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SENATE BILL NO. 301—SENATOR TOWNSEND

MARCH 17, 2003

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Creates Nevada Mental Health Plan Implementation Commission. (BDR S-969)

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.

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AN ACT relating to mental health; creating the Nevada Mental Health Plan Implementation Commission to develop an action plan for implementing the recommendations of the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health in this state; 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.** 1. The Nevada Mental Health Plan  
2 Implementation Commission is hereby created.  
3     2. The Commission consists of:  
4     (a) Three members of the Senate who are appointed by the  
5 Majority Leader of the Senate;  
6     (b) Three members of the Assembly who are appointed by the  
7 Speaker of the Assembly;  
8     (c) The Administrator of the Division of Mental Health and  
9 Developmental Services of the Department of Human Resources, or  
10 his designee;  
11     (d) The Chief of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse within  
12 the Health Division of the Department of Human Resources, or his  
13 designee;  
14     (e) The Administrator of the Division of Health Care Financing  
15 and Policy of the Department of Human Resources, or his designee;  
16 and



1 (f) The Administrator of the Division of Child and Family  
2 Services of the Department of Human Resources, or his designee.

3 3. At its first meeting, the members of the Commission shall  
4 elect a chair from among its members.

5 **Sec. 2.** 1. The members of the Nevada Mental Health Plan  
6 Implementation Commission serve on the Commission until  
7 January 1, 2004.

8 2. A vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission  
9 must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

10 3. The Commission shall meet at the times and places specified  
11 by a call of the Chair of the Commission.

12 4. A majority of the members of the Commission constitutes a  
13 quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of a quorum  
14 present at any meeting is sufficient for any official action taken by  
15 the Commission.

16 **Sec. 3.** 1. Except during a regular or special session of the  
17 Legislature, for each day or portion of a day during which a member  
18 of the Commission who is a Legislator attends a meeting of the  
19 Commission or is otherwise engaged in the work of the  
20 Commission, he is entitled to receive the:

21 (a) Compensation provided for a majority of the members of the  
22 Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding session;

23 (b) Per diem allowance provided for state officers and  
24 employees generally; and

25 (c) Travel expenses provided pursuant to NRS 218.2207.

26 The compensation, per diem allowances and travel expenses of the  
27 legislative members of the Commission must be paid from the  
28 Legislative Fund.

29 2. Members of the Nevada Mental Health Plan Implementation  
30 Commission who are not Legislators serve without compensation,  
31 except that a member of the Commission is entitled, while engaged  
32 in the business of the Commission, to receive the per diem  
33 allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and  
34 employees generally.

35 3. Each member of the Commission who is an officer or  
36 employee of the State of Nevada or a local government must be  
37 relieved from his duties without loss of his regular compensation so  
38 that he may prepare for and attend meetings of the Commission and  
39 perform any work necessary to carry out the duties of the  
40 Commission in the most timely manner practicable. A state agency  
41 or local governmental entity shall not require an officer or employee  
42 who is a member of the Commission to make up the time that he is  
43 absent from work to carry out his duties as a member of the  
44 Commission or to use annual vacation or compensatory time for the  
45 absence.



1     **Sec. 4.** 1. The Nevada Mental Health Plan Implementation  
2 Commission shall:

3     (a) Determine how Nevada will implement the  
4 recommendations of the President's New Freedom Commission on  
5 Mental Health to enable adults with serious mental illnesses and  
6 children with serious emotional disturbances to live, work, learn and  
7 participate fully in their communities; and

8     (b) Develop an action plan for implementing the  
9 recommendations in this state.

10    2. The Commission shall submit a report setting forth the  
11 action plan developed pursuant to this section to the Interim Finance  
12 Committee, the Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Issues of the  
13 Legislative Committee on Health Care and the Governor on or  
14 before January 1, 2004.

15    **Sec. 5.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2003, and expires  
16 by limitation on January 1, 2004.

