

SENATE BILL NO. 289—SENATOR NEAL

MARCH 14, 2003

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Facilities

SUMMARY—Establishes State Health Authority to plan for single payer health care system and for expansion of Medicaid program. (BDR 40-720)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; establishing in skeleton form the State Health Authority to plan for a single payer health care system in the State of Nevada and for the expansion of the Medicaid program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 439 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this
3 act.
4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act, unless*
5 *the context otherwise requires, “Authority” means the State*
6 *Health Authority established pursuant to section 3 of this act.*
7 **Sec. 3.** *1. The State Health Authority is hereby established*
8 *within the Department of Human Resources.*
9 **2.** *The Authority consists of:*
10 *(a) Nine members deemed appropriate by and appointed by the*
11 *Governor;*
12 *(b) Two members who are representative of the health care*
13 *industry appointed by the Governor;*



1 (c) *The Director of the Department of Human Resources or*
2 *his designee;*

3 (d) *The Director of the Department of Business and Industry*
4 *or his designee; and*

5 (e) *The Commissioner of Insurance or his designee.*

6 **Sec. 4. 1.** *The Authority is responsible for planning for the*
7 *provision of health care services to all residents of this state. The*
8 *Authority shall:*

9 (a) *Determine the future needs of this state for providers of*
10 *health care, medical facilities, medical equipment and other health*
11 *care services;*

12 (b) *Develop a plan for providing health insurance to residents*
13 *of this state whose incomes are under 300 percent of the federally*
14 *designated level signifying poverty and who but for their income*
15 *are otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to Medicaid;*

16 (c) *Develop a plan for Medicaid to provide all optional services*
17 *that it is authorized to provide pursuant to federal law; and*

18 (d) *Develop a plan for the State of Nevada to purchase all*
19 *health care services for residents of this state, including, without*
20 *limitation, a method for funding the plan, based on a study of the*
21 *feasibility of:*

22 (1) *Reimbursing each provider of health care within 30*
23 *days after the provision of a service by the provider at a rate*
24 *determined by the Authority;*

25 (2) *Collecting a monthly employer health insurance*
26 *assessment from each employee who earns a wage or salary in this*
27 *state; and*

28 (3) *Funding the plan through the collection of an employer*
29 *health insurance assessment, money provided by the Federal*
30 *Government for Medicaid, appropriations from the State General*
31 *Fund and fees paid by insurance carriers.*

32 2. *The Authority shall obtain input from the public in*
33 *developing the required plans pursuant to this section.*

34 3. *The Authority shall submit the plans it develops pursuant*
35 *to subsection 1 to the Director of the Department of Human*
36 *Resources on or before October 1, 2004.*

37 4. *The Authority shall submit the plans it develops pursuant*
38 *to subsection 1 and any suggestions for necessary legislation to*
39 *carry out the plans to the Legislature on or before January 1,*
40 *2005.*

41 **Sec. 5.** *Any agency, bureau, board, commission, department*
42 *or division of the State of Nevada that funds the provision of*
43 *health care services to residents of this state may, to the extent*
44 *authorized pursuant to federal law, transfer money to the*
45 *Authority to carry out the provisions of sections 2 to 5, inclusive,*



1 *of this act, and to carry out a plan developed by the Authority*
2 *pursuant to section 4 of this act.*
3 **Sec. 6.** This act becomes effective on January 1, 2004.

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