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Governor



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**Northern Nevada Veterans
Memorial Cemetery**
P.O. Box 1919
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(775) 575-4441
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Deputy Executive Director
% VA Ambulatory Care Center
1700 Vegas Drive, No. 1719
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
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**Southern Nevada Veterans
Memorial Cemetery**
1900 Buchanan
Boulder City, Nevada 89005
(702) 486-5920
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STATE OF NEVADA

OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES

March 24, 2003

Committee on Government Affairs

Good Morning: I am Chuck Fulkerson, Director, Office of Veterans' Services

This amendment to AB 304 is before you.

NRS 417.220(6) provides the executive director of Nevada Office of Veterans' Services, and therefore the superintendents of the Northern and Southern Cemeteries:

“...shall use gifts of money or personal property that he is authorized to accept and for which the donor has restricted to one or more uses at a veterans' cemetery, only in the manner designated by the donor.”

The phrasing of the statute (shall be used, only in the manner designated) has resulted in a reserve of funds accumulating in both the northern and southern cemetery's gift accounts.

The reserve has accumulated in the gift accounts because often the purpose for which the donation is made is accomplished and there is still money remaining in the gift. For instance, a veteran's widow may give to the southern cemetery five hundred dollars to buy a bench to be placed near the grave of her deceased husband. However, upon purchase of the bench for two hundred dollars, there remains three hundred dollars that cannot be spent on anything else due to the constraining language of NRS 417.220(6).

Upon learning of this situation, counsel to the Nevada Office of Veterans' Services advised the cemeteries to contact the donors and seek a modification or revision of the purpose for the original intent for the donation. However, due to the passage of time, it is virtually impossible to track down or locate any of the original donors.

If the statute is not amended, then the money in the restricted gift accounts will never be spent.

It should be noted that ALL of the donors' original intentions have been fulfilled.

ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
DATE: 3/24/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT F 1 of 3
SUBMITTED BY: *Chuck Fulkerson*

Therefore, in sum, the intent of the amendments would be to allow the executive director of the Nevada Office of Veterans' Services to spend the money contained in the northern and southern cemetery restricted gift accounts for projects at each respective cemetery, while keeping as close as possible to all of the original donors' intent.

The remainder funds amount to:

Northern Cemetery: \$ 38,745

Southern Cemetery: \$149,775

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 304

SUMMARY – Authorizes use of remainder of certain gifts of money and personal property donated for use at veterans' cemeteries. (BDR 37-652)

AMMENDMENT

Page 1, Section 1, paragraph 2, line 8 add:

; or other money provided by the Federal Government for the support of veterans' cemeteries;

Page 1, Section 1, paragraph 2, line 10 add:

**(d) Grants obtained by the Executive Director or the Deputy Executive Director for the support of veterans' cemeteries; and
(e)**

Page 2, Section 1, paragraph 4, line 12 add:

In addition to personnel he is authorized to employ pursuant to NRS 417.200, the Executive Director may use money deposited pursuant to subsection 2 to employ such personnel as are necessary for the operation and maintenance of the cemeteries.