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KENNY C. GUINN
Governor



MICHAEL J. WILLDEN
Director

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March 21, 2003

The Honorable William J. Raggio
Nevada State Senator
Legislative Building
Carson City, Nevada 89701


Dear Senator Raggio:

The Department of Human Resources respectfully requests to withdraw the fiscal note on Senate Bill 137. The fiscal note was based on assessing 3100 residents of skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities in order to complete the feasibility study required in Section 9 of the bill. Based on discussions with Senator Dina Titus, we have determined that the feasibility study will be conducted with a sampling of residents in these types of facilities. The Strategic Plan for Persons with Disabilities projected 125 persons in "unnecessarily restrictive settings" would receive setting neutral assessments during the next biennium.

The fiscal note is not necessary at this point because the sampling will be completed by combining resources from the Office of Community Based Services, Aging Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, county social services, the Developmentally Disabled Planning Council and the Independent Living Council. Senator Titus agrees that the pilot project is a reasonable first step and we will be able to develop a plan based on the information gathered. After the plan is developed, we believe the revenue maximization funds would be appropriate to supplement and expand the assessments to more residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Willden
Director