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AB 332

Testimony by Myla C. Florence, Director Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, I am Myla Florence, serving as the Director of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation.

I am here today to state our opposition to Section 9 of the bill requiring the Rehabilitation Division to license persons who train service animals.

First, there is no clear public policy purpose for such a license. As you have heard, service animals are trained by community volunteers who have been screened and selected by established schools (currently none in Nevada). The licensing and bonding requirements will likely reduce the number of Nevada volunteers providing service animal training.

Secondly, there would be a fiscal impact on the Division. We estimate a half time position (Grade 33, Orientation and Mobility Instructor) would be required for issuance and annual renewals of licenses and establishing fees and regulations. Additionally, out of state travel would be required for licensing schools since none exist in Nevada. The total fiscal impact on the Division amounts to \$73,527 (1st year) and \$67,900 (2nd year). We believe we would require a .25 FTE Deputy Attorney General. Our out of state travel need may be under estimated.

Finally, while the Division would be required to adopt regulations for licensing, there are no enforcement provisions for anyone who chooses not to be licensed. I urge you to strike Section 9 of the bill since there is no public policy need and the costs do not warrant this requirement.