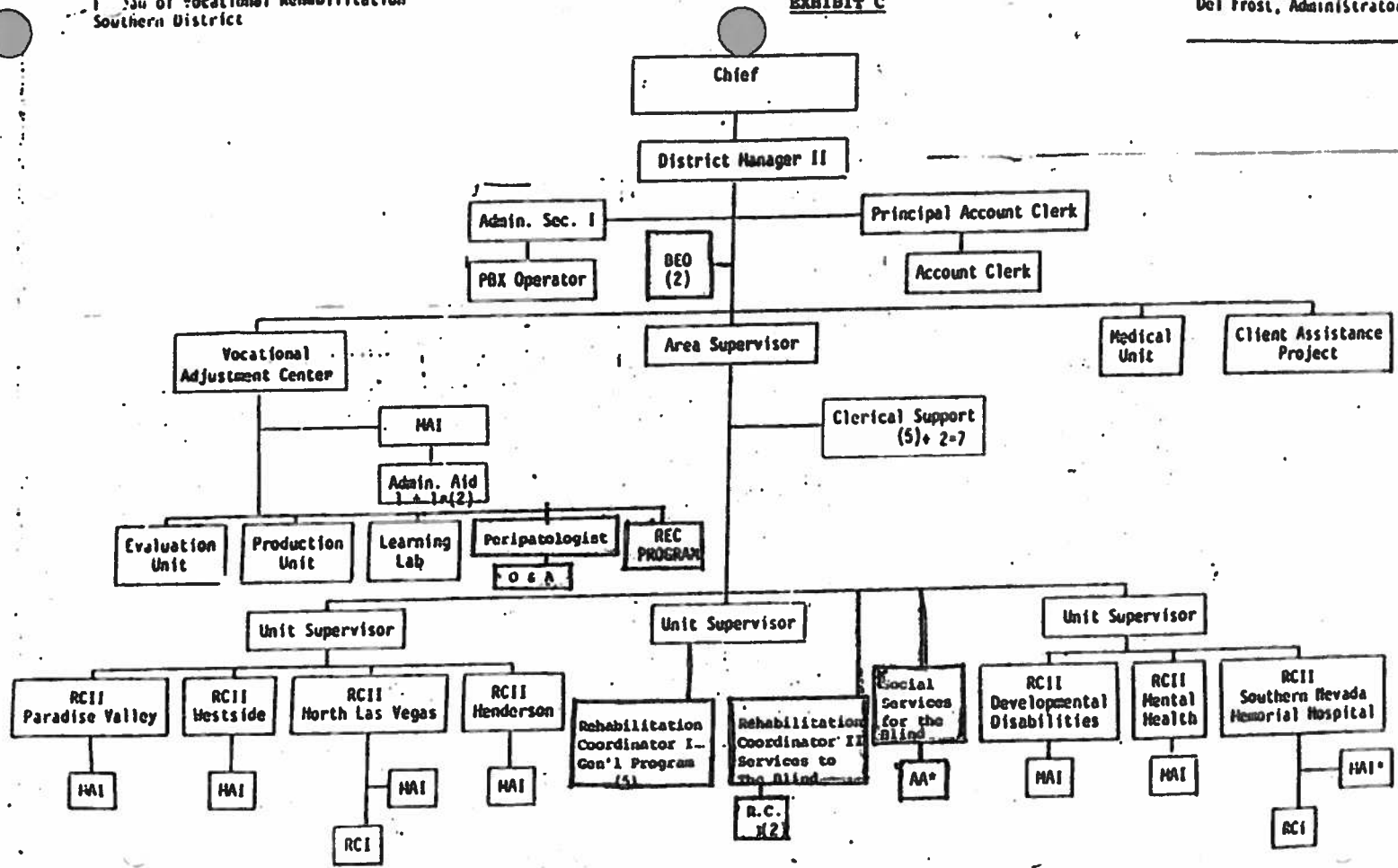
** Reno, 300 sq.ft. at same rates as above.

*** The funds for these expenses are included in the Executive Budget within Budget Account 3254.

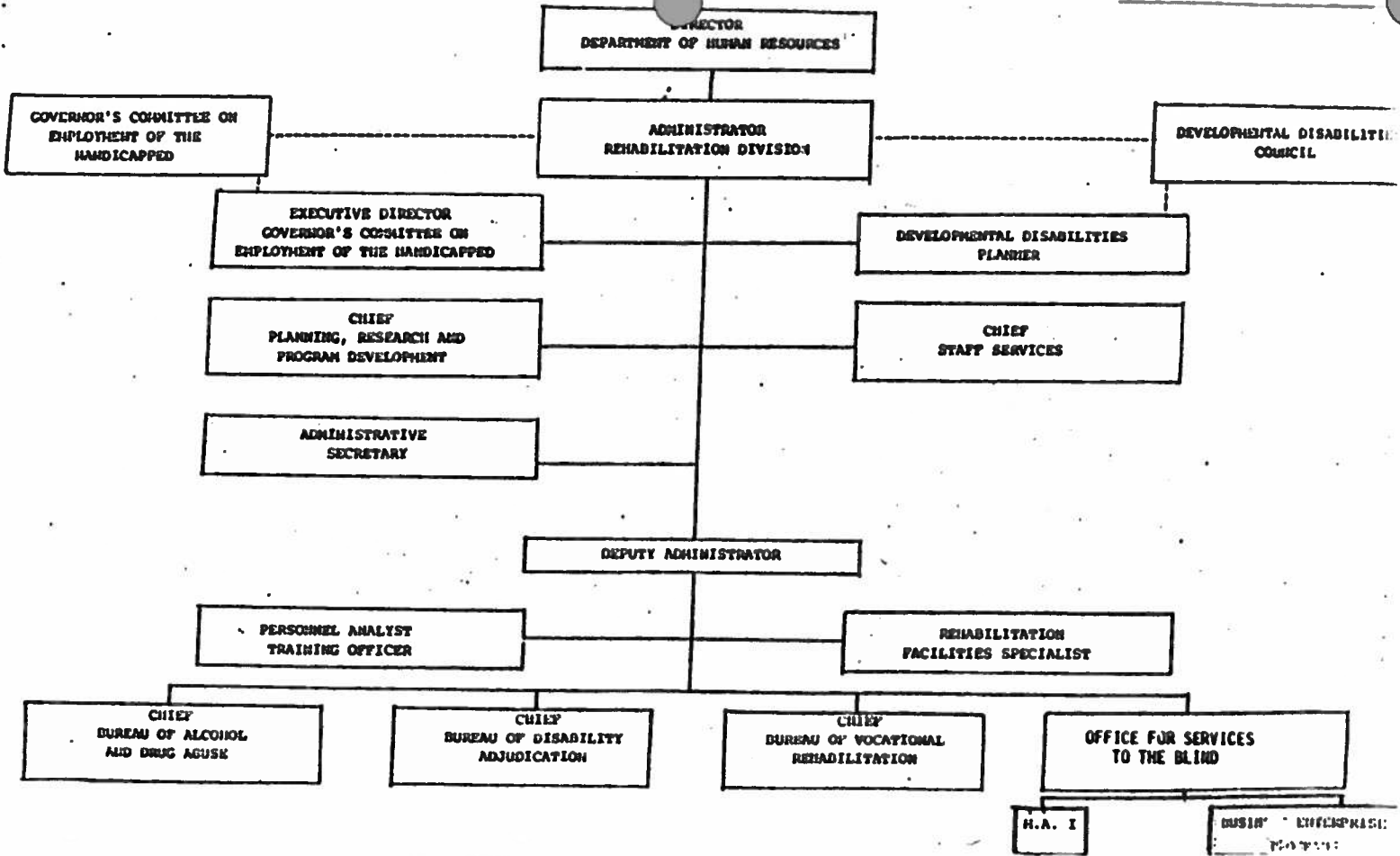




*Provided by Host Agency

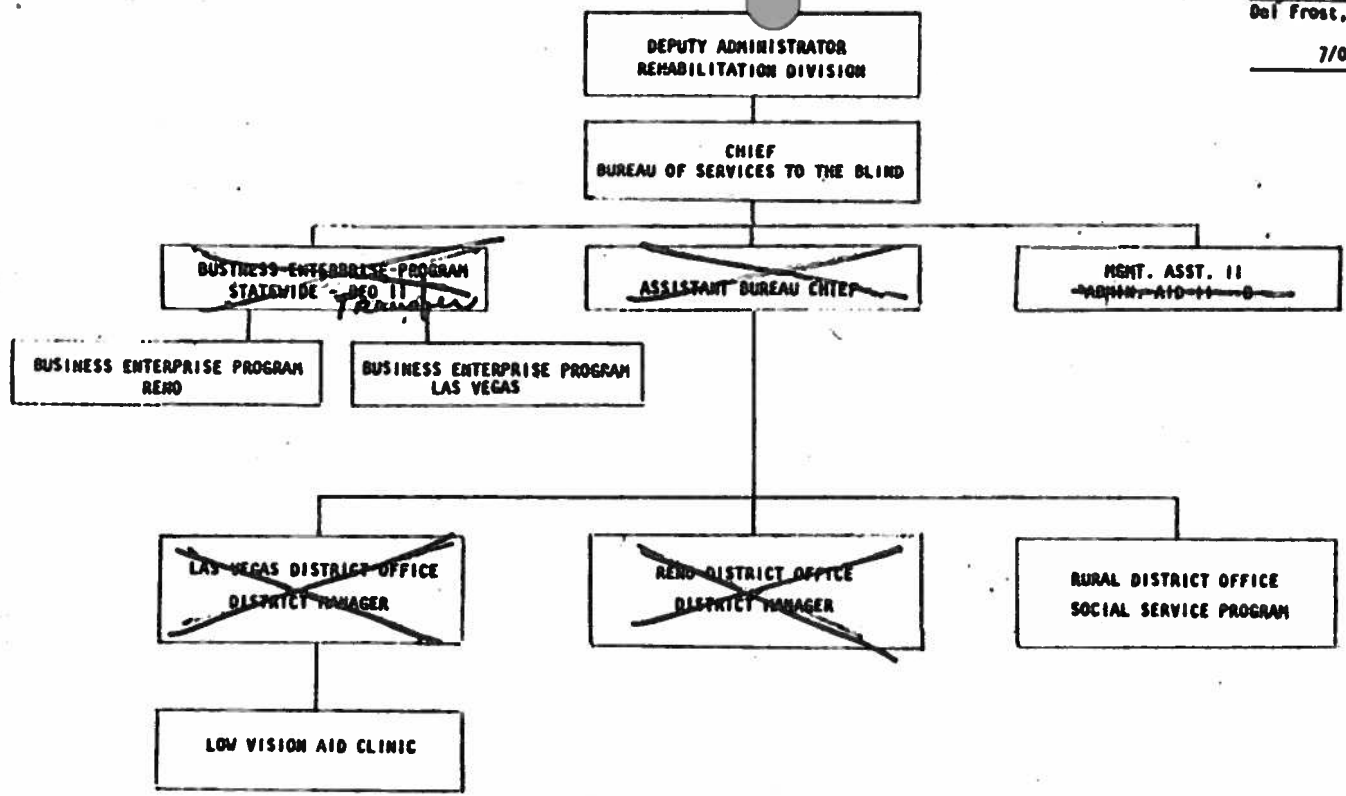


Date: _____



Approved: *Del Frost*
Del Frost, Administrator

7/01/80



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The present law provides the following for the blind:

- a) Assist blind persons in achieving physical and psychological orientation, inform blind persons of available services, stimulate and assist the blind in achieving social and economic independence, and do all things which will ameliorate the condition of the blind.
- b) Provide intensive programs of case finding, education, training, job findings and placement, physical restoration, and such other services and equipment as may assist in rendering blind persons more self-supporting and socially independent.

3. The bureau may:

- a) provide for treatment or operations to prevent blindness or restore vision to applicants for or recipients of services to the blind who request and make written application for such treatment or operations; and
- b) Pay for all necessary expenses incurred in connection with the diagnosis and treatment provided under paragraph (a). Necessary expenses shall include the costs of guide service, maintenance while the patient is away from his home, transportation to the eye physician or hospital and return to his home, and the cost of nursing home care when such care is necessary.

The proposed changes for the above section read as follows:

Inform blind persons of available services.

- b) Provide technical assistance and training to personnel of the division concerning the special services needed by blind persons.
- c) Serve as an advocate for the blind and other persons who have severe visual handicaps.
- d) Conduct research, studies and investigations regarding the population of blind persons in this state and report the results of those undertakings to the administrator.
- e) Assess community resources for purposes of coordination and cooperative financing of services for the blind and visually impaired.

NEVADA COMMITTEE OF BLIND VENDORS
POSITION STATEMENT

DEAR LEGISLATOR:

THERE IS AN APPARENT TREND, ALLEGED TO BE IN THE INTEREST OF ECONOMY, TO LUMP ALL GROUPS REQUIRING SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES INTO ONE MASS, AND TO DISPENSE FUNDS FROM ONE COMMON POT, SO TO SPEAK.

BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN, AND ADULTS, REQUIRE SOME SPECIAL SERVICES THAT ARE NOT IN COMMON WITH OTHER DISABLED GROUPS. WE REPRESENT BUT A TINY FRACTION OF THE TOTAL HANDICAPPED POPULATION. OUR SPECIAL NEEDS ARE CONSEQUENTLY FREQUENTLY OVERLOOKED OR NEGLECTED.

THEREFORE, WE URGE YOU TO OPPOSE THE MERGING OF THE BUREAU OF SERVICES TO THE BLIND WITH THE BUREAU OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, AND, INSTEAD, SUPPORT THE ELEVATION OF THE BUREAU OF SERVICES TO THE BLIND TO INDEPENDENT DIVISION STATUS!

NEVADA COMMITTEE OF BLIND VENDORS
P.O. BOX 853
BOULDER CITY, NEVADA 89005
702-293-1823

KAE POHE, Chairman
BERT HANSEN, Secretary
NELS BROWN, Director

702-293-1823
702-293-1272
702-883-4530

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YOU WILL ALREADY HAVE RECEIVED THIS POSITION STATEMENT IN BRAILLE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR COMMENTS.

SINCERELY,

KAE POHE

KP:gbc